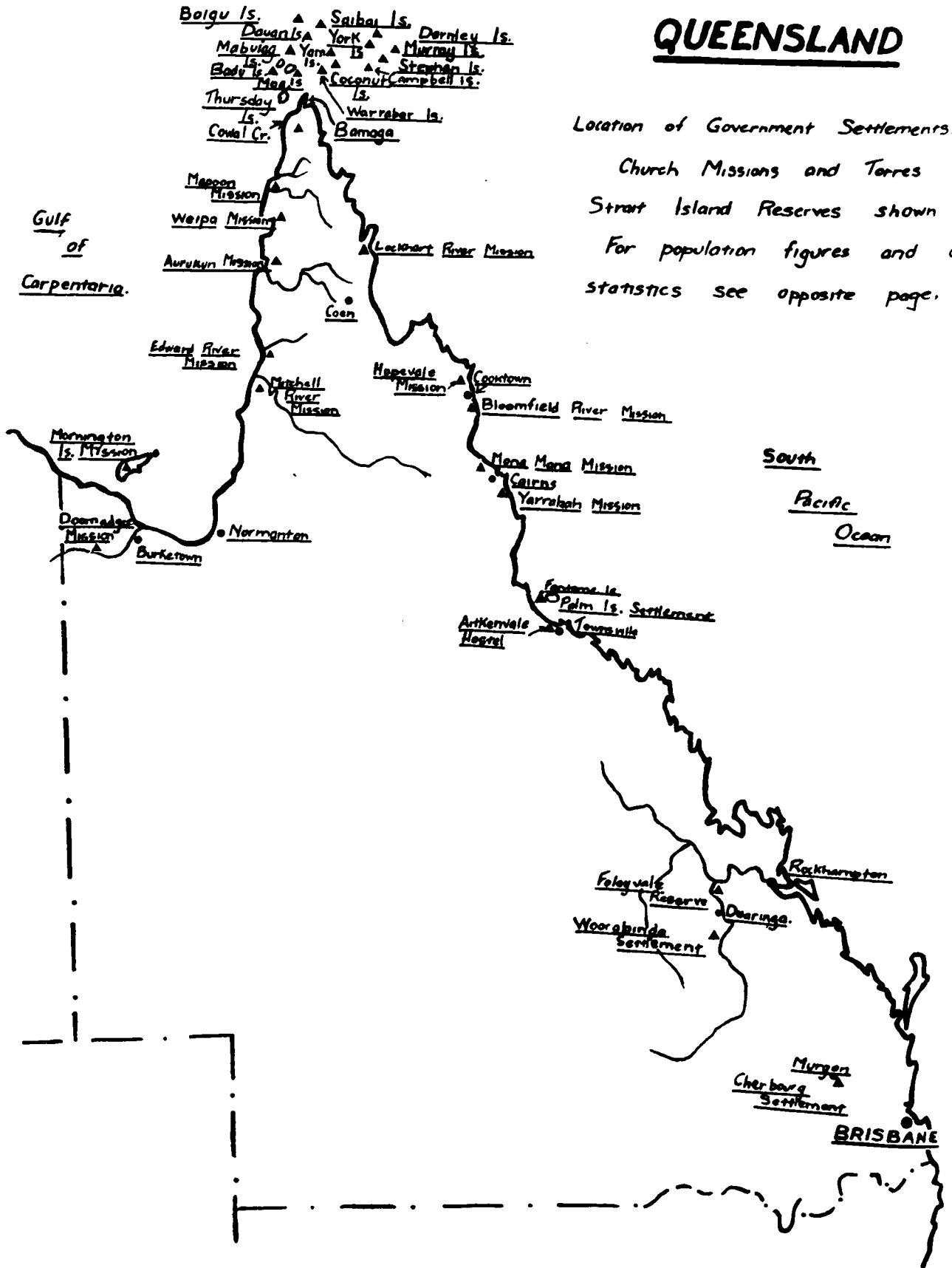

NATIVE AFFAIRS

**Information contained in Report of
Director of Native Affairs for the
Twelve Months ended 30th June,
1959.**



QUEENSLAND

Location of Government Settlements,
Church Missions and Torres
Strait Island Reserves shown ▲
For population figures and other
statistics see opposite page.



Reports upon the Operations of Certain Sub-Departments of the Department of Health and Home Affairs.

Department of Health and Home Affairs,
Brisbane,
1st August, 1959.

TO THE HONOURABLE THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND HOME AFFAIRS.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit, for presentation to Parliament, the following information regarding the operations of the undermentioned Sub-Departments of this Department.

K. J. McCORMACK,
Under Secretary.

NATIVE AFFAIRS (Director, C. O'Leary).
 "EVENTIDE," SANDGATE (Manager, E. P. Kelleher).
 "EVENTIDE," CHARTERS TOWERS (Manager, F. W. Slattery).
 "EVENTIDE," ROCKHAMPTON (Manager, A. J. Taylor).
 INSTITUTION FOR INEBRIATES, MARBURG (Superintendent, K. W. Moffat).
 QUEENSLAND INDUSTRIAL INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND, SOUTH BRISBANE (Manager,
 V. Handran).

Native Affairs—Annual Report of Director of Native Affairs for the Year ended 30th June, 1959.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit the Annual Report under "*The Aborigines' Preservation and Protection Acts, 1939 to 1946*," and "*The Torres Strait Islanders' Acts, 1939 to 1946*," for the year ended 30th June, 1959.

Queensland's population of controlled and non-controlled aboriginals, half bloods and Torres Strait Islanders is indicated in the following table:—

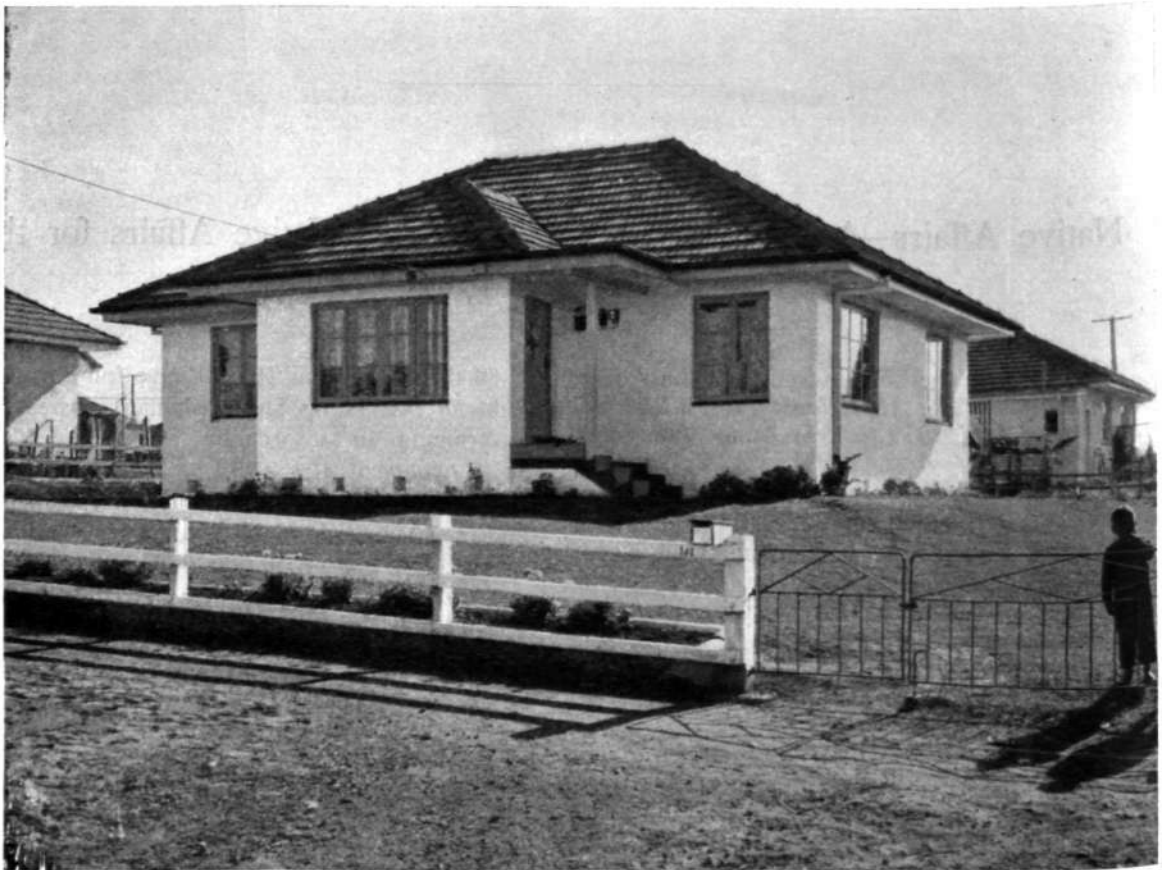
| | | | |
|-------------------------------|----------|--------|--|
| Aboriginals— | | | |
| Controlled | 9,970 | | |
| Non-controlled | 1,040 | | |
| | | 11,010 | |
| Half Bloods— | | | |
| Controlled | 7,400 | | |
| Non-controlled | 19,500 | | |
| | | 26,900 | |
| Torres Strait Islanders | | 7,100 | |
| | | 45,010 | |
| | Total .. | | |

The above figures can be accepted as substantially accurate being based on statistical records of the Department.

Of the above total 19,500 have full citizenship rights, 7,100 Torres Strait Islanders possess self-government in accordance with "*The Torres Strait Islanders' Acts, 1939 to 1946*," 1,040 non-controlled aboriginals have part citizenship rights and the balance are subject to "*The Aborigines' Preservation and Protection Acts, 1939 to 1946*."

There are five Government Settlements and thirteen Church Missions and one Government Hostel in Queensland.

The Country Reserves represent small areas reserved for living purposes adjacent to country towns. Only a small proportion of the population shown against Country Reserves live thereon. The majority live on cattle stations or in private homes where they are employed.



Houses of coloured people trained on Government Settlements and assimilated into the Community.

The areas and approximate population of these Reserves are:—

| — | Established | Area | Full Blood | Half Blood | Torres Strait Islanders | Total |
|---|-------------|-------------------------------------|------------|------------|-------------------------|--------|
| | | Acres. | | | | |
| Cape York Government Settlement .. | 1948 | 97,620 | 187 | 39 | 476 | 702 |
| Cherbourg Government Settlement .. | 1904 | 26,765 | 158 | 1,009 | .. | 1,167 |
| Palm Island Government Settlement .. | 1918 | 15,510 | 643 | 677 | .. | 1,320 |
| *Aitkenvale Government Hostel .. | 1958 | 60 | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Woorabinda Government Settlement .. | 1927 | 54,800 | 451 | 237 | .. | 688 |
| †Foleyvale Government Settlement .. | 1946 | 26,986 | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Edward River Mission (Church of England) | 1936 | 1,152,000 | 246 | 2 | .. | 248 |
| Lockhart River Mission (Church of England) | 1924 | 538,400 | 353 | 4 | .. | 357 |
| Mitchell River Mission (Church of England) | 1917 | 640,000 | 506 | 20 | .. | 526 |
| Yarrabah Mission (Church of England) .. | 1892 | 39,710 | 134 | 510 | .. | 644 |
| Mapoon Mission (Presbyterian) .. | 1891 | 1,353,600 | 106 | 154 | .. | 260 |
| Aurukun Mission (Presbyterian) .. | 1904 | 793,600 | 570 | 10 | .. | 580 |
| Mornington Island Mission (Presbyterian) .. | 1914 | 245,120 | 380 | 43 | .. | 423 |
| Weipa Mission (Presbyterian) .. | 1898 | 876,800 | 174 | .. | .. | 174 |
| Docmudgee Mission (Brethren) .. | 1931 | 260,480 | 336 | 50 | .. | 386 |
| Hammond Island Mission (Roman Catholic) | 1929 | 3,660 | .. | .. | 110 | 110 |
| Hope Vale Mission (Lutheran) .. | 1949 | 257,200 | 184 | 172 | .. | 356 |
| Bloomfield River Mission (Lutheran) .. | 1957 | 287 | 117 | 19 | .. | 136 |
| Mona Mona Mission (Seventh Day Adventist) | 1913 | 4,318 | 167 | 160 | .. | 327 |
| Country Reserves | .. | 100,170 | 5,258 | 4,294 | .. | 9,552 |
| ‡Torres Strait Islands | .. | .. | .. | .. | 6,514 | 6,514 |
| .. | .. | 6,537,086 = 10,214 sq. miles. | 9,970 | 7,400 | 7,100 | 24,470 |

* Aitkenvale cater for transient aboriginals, apprentices, students, &c. The number of such appears in the population figures of the Settlements and Missions to which they are attached.

† Foleyvale is a cattle raising property. Population is included in Woorabinda Settlement figures.

‡ The Torres Strait Island population included those Islanders, estimated at 827 residing in Queensland in areas outside the Torres Strait Islands.

POLICY

Nothing which has been adduced in discussion, correspondence or debate can justify any major alteration of Queensland Government Policy with respect to its aboriginal and half blood peoples. The basic features of that policy are exemplified by "*The Aboriginals Preservation and Protection Act*," the statute under which Native Affairs administration operates.

The humanitarian provisions of that Act cannot be construed as implying any approach to segregation or apartheid. On the contrary the aim is the education of the people to a standard with which must be associated manual and domestic tuition to fit them for acceptance as self-reliant members of the general community. There can be no question of acceleration of assimilation. Such is contrary to the best interests of the people concerned.

It is impossible to accept as a solution of the problem the mere granting of full citizenship rights to the 17,470 aboriginal and half blood

people of Queensland now subject to the protective provisions of "*The Aboriginals Preservation and Protection Acts*." Any impetuous forcing of these people to change their present living conditions, home life, family associations and general outlook, while they are unwilling to accept the responsibility of full citizenship, involving the abandonment of or disassociation with these living conditions, would be a grave disservice to them and contrary to all tenets of the humanitarian provisions of the Act.

On this question there should be no clouding the issue. The Queensland Government's determined policy is to effectively prepare these people for assimilation into the community and to such purpose its Government Settlements and Church Missions operate.

Queensland's policy, to the limit of tuition facilities and consistent with the material available, produces a personnel available for annual assimilation.

Success or failure of any policy can be gauged by results obtained from or attributed to it. Therefore, attributable to the policy of protection of its native peoples, consistent with that standard, can be recorded:—

(a) Of an overall total aboriginal and half blood population of 37,910 in Queensland, 19,500 have been assimilated into the State's community life. Very few of these people have failed to measure up to their responsibilities as citizens of the State. The Government is formulating a plan for necessary assistance to those comparatively few to help them to do so.

(b) 7,100 Torres Strait Islanders possess what can be fairly termed self-government rights.

(c) Government Settlements and Church Missions located throughout the State were created and continue to function to prepare the peoples in their care for ultimate assimilation or integration into the community. Any impetuous forcing of such, contrary to the interests of the coloured people, will not be tolerated.

(d) Primary education is provided for every aboriginal child in the State. Secondary education is available to all children whose future and intellectual standards as determined by competent authority warrant it. University courses are available to any child whose progress in a secondary school justifies it.

(e) Domestic science and manual training is provided on all the Government Settlements and Church Missions. The Child Welfare Centres operating on Government Settlements are on the most modern lines. Church Missions likewise effectively handle the problem of Child Welfare to such extent that infant mortality amongst controlled aboriginals throughout the State does not exceed that of the white community.

(f) Native assistants are employed in the hospitals established on the various Institutions. Many girls are employed by Hospitals Boards as probationers and trained nurses.

(g) Over the last twelve years it is conservatively estimated that 1,000 trained artisans from the Torres Strait area, Government Settlements and Church Missions have been assimilated into the State's community. These men with their wives and families accept all the responsibilities and obtain all of the benefits of National Citizenship. An indication of the type of homes occupied by some of them is given in this Report.

(h) The Government's policy is that wherever protection is warranted it is available. Those people not requiring protection or control are exempted from it. The protection is humanitarian and is appreciated as indicated by the Native controlled organizations operative on the various Settlements and Church Missions. These organizations voice the feelings of the native peoples to the administration. There is little criticism from them. Adverse comments on Government policy in the main, originate from those not acquainted with the full circumstances of the people being protected and the desires of these people to retain protection.

EDUCATION

The Department's education programme provides for the tuition of children to the same standard as applies in schools under the control of the Education Department. Manual training and domestic science are included and in addition special training is arranged where the ability of individuals along particular lines merits such.

Joe Rootsey, an aboriginal stockman from Laura, North Queensland, who spent a period at the Central Technical College during 1958, returned for further tuition in the early part of 1959. During the period he was absent from Brisbane and after his return to the Central Technical College, he completed an additional forty-four paintings. During the Queensland Industries Fair in May last, this native gave public demonstrations of painting in the Central Technical College Section at the fair. Considerable interest has been taken in his work and enquiries have been received from the south and from overseas.

Veda Dinger, the first aboriginal ward to undertake a Y.W.C.A. Leadership Course, has continued her training this year at the Y.W.C.A. at Adelaide. She is now in the concluding stages of her course and will emerge a fully qualified member of the Y.W.C.A. staff.

Michael Miller and Phillip Stewart of Palm Island will this year complete their courses at the Teachers' Training College and be eligible for appointment as fully qualified teachers.

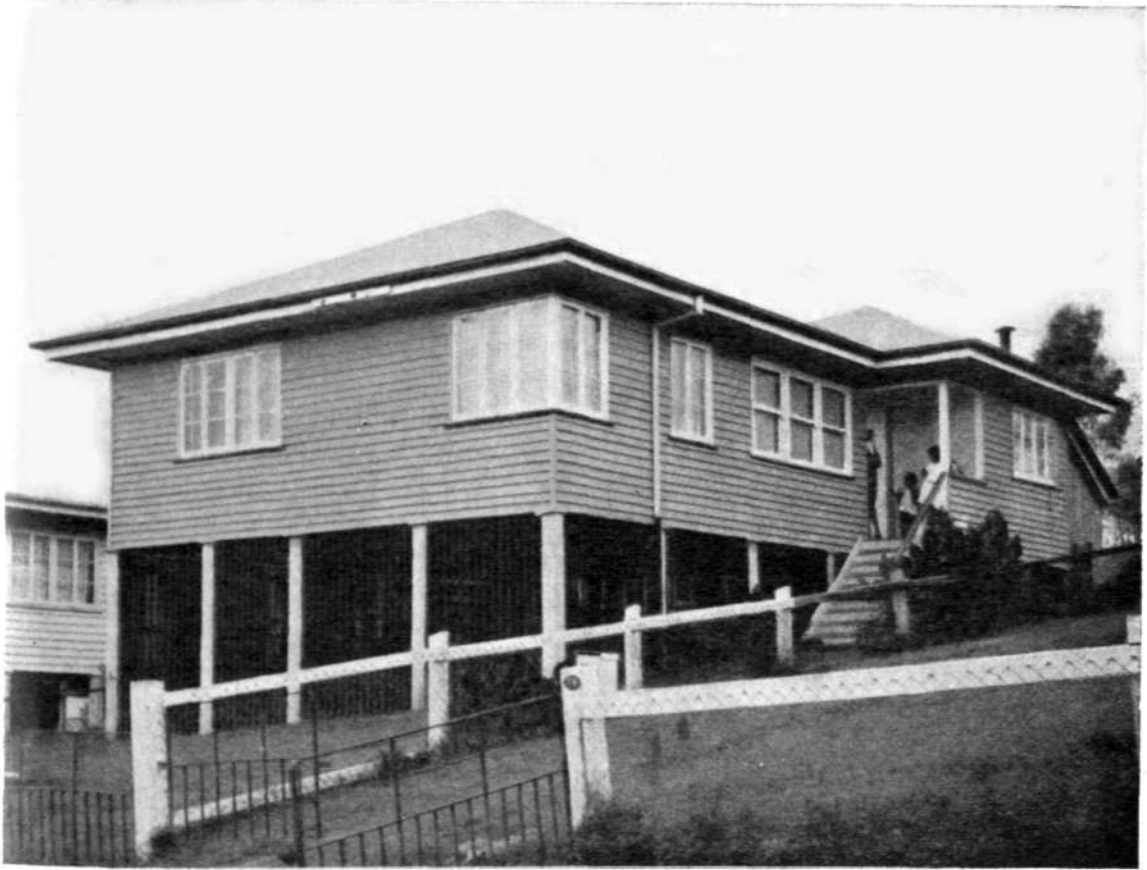
Tennyson Kynuna from Yarrabah Mission is an apprentice shipwright with a leading Queensland firm and Archie Alberts of Cherbourg has commenced employment with a view to his apprenticeship shortly to a painting contractor in the metropolitan area.

Four natives (two from Aurukun Mission, one from Palm Island Settlement and one from Cherbourg Settlement) were enrolled at the Queensland Agricultural College, Gatton, for a course of training in butchery. All showed ability and willingness to profit from the tuition given.

Three children attending Settlement schools passed the 1958 State Scholarship Examination and are now attending secondary schools. The total number of children at present enrolled in secondary schools is 13.

That the educational opportunities made available are appreciated is shown by the fact that three Settlement children who passed the 1958 Junior Public Examination have been appointed to positions in the State Public Service. A fourth has received an appointment as a trainee nurse at the General Hospital. Five other Settlement girls have also been accepted as trainee nurses in hospitals in Brisbane, Townsville and Bundaberg.

The training of boys in shipbuilding, carpentry, joinery, plumbing and other similar callings continues in Thursday Island and on Government Settlements and Church Missions.



Houses of coloured people trained on Government Settlements and assimilated into the Community.

Particulars of children attending the established primary Schools are shown hereunder:—

ABORIGINAL SCHOOLS

| Description of School | Name | Enrolment 31st March, 1959 | | |
|----------------------------|---|----------------------------|-------|-------|
| | | Boys | Girls | Total |
| Settlement | Cherbourg | 174 | 197 | 371 |
| Settlement | Palm Island | 136 | 127 | 263 |
| Settlement | Woorabinda | 89 | 105 | 194 |
| Aboriginal Mission | Aurukun | 72 | 65 | 137 |
| Aboriginal Mission | Doomadgee | 63 | 58 | 121 |
| Aboriginal Mission | Edward River | 19 | 28 | 47 |
| Island Mission | Hammond Island | 20 | 18 | 38 |
| Aboriginal Mission | Hope Vale | 52 | 46 | 98 |
| Aboriginal Mission | Lockhart River | 36 | 40 | 76 |
| Aboriginal Mission | Mapoon | 32 | 32 | 64 |
| Aboriginal Mission | Mitchell River | 50 | 58 | 108 |
| Aboriginal Mission | Mona Mona | 50 | 40 | 90 |
| Aboriginal Mission | Mornington Island | 63 | 42 | 105 |
| Island Mission | St. Paul's (Moa Island) | 38 | 33 | 71 |
| Aboriginal Mission | Weipa | 20 | 14 | 34 |
| Aboriginal Mission | Yarrabah | 70 | 60 | 130 |
| Island Mission | St. Michael's Convent (Palm Island) | 62 | 52 | 114 |
| Reserve | Cowal Creek | 24 | 27 | 51 |
| Reserve | Bamaga | 43 | 31 | 74 |
| Reserve | Red Island Point | 12 | 15 | 27 |
| Torres Strait | Island Schools | 400 | 401 | 801 |
| | Total | 1,525 | 1,489 | 3,014 |

EMPLOYMENT OF ABORIGINALS AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDERS

Pearlshelling and gathering of trochus shell together with those industries incidental to the marine industry, viz. boat building, &c., continue to constitute the main avenue of employment for Torres Strait Islanders and aboriginals in the Thursday Island area.

The wages and working conditions for these employees are governed by an agreement entered into between the Director of Native Affairs and the Pearl Shellers' Association annually.

Torres Strait Islanders have their own pearling fleet. This fleet numbering 23 vessels is the largest numerically in Australia and provides employment for 295 Torres Strait Islanders as divers, engine men, tenders, crews, and skin divers.

On the pearling fleets owned by companies, firms and individuals operating between Thursday Island and Mackay, 573 Islanders and aboriginals are employed. In addition there are more than 200 people employed as dinghy workers on their home Islands and in Thursday Island as shell sorters, shipwrights, &c. Thus the number of workers directly or indirectly associated with the industry would be in the vicinity of 1,068.

It is unfortunate that the pearling industry which for many years has provided remunerative employment for Torres Strait Islanders and aboriginals is experiencing a recession. However, Government financial assistance is now forthcoming in an endeavour to rehabilitate the industry.

The production of the Torres Strait Islanders' fleet is sold to an overseas buyer under Agreement entered into approximately two years ago with a currency of three years expiring on 31st January, 1960. This agreement provides for a fixed minimum price for pearlshell and trochus shell with upward trends consistent with market fluctuations. It compels that purchaser to take

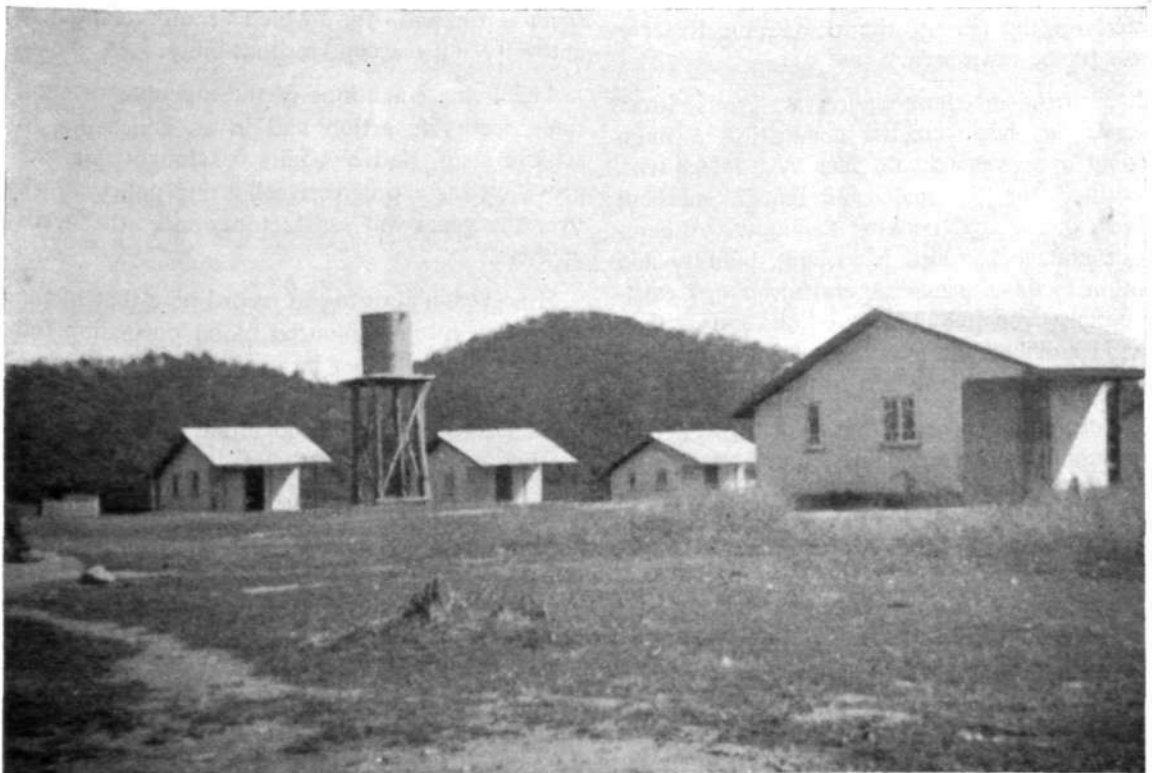
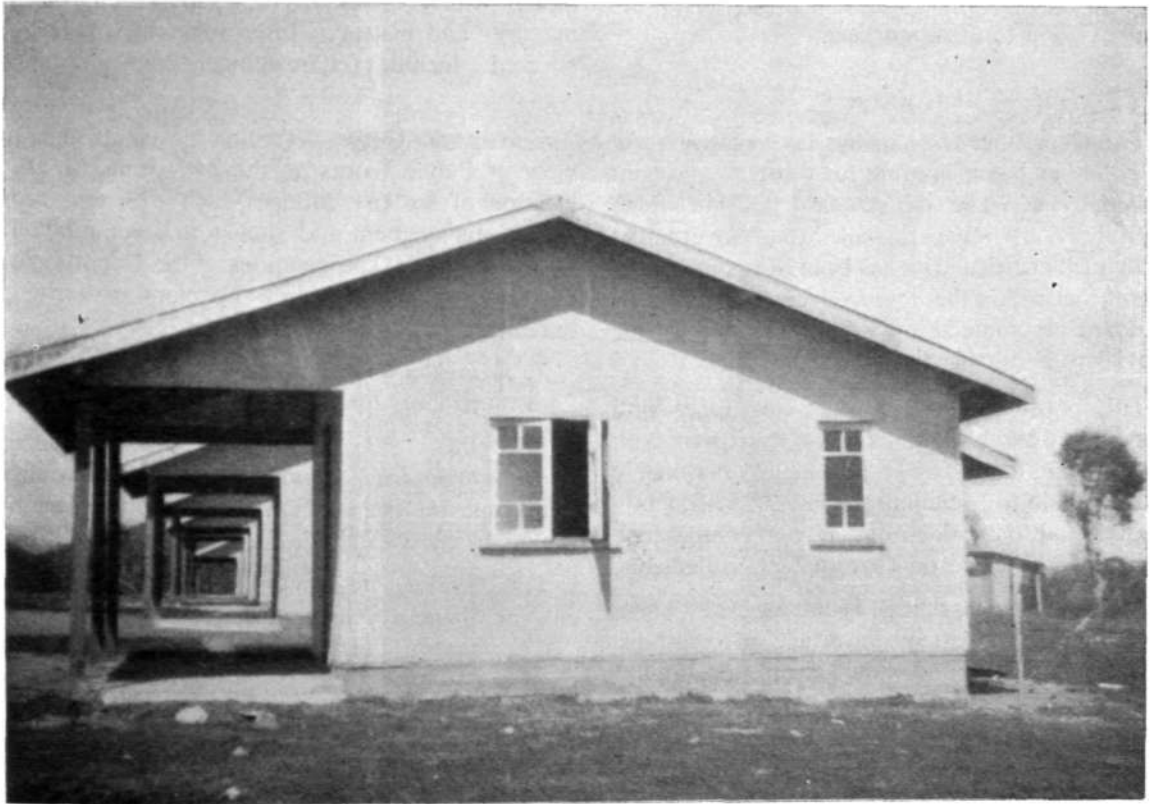
the full production of the Islanders' fleet on certain gradings which cannot be deviated from irrespective of market fluctuations or reduction in consumer demands. This agreement has saved the Torres Strait Islanders from the unfortunate financial difficulties in which Master Pearlshellers now find themselves.

At present none of this labour is unemployed and to enable a continuation of such position even if the industry should further deteriorate investigations are proceeding into the possible employment of the men in other spheres suited to their psychology and training.

It can be fairly estimated that in the pastoral industry, 4,550 aboriginals of various degrees of caste are employed. A further 1,325 aboriginals and Islanders are engaged on their home Settlements, Church Missions, and Torres Strait Islands. There are also in the vicinity of 900 engaged in private enterprise as carpenters, plumbers, general artisans, labourers, nurses, and domestics, &c. The services which these people give to the community are generally recognised as essential to the success of the various callings in which they are employed. This applies particularly to the pastoral industry where aboriginal stockmen and their women folk are recognised as essential to the successful running of many pastoral properties.

Every Islander and aboriginal employed in a calling covered by a State Arbitration Court Award is paid in accordance with that Award. This does not apply to the Award covering the pastoral industry from which provisions, aboriginals are specifically exempted. Departmental Regulations, however, provide a wage and living conditions in this industry consistent with the aboriginals' ability. Where it is evident that aboriginals in this industry can compare favourably with white employees they are paid at the same rate as the latter.

In all cases aboriginal workers are covered by the State Workers' Compensation Acts. In effect



Exempted Aged Aboriginal Cottages.

the organisation aimed at the preservation and protection of the aboriginal race in Queensland gives to him work and wages of a standard practically similar to white workers.

HOUSING

The Department has always been consistent in its policy of better housing for those people controlled by it. The sub-standard housing which over previous years prevailed on Government Settlements particularly, has been overcome to the extent that within the next twelve months all sub-standard accommodation will be rectified by the provision of suitable type dwellings.

This position, however, does not apply with respect to Church Missions where, consistent with funds and man power available, reasonable efforts obtain to overcome the lag. Consequently progress on these Missions is not comparative with that applicable on Government Settlements.

In country areas, that is, in those centres where Native Reserves exist on the fringe of townships, a building programme aimed at rectification of unsatisfactory housing has been undertaken to the following extent:—

1. *Coen*.—Ten (10) cottages, two (2) community buildings, a water reticulation service comprising windmill, tank and reticulated water to each building have been provided. All cottages and buildings are complete with usual laundry and toilet facilities. No old buildings at Coen have been renovated and their condition did not warrant such. All new buildings are erected on the site of the new Coen Reserve nearer to the town area.

2. *Cairns*.—Accommodation at Lyons Street Reserve has been erected comprising a main building approximately 60 feet by 25 feet with accommodation for male and female transient natives, dining and cooking facilities. A caretaker's cottage has also been built, laundry and ablution facilities provided, and seven (7) existing cottages repaired, renovated and enlarged to provide suitable accommodation for permanent residents on the Reserve.

3. *Normanton-Croydon*.—Accommodation provided represents four (4) prefabricated steel buildings at Normanton and three (3) at Croydon. Arrangements are in hand to partition these buildings, provide cooking and messing facilities, water reticulation scheme, laundry and toilet facilities.

4. *Cloncurry*.—Three (3) prefabricated steel buildings have been erected and water has been connected to shower rooms, the kitchen and the mess hall. Laundry and toilet facilities exist and enquiries are with the Protector of Aboriginals, Cloncurry, regarding the supply of a kitchen range, furniture and furnishings if necessary, and the employment of a suitable caretaker couple so that the centre may function as a unit.

5. *Aitkenvale*.—Accommodation provided for transient natives, apprentices and secondary school children under the supervision of a manager and matron. Improvements still being effected include channelling, drainage and sewerage.

6. *Mossman-Gorge*.—Tenders closed at Department of Public Works on the 24th June, for the erection of six (6) cottages each with two bed rooms, dining room and kitchen and veranda, all to be built to the specifications of the Department of Public Works who drew up plans of various buildings.

7. *Mareeba*.—Tenders closed also on the 24th June for three (3) cottages similar to Mossman.

8. *Georgetown*.—Tenders closed also on the 24th June for the erection of four (4) cottages similar to the two above.

The building programme visualized for the current financial year comprises:—

| | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Camooweal | 5 cottages |
| Mount Garnet | 4 cottages |
| Birdsville | 4 cottages |
| Dajarra | 6 cottages |
| Mount Isa | 2 community buildings |

It is appreciated that the efforts recorded in this Report and those previously mentioned, do not measure up to the full requirements of housing for part coloured people who, although not subject to the provisions of the Aboriginals' Preservation and Protection Acts, still remain a social problem for which some competent authority must accept responsibility.

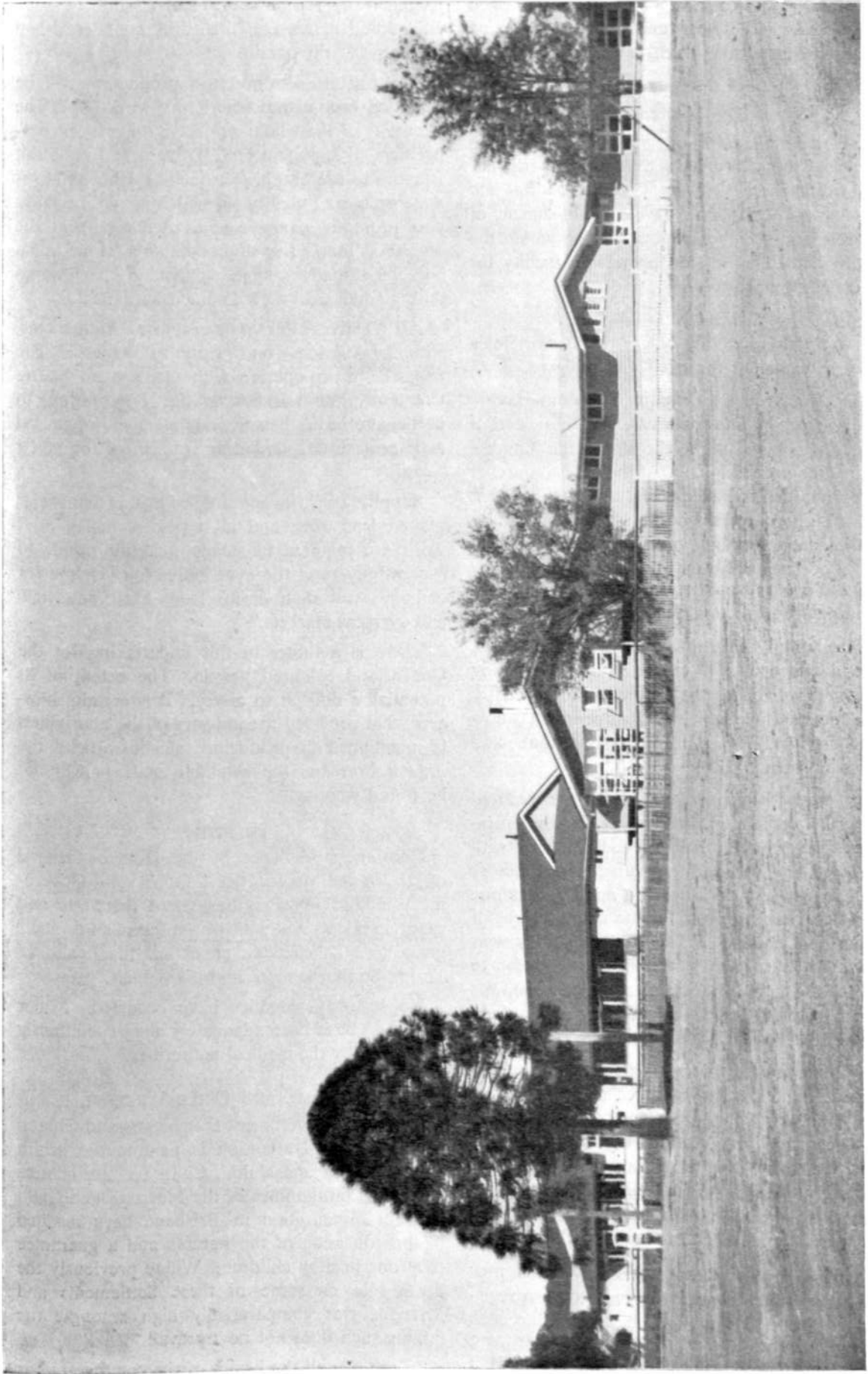
The living conditions of these people demand some rectifying action and in an endeavour to achieve such, Native Affairs has sought financial provision for a progressive housing policy which over the years will satisfactorily meet the needs of them.

However, it is fitting to record here that of the 19,500 people of coloured blood possessing full Citizenship Rights not more than 1,000 could be regarded as fringe dwellers demanding special consideration over and above that available to an ordinary citizen of the State.

A recent quick check of cross sections of partly coloured people residing in Brisbane reveals that they have assimilated into the general community to a greater and more satisfactory degree than is oftentimes appreciated.

The majority of these people live as ordinary citizens in suburbs where good standard type housing prevails. An indication of the type of houses occupied by these partly coloured people is shown in this Report.

In effect Queensland's part coloured population has, by reason of the basic education and training given it, accepted the opportunity of



Aboriginal General and T.B. Hospital—Government Settlement.

voluntary assimilation, without specialized help as is sometimes advocated. Thereby the independence and status of the individual is established to his credit and benefit and to the satisfaction of the administration which provided that happy circumstance.

QUEENSLAND NATIVE CREATIONS

The determination of the Government to encourage the industrial activities of aboriginals on Government Settlements, Church Missions and elsewhere is exemplified by the establishment of a Queensland Native Creations Section within the Department. This section provides a facility for the encouragement of:—

- (a) Native arts and crafts.
- (b) Increased earnings by aboriginals including the aged and indigent.

The Department's enquiry into marketing facilities locally and overseas, has indicated a demand which will tax to the utmost the immediate possible production. That the production will not be retarded is indicated by the establishment of a workshop at Cherbourg Settlement, containing the necessary plant to produce in bulk, those articles of genuine Native Creation in demand by local and overseas markets. Report by the officer in charge of this section, Mr. H. R. Pascoe, is:—

“Queensland Government policy of encouragement toward natives in taking an ever increasing pride and active interest in the cultural artistry and craftsmanship of their ancient people has now been extended to a further important and interesting stage.

For some time the Department has realised that given certain encouragement and organisation native talent and diligence could be used with advantage and win for the native a satisfactory monetary reward. With this in mind and as one of its Centenary projects for the advancement of Queensland natives, a fact finding survey was conducted in the early months of this year to examine the manufacturing possibilities of and the market potential for curios made by Queensland natives and Torres Strait Islanders.

The outcome of this survey made throughout a considerable portion of Queensland extending from Thursday Island to Coolangatta added to the considered expectation of a satisfactory tourist, interstate and overseas market potential, resulted in action to establish a section to organise curio making as an industrial section within the Department of Native Affairs.

To establish the authenticity of any article produced by Native Creations Organization, a registered certificate or stamp will be attached to each native made curio indicating that the Department of Native Affairs certifies that such article is a genuine product of Queensland Native Creations.

A factory will be established on Cherbourg Aboriginal Settlement for large scale manufacture.

The building and suitable machinery have been acquired. In this factory a native foreman will exercise supervision over native staff to such extent that native craftsmanship, confidence and self-respect will obtain.

The organisation of curio production will be extended beyond the Cherbourg workshop. The intention of the whole project is to give encouragement to any main land native or Torres Strait Islander to exercise his particular talents and produce articles of quality for which he will be fairly and promptly compensated. Already from the organised marketing of boomerangs alone some Settlement natives have augmented their wages during some weeks by as much as £10.

All natives on Government Settlements, Church Missions and Country Reserves are expected to co-operate with Queensland Native Creations, thus accepting the opportunity to participate in the benefits attending the organised and centralised marketing of curios on their behalf.

Supplies of shells and articles made from shells, plaited leaf work and all types of native craft work are required in steady quantity supply to successfully meet the ever increasing demand for genuine Australian curios from local, interstate and overseas markets.”

There is a future in this undertaking for the Queensland coloured people. The extent of its potential is difficult to assess. It is certain, however, that provided the industry of the aboriginals is maintained in producing saleable articles the organisation and the available markets will not be found wanting.

HEALTH

Continuous vigilance by the Director-General of Health and Medical Services, his staff, Government medical officers throughout the State and superintendents and staff of the various hospitals, guarantees an effective check on the health of Torres Strait Islanders and aboriginals.

No serious epidemics have occurred. Minor outbreaks have been adequately and expeditiously dealt with by the medical authorities.

MATERNAL AND CHILD WELFARE

On all the Government Settlements and Church Missions special attention is paid to the health of the mother and child. Child Welfare centres conducted on the lines of the Maternal and Child Welfare organization in Brisbane have resulted in the education of the parents and a guarantee of strong healthy children. Where previously the death rate on some of these Settlements and Missions was comparatively high amongst the infants such does not now prevail.

In the overall the health of the community has been good. It is quite evident that the better housing of the people contributes considerably to this happy situation.



Child Welfare—Government Settlement.

The following Schedules provide:—

(a) Statistics of births and deaths at the Thursday Island General Hospital of Torres Strait Islanders.

(b) Statistics of the small hospitals established in the Torres Strait area which cater for cases not warranting removal to the Thursday Island Hospital.

PERIOD 1ST JUNE, 1958 TO 31ST MAY, 1959

| | Births | | | Still Births | Deaths (from all Causes) | | |
|------------------------------------|--------|---------|-------|--------------|--------------------------|---------|-------|
| | Males | Females | Total | | Males | Females | Total |
| Thursday Island Hospital | 100 | 97 | 197 | 2 | 17 | 13 | 30 |
| Waiben Hospital, Thursday Island.. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Badu Island | .. | 2 | 2 | .. | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Boigu Island | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Coconut Island | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Cowal Creek | 1 | 1 | 2 | .. | 1 | .. | 1 |
| Bamaga | 1 | 2 | 3 | .. | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| Red Island Point | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Darnley Island | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Dauan Island | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | 1 |
| Dowar Island | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Kubin Village | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Naghir Island | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Mabuiag Island | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Rennell Island | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Murray Island | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2 | 2 |
| Stephen Island | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Saibai Island | 1 | 1 | 2 | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Yam Island | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Yorke Island | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2 | .. | 2 |
| Horn Island | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| At Sea | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | .. | 1 |
| Warraber Island | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| | 103 | 103 | 206 | 2 | 24 | 20 | 44 |

Excess births over deaths 161

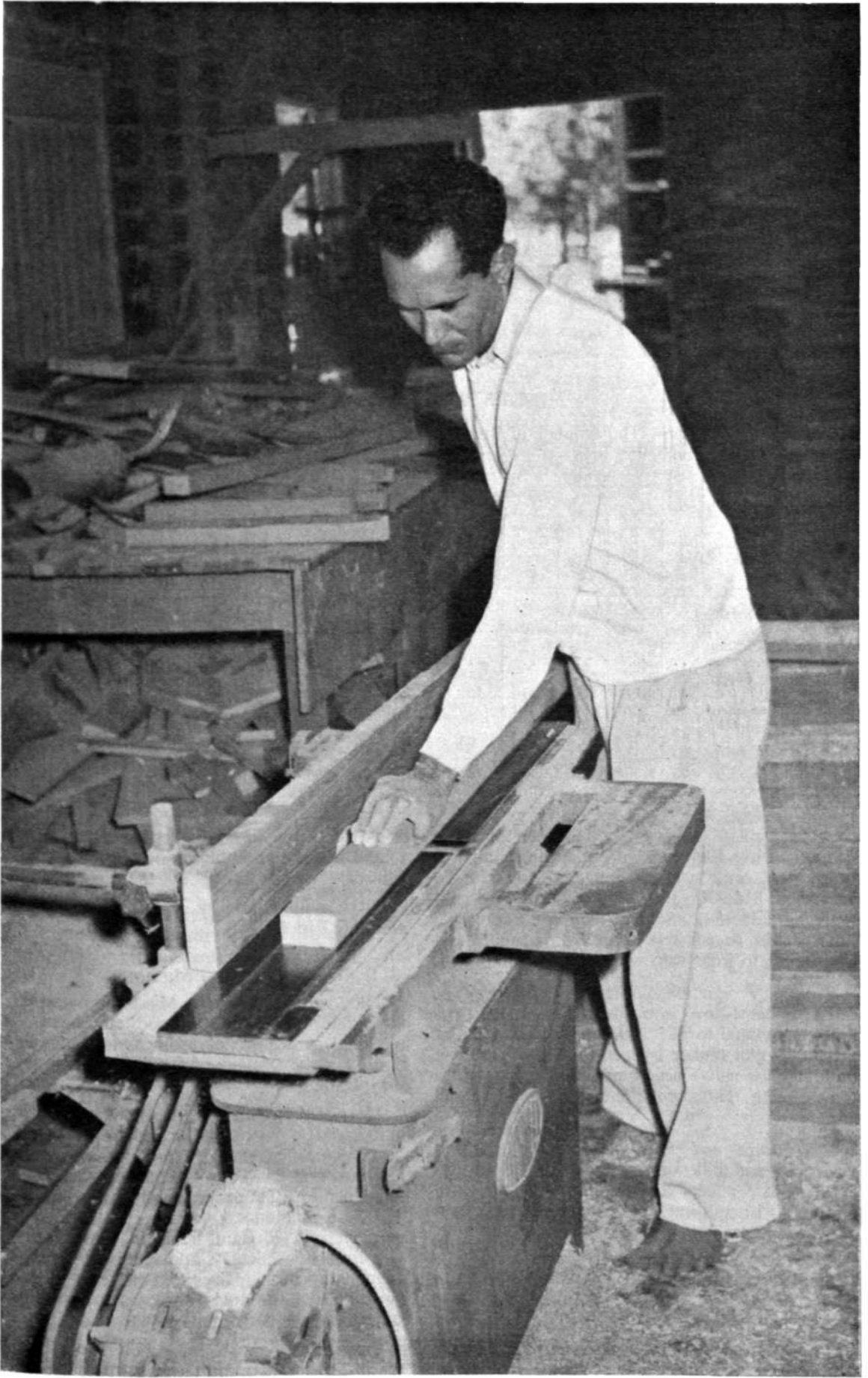
HOSPITAL STATISTICS—YEAR ENDING 31ST MAY, 1959

BAMAGA HOSPITAL

| | In-patients | Out-patients Treatments | |
|-------------------|-------------|-------------------------|---|
| June | 17 | 998 | Number of in-patients—222 |
| July | 15 | 836 | |
| August | 20 | 776 | |
| September | 22 | 517 | |
| October | 20 | 338 | |
| November | 15 | 493 | Number of out-patients— Treatments 8,538 |
| December | 8 | 512 | |
| January | 13 | 945 | |
| February | 15 | 989 | |
| March | 22 | 476 | |
| April | 26 | 781 | |
| May | 29 | 877 | |

BADU ISLAND

| | In-patients Monthly Average. | | | Out-patients | | |
|-------------------|------------------------------|--------|-------|-----------------|------------|--|
| | Male | Female | Total | Number | Treatments | |
| June | 3.7 | 5 | 8.7 | 349 | 1,007 | In-patients Monthly Average 4.275 |
| July | .4 | .7 | 1.1 | 197 | 456 | |
| August | Hospital Closed | | | Hospital Closed | | Out-patients Number treated 2,283 |
| September | Hospital Closed | | | Hospital Closed | | |
| October | .8 | .6 | 1.4 | 243 | 731 | |
| November | 5.1 | 4.7 | 9.8 | 247 | 796 | |
| December | 1.8 | 3.2 | 5 | 187 | 935 | |
| January | 2.5 | 3.6 | 6.1 | 228 | 962 | Out-patients Number of treatments 8,059 |
| February | 1.2 | 6 | 7.2 | 225 | 685 | |
| March | 1.3 | 2 | 3.3 | 199 | 696 | |
| April | 2.3 | 2.5 | 4.8 | 210 | 940 | |
| May | 1.8 | 2.1 | 3.9 | 198 | 851 | |



Trade Training Workshop—Government Settlement.

HOSPITAL STATISTICS—YEAR ENDING 31st MAY, 1959—*continued*

DARNLEY ISLAND

| | In-patients | | Out-patients | | |
|-------------------|-------------|--------|--------------|------------|--|
| | Male | Female | Number | Treatments | |
| June | 033 | .. | 99 | 355 | In-patients Monthly Average .0027 |
| July | .. | .. | 89 | 385 | |
| August | .. | .. | 89 | 226 | |
| September | .. | .. | 105 | 464 | |
| October | .. | .. | 103 | 403 | |
| November | .. | .. | 108 | 474 | Out-patients Number treated 1,289 |
| December | .. | .. | 88 | 276 | |
| January | .. | .. | 101 | 326 | Out-patients Number of treatments 6,557 |
| February | .. | .. | 143 | 1,302 | |
| March | .. | .. | 135 | 1,233 | |
| April | .. | .. | 122 | 603 | |
| May | .. | .. | 107 | 510 | |

INDUSTRIAL OPERATIONS

Cattle Raising.—The number of livestock depastured on the various Government Settlements as at the 31st March, 1959 are:—

| | Beef Cattle | | | | | | | | Dairy Cattle | | | | | Horses | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------|----------|-------------|---------|--------|----------|---------|-------|--------------|------|---------|---------|-------|---------|--------|-------|
| | Bulls | Breeders | Spayed Cows | Helpers | Steers | Bullocks | Weaners | Total | Bulls | Cows | Helpers | Weaners | Total | Draught | Saddle | Total |
| Cherbourg Settlement | 20 | 608 | 23 | 67 | .. | 69 | 214 | 1,001 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 24 | 46 | 70 |
| Aboriginal Training Farm | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2 | 62 | 10 | 8 | 82 | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| Woorabinda Settlement | 57 | 2,144 | 187 | 445 | 451 | 616 | .. | 3,900 | .. | 52 | .. | .. | 52 | 48 | 128 | 176 |
| Foleyvale Settlement | 16 | 9 | .. | 2 | 5 | 837 | .. | 869 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Palm Island Settlement | .. | .. | .. | .. | 65 | 70 | .. | 135 | 3 | 113 | 85 | 85 | 286 | 24 | 14 | 38 |
| Total | 93 | 2,761 | 210 | 514 | 521 | 1,592 | 214 | 5,905 | 5 | 227 | 95 | 93 | 420 | 98 | 189 | 287 |

As a Departmental asset, the value of these cattle is £159,306. From cattle raising operations, 469 cattle were slaughtered for rations, valued at £14,070, and 623 bullocks were sold realizing £28,954. Sale of bullocks represents male cattle transferred from Woorabinda and Cherbourg to Foleyvale where they are fattened.

Timber Production.—The total recovery of sawn timber from Government Settlement sawmills, amounted to 623,139 super feet, valued at £31,606. All timber is used for the erection of buildings for native accommodation on the three Government Settlements and the Torres Strait area.

Agriculture and Farming Generally.—Fruit, vegetables and milk were produced on the various Settlements for local consumption to the value of £14,750. In addition from Foleyvale 1,363 bags of wheat and 1,489 bags of grain sorghum were harvested.

Small areas of peanuts and cotton have now been harvested consisting of 250 bags of peanuts and 33 bales of cotton.

At the Training Farm where dairying and pig raising operations are carried out, the returns for the financial year amount to £3,330.

Trade Training.—All joinery requirements for buildings erected on all Settlements and Torres Strait were supplied from the joinery workshop

established at Cherbourg Settlement and also all school furniture for the various Schools including Church Missions throughout the State.

The value of joinery and furniture produced amounted to £5,491.

CHURCH MISSIONS

The various Church Missions catering for aboriginals throughout the State have again recorded a measure of progress in the policy of uplift and betterment of the living conditions of the people.

Most of these Missions are situated in the more inaccessible portions of Queensland, viz. the Cape York Peninsula Area. There climatic conditions are hard and the lack of adequate transport militates against the progress which is hoped for. To these missionary workers, men and women, employed in Mission fields in these areas the Government is deeply appreciative. They have virtually given their lives to a cause to which they are espoused and many unrecorded hardships are suffered in the performance of their duties.

Opportunity, therefore, is now taken to thank these Mission workers for the unselfish efforts which were theirs during the current year.

All possible assistance in cash and kind is made available to these Church Missions by the Government to enable their planned work to

proceed. It is common knowledge that contributions to the Mission fields are not as great now as previously and, therefore, the responsibility devolves upon the Government to make good the shortages and to provide extras to meet added cost of maintenance and development of the Missions.

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 £944,132 2s. 8d. Every facility is provided for aboriginals to withdraw, within reason, against their Savings Bank Accounts:—

TRANSACTIONS FOR TWELVE MONTHS ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1959

| | Total | | | | Savings Bank Balances as at 30th June, 1959 | Investments | Total Funds | | | | |
|--------------------------|----------|----------------|-------------|----------------|---|----------------|-------------|----------------|------------|----------------|------------|
| | Deposits | | Withdrawals | | | | | | | | |
| | £ | s. d. | £ | s. d. | £ | s. d. | £ | s. d. | | | |
| Cherbourg | 43,633 | 13 9 | 45,085 | 17 8 | 4,647 | 6 0 | 1,000 | 0 0 | 5,647 | 6 0 | |
| Palm Island | 67,131 | 19 10 | 68,253 | 17 3 | 10,374 | 8 1 | 21,000 | 0 0 | 31,374 | 8 1 | |
| Woorabinda | 36,059 | 2 10 | 34,714 | 17 1 | 9,196 | 16 6 | 4,000 | 0 0 | 13,196 | 16 6 | |
| Various Protectorates .. | 298,171 | 2 11 | 302,732 | 0 3 | 82,897 | 16 10 | 592,119 | 7 3 | 675,017 | 4 1 | |
| Torres Strait Islands .. | 382,901 | 16 0 | 389,558 | 3 8 | 75,664 | 9 10 | 143,231 | 18 2 | 218,896 | 8 0 | |
| Totals .. | £ | 827,897 | 15 4 | 840,344 | 15 11 | 182,780 | 17 3 | 761,351 | 5 5 | 944,132 | 2 8 |

Of the total funds of £944,132 2s. 8d. held to the credit in the Savings Bank accounts of Queensland Aboriginals and Torres Strait Islanders, £73,143 is on account of community welfare funds and the balance of £870,989 2s. 8d. is to the credit of individual Savings Bank Accounts.

For the year ended 30th June, 1959, the deposits to Savings Bank Accounts totalled £827,897 15s. 4d. and withdrawals £840,344 15s. 11d. As the withdrawals were in excess of deposits by £12,447 0s. 7d. any contention of undue restrictions on withdrawals cannot be substantiated.

In the case of a deceased aboriginal, immediately following death being reported, action is taken to distribute the estate amongst the next-of-kin. The number of estates so administered was 34 and the amounts made available to next-of-kin were £6,964 14s. 8d.

No aboriginal is precluded from operating on his Savings Bank Account for his immediate needs. This is plainly evident from a perusal of the total deposits and withdrawals shown in the foregoing table. Innumerable cases can be quoted of:—

- Aboriginals 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;
- Homes being built for aboriginals from their savings;
- Plant and equipment being provided from savings to allow the aboriginal to improve his industrial status;
- Funds made available for aboriginals to enjoy a holiday at the seaside.

CHILD ENDOWMENT ACCOUNTS

The Commonwealth Government Child Endowment is paid to aboriginal mothers at the rate prevailing for white mothers. The payment of the endowment has proved of much benefit to aboriginal children in that it allows the mothers to purchase a wider variety of food, better clothing, &c., for the children.

B

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 aboriginal parent endowees in the State is:—

| | Endowees |
|-------------------------------|----------|
| Country Protectorates | 396 |
| Cherbourg Settlement | 159 |
| Woorabinda Settlement | 93 |
| Palm Island Settlement | 138 |
| Torres Strait Islanders | 974 |
| | <hr/> |
| | 1,760 |

The annual payments on account of the children of these endowees totalled £104,007 9s. 11d.

When aboriginal children are wholly maintained in Mission and Government Settlement Institutions, the endowment is paid to Institutional Funds. These funds are utilised solely for the benefit of the children by providing extras in diet, 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:—

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-------|
| Woorabinda Settlement | 35 |
| Cherbourg Settlement | 104 |
| Palm Island Settlement | 338 |
| Hope Vale Mission | 1 |
| Daintree Mission | 16 |
| Doomadgee Mission | 119 |
| Mitchell River Mission | 112 |
| Aurukun Mission | 213 |
| Mapoon Mission | 123 |
| Mornington Island Mission | 184 |
| Weipa Mission | 59 |
| Yarrabah Mission | 299 |
| Presbyterian Home, Thursday Island .. | 6 |
| | <hr/> |
| | 1,609 |

BOY SCOUTS, GIRL GUIDES AND MARCHING GIRLS

Separate organizations catering for the establishment, management and control of these sections aimed at the social advancement of the junior element of native population of Settlements

and Missions operate with particularly outstanding success on Government Settlements. The following brief extracts from reports by the various superintendents indicate the activities under these headings:—

Cherbourg Settlement

Boy Scouts.—The enrolment of the scouts is 31 whilst the cubs number 15. The highlight of the year for the scouts was the 1959 Easter Camp at Nanango. The work and conduct of the Cherbourg scouts at this camp was of the highest order, and gained them first place in the Camp Competition.

Jeffrey Doolah, the Cubmaster, was invested with the "Woodbadge" at the Nanango Camp. He is the first Torres Strait Islander to secure this high Scouting Award for proficiency.

Marching Girls.—The Marching Girls Teams competed in many competitions during the year, and were extremely popular wherever they appeared. At the Australian Championships held in Brisbane during the Easter week-end, the Midget Team, Imparras, obtained second place in the Aggregate and third in their Own Choice. The Junior Midget Team, Magarras, received Special Merit Badges for their effort in competition. In all two cups and medals were won.

Palm Island Settlement

Boy Scouts and Girl Guides.—Regular meetings are a part of this section's activities. Visits to Esk Island where a sturdy general purpose shed has been erected for their use by the administration, has been a feature of Scout and Guide movements during the year.

Last May, 30 scouts from Brisbane and Townsville were entertained at Esk Island and 11 Palm Island scouts went to Brisbane as guests of the Brisbane Scouting Movement.

Mornington Island Mission

Boy Scouts.—Good work has been done amongst the cubs and scouts on this Mission.

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 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 value of the work carried out by Country Police Protectors is not generally appreciated outside the realms of the Department. To the credit of Police Protectors should be recorded that they virtually fulfil the functions of welfare officers. It should be appreciated that Police officers by reason of their training and the application of such to their duties as Protectors provide a humanitarian outlook to the protection of aboriginals. Within the scope of their duties, and oftentimes beyond such, can be

recorded innumerable acts of help, assistance and advice beneficial to the people covered by the provisions of the Aboriginals' Preservation and Protection Acts.

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 | Foleyvale Settlement |
| Appendix 5 | Doomadgee Mission |
| Appendix 6 | Yarrabah Mission |
| Appendix 7 | Hope Vale Mission |
| Appendix 8 | Bloomfield River Mission |
| Appendix 9 | Mona Mona Mission |
| Appendix 10 | Torres Strait Islands and Peninsula |
| Appendix 11 | Island Industries Board |
| Appendix 12 | Edward River Mission |
| Appendix 13 | Mitchell River Mission |
| Appendix 14 | Aurukun Mission |
| Appendix 15 | Mornington Island Mission |
| Appendix 16 | Hammond Island Mission |
| Appendix 17 | Lockhart River Mission |
| Appendix 18 | Mapoon Mission |
| Appendix 19 | St. Paul's Mission |

APPENDIX 1

PALM ISLAND ABORIGINAL SETTLEMENT

(Superintendent—Mr. R. H. Bartlam)

| | |
|--|-------|
| Population on Settlement— | |
| Full blood | 589 |
| Half blood | 627 |
| Attached to Settlement but employed on mainland— | |
| Full blood | 54 |
| Half blood | 50 |
| | 1,320 |
| Deaths— | |
| Adults | 10 |
| Children under 1 year | 4 |
| Births | 57 |
| Exemptions | 7 |

HEALTH

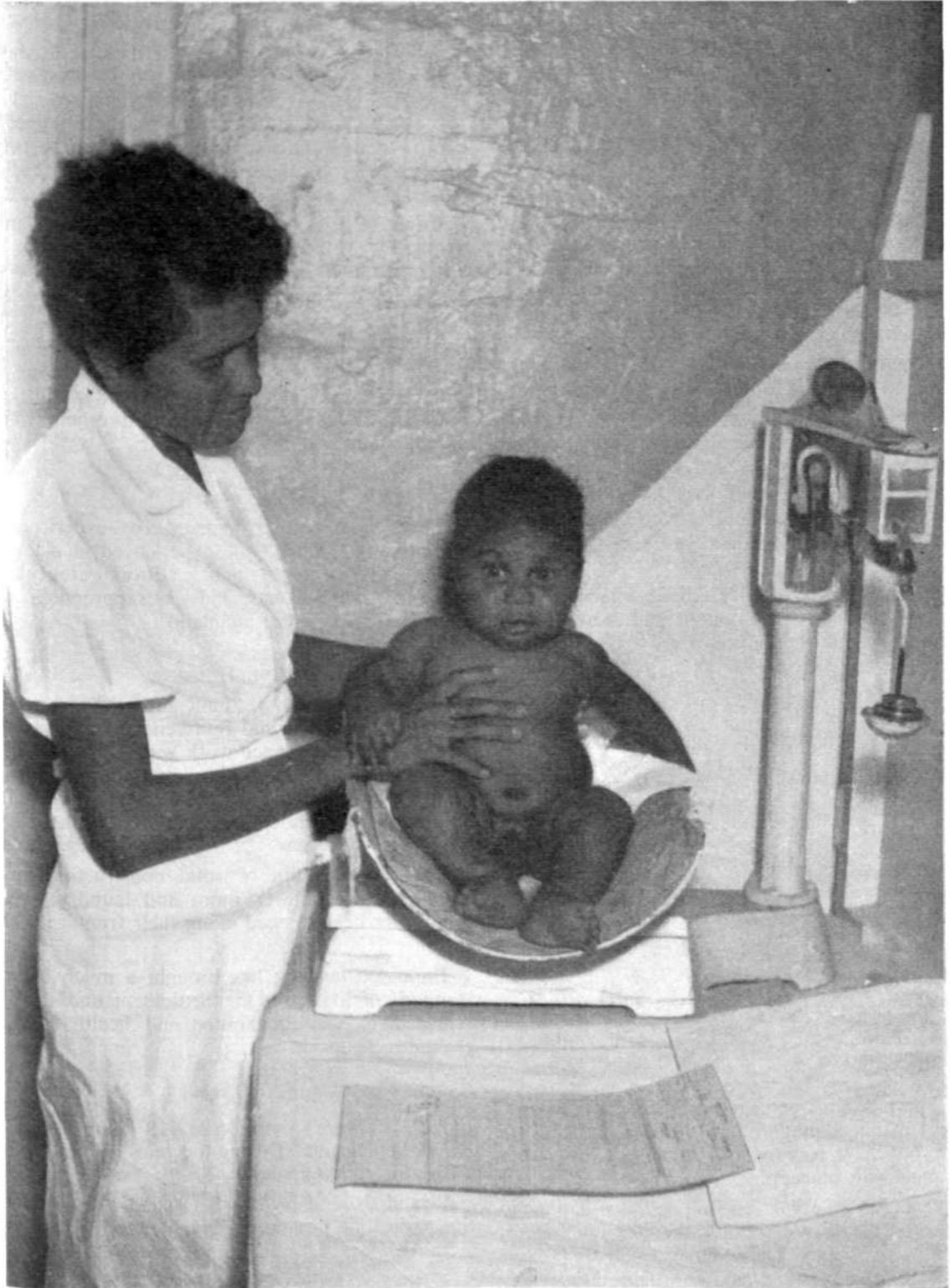
There has been no serious outbreak of disease during the year. Mild outbreaks of mumps, measles and influenza have occurred. A number of children under two with gastric troubles have been hospitalised during the period.

The hospital staff comprises doctor, matron and five sisters with ten native assistants.

Maintenance work on the hospital has been carried out by Settlement workmen, and the Outpatients' Department has been renovated and brought into use.

DENTAL

Visits by the dentist have been made at irregular intervals during the year. It is hoped that with an improvement in the dental staff position a more regular service will result. The dental condition of the people has improved as a result of the attention being received.



Child Welfare—Government Settlement.

HYGIENE AND SANITATION

Essential services have been regularly maintained by this section throughout the year. Regular visits by the hygiene officer to all areas of the native living areas has resulted in a steadily improving standard of hygiene.

A hookworm survey was undertaken during the period and all positives treated. At present three positives are under treatment.

Areas along the frontage are being built up with dry rubbish and covered with soil. These places are then laid down with turf as parks and playing areas.

BABY WELFARE CLINIC

This unit is operating efficiently and good results have been achieved. Each child on the Settlement under the age of five years visits this clinic regularly and a check is made of the health and well being of the child.

Regular visits are made by the baby welfare sister to the homes of the parents ensuring that the improvement is general and steady.

Fruit, vegetables, eggs, cheese, milk, cereals, &c., are weekly issues and clothing for all the small children are made here and distributed to all children under five.

FARMING

Production of food has been intensified and figures of foodstuffs produced and issued on the Settlement for the period are:—

| | |
|-------------------------|---------------|
| Beef | 31,685 lb. |
| Pork | 10,189 lb |
| Fish | 2,038 lb. |
| Mutton | 4,054 lb. |
| Milk | 5,613 gallons |
| Cabbage | 5,755 head |
| Chinese Cabbage | 3,745 head |
| Carrots | 27 sacks |
| Tomatoes | 266 bushels |
| Bananas | 1,822 bunches |
| Papaws | 4,979 only |
| Pineapples | 34,238 only |
| Squash | 18 sacks |
| Watermelons | 940 only |
| Sweet Potatoes | 38 sacks |
| Onions | 31 bushels |
| Turnips | 13 sacks |
| Beans | 80 bushels |
| Lettuce | 250 bushels |
| Cucumbers | 6 bushels |
| Radish | 80 bushels |
| Pumpkins | 14 sacks |
| Maize | 1 ton |

The pineapple acreage has been increased and the banana plantations are yielding well. Two acres of new country on Bamboo Creek were planted with pineapples.

Owing to a very dry season the silos had again to be used and by careful husbandry stock losses were very slight. These silos, which were built four years ago, have paid for themselves many times over by stock saved. Saccaline, Poona peas, corn and cane were grown to refill them and they are now ready for another dry period.

A further 15 acres of scrub was felled and sown with green panic molasses and Buffel grass. The scrub areas planted over the last two years are looking very well and have good stands of the introduced grasses. Thirty bullocks were fattened on these pastures and killed for ration issue.

Vegetables have been planted for Settlement needs and cabbage, radish, lettuce and other early crops are being harvested.

FEMALE WELFARE

This section supervises sewing room, home training and female welfare activities.

The tuition given to teenage girls after leaving school has brought very good results. Domestic training is also given to the older girls from the school who attend twice weekly. These trainees cook a midday meal for 65 children in the two lower grades of the school as a part of their training.

Constant field work is improving the standard of hygiene in the home and the effect is particularly noticeable in those families who have now been installed in a better class house.

The female welfare officer who is in charge of this section supervises the running of the old people's home (26), hostel for ex-Hansen's patients and convalescent patients (18), and the issue of supplies to diabetics and others who require supplementary rations.

EMPLOYMENT

There is a regular demand for experienced stockmen but difficulty is experienced in placing young lads in employment. Efforts are being made to place young lads as apprentices in various trades on the mainland.

NATIVE HOUSING

Fourteen houses were built during the year for use by the natives, and fourteen are under construction. Maintenance work was carried out on 24 homes. It is hoped with better road transport expected to be available in the next few months to have the 14 under construction completed by September this year.

These houses are of solid construction and complete with shower room and laundry. The homes are being fenced along their frontage with palings.

Improved housing has brought a much better standard of living on the Settlement and this is reflected in the appearance and health of the children.

STOCK

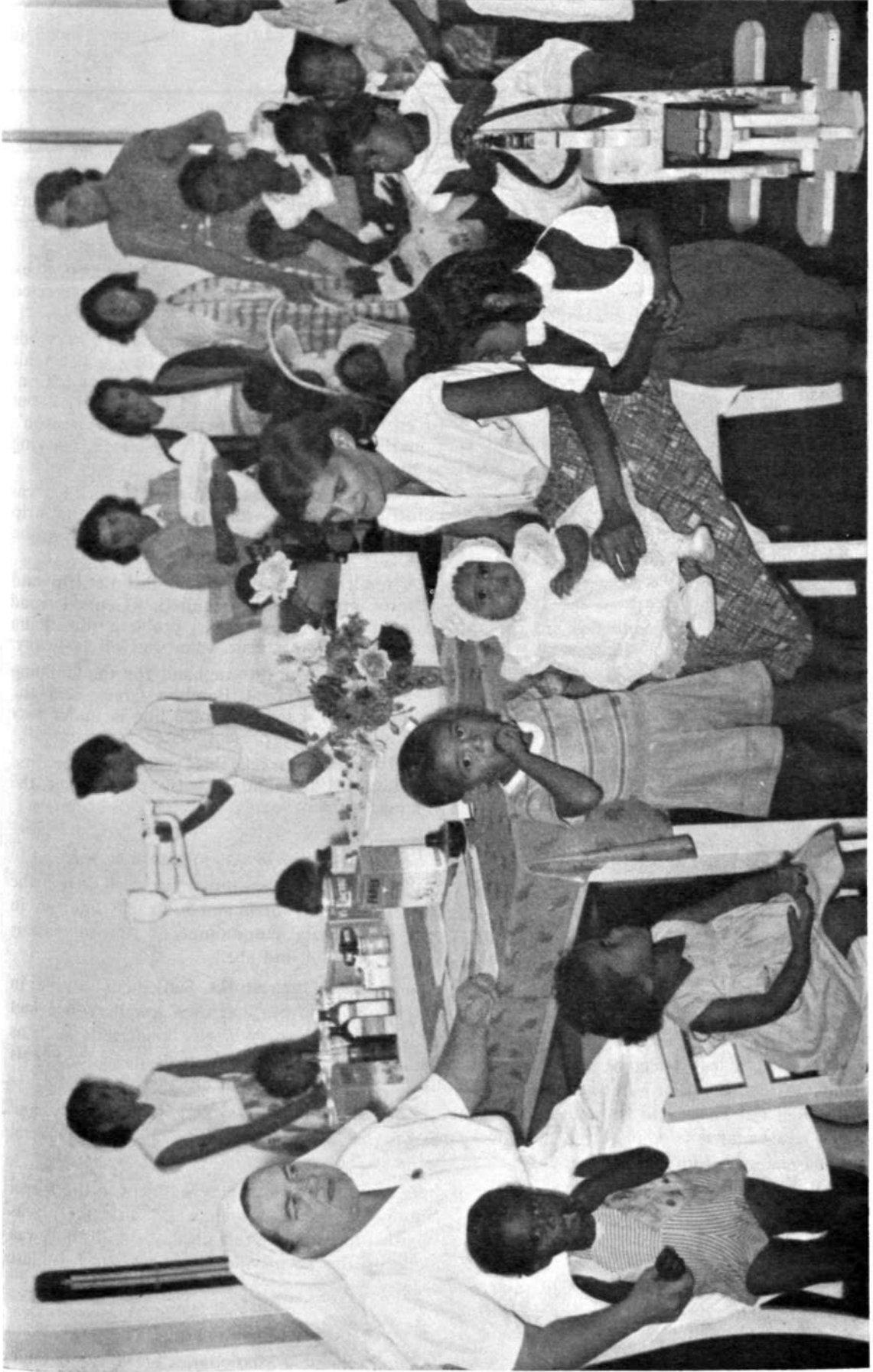
At 31st March there were 419 head of cattle on the Settlement. During the year 47 head were killed for ration issue.

Pigs at the end of March totalled 149—during the period 97 pigs were slaughtered for rations.

SAWMILLING AND LOGGING

129,628 super feet of sawn timber were returned from this mill. All timber cut was used on the Settlement mainly in the construction of native houses. The timber was cut in the recently opened Bamboo Creek area and hauled to the Settlement mill.

Four hundred pine trees of the variety *Pinus Caribaea* were planted in the Bamboo Creek areas as a part of an afforestation scheme. It is hoped to plant a further 500 this year.



Child Welfare—Government Settlement.

WORKSHOP AND MANUAL TRAINING

The older boys from both the aboriginal school and the convent school are given instruction in plumbing and woodwork twice weekly.

After the lads leave school they spend a period of training at carpentering, boat building, plumbing or metal work.

EDUCATION

There are two aboriginal schools on the Settlement—the Native Affairs school and the convent school.

The former has a maximum enrolment of 263 children and the latter 112.

There has been one assistant teacher short at the Native Affairs Department school since February of this year leaving one head teacher, four assistant teachers and 7 monitresses. Apart from the usual 8 grades it has been found necessary to add one preparatory grade and a special opportunity class.

One boy from the State school attained his Scholarship and was accepted as an apprentice by the Queensland Railways Department.

Visits were made to Townsville Show and to various factories in Ingham. A group of aboriginal children acquitted themselves well at the inter-school sports at Ingham.

The four members of the Franciscan Missionaries of Mary and three monitresses are coping with their pupils quite well at the convent school.

The selfless and cheerful co-operation of the convent school authorities is a feature of the work of that organization.

SCOUTS AND GIRL GUIDES

Regular meetings are a part of this section's activities. Visits to Esk Island where a sturdy general purpose shed has been erected for their use by the administration, has been a feature of Scout and Guide movements during the year.

Last May, 30 scouts from Brisbane and Townsville were entertained at Esk Island and 11 Palm Island Scouts went to Brisbane as guests of the Brisbane Scouting Movement.

TRANSPORT

Water.—The "Kiru" which is to replace the old launch "Irex" is in the water and the engine is in the boat but has yet to be aligned. There is still a few months work in fitting up wheel-house and cabin before she is ready for sea. This 46-ft. launch hull has been built with Settlement labour under supervision and of timber from the Settlement.

The "Sylvia" and "Turtle" boats are both doing good work. The "Sylvia" in particular is a far better balanced boat since her complete overhaul during which 5 ft. were added to its length.

The power barge "Challenger Bay" is proving most useful in lightering work. The main loading from Townsville is carried by Charter vessel twice weekly.

Road Transport.—The existing trucks available for general haulage work on the Settlement are very old but it is hoped that the situation will be greatly relieved with the early arrival of a Bedford truck. The timber jinker is doing good work.

GENERAL IMPROVEMENTS

The recreation hall and picture theatre is well under way and it is hoped that it will be in use by August.

The engineering workshop 70 feet by 40 feet is completed and awaiting light and power installations.

A garage was built to house the jeep truck and a three room supply shed has been erected on the beach front.

An air-strip 710 yards long and 100 yards wide was completed at Butler Bay and an air service thrice weekly is in full operation. Considerable drainage work had to be carried out to enable this to be done but the wet season's rains have indicated that the system is working satisfactorily.

A concrete culvert 4 feet by 2 feet 6 inches was constructed to take storm water under the strip and one small creek was diverted to allow the necessary area to be levelled.

A road was cut through to the air-strip and culverts made where required. General road maintenance is always a problem on Palm Island where the storm water run off is heavy.

Preliminary work is in hand for the building of an 8-foot weir at Bamboo Creek and the installation of 4 miles of pipe line is under way to implement the present water scheme.

Very little rain fell this year until the first of March, 1959, and the dry period was the longest for many years.

SOCIAL AND WELFARE ASSOCIATION

This association has functioned well during the period and has maintained steady interest in sport and general entertainment. A ready sale is found for coral and shells.

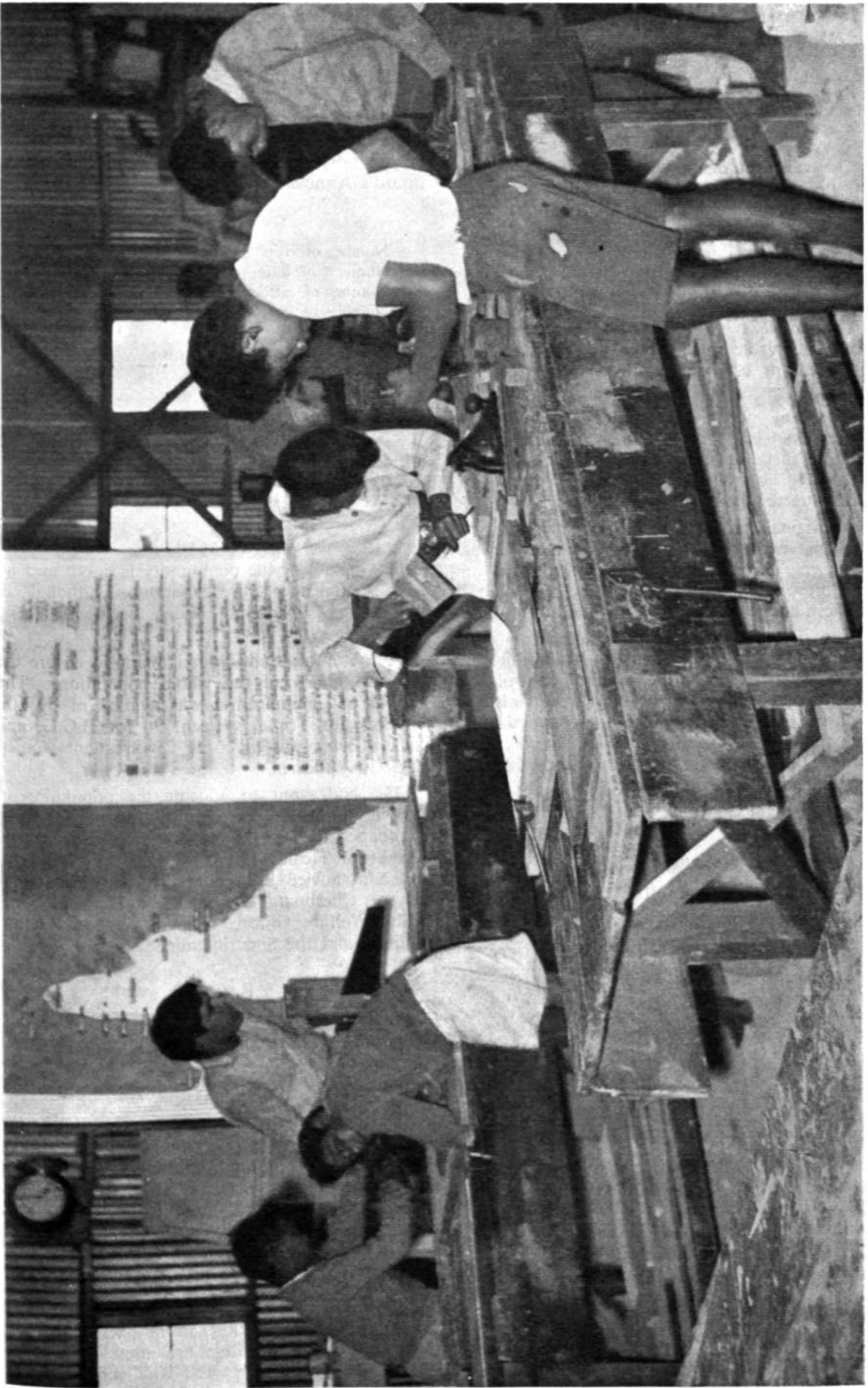
A drive to interest the Settlement people in making up novelties and shell jewellery has met with some success. Various handicrafts such as hat making and fan and small pandanus items are proving popular with tourists.

Football teams have visited Halifax, Tully, and Townsville and boxing teams have had several visits to Townsville.

A comprehensive display was sent to the Royal National Show, Brisbane, where first prize was awarded to its handicraft display. A display was made up for Townsville Show held in June last year.

FANTOME ISLAND LEPROSARIUM

The Franciscan Missionaries of Mary continue to capably handle the patients at this centre. The Palm Island doctor visits the Leprosarium once a week and various visits by dentists have been made during the year.



Manual Training Class—Government Settlement.

A tennis court has been built at Fantome and the patients enjoy the added pleasure of this sport.

| | | | |
|---------------------------|----|----|----|
| Patients 31st April, 1958 | .. | .. | 26 |
| Admissions | .. | .. | 6 |
| Discharges | .. | .. | 9 |
| Deaths | .. | .. | 1 |
| Patients 31st March, 1959 | .. | .. | 22 |

APPRECIATION

The assistance of the Director of Native Affairs and his staff is gratefully recorded and thanks are due to the Palm Island Settlement staff for their loyal support throughout the year.

AITKENVALE RESERVE

(Manager—Mr. K. F. Spencer)

The hostel at Aitkenvale Reserve has amply proved its value during the year. Here meals and pleasant accommodation are provided for aboriginals in transit by the staff at the Reserve.

Travelling natives en route to employment from Palm Island or other areas are housed and fed until their transport leaves and medical cases are picked up from the boat or train and transported to the hospital.

Aboriginals from other settlements and missions and outside areas passing through Townsville are accommodated at the hostel and their movements to employment, hospital or back to their home protectorate are assisted.

The hostel also serves as a home for young lads who are in employment in Townsville and the manager exercises the paternal control over these young people which is of great assistance to them. The buildings have been painted inside and out and the grounds are in the process of being laid out in lawns and gravelled roads. When completed this reserve should be one of the show places of the district.

APPENDIX 2

CHERBOURG ABORIGINAL SETTLEMENT (Superintendent—G. Sturges)

STATISTICS

Population as at 31st March, 1959—

| | | | |
|-------------|----|----|-------|
| Full bloods | .. | .. | 158 |
| Half bloods | .. | .. | 1,009 |
| Total | .. | .. | 1,167 |

| | Full Bloods | Half Bloods | Total |
|---------|-------------|-------------|-------|
| Births— | | | |
| Male | 8 | 25 | 33 |
| Female | 3 | 28 | 31 |
| Total | 11 | 53 | 64 |

| | | | |
|---------|----|----|----|
| Deaths— | | | |
| Male | 7 | 10 | 17 |
| Female | 3 | 10 | 13 |
| Total | 10 | 20 | 30 |

EXEMPTIONS

Conforming to Departmental policy, Exemption Certificates were granted to eight males, eight females and eleven children, the children representing families of the males and females.

CHILD ENDOWMENT

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|--------|----|----|
| | £ | s. | d. |
| Total Child Endowment paid | 12,564 | 0 | 10 |
| Average monthly payment | 966 | 9 | 3 |
| Total Store sales to endowees | 7,506 | 7 | 9 |
| Average number of endowees—183. | | | |

HOSPITAL

The Cherbourg Hospital is under the control of the South Burnett Hospitals Board, and details of the hospital activities may be found in the Board's Annual Report.

DENTAL

| | | | |
|-----------------------|----|----|-----|
| Number of visits | .. | .. | 39 |
| Number of fillings | .. | .. | 641 |
| Number of extractions | .. | .. | 419 |
| Number of dentures | .. | .. | Nil |

OPTOMETRIST

| | | | |
|--------------------|----|----|----|
| Number of visits | .. | .. | 4 |
| Number of patients | .. | .. | 28 |

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

| | | | |
|------------------|----|----|-----|
| Hansen's Disease | .. | .. | Nil |
| Tuberculosis | .. | .. | 8 |
| Venereal Disease | .. | .. | 6 |

HEALTH

The health of the community is good, and no serious epidemics were experienced although an outbreak of whooping cough occurred during March, 1959.

A continuous endeavour is made to ensure the physical fitness of the whole population. The benefit of immunisation was availed of by 100 children for Triple Antigen, 96 for B.C.G. and Salk vaccine was given to 29 pregnant women and 35 children.

The endeavour to educate the population in respect to health and medical fitness has been made per medium of picture screenings, distribution of Health Education Council literature, personal advice by the Medical Superintendent of the Cherbourg Hospital, the Hospital Staff, Baby Welfare Officer, Hygiene Officer, Welfare Officer, and the Superintendent.

RAINFALL

The total was 36.75 inches, over 82 wet days.

The seasonal conditions were good to fair over the year.

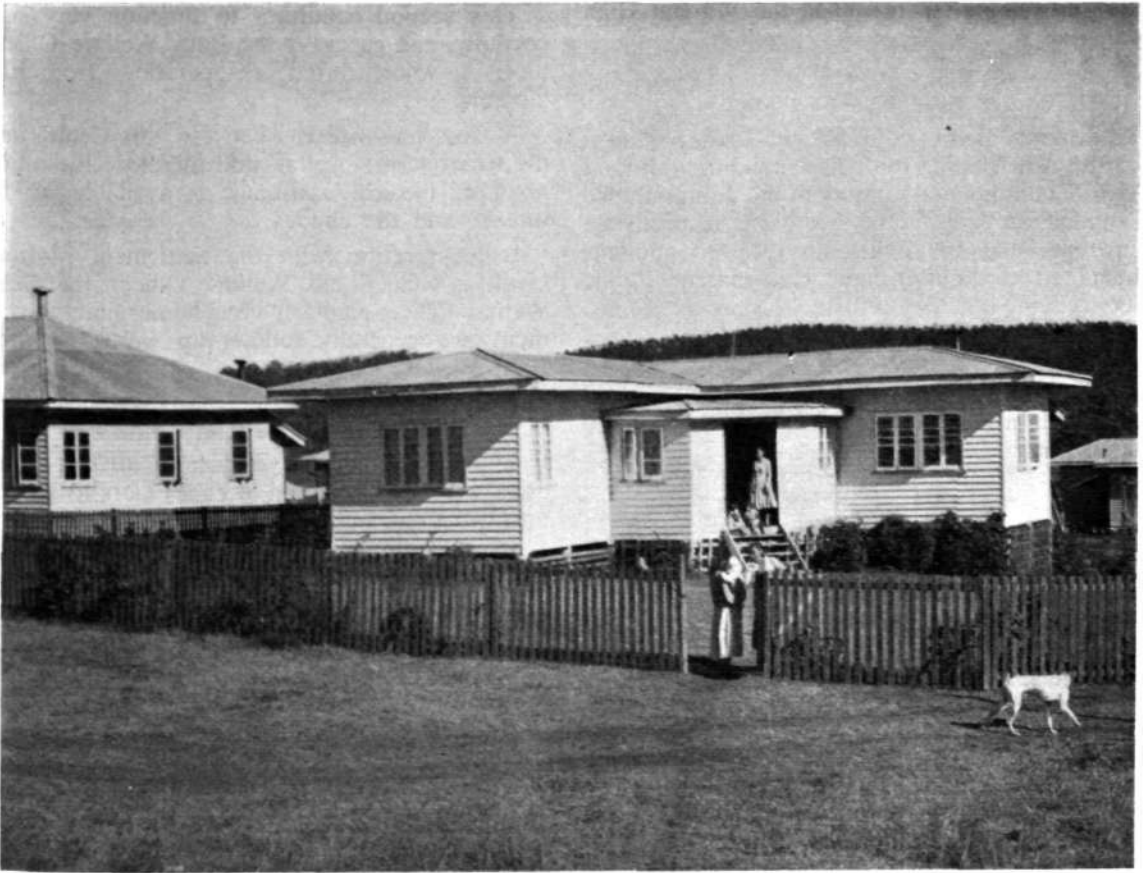
EDUCATION

Enrolment varied from 327 to 338 during the three quarters of 1958, and increased to 371 during the first quarter of 1959. The average attendance for the year was 310.

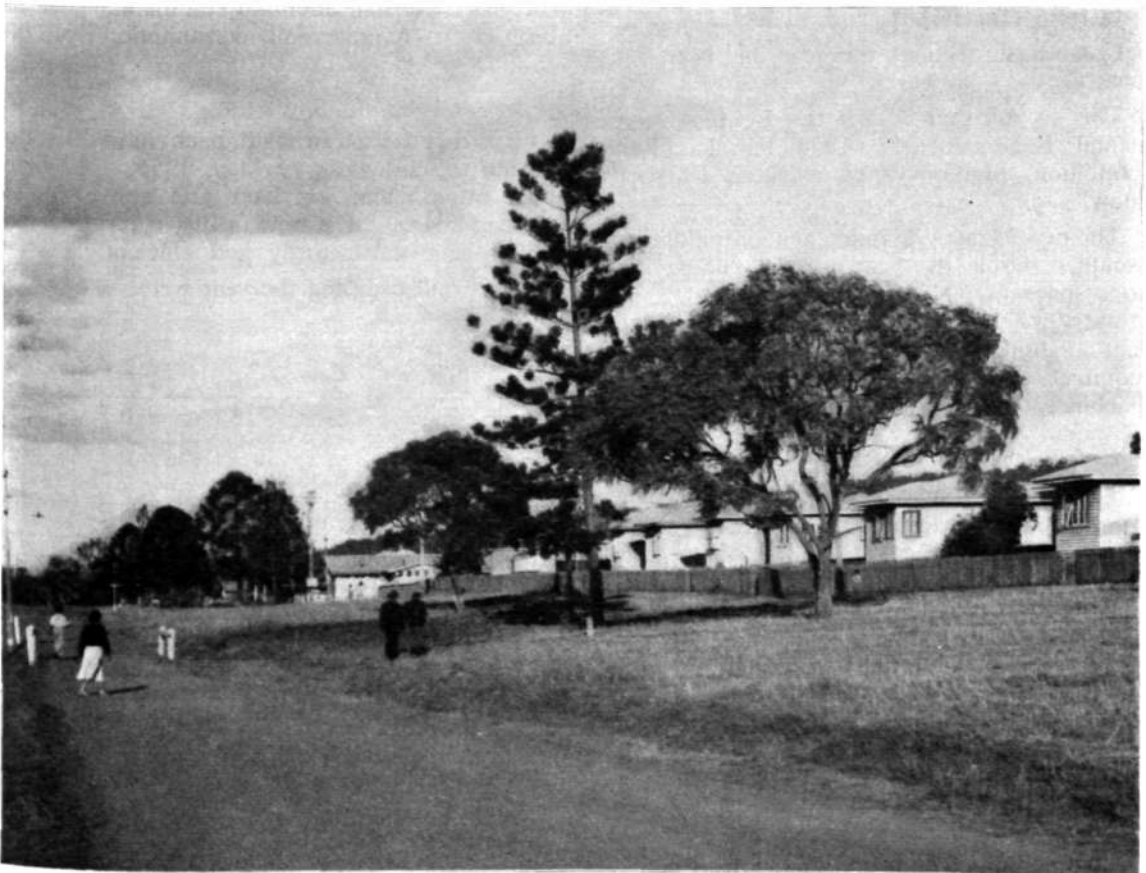
However the average attendance for that portion of 1959 included in this report was 337.9.

SCHOLARSHIP EXAMINATION

One boy, Erwin Brown, passed the 1958 Scholarship Examination, and at present this boy and also Viola Sheridan are attending Murgon High School together with Kathleen Holt who passed her Scholarship whilst attending the Aramac State School. Kathleen was also awarded the A. R. Brown Certificate as the result of her Scholarship pass.



Type of new native cottage—Government Settlement.



Native residential area—Government Settlement.

A total of four children, two boys and two girls, are at present attending the Murgon High School.

JUNIOR EXAMINATION

Lawrence Bell, Iris Bell and Joan Shillingsworth, Cherbourg students attending Murgon High School obtained passes in the Junior Public Examination in 9, 7 and 5 subjects respectively. Lawrence and Iris Bell both received appointments to the Queensland Government Public Service.

SCHOOL STAFFING

School staffing improved during the year, and as a result, a general improvement has been noted in all grades.

DOMESTIC SCIENCE

The syllabus for this section was revised during the year, and the scheme is working satisfactorily.

The enrolment at present is 30, including girls from Grades VII. and VIII. In addition this Section caters for the needlework requirements for Grades III. to VI., which at present comprises 93 girls.

Conduct generally is quite good, and the students show keen enthusiasm.

During the year work was prepared for the Departmental Exhibit at the 1958 Royal National Exhibition, Murgon Show Exhibit and also the competitive section of the Murgon Show.

MANUAL TRAINING

Enrolment varied from 24 to 33, and includes boys from Grades VII. and VIII.

Conduct throughout the year has been satisfactory.

This section prepared entries for the Departmental Exhibit at the 1958 Royal National Exhibition, Murgon Show and the Cherbourg Show.

The new Manual Training School building was occupied during the year. This building has a floor space of 60 feet by 40 feet, and is ideal in every way. The building is fitted with fluorescent lighting, electric power points where required, circular saw, band saw and grinding machine.

SPORTING

The school competed in the District School Sports, 180 children taking part, but they were unable on this occasion to conquer their traditional rival, the Murgon State Rural School. However, the football team again won the Jim Kemp Memorial Shield in the District School fixtures.

The cricket team won the District Schoolboys' Shield.

With the improved staffing position which now exists, it is confidently anticipated that much greater attention will be given to sporting activities for girls, and that in the near future they will also take their place amongst the winners in District School Competitions.

BABY WELFARE

This section continues to function very successfully, and generally the Baby Welfare Officer receives wholehearted co-operation from the mothers.

A close liaison exists between this Centre and the Cherbourg Hospital, and therefore the maximum of medical assistance is available to the mother and the child.

In conjunction with the Settlement Matron, Hygiene Officer and Welfare Officer the Baby Welfare Officer regularly visits homes and inspects them and generally follows up work from the Baby Welfare Centre.

HYGIENE AND SANITATION

This section receives very careful attention, and every avenue is explored in endeavours to reduce to a minimum the incidence of flies, mosquitoes, and other vermin. All potential breeding places are sought out and fumigated, and preventative measures are on a routine basis.

The sanitary service remains on the basis of maximum collections, and the disposal area is kept clean and free of any contamination.

SEWERAGE

Every endeavour has been made to expedite the completion of this scheme, and at present approximately 90 per cent. of native housing is connected to the plant. The plant is operating successfully.

WATER SUPPLY

This plant has operated successfully throughout the year. Regular attention and maintenance has been given. Average daily consumption is 40,000 gallons.

SAWMILL

This plant was brought back into operation during the last week of May, 1958, after being closed for major overhaul and conversion to electric power. It is now in first class order and functioning satisfactorily and efficiently.

Logs milled during the year were:—

| — | Logs | Contents | |
|----------------|------|------------|------------|
| | | Super. ft. | Super. ft. |
| Hardwood | 685 | 312,775 | 158,743 |
| Pine | 97 | 40,243 | 28,882 |
| Totals | 782 | 353,018 | 187,625 |

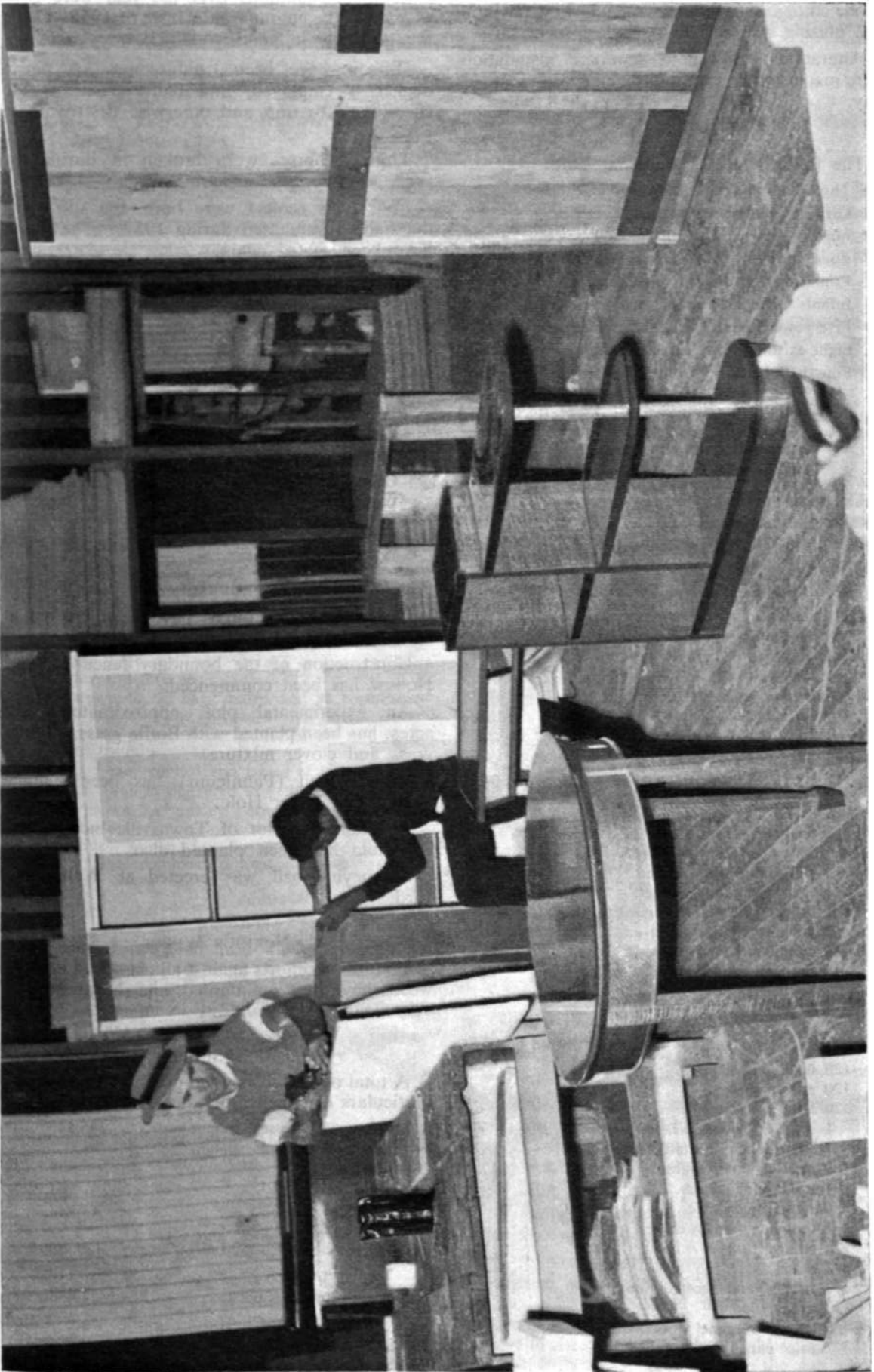
Machined timber—21,721 lineal feet 4 inches x 1 inch flooring; 500 lineal feet sill; 300 lineal feet 8 inches x 1 inch fascia; 4,046 lineal feet 3 inches x 1 inch; 1,707 lineal feet 2 inches x $\frac{1}{2}$ inch; 1,000 lineal feet $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches x $\frac{1}{2}$ inch.

BUILDINGS

The foreman carpenter and men under his control were transferred to sewerage work for several months.

A total of five native cottages were completed and occupied, and one was partially completed.

The Manual Training School, with a floor area of 60 feet by 40 feet was completed and occupied.



Trade Training Workshop—Government Settlement.

Maintenance and repairs were effected to all dormitories, domestic science school, fifteen native cottages, the primary school, show pavilion, and glazing was carried out where necessary.

Alterations, to enable sewerage installation, were made to four staff quarters, and one is under way.

PAINTING

The following work was completed:—

- Three staff quarters, interior and exterior.
- Girls' dormitory, interior and exterior.
- Mothers' dormitory, interior and exterior.
- Boys' dormitory, interior and exterior.
- Primary school, interior and exterior.
- Infants' school, exterior.
- Five new native cottages, interior and exterior.
- Eight existing native cottages, interior and exterior.
- Four bath-laundry blocks, dormitories, interior and exterior.
- Four bath-laundry-water closet blocks, native cottages, interior and exterior.

TRADE TRAINING WORKSHOP

The high standard of work already established has been maintained, and at present there are three men, one improver, and four boys full time employed.

The output for the year was as follows:—

- 588 casements.
- 258 dual desks and seats on steel frames.
- 3 silky oak chairs.
- 1 silky oak pedestal office table.
- 46 French lights.
- 496 1½-inch by ½-inch by 7-feet stops.
- 762 lineal feet 1-inch by ½-inch stops.
- 622 super feet V J, T & G.
- 20 framed mirrors.
- 2 step ladders.
- 6 dress display stands
- 2 counters, each 18 feet.
- 1 silky oak Cheval mirror.
- 2 silky oak show cases.
- 1 silky oak filing cabinet.
- 1 school press, four door.
- 2 veranda chairs.
- 16 combination wardrobes.
- 16 dressing table stools.
- 2 kitchen stools.
- 1 head teacher's table.
- 434 pine chairs.
- 1 silky oak cabinet.
- 120 flush pipe boards.
- 120 cistern boards.
- 120 hopper sashes.
- 1 silky oak bookcase.
- 1 silky oak round table.
- 1 nest of three tables.
- 24 small pine chairs.
- 6 small pine tables.
- 1 tool box for sewerage.
- 28 coffins.
- 2 crates.
- 19 framed and sheeted doors.
- 270 ledged doors.
- 6 half glass panel doors.
- 7 four panel doors.

The following material was utilised:—

- 4,042 super. feet silky oak.
- 25,485 super. feet pine.
- 258 sheets ply.
- 143 sheets 72-inch by 48-inch arctic glass.

STOCK

Seasonal conditions over the year were good except for the autumn and winter of 1958. Cattle are generally in good condition.

Dingoes have been troublesome. A native dogger is employed, and native residents are encouraged to trap and otherwise destroy these pests.

Thirteen horses were broken in during the year.

Four foals (colts) were born, the sire being the stallion purchased during 1957. The mares have been mated again.

Book figures show stock at 31st March, 1959, as:—

| | |
|----------------------------|--------------|
| Bulls | 20 |
| Herd cows | 608 |
| Maiden heifers | 67 |
| Speyed cows | 21 |
| Bullocks | 67 |
| Weaners | 214 |
| Miscellaneous cows | 2 |
| Calves branded | 2 |
| Bleeders | 2 |
| Total | 1,003 |

IMPROVEMENTS

Concrete water troughs have been erected at Well Paddock and Waltmann's Bore.

Construction of the boundary fence at Frog Hollow has been commenced.

An experimental plot, approximately four acres, has been planted with Buffle grass, Rhodes grass and clover mixture.

Giant couch (Panicum) has been planted along Long Water Hole.

A small seed plot of Townsville lucerne and Phasciola has been planted also.

A speying bail was erected at Waltmann's yard.

NOXIOUS WEEDS

Continuous efforts against all classes of noxious weeds have been maintained, and the property is very clean.

BEEF SUPPLY

A total of 317 cows were purchased and killed, particulars of which are:—

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------|----------|
| 317 cows, dressed weight | 145,543 | lb. |
| Average dressed weight each | 459.1 | lb. |
| Total gross cost | £9,247 | 10s. 0d. |
| Average gross cost per lb. | 15.24d. | lb. |
| Returns from hides, glue, &c. | £497 | 4s. 1d. |
| Total net cost | £8,750 | 5s. 11d. |
| Average net cost per lb. .. | 14.43d. | |

A total of 50 Cherbourg cattle were killed. Particulars are:—

| | | |
|------------------------------------|--------|-----|
| 33 bullocks dressed weight | 18,248 | lb. |
| Average dressed weight | 552.9 | |
| 9 cows dressed weight | 3,974 | |
| Average dressed weight | 362.3 | |

There were eight culled cows from the Training Farm killed, particulars of which are:—

| | | | |
|------------------------|---------|-----|-------|
| 8 cows dressed weight | .. .. . | lb. | 2,899 |
| Average dressed weight | .. .. . |  | 362.3 |

The value of Settlement stock killed for rations is £2,000.

143 weaner steers were transferred to Foleyvale in May, 1958.

ABORIGINAL TRAINING FARM

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Commercial butter — 9,327 lb. | realised |
| £1,708 10s. 7d. | |
| Pigs sold—114 pigs sold realised | £1,180 14s. 9d. |
| Broom millet—4 cwt. 1 qr. sold. | |

Stock at 31st March, 1959.—

| | | |
|--------------|---------|-----------|
| Bulls | .. .. . | 2 |
| Cows | .. .. . | 62 |
| Heifers | .. .. . | 10 |
| Weaners | .. .. . | 8 |
| Total | .. .. . | 82 |

Pigs at 31st March, 1959.—

| | | |
|--------------|---------|------------|
| Boars | .. .. . | 4 |
| Sows | .. .. . | 9 |
| Fatteners | .. .. . | 25 |
| Stores | .. .. . | 29 |
| Suckers | .. .. . | 48 |
| Total | .. .. . | 115 |

Crops at 31st March, 1959.—

- 60 tons harvested and stored, comprising oats, barley and lucerne.
- 120 bags milo, 90 bags maize, and 36 bags barley was produced and utilised as pig fodder.
- 4 cwt. 1 qr. broom millet harvested and sent to the Blind Institute.
- 300 lb. honey robbed and issued at Settlement.
- 160 doz. oranges delivered to Settlement.
- Crops grown for grazing purposes included Poona pea-Sudan, clover-rye, Rhodes grass, lucerne, oats.
- Vegetables grown for Settlement use included pumpkins, potatoes, onions, and other market garden crops.

IMPROVEMENTS

Clearing of marginal land was continued and approximately 12 acres were planted to oats, and this crop materially assisted in carrying the herd through the winter of 1958.

The irrigation mains were extended a further 13 chains, together with the necessary take off points.

DAIRY STOCK

Eleven calves were reared and tattooed. They have also been treated with Strain 19. Five heifers ranging from 13 to 21 months, sired by "Palen Golden Effort," will be ready for mating during 1960.

Seven cows were culled and transferred to the Settlement beef herd.

PIGGERY

During the year one large white boar and two large white sows were purchased. The purchase of this new breeding stock was made on the advice of the Senior Adviser on Pig Raising of the Department of Agriculture and Stock, Murgon Office.

TRACTORS AND MACHINERY

The Ferguson tractor was overhauled, and this machine is performing satisfactorily. Other machinery has been maintained in satisfactory working condition.

MOTOR VEHICLES

All vehicles have been maintained in satisfactory working condition.

ROADS AND BRIDGES

Road maintenance continues. Decking and running boards on Muddy Flat Creek bridge were replaced, and other bridges have received maintenance as required.

SOCIAL AND WELFARE ASSOCIATION

Outstanding events of the year:—

- Christmas Tree
- Annual Show Dinner
- Annual Debutante Ball
- Participation in the Departmental Exhibit at the 1958 Royal National Show
- New Year's Eve Ball

The 1958 Cherbourg Annual Show was officially opened by Mr. J. Bjelke-Petersen, M.L.A., Member for Barambah, who represented the Honourable the Minister for Health and Home Affairs, Dr. H. W. Noble.

Mr. W. E. Knox, M.L.A., Member for Nundah, representing the Honourable the Minister for Health and Home Affairs, was the principal speaker at the 1958 Annual Show Dinner.

Mr. J. A. Heading, the Honourable the Minister for Works and Local Government, received the Debutantes at the Annual Ball.

Mr. C. O'Leary, the Director of Native Affairs, was also present at the 1958 Annual Show and associated functions.

The association continues to accept its responsible part in Settlement activities. Co-operation from the Executive Committee, and the various committees which constitute the association, is wholehearted, and individual members take a keen interest in matters pertaining to Settlement welfare.

The association supports many branches of sport. The tennis team won the Murgon District "B" Grade Premiership and Shield, and in the Championship Competition won the "B" Grade Singles, the Mixed Doubles and the Men's Doubles.

Cricket and boxing teams have played their part to the credit of themselves and the Settlement. Geoffrey Dynevor has retained his title of Queensland and Australian Champion (Fly-weight Division).

The football team won the Robertson and Corser Shields.

The marching girls teams competed in many competitions during the year, and were extremely popular wherever they appeared. At the Australian Championships held in Brisbane during the Easter weekend, the Midget Team, Imparras, obtained second place in the Aggregate and third in their Own Choice. The Junior Midget Team, Magarras, received Special Merit Badges for their effort in competition. In all two cups and medals were won.

ANZAC DAY

A Commemorative Ceremony was held on the Settlement conducted by the Rev. J. Donne, Anglican Missionary. Tokens of Remembrance were laid on the Honour Board by representatives of the Murgon Sub-Branch of the R.S.S.A.I.L.A. and Settlement residents. The Resolutions were read by Councillor J. Krebbs, Chairman of the Murgon Shire Council.

BOY SCOUTS AND CUBS

Enrolment is—

| | |
|----------------|----|
| Scouts | 31 |
| Cubs | 15 |

The highlight of the year for the scouts was the 1959 Easter Camp at Nanango. The work and conduct of the Cherbourg scouts at this camp was of the highest order, and gained them first place in the Camp Competition.

Jeffrey Doolah, the Cubmaster, was invested with the "woodbadge" at the Nanango Camp. He is the first Torres Strait Islander to secure this high Scouting Award for proficiency.

GENERAL

This Settlement was again given the responsibility for the design and construction of the Departmental Exhibit at the 1958 Royal National Exhibition in Brisbane. It received very favourable comment, and much credit is due to the officers and native residents who were responsible for the work involved.

CONCLUSION

I take this opportunity of expressing my thanks and appreciation to the Honourable the Minister for Health and Home Affairs, the Under Secretary, Department of Health and Home Affairs, the Director of Native Affairs and his staff, members of the Settlement staff, to Protectors and Police officers, to Ministers of Religion, and others who have assisted in the administration of this Settlement.

APPENDIX 3

WOORABINDA ABORIGINAL SETTLEMENT

(Superintendent—Mr. R. W. Naggs)

STATISTICS

The population of the Settlement is now 451 full bloods and 237 half bloods, total 688, showing a total decrease of 93 made up of 36 full bloods and 57 half bloods.

Deaths totalled 15. (One infant 5 months, and 6 old people of ages ranging from 62 to 83 years of age.)

Births totalled 29. (Thirteen full blood males, 12 full blood females, 2 half caste males, 2 half blood females.)

HEALTH

The health of the inmates could be described as very good. Hospital admissions were 816 of which number 48 were transferred to the Rockhampton General Hospital.

FINANCE

| | £ | s. | d. |
|---|--------|----|----|
| Native Savings Bank Balance is .. | 13,774 | 18 | 0 |
| an increase of £754 19s. over the period | | | |
| Cash Collections | 39,083 | 17 | 11 |
| Banked to Natives' Savings Bank Account | 8,071 | 19 | 5 |
| Settlement Maintenance | 943 | 4 | 10 |
| Retail Store Cash Sales to Natives | 25,209 | 8 | 9 |
| Retail Store Sales to Natives on order | 5,033 | 16 | 10 |
| Retail Store Credit Sales to Officials | 3,856 | 16 | 7 |

EDUCATION

Native School enrolment is—

| | |
|---------------|-----|
| Boys | 102 |
| Girls | 113 |
| Total | 215 |

The aggregate attendances over the 200½ school days—

| | |
|---------------|--------|
| Boys | 18,441 |
| Girls | 19,969 |
| Total | 38,410 |

Daily average attendance—

| | |
|---------------|--------|
| Boys | 91.9 |
| Girls | 99.5 |
| Total | 193.27 |

Lynette Booth passed Junior Standard from the Girls' Grammar School, Rockhampton, and is now working in Brisbane in the State Public Service.

Teaching staff has been greatly affected by the illness of both Mr. and Mrs. Jarrett.

The Primary School children competed in the Duinga District Schools Amateur Athletics with notable success.

CONDUCT

Conduct of the inmates has been satisfactory.

STAFF

It is with regret that this report records the death of Mr. C. P. Jensen, his wife, Jean, and son Graham in a drowning tragedy which occurred at Mimosa Creek on the 8th March, 1959. Mr. Jensen had acted in the capacity of clerk and storekeeper and had worked on the Settlement over a period of 13 years.

RAINFALL

During the period, rainfall amounted to 22.44 inches over a total of 41 wet days. This is some 5 inches below average. Water holes and dams have not been filled.

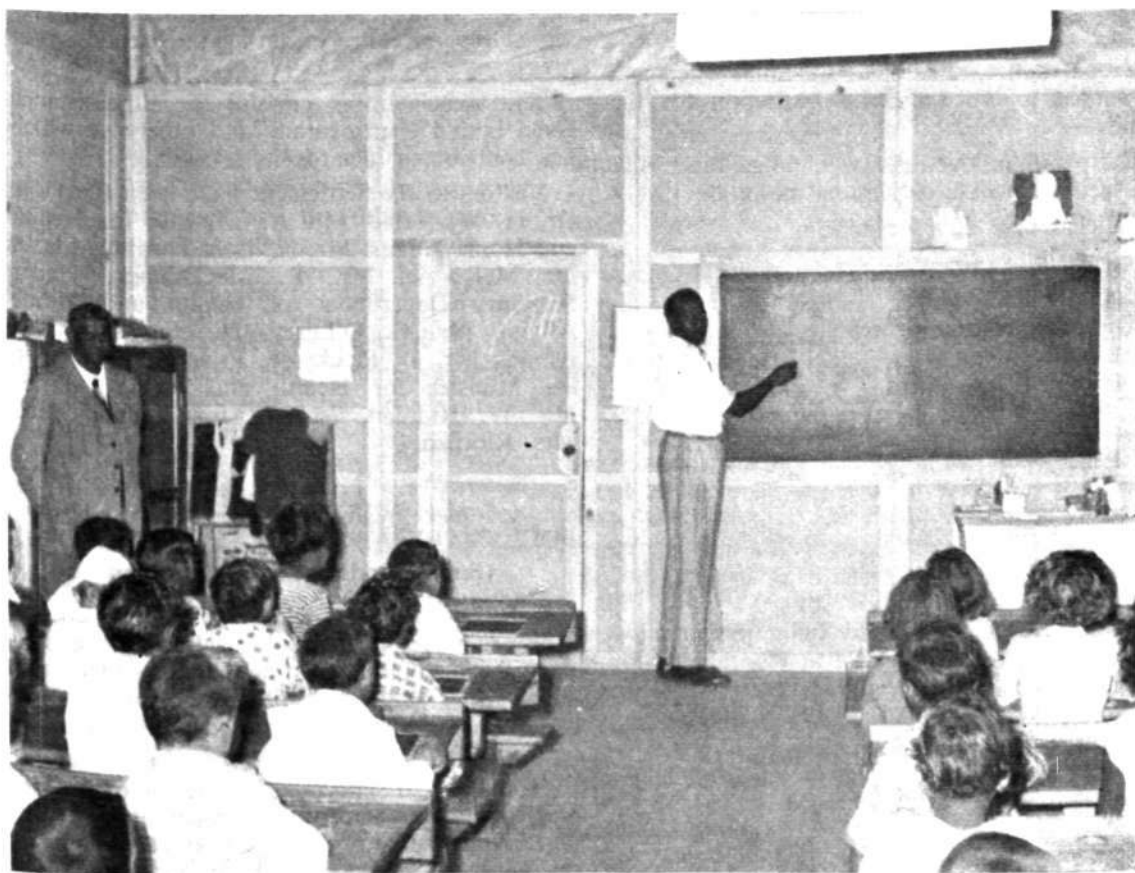
The Mimosa Creek carried a very fast flood from very heavy rain in its head waters that reached a height of 17 feet on the 17th February, which washed the new Mimosa Creek Bridge away.

SAWMILL

The sawmill operated at a steady pace throughout the year, snigging equipment being the most troublesome item of equipment used in the logging operations.



Domestic Science Class—Government Settlement.



Primary School—Government Settlement.

The gross measurement of 894 hardwood logs hauled was 378,224 superficial feet. Gross contents of 878 logs milled was 360,344 superficial feet, recovery 176,802 superficial feet.

Timber dressed 99,721 superficial feet.

BUILDINGS

Nine native cottages were completed with out-buildings, laundries and lavatories and also four other buildings. Repairs were completed on 21 of the older native houses on the Settlement by Native Carpentering gangs under Mr. C. Allen, Foreman.

A new Roman Catholic Church has been completed, and a new Church of England is well under way.

FARMING

Following are the vegetables produced by the Farm and issued:—

| | | |
|---------------------|-----|---------|
| Turnips | 33 | cwt. |
| Carrots | 15 | cwt. |
| Beetroot | 20 | cwt. |
| Onions | 50 | cwt. |
| Tomatoes | 9½ | cwt. |
| Cabbage | 347 | dozen |
| Cauliflower | 42 | dozen |
| Lettuce | 100 | bushels |
| Watermelons | 4 | tons |
| Rockmelons | 2 | cwt. |
| Marrows | 2 | bushels |
| Squash | 6 | bushels |
| Cucumbers | 5 | bushels |

Fruit produced and issued—Citrus, 255 bushels.

Fodder—4½ tons of lucerne hay, fed to dairy herd.

Broom millet—209 bales were harvested and forwarded to the Industrial Institution for the Blind.

Dairy milk production was 9,764 gallons. Milk is issued free to the natives and hospital.

Officials paid £39 for milk.

LIVESTOCK

The cattle register figures are as follows:—

| | |
|----------------------|--------------|
| Bullocks | 616 |
| Herd bulls | 57 |
| Herd cows | 2,144 |
| Steers | 451 |
| Heifers | 445 |
| Speyed cows | 187 |
| Dairy cows | 52 |
| Total | 3,952 |

Cattle Movements—Herd bulls purchased—15. Transfer from Foleyvale to Woorabinda for killing—76 bullocks, 1 speyed cow.

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|-----|
| Calves branded | 900 | |
| Cattle killed for rations | 371 | |
| Total meat weight | 162,249 | lb. |
| Meat issued to natives | 148,158 | lb. |
| Meat sold to officials | 14,091 | lb. |
| Meat sales realised | £714 17s. 0d. | |
| Hides sold—309 which realised | £517 3s. 2d. | |
| Rebate on sales produce | £8 16s. 10d. | |
| Two bullocks sold realised | £78 18s. 11d. | |

ELECTRICITY

Supply has been maintained throughout the year. The Native Quarters, Hospital, Guest House and Single Officers' quarters are supplied free. Staff housing is metered, and the amount of £135 3s. has been collected from officers.

SEWING ROOM

The following articles were made in the Settlement sewing room for issue to natives:—

| | |
|-------------------------|--------|
| Dresses | 505 |
| Slips | 667 |
| Quilts | 50 |
| Pillow slips | 31 |
| Mattress cases | 12 |
| Pantees | 19 |
| School uniforms | 14 |
| Boys' pants | 9 |
| Shirts | 4 |
| Sheets | 8 |
| Curtains | 1 pair |
| Tablecloth | 1 |

Welfare Association has continued to progress. A radiogram has been installed in the Native Welfare Hall, and a collection of records suitable for dance music obtained. A band is reforming for which drums and other instruments have been requisitioned. Football continues to be the main outdoor game.

ENTERTAINMENT

Talkie screenings are the most popular form of entertainment and are looked forward to by young and old on Saturday nights. Dances are held on Wednesday and Friday nights, the Wednesday night being set aside for the children.

Willie Thaiday and his entertainers have presented several concerts during the period under review.

The association is grateful for all assistance given both Departmentally and otherwise which has contributed towards its success.

Visitors to the Settlement have been the Hon. Dr. H. W. Noble, M.L.A., Minister for Health and Home Affairs, Mr. N. T. E. Hewitt, M.L.A. for McKenzie, Mr. K. McCormack, Under Secretary Department of Health and Home Affairs, Mr. C. O'Leary, Director of Native Affairs, Mr. D. Pluckrose, Private Secretary to the Minister for Health and Home Affairs, Mr. W. Riordan, M.H.R. for Kennedy and Mrs. Riordan.

APPENDIX 4.

FOLEYVALE ABORIGINAL SETTLEMENT (Superintendent—B. J. Shanahan)

Foleyvale Reserve with an area of 26,986 acres, since its inception in 1946 was regarded as a section of the Woorabinda Settlement and all activities associated with Foleyvale were the responsibility of the Superintendent, Woorabinda Settlement.

However, to effect a greater measure of efficiency, control and management of Foleyvale and to inaugurate a more progressive policy for the increased production of this reserve, Foleyvale was, in June, 1959, declared a separate reserve and Superintendent, Mr. B. J. Shanahan, was appointed.

IMPROVEMENTS

To effect a greater measure of production further development is being carried out, viz.:—

1. Fencing of approximately seven miles hitherto not completed has now been effected.

2. The scrub country of approximately 5,500 acres previously not developed will be pulled and seeded to improve pastures.

3. Investigations into better watering facilities are proceeding by the Department of Irrigation and Water Supply.

4. A holding paddock of approximately 4,000 acres on the southern side of the Mackenzie River will be acquired and improved to enable fat bullocks to be held for market during flood periods. Hitherto flooding in the Mackenzie made it impossible to get bullocks to market during such periods.

The cost of these improvements approximating £15,000 has been met from proceeds of the sale of cattle credited over the years to Welfare Fund.

LIVESTOCK

Foleyvale primarily is a cattle fattening property and surplus male cattle are transferred from Woorabinda and Cherbourg for fattening purposes.

In the period under review 857 head of male cattle were transferred from Woorabinda and Cherbourg. 623 bullocks were sold to the value of £28,954.

AGRICULTURE

Although the emphasis is primarily on cattle raising activities, agricultural crops for marketing purposes are produced and the following crops were harvested and marketed:—

1. Wheat 3,761 bushels realising £1,950.

2. Grain Sorghum, 120 tons, of which 90 tons were forwarded to the Grain Sorghum Marketing Board and 28 tons distributed to the three Settlements.

3. Cotton, 35 acres now in the process of harvesting of which 33 bales have been forwarded to the Cotton Marketing Board. Payments received to date £415 18s. 4d.

4. Peanuts, 250 bags produced from 10 acres. No payments received to date.

Further development will take place, expanding agricultural activities after development of other areas previously mentioned for cattle raising purposes have been completed.

BUILDINGS

Three 20 feet by 30 feet buildings have been erected to provide accommodation for native workers employed on the Settlement.

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APPENDIX 5

DOOMADGEE MISSION, VIA BURKETOWN
(Superintendent—Mr. A. J. Hockey)

STAFF

Mr. A. J. Hockey—Superintendent.
Mr. J. Talbot—Assistant to the Superintendent.
Mrs. Hockey.
Mr. L. M. Knott.
Mrs. Knott.
Mr. A. Polderman—Builder.
Mrs. Polderman.
Mr. H. L. Fawsett—School Teacher.
Miss I. C. Black—Registered Nurse.
Miss P. Roberts.
Miss G. Crouch.
Miss H. O. Rossow—School Teacher.

POPULATION

| | Half Blood | Full Blood | Total |
|---|---------------|---------------|-------|
| Males— | | | |
| Adults | 10 | 92 | 102 |
| Under 16 years | 16 | 80 | 96 |
| Females— | | | |
| Adults | 10 | 93 | 103 |
| under 16 years | 14 | 71 | 85 |
| | 50 | 336 | 386 |
| Natives drawing rations from Mission funds | | | 159 |
| Births | | | 15 |
| Deaths | | | 4 |
| Transfers in | | | 11 |
| Transfers out | | | 12 |
| Marriages celebrated | | | 1 |
| Natives visiting from other places | | | 12 |
| Net increase in population for the year | | | 10 |

HEALTH

The general condition of health is good, although we had cause for much concern in the latter part of 1958 over sickness amongst babies under 12 months, which resulted in the death of two. Two others recovered after severe attacks of pneumonia.

Immunisation against Poliomyelitis was carried out, and Triple Antigen injections given to children who had not previously benefited.

The Flying Doctor from the Cloncurry Base made 12 Clinic trips and eight emergency flights throughout the year. One emergency flight was for a native woman, Daisy Walden, who had acute heart trouble. This woman was later flown by special charter plane to Townsville for further treatment, resulting in saving her life.

HYGIENE

With the improved method of disposing of night-soil, what was once a great concern now is adequately coped with in the use of the septic tank. Seven new conveniences have been erected at the village and are now in use, and we are confident that the needs of this section will likewise be fully met.

HOSPITAL

As in previous years, this is a busy centre attending to daily outpatients, both young and old.

MOTHER CRAFT AND CHILD WELFARE

More time has been given to this section, with good results. The children under 6 years are noticeably brighter and more advanced in many ways. Apart from improvement in general health, contact with mother and child at an early age is helping towards brighter children for schooling later on.

Although family life is an objective to be desired, the care of the children over 6 years in the dormitories is advantageous. On account of regular rest and meals, there is a noticeable difference in physique of some children entering the Institution.

Older girls returning home from employment still desire the care and benefits of the dormitory in which they have grown up.

EDUCATION

Under the able care of Mr. H. L. Fawsett, assisted by Miss H. Rossow, school was conducted for 208 days with an average attendance of 106. There are at present 121 children in school.

With the aid of a tape recorder, school broadcasts are given to the children, giving them every opportunity to take advantage of the provisions available for their education.

CONDUCT

The general conduct has been satisfactory amongst adults and young people.

SOCIAL

Organised mid-week sports are conducted in the school. Football on Saturday afternoon is still the most popular sport amongst the older ones because it allows for more activity by a majority. The camping out is always looked forward to and enjoyed by the children when in recess from school.

On Easter Monday, a combined outing of all folks at home (including dormitory children) was enjoyed by all. All entered into the water sports quite ably.

RELIGIOUS

Regular services are convened and maintained. Attendances at times are not what is to be desired.

OUTSIDE EMPLOYMENT OF NATIVES

As in previous years, the demands for native labour have been met. It appeared that there would be a shortage of men for the different jobs at the commencement of the 1959 season. However, lack of rain in some areas delayed employment for some, but mostly all available for employment are now placed.

BUILDING

There has been advancement in our building programme. Since Mr. Polderman returned last

July, besides accommodation for himself and his wife, with the assistance of two native men, nine more dwellings have been erected in the village. Village conveniences were also constructed.

A new addition has been made to the industrial block, giving a working area of 40 feet by 33 feet, which is intended for a wood-working and machinery section.

Repairs have been carried out on staff quarters, with some alterations and additions, besides extensive painting to the majority of existing buildings.

A large portion of the material required for our new Institution kitchen and dining hall is to hand, and work will commence shortly. Materials have been ordered for a Bowas prefabricated dwelling for new staff quarters, as we are expecting another builder and family in May of this year.

AERODROME

To keep up with the standard required by Department of Civil Aviation, maintenance work is constant. Filling, dragging and levelling have assisted to improve the surface. Ant-bed filling (when settled) provides an excellent surface and avoids soil erosion from aircraft and prevailing winds.

A new turning circle was built up of ant-bed, but any further filling was delayed because of ready access to ant-bed supply being put out by rain. More work is anticipated before next wet season, to have the follow-up rain to settle and set the filling of ant-bed.

FARMING

Vegetables.—There were a few hold-ups early in the year 1958, but were overcome and small crops did well, our bulk supply being tomatoes, carrots, chinese cabbage and turnips. Sweet potatoes were plentiful, but the pumpkin supply was lower than usual.

Fruit trees.—Citrus have borne well considering the damage done by white ants. We have lost a number of old trees previously broken by strong winds, but there have been some replacements to ensure a continuous growth.

Mangoes.—The old trees are doing well, but some difficulty has been experienced in getting new young trees to survive the hotter parts of the year, as particular care is required over this period.

Shade trees.—The best and quickest growing have been the poinciana. An avenue of these has been planted in the native village, and interest has been shown in watering and caring for them.

Athol trees did not survive. Although well cared for, they seemed very susceptible to the white ant.

Apiary.—Our small apiary has been built up to eight hives, and, although mainly kept for pollination of crops, the yield of honey, while

increasing the hives, has been 304 lb. Two queens were reared here, proving the possibilities of expanding this avenue, but time does not warrant doing much in that line at present.

Poultry.—Turkeys have been added to this section, and it has been found that extra care has to be taken to rear chicks, because of hawks and crows and other pests. One hundred Australorp day-old chicks purchased September have done well, supplementing the egg supply.

WATER SUPPLY

The supply line laid last year has proved adequate for our needs. A 5,000-gallon storage and two 1,000-gallon tanks have been constructed, and another repaired for use with the septic system.

Before much more can be achieved in supplying the village with a better facility, we may have to consider drainage, as the area is so flat.

PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

All of our rolling stock has given good service, especially the 6-ton G.M.C. 6 x 6, which now does all our carting from Burketown. All vehicles and engines have been maintained in working order, including electric light plant, which is an asset in lighting and the use of machinery.

A new Lincoln welder has also been added, giving greater facilities to building work.

CATTLE AND HORSES

| | | |
|--|-------|-------|
| Cattle on hand at 1st April, 1958 | 1,895 | |
| Add brandings for year | 592 | |
| | | 2,487 |
| <i>Less—</i> | | |
| Estimated shrinkage | 248 | |
| Slaughtered for own consumption | 95 | |
| | | 343 |
| Estimated cattle on hand at 31st March, 1959 | | 2,144 |
| Horses on hand at 1st April 1958 | 125 | |
| Known death | 1 | |
| Horses on hand at 31st March, 1959 | | 124 |

GENERAL

To enable this report to be furnished, there is much that goes on that does not come into print. The assistance given by visiting friends and support and untiring efforts of others should not be unmentioned.

It is recorded that Mr. Talbot, former superintendent, who was forced to relinquish his position owing to ill-health, has recovered sufficiently to return to the Mission and will work as assistant to the superintendent. His experience and advice will be invaluable.

THANKS

To the Director of Native Affairs and his staff the doctors of the Royal Flying Doctor Service, Cloncurry, throughout the year and the staff of the Base, we extend our appreciation of their consideration and assistance given.

APPENDIX 6

YARRABAH MISSION, CAIRNS (Superintendent—Captain J. Wilcox)

STAFF

Superintendent—Captain J. Wilcox, C.A.
 Works manager—Mr. W. E. Jamison.
 Hospital matron—Miss K. M. Manwaring.
 Accountant—Mr. R. Michael.
 Clerk—Mrs. R. Gow.
 Storekeepers—Mr. T. Hearne, Mr. B. Green.
 Headmistress—Miss J. Olsen.
 School Teachers—Mrs. J. Green, Miss C. McDonald
 Miss N. Howell, B.A. Dip. E., Mrs. W. Jamison.
 Carpenter—Mr. R. Gow.
 Sawyer—Mr. C. Anderson.
 Electrician—Mr. L. Cotterell.
 Farmer—Mr. J. Shadbolt.
 Boat skipper—Mr. A. Christie.
 Dormitory matron—Mrs. T. Hearne.

The increase of staff on the Mission has enabled us to undertake more development work than has been possible for a long time. There has been a decline in the population mainly because of a number of large families having received their exemption and we have a population now of 644 wards.

| | |
|-------------|-----|
| Full bloods | 134 |
| Others | 510 |

WORKS PROGRAMME

The work begun on the sawmill has been completed and the unit has now been entirely rebuilt. Extensions have been made to include storage racks and the mill now is well established and able to more than supply the needs of the Mission.

Difficulty has been experienced in securing access to good timber stands and new roads have been made to enable us to work some valuable stands in the hills behind the Head-Station and also towards the Buddabadoo area.

The output in the mill from 1st June, 1958, to 31st May, 1959, is as follows:—918 logs containing 241,882 super feet were milled and timber recovered was 118,110 super. feet.

The housing programme has been one of the major contributions to the life of the people on the Mission. Progress has been steadily maintained in the building programme. The type of house now being built is eight squares, and larger than previously. This has slowed down the speed of building a little but the accommodation will certainly be more adequate for the needs of the people.

Five large type native houses, two staff houses have been completed and three other native houses are in the early stages of erection. A gaol and compound were erected during the period of this report. Building repairs were carried out on three native houses which were left at the Mission by persons exempt. The matron's cottage has been completely renovated and repainted.

In December we commenced to erect a new dormitory building, the purpose of which will be to provide a domestic training centre for girls

at school and under sixteen years of age. This is the first steel frame building to be erected at the Mission. Facilities will be provided for cooking, laundering, handcrafts and sewing at this centre when it is opened.

MACHINERY

The maintenance of all machinery and vehicles has been carried out at a high level.

FARMS

With the assistance of the Department of Native Affairs, development work has been carried out on the farm and a dam has been built across the Oombounghi Creek as part of a plan to irrigate in that area. The Department of Native Affairs have backed the project and are now supplying the initial equipment which will enable us to irrigate at least ten acres in the Oombounghi area. This should enable us to give more variety in diet for the people (and a greater supply of vegetables and fruit) and also to provide some useful income from sales of produce in Cairns.

About twenty acres of land have been cleared and fenced. Every farm paddock has been subdivided and it is intended to develop dairy and stock. We shall shortly be carrying out a programme to improve pastures. Although, we have been, throughout the period of this report, without a farmer, work on the farms has continued mainly under the supervision of native headmen. They have acquitted themselves very well indeed and the produce report itself gives a picture of the efforts of these men and their helpers.

TOTAL PRODUCE 1ST JUNE, 1958, TO 31ST MAY, 1959

| | |
|-------------|-----------------------------------|
| Bananas .. | 15,640 lb. and 6 cases to Cairns. |
| Pines .. | 418 cases. |
| Cassava .. | 7,242 lb. |
| Pumpkin .. | 3,123 lb. |
| Cucumber | 250 lb. |
| Lemons .. | 3 cases |
| Potatoes .. | 3,543 lb. |
| Melons .. | 1,308 |
| Papaw .. | 1,300 |
| Cabbage .. | 44 lb. |
| Beans .. | 740 lb. |
| Tomatoes | 7 bushels. |

Some work has been carried out in clearing a strip which we anticipate will be used as an air strip in times of urgent medical calls.

HEALTH

During the year anti-tetanus injections were given to all residents at the Mission following one case of tetanus. A hookworm survey was made and the incidence of this infection was very low, only twelve positive cases being reported. Adults received polio injections during May this year.

With the assistance of the Department of Health and Home Affairs, plans were made to erect a permanent dental clinic at the Mission and this has recently been completed. Proposals for the erection of a new Hospital and matron's quarters were also made by the Department of Health and Home Affairs.

A big effort has been made during the year to raise the standard of hygiene and sanitation. This has meant opening up a new cleansing depot and building new vehicles.

A trained sister has joined the staff of the hospital as matron.

SOCIAL

In June of this year, a Welfare Association was formed, which included both staff and native people. The purpose of this Association is to provide extra social amenities in the community, with the emphasis being on a collective effort by all. During the first six months, this has been most successful in that programmes of social events and recreational activities have been arranged through this Association. The financial position of this Association stands at £1,000 cash and assets and funds are being raised towards the erection of a recreation hall.

It is to the credit of this Association and its members, that a suitable headstone was erected and dedicated in honour of the late Canon E. R. B. Gribble, O.B.E. This Association has functioned well during the report period and has provided in some measure a positive answer on how to use leisure time.

Also in June, 1958, a change over was made with the payment of Child Endowment moneys. All native women with children are now able to receive their Child Endowment moneys in full. After years of training on a docket system, it was felt that the majority of women were able to manage their own affairs in this way. During the six months trial period, it has been apparent that our decision in this respect has been justified, in as much as there is an apparent careful choice in spending through the stores. The trend to thrift is indicated also by the Savings Bank balances held on behalf of the people at the Mission as follows:—

| | £ | s. | d. |
|--|-------|----|----|
| Savings Bank balance, 31st April, 1958 | 3,967 | 7 | 8 |
| Savings Bank balance, 31st April, 1959 | 8,540 | 0 | 1 |

This has been achieved in spite of fewer people holding bank accounts at the Mission.

CHURCH AND SCHOOL

The church building is becoming rapidly beyond repair and it will be necessary in the very near future for a new church to be erected. The spiritual life of the Mission has been maintained at a steady level with exceptionally good attendances at the major festivals of the church. The school has experienced a big drop in the attendance, being due to a large number of children leaving the Mission with their parents who received exemptions. Roll call numbers 130.

In matters of education we have been fortunate in securing more trained teachers to assist us. It is desirable that some form of manual training be provided for boys at school and efforts are being made to implement some form of apprenticeship training with those who are engaged in industry in the Cairns area.

The headmaster of the school resigned in December. He has since been replaced by Miss J. Olsen.

EXEMPTIONS

During the past year 150 people have left the Mission to settle down outside the Reserve. Some of them have done extremely well, not only having been able to manage their own affairs and maintain themselves, but to put deposits down on homes. Others have met with varying success.

GENERAL

The continued support by the Department of Native Affairs has enabled us to make progress.

Two girls from this Mission continue to do well at St. Gabriel's School, Charters Towers. One boy is making good progress with his training as an Evangelist at the Church Army and one girl is doing a course at St. Michaels, Clayfield, Brisbane. Two girls are working successfully as Nursing Aids at Dalby Hospital.

APPENDIX 7

HOPE VALE MISSION

(Superintendent—Rev. E. C. Kernich)

STAFF

Mr. G. Rose—Farm Manager.
Mr. R. Maroske—Book-keeper, Storekeeper.
Miss D. Bahmisch—Head School Teacher.
Mrs. Lemburg—Assistant School Teacher.
Miss D. Kahler—Sister.

STATISTICS

| | | |
|-------------|---------|-----|
| Full bloods | .. .. . | 184 |
| Half bloods | .. .. . | 172 |
| Births | .. .. . | 12 |
| Deaths | .. .. . | 3 |
| Departures | .. .. . | 12 |

HEALTH

Persistent efforts against hookworm infestation have resulted in a further reduction of positive cases.

Early this year a type of influenza swept through the village causing concern. One death resulted.

More consideration is now being given to the diet of the natives and to compensate for the dearth of vegetables during the wet season the natives have been encouraged to grow more papaw trees, and other fruit trees in their back yard allotments.

EDUCATION

The number of pupils enrolled is 98, and the average attendance 90.

The new reading system introduced for the beginners has proved highly successful.

Three pupils are receiving music instruction.

The two teachers with the aid of four native monitoresses are making effective efforts to raise the standard of education.

With the arrival of an experienced storekeeper who has expanded the store and opened a Savings Bank for general purposes, much more time is being devoted to educating the natives in the wisest use of money.

BUILDINGS

Seven native homes were built and three more are in various stages of construction. Several

other homes were enlarged, and a number of temporary homes were erected to fill emergencies. Most of the new homes are of a larger type than those built previously.

A class room was built onto the school to cope with the increase in students and an office has also been built onto the store building.

A new staff home erected during the 1958-59 period is now practically completed.

SAWMILL

The gross measurement of logs hauled into the mill was 62,257 super feet. Sawn timber recovered was 32,004 super feet. Machinery and equipment were overhauled which should make possible smoother running for the next year.

A winch was also fitted to the blitz-wagon which should expedite the loading of timber.

AGRICULTURE

The peanut yield for 1958 was 1,128 bags. Four hundred bags were harvested by the Mission and the remainder by share-farmers and natives on their allotments.

A further 60 acres of land were cleared for agriculture.

To prevent further damage to cultivation by floods, contour banks were made on the main farm.

SHARE FARMS

In order to provide incentive for work, and to encourage the natives to become self-reliant a system of share-farming was introduced three years ago. The final object is to allow these natives the nett profits from their crops from which proceeds they are to become fully self-supporting.

Of the four men who began share-farms in the first two years, one is receiving the full nett returns of his crop and is practically self-supporting. The others should achieve this aim this year. One man failed to continue.

A further six men began share farms in August, 1958, and in a few months each had about three acres ready for planting.

STOCK

The plan to subdivide paddocks for the more effective control of stock is being implemented with the construction of a large paddock for weaners.

Zamia palm is still presenting a problem. We are awaiting the results of the experimental poisoning of about 200 acres, and should results prove satisfactory it is hoped to proceed with the poisoning of a much larger area.

Two acres of scrub land were cleared and planted with guinea grass in the first stage of a plan to improve pastures for the beef herd.

A further 10 acres of guinea grass were planted for the dairy herd. With the introduction of the new grass the stock position should improve.

CHURCH

Services are now being conducted in the new church which has a seating capacity of about 500.

Special courses of instruction were given to various groups. Strip films were used in this connection with pleasing results.

The youths are very enthusiastic about the Youth Society recently formed. It was decided to apply for affiliation with the Youth Association of the Church.

GENERAL

The general policy of the Mission has been to place more and more responsibility onto the individual native. In keeping with this policy the gangs have been broken up into as many units as possible. The natives have responded well and more work is being done with less supervision.

The general tone of conduct has been good.

APPRECIATION

We wish to record our warm appreciation for the assistance given us by various groups and individuals with particular mention of the Director of Native Affairs and his staff and the Protector of Aborigines, Cooktown.

APPENDIX 8

BLOOMFIELD RIVER MISSION (Superintendent—Mr. C. A. Hartwig)

STAFF

Mr. C. A. Hartwig—Superintendent.
Mrs. C. A. Hartwig—Matron.

STATISTICS

| | | | | | |
|-------------|----|----|----|----|-----|
| Full bloods | .. | .. | .. | .. | 117 |
| Half bloods | .. | .. | .. | .. | 19 |
| Births | .. | .. | .. | .. | 7 |
| Deaths | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2 |

HEALTH

The health of the natives has been generally satisfactory. Hookworm treatment has been carried out intensively greatly reducing the incidence of this disease. The result has been a general improvement in health, especially among the children. Health Inspector Mr. Shepherd spent a few days here taking haemoglobin tests, giving hookworm treatment, and inspecting general hygiene. Numerous sores, scalds, and burns were treated by the matron, and any serious medical cases were transported by Mission Land-rover to Cooktown Hospital. Last October Sister Stirling of the School Health Section visited the Bloomfield River State School and a result of her visit was that she recommended that 11 native children to be taken into the Rowes Bay Home of the Queensland Bush Children's Health Scheme, at Townsville. This took place at the beginning of February this year when these 11 children spent 6 weeks at the Home. Here they received dental and medical attention and greatly benefited by their 6 weeks' stay. The Itinerant Dentist, Miss M. McPhee, also spent a few days here when she was able to give much needed dental attention to the natives.

EDUCATION

The native children attend the Bloomfield River State School. It was especially gratifying to us when last September Mrs. Hartwig was

appointed as assistant teacher at this School, where she is able to make closer contact with the children and gain their confidence and exercise more of an influence over them.

HOUSING

Last year an area of land was purchased from Mr. Paterson, the owner of the local sawmill, as a site for the erection of the Mission House. This house is now nearing completion and will provide much more comfortable living conditions for the superintendent and his family.

GARDENING

Areas of land have been fenced at or near the three native villages where vegetable growing has been encouraged for home consumption. Last year because of the late start in establishing these gardens, plus extremely dry weather conditions, production of vegetables was not up to expectations. This year to date a large area has been planted with sweet potatoes while other vegetables are in the process of being planted. Papaws, bananas, manioc and pineapples planted last year are nearing production and generally the prospect for a good harvest of vegetables is much brighter.

SPIRITUAL

Church services are held regularly and generally are well attended. We are looking to the time when we can have our own assembly hall. Religious instruction is given at the State School every week.

APPRECIATION

We wish to express our sincere thanks to all who have helped us during the year. Especially we think of the Minister for Health and Home Affairs, the Director of Native Affairs and Staff, the Protector of Aborigines, Cooktown, Matron and Staff, Cooktown Hospital, Dr. Lester, Matron and Staff, Cairns Base Hospital, the Secretary, Queensland Bush Children's Health Scheme, and Matron and Staff, Rowes Bay Home, Townsville.

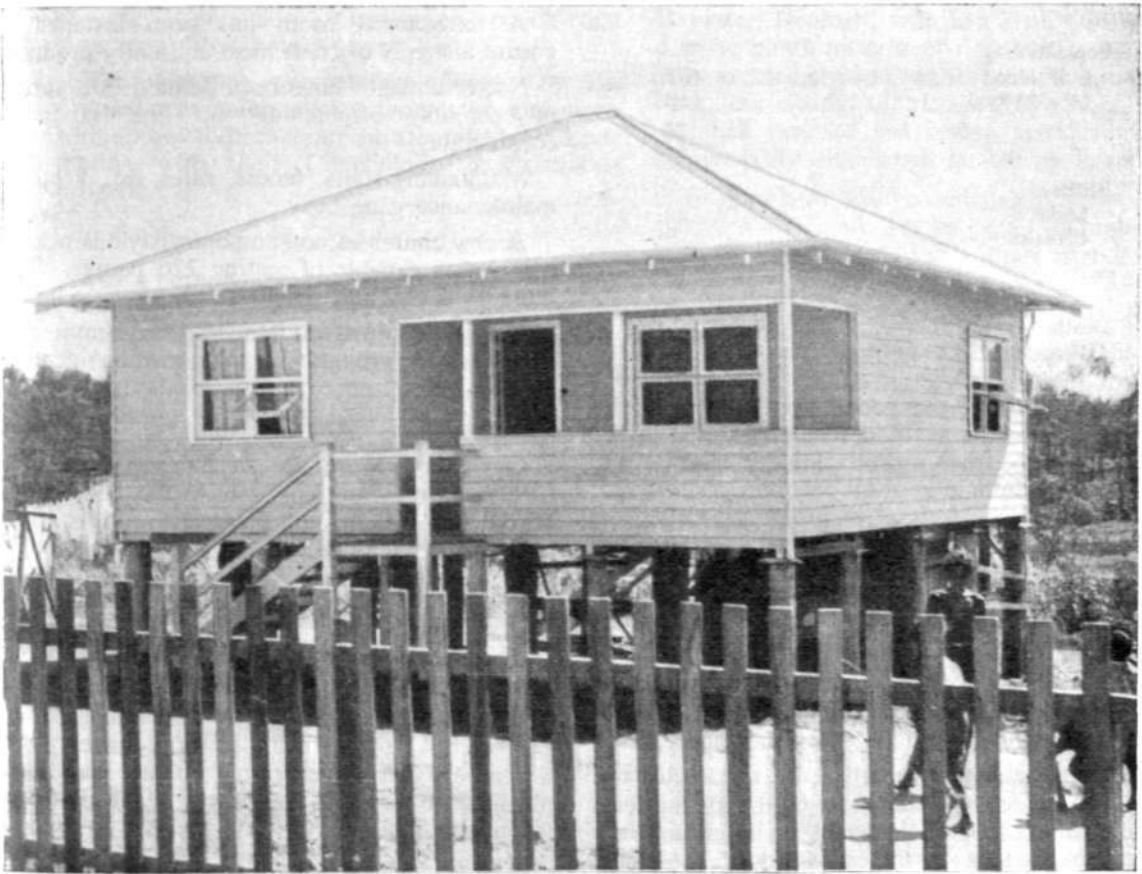
APPENDIX 9

MONA MONA MISSION, VIA CAIRNS (Superintendent—Mr. C. Litster)

STAFF

Mr. A. Smith—Accountant and Secretary.
Mrs. C. Litster—Stenographer.
Mrs. O. Harmon—Sister in Charge.
Mr. A. E. Rowe—Headmaster.
Mrs. L. Weedon—Assistant Teacher.
Mr. D. Broad—Building Construction.
Mr. L. Weedon—Engineering and Maintenance.

It is with regret that we report the death of Pastor N. A. Ferris, M.B.E., on 6th July, 1958. Pastor Ferris died following a car accident in which his wife was also seriously injured. During his period of appointment as superintendent he worked tirelessly giving excellent service. Mrs. Ferris is now convalescing in Fiji with her daughter. She is greatly missed by staff and natives alike.



Types of native houses—Church Missions.

HEALTH

Statistics

| | | | |
|---------------------|--|--|-----|
| Population— | | | |
| Full blood | | | 167 |
| Mixed blood | | | 160 |
| | | | — |
| | | | 327 |
| Births— | | | |
| Males | | | 8 |
| Females | | | 9 |
| | | | — |
| | | | 17 |
| Deaths— | | | |
| Females | | | — |
| Males | | | 5 |

The health of the people has been generally good. An outbreak of dysentery resulted in the death of one man. Four infants died as the result of pneumonia.

The daily treatment of ex-Hansen patients is a routine job and smears are taken regularly.

Most mothers have co-operated well in bringing their infants to the Baby Clinic each Tuesday. Mothers attend Mareeba Hospital regularly for pre-natal care.

Dr. Gabriel's visit in the interests of Hansen patients and the Mission generally, is appreciated.

Dental patients, formerly sent to Mareeba, will now be treated at the Mission by the Dental team from Mareeba. Full dental facilities are now available thanks to the provision of equipment by the Department of Native Affairs.

EDUCATION

There has been general improvement in the grounds and to the school generally during the year.

1. School Work—

- One scholarship entry.
- Four older, retarded children given social promotion.
- Older boys taught elementary carpentering, care and sharpening of tools.
- Older girls taught piano, dressmaking, laundry and housewifery.
- Younger children taught to play the recorder.

2. Numbers in each Grade—

| | Boys | Girls |
|---------------------|------|-------|
| Preparatory | 6 | 3 |
| Grade 1 | 16 | 14 |
| Grade 2 | 8 | 6 |
| Grade 3 | 10 | 3 |
| Grade 4 | 6 | 5 |
| Grade 5 | 4 | 1 |
| Grade 6 | 1 | 3 |
| Grade 7 | — | 3 |
| Total—89 | | |

RECREATION

Fishing, hunting, swimming, bush walks and picnics are the favourite forms of recreation. Football and cricket are played in season on Wednesday afternoons and Sunday. Films are most popular, and we endeavour to get a programme each week.

RELIGION

Church membership is 89 but about 140 would be average attendance at church services. There is a real interest in Spiritual things. The labour through the years has produced some fine Christian people.

BUILDING—ADDITIONS AND RENOVATIONS

A refrigerated room has been installed to ensure a supply of fresh meat and dairy products.

Native cottages have been painted in a variety of colours, brightening up the landscape considerably.

Maintaining stairs, fences, gates, &c., keep the maintenance gang busy.

A new church of contemporary style is nearing completion capable of seating 220 people. This building is airy and spacious.

Rooms, cupboards, benches, &c., have been prepared to provide for the visiting dentist's needs.

AGRICULTURE

Our efforts to produce payable vegetable crops have been disheartening, due to the poor nature of the soil. Crops of potatoes, peanuts, corn, melons, tomatoes, peas, and beans were only a moderate success.

SAWMILL

The Mission continues to cut timber on its own land and continues to train timber workers.

Engineer's shop now has a portable battery charger. A three cylinder 37½-horse power Southern Cross generating plant has been installed to replace the power plant destroyed in our mill fire.

EMPLOYMENT

All employable natives are encouraged to accept work outside the Mission. This experience is a big step on the road to assimilation.

THANKS

To Mr. O'Leary and his officers, we express our thanks for their interest and guidance in the operation of Mona Mona.

We sincerely appreciate the considerate attention our natives receive from the doctors and staff of the Cairns and Mareeba hospitals. The Mareeba and Cairns Rotarians have also shown a practical interest in our aboriginals at Mona Mona.

APPENDIX 10

TORRES STRAIT ISLANDS AND PENINSULA AREA

(Mr. P. J. Killoran—Deputy Director of Native Affairs)

That the developmental policy and Self Government of Torres Strait meets with the approbation of the vast majority of the peoples of Torres Strait was again exemplified in February, 1959, at the triennial election, when practically all of the Councillors who attended the General Councillors Conference last year and formulated and recommended a policy of continued improvement throughout Torres Strait were returned to their positions of Chairman and Councillors for the ensuing three years. Similarly, as members of a democratic community, the people of Torres Strait exercise the right of the franchise to condemn or approve the policy being implemented by their Councillors and the pro-

posals for the future as set out in the Minutes of the Councillors Conference which are circulated throughout Torres Strait.

The vigorous programme adopted by the Councillors Conference has progressed, and meets with approval throughout the area, the inhabitants uniting with their Councillors for continued progress.

TRAINING SCHOOL FOR DIVERS

For a considerable period the Government and Island Industries Board have been perturbed by the number of fatalities which have occurred in Torres Strait during Marine operations, and have over the years endeavoured to develop a training programme with instructors to impart to the Torres Strait Island men the necessary technical knowledge to ensure their safety during operations.

Following on exhaustive trials and examination of all avenues, a Committee of experienced divers was formed at Thursday Island this year to organise a training programme within the Islander people themselves. The Committee comprises—

Francis Sabatino—One of the outstanding and experienced divers of Torres Strait who resides on Hammond Island.

Samuel Mosby—An experienced diver of Yorke Island who has been trained in various methods of diving.

Joey Nona—Of Badu Island, one of the younger generation, an experienced pearl-diving captain and with experience in Helmet and Corselet diving since the war years.

Torres Strait Island Representatives ex officio members of the Committee—

Tanu Nona.

George Mye.

Jim Mosby.

The Committee have two Islander Tutor Diving Instructors who will operate at sea with the vessels under actual working conditions and impart to the divers and tenders knowledge which they have gained over the years.

Although the scheme is in its infancy, instructions have already been given in half dress diving with a fair measure of success among the younger generation. Similarly, the Committee examined methods used in signalling between the diver and tender and has under test a standardised system of signalling.

Generally speaking at this juncture, it is felt that the scheme indicates reasonable prospects of success.

HISTORICAL RELICS

In keeping with the Department's policy of preservation of historical relics on the Reserves, during the past year the original area of the first settlement at Somerset has received a complete overhaul and renovation where necessary.

The Jardine Grave which overlooks Albany Pass has been fenced, damaged concrete work repaired and general effective preservation work carried out to ensure that future generations will have preserved and in good order those historical relics of the establishment of the first white settlement on Cape York Peninsula.

Similarly, to commemorate the exploits of the Explorer, Kennedy, who lost his life in the area, a stone plinth monument with bronze plaque has been erected at Somerset Bay in which area Jacky Jacky an aboriginal member of the party who escaped, boarded the rescue vessel to join the rescue party established at Albany Island.

Further work will be undertaken as opportunity offers, throughout Torres Strait in conjunction with the Councils of the various islands.

EDUCATION

Consequent upon an examination of the overall educational standards applicable in Torres Strait and in an endeavour to raise the level, the Government approved of arrangements whereby the full Primary Correspondence Course would be made available to all of the native teachers throughout Torres Strait as an initial step of an overall educational programme and the scheme has now been in operation for a period of six months.

With the co-operation received from the Primary Correspondence School of the Education Department, the programme has advanced much more rapidly than initially expected, which indicates a great deal of interest by the native teachers and a keenest desire to improve standards.

The texts supplied are, in addition to being studied by the teachers themselves, used to instruct the kiddies in the school and it is felt that this initial step of an overall programme will have a most beneficial effect throughout the area.

The number of courses at present pursued is 65 and covers every native teacher throughout Torres Strait irrespective of whether there is a white teacher stationed at the particular island or not.

The white teachers are contributing largely to the success by conducting additional classes in conjunction with the primary correspondence course texts. The corrected work reveals that a relatively high standard of knowledge exists amongst the native teachers in relation to the lower grades of work and it is hoped that as the course develops into the higher grades the relatively high standard will be maintained or improved upon.

Additional to the stage one now being implemented, it is hoped in the new year to have appointed a travelling teacher who will instruct at those islands lacking a permanent white teacher, and generally survey the pupils with a view to establishing a teachers' training hostel for the continuation of education of potential native teachers. These will return to their home islands ultimately to improve on the overall standards now being reached.

HEALTH

During the year under review, the Tuberculosis Survey of all Torres Strait Islands was completed with satisfactory results. At the present time the Mobile X-ray unit is progressing with the work of X-raying all inhabitants of the Gulf Missions on the western seaboard as far south as Mitchell River Mission and it is confidently expected this work will be completed within the next month to six weeks. More than 50 per cent. of the survey has been completed to date.

General medical surveys and maintenance of continuous check ups by the medical officers at Thursday Island are continuing to maintain a relatively high standard of health throughout the area.

Islands continue to maintain the Triple Antigen vaccination of children with satisfactory results.

No serious epidemics were experienced during the year, this can only be attributed to the resourcefulness of the Government Medical Officer and his medical and nursing assistants.

DENTAL

The dental clinic attached to the Thursday Island Hospitals Board has completed a considerable amount of work in the outlying islands, the majority of the time of the staff of the clinic being spent on the islands where dental care is given to the people at their home islands as against a cumbersome system of bringing dental patients to Thursday Island and returning them home.

BUILDING PROGRAMME

Cairns

During the year, the officer in charge of the building developmental work of this area, Mr. Niblett, proceeded to Cairns with a gang of native tradesmen and constructed a new hostel capable of handling upwards of 20 persons at the Lyons Street Reserve. The premises are a tribute to the work of these tradesmen, who have been trained by the Department; and in addition to this, the old type quarters were remodelled and renovated and kitchens were added to each of six of such buildings to raise the living standard of those persons who were living under poor circumstances in the Cairns protectorate.

The hostel is attached to this office for administrative purposes and is being staffed by a married couple from the Torres Strait area, who will be, subject to a general overall supervision by the Protector of Aborigines, Cairns, wholly responsible for the maintenance, management, and control of the hostel and the reserve area.

Mr. S. E. Stephens, Horticulturist of the Department of Agriculture and Stock has kindly consented to act as supervisory curator of the grounds of this reserve area, and also the Rev. Dobbs, of the Church of England, Cairns, has consented to act as welfare officer in conjunction with the hostel. The hostel shows promise of developing into an outstanding feature of Native Affairs administration in far Northern Queensland.

Coen

A vigorous building programme was implemented at Coen to provide suitable accommodation for those aged and transient aborigines who reside in Coen and surrounding districts and to this end, native tradesmen from Thursday Island proceeded to Coen and completed the programme which provided 10 cottages and 2 community buildings on the reserve at Coen. These buildings are fibro and are regarded as an outstanding feature of the development of the Coen town area. The homes are serviced with reticulated water supply which provides an added amenity to the people.

Normanton and Croydon

At the time of compilation of this report, native tradesmen have proceeded to Normanton and

Croydon to continue the Department's policy of improving the living quarters for aborigines at both of these centres.

WATER SUPPLIES—ISLAND RETICULATION SCHEMES

Continuing the programme of provision of Island amenities, the Government provided funds for the installation of a further three completed reticulation schemes in the outlying islands during the financial year.

The old water supply scheme at Badu Village was completely refitted with a pumping unit, supply tank of 25,000 gallons, and reticulated throughout the entire village, which absorbed over 8,000 lin. ft. of water piping.

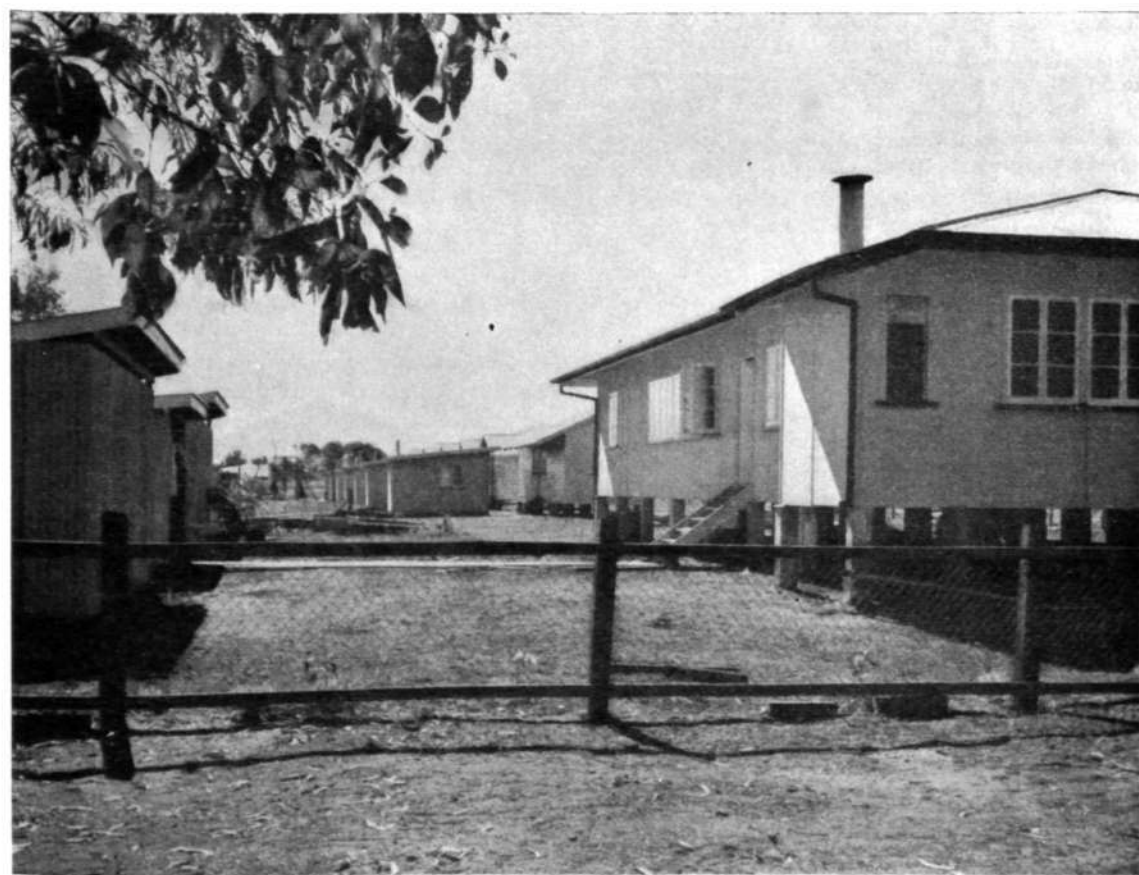
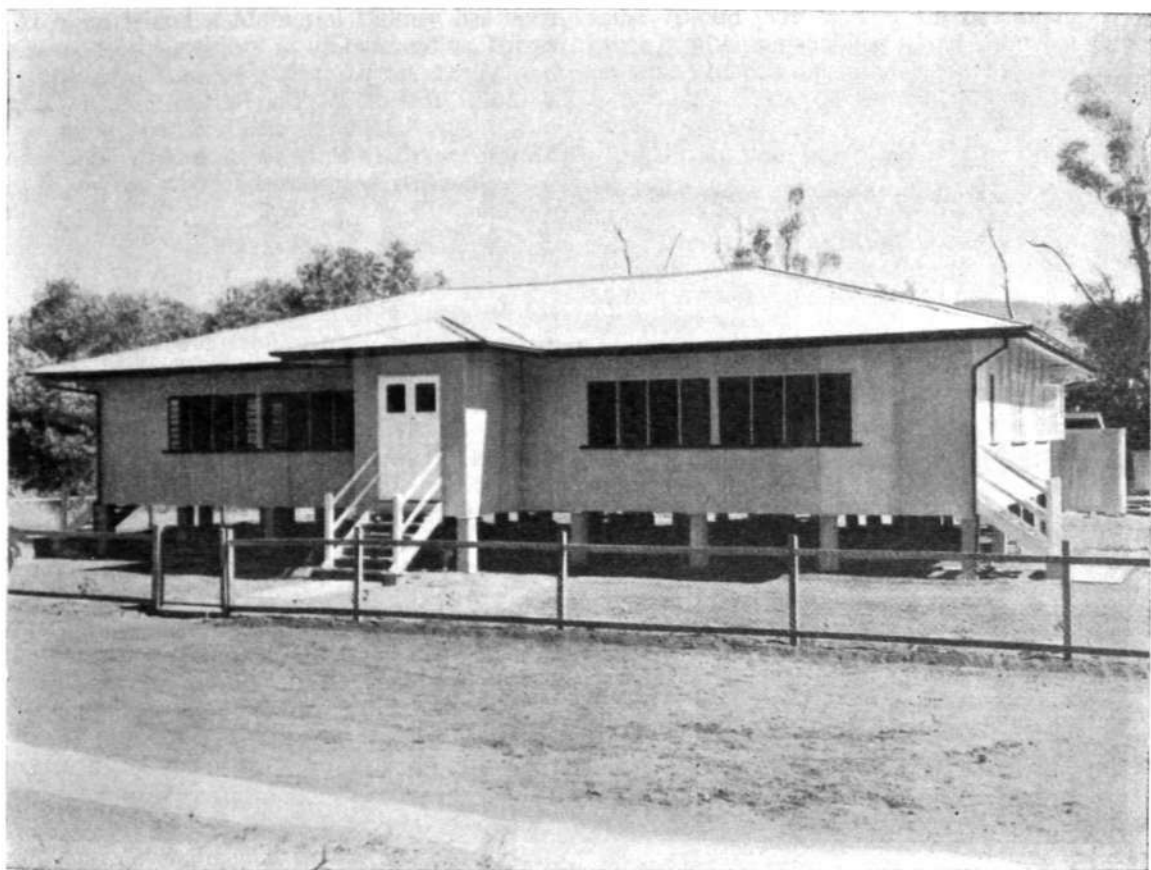
The Dogai area received a separate water installation, being reticulated from a 15,000 gallon supply tank to provide for the Hospital and Settlement area at Dogai. Yam Island installation has also been completed with a 23,000 gallon supply tank. Plans are well in hand for the extension of the scheme to other islands.

WELFARE

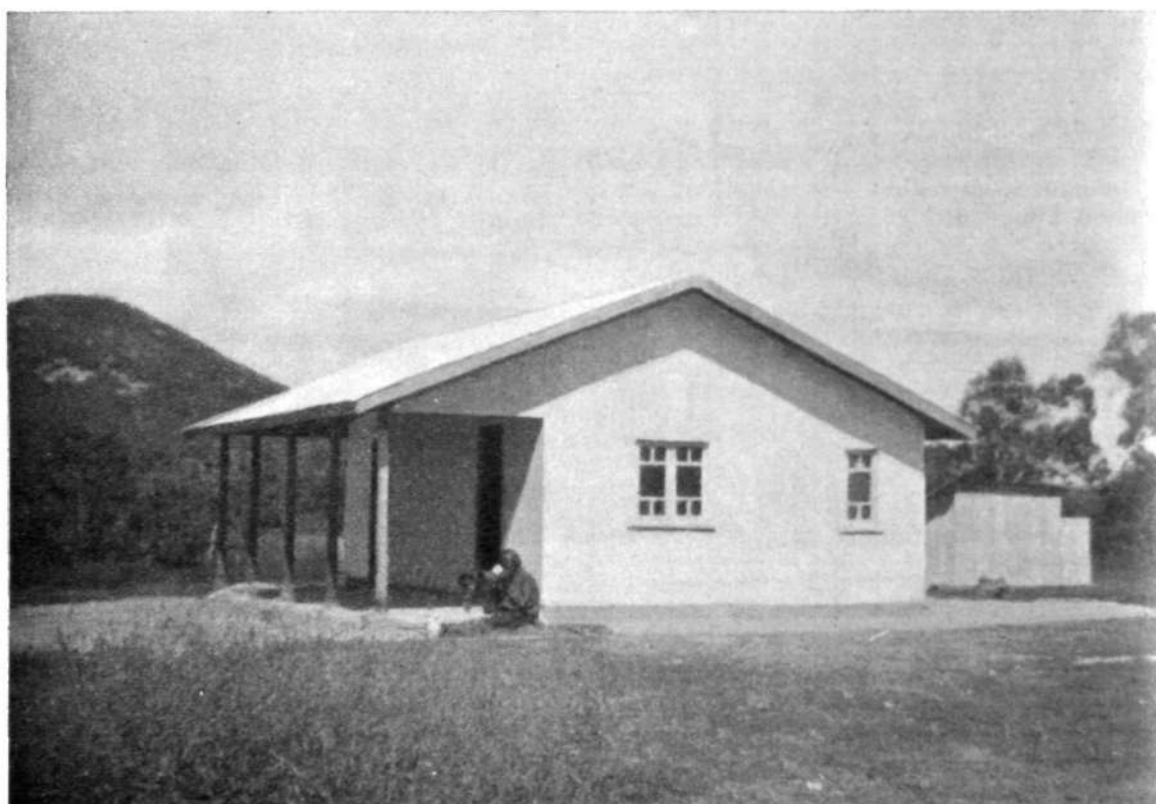
During the year following on protracted negotiations with film suppliers, it is gratifying to report the purchase of six motion picture plants with power units for installation at the major islands in Torres Strait. The arrangements made ensure that regular programmes will be received and screened at all of the islands and the programmes are being made available at prices which will permit of regular screenings, thus adding a further amenity to the home life of the Torres Strait Island people.

Island welfare clubs and organisations have continued to function under the control of their own committees, and that such clubs are a welcome addition to island community life is borne out by the funds as indicated below:—

| | £ | s. | d. |
|--|-------|----|----|
| Aplin Hostel Welfare Fund .. | 13 | 2 | 3 |
| Badu Island School Fund .. | 826 | 9 | 8 |
| Bamaga Canteen Account .. | 96 | 2 | 10 |
| Bamaga School Fund .. | 140 | 9 | 8 |
| Bamaga Show Account .. | 567 | 6 | 8 |
| Bamaga Welfare Club Account .. | 691 | 2 | 2 |
| Boigu Island Welfare Club .. | 22 | 6 | 7 |
| Coconut Island Welfare Club .. | 55 | 12 | 7 |
| Sue Island Welfare Club .. | 13 | 4 | 5 |
| Cowal Creek School Fund .. | 61 | 16 | 0 |
| Cowal Creek Welfare Club .. | 424 | 18 | 11 |
| Darnley Island School Library .. | 7 | 11 | 5 |
| Darnley Island School Welfare Fund .. | 175 | 4 | 11 |
| Dowar School Welfare Club .. | 5 | 14 | 10 |
| Southern Cross Club .. | 30 | 2 | 7 |
| Horn Island School Welfare Fund .. | 44 | 14 | 4 |
| Kubin School Welfare Fund .. | 151 | 10 | 10 |
| Mabuiag School Welfare Fund .. | 431 | 2 | 3 |
| Mabuiag Welfare Club .. | 16 | 3 | 10 |
| Murray Island School Fund .. | 212 | 12 | 10 |
| Murray Island Welfare Club .. | 96 | 17 | 1 |
| Murray Island Welfare Club Store .. | 112 | 13 | 3 |
| Saibai School Fund .. | 42 | 1 | 8 |
| Saibai Welfare Club .. | 45 | 6 | 4 |
| Tom Mosby Memorial Library Account .. | 94 | 3 | 8 |
| Yam School Welfare Fund .. | 18 | 16 | 8 |
| Yam Welfare Fund .. | 19 | 19 | 3 |
| Eastern Island Hospital Comforts Fund .. | 154 | 17 | 2 |
| Western Island Hospital .. | 67 | 3 | 7 |
| Yorke Island Parents and Citizens Association .. | 317 | 2 | 4 |
| Torres Strait Circulating Library .. | 1,141 | 19 | 2 |



Aboriginal Hostel—Cairns.



Cottages for Exempted Aged Aboriginals.

At Yam Island a Memorial Library has been instituted to the memory of an outstanding Torres Strait leader, Tom Mosby (now deceased) and books, papers and periodicals to the value of £100 have already been purchased and are in circulation. It is quite possible that other islands will follow on the lead indicated at Yam.

BAMAGA

During the year considerable progress has been made on the Cape York reserve area to the extent that the developmental plan and programme determined some seven years ago is advanced in excess of the stage envisaged at that time.

Consequent upon this, arrangements were made with the Department of Agriculture and Stock for inspections to be made by experts in the divisions of Animal Husbandry and Horticulture to ensure continuity of the virile developmental programme on the Northern Peninsula reserve.

The reports of these officers are of great administrative assistance, ensuring continuity of the development programme. The sawmill is supplying building materials which are being utilised as far south as Normanton and Croydon in addition to the Coen project and throughout the Torres Strait areas.

Similarly, pasture improvement experimental work and developmental sowing have progressed in keeping with the expansion of the fenced area which will in the very near future permit of a vigorous cattle programme in conjunction with the developmental programme.

WARRABER ISLAND (SUE)

Consequent upon the determination by the Councillors Conference last year that Warraber Island be recognised as a self governing centre, assistance has been given in the provision of the following facilities:—

- New School
- Branch Store
- Medical Aid Post
- Additional Housing

and the Government continues to render all possible assistance to this thriving community of

some 70-odd persons who are developing Warraber from an uninhabited island into what shows promise of becoming, in the not too far distant future, one of the outstanding islands in Torres Strait.

The island at the present time is receiving guidance and assistance from the Council of Coconut Island but the inhabitants of Warraber are demonstrating in no uncertain fashion determination to take advantage of every possible facility available to their island and to improve it in every way.

EMPLOYMENT—GENERAL AND THE MARINE INDUSTRY

Despite the rather depressed position of the world's market for Mother of Pearl Shell and Trochus Shell, the Torres Strait Islander labour force is still fully occupied in the search for Mother of Pearl Shell and Trochus Shell.

They are the major work force required in the area and no man is unemployed who is willing to take work in the Marine Industry.

During the year a number of the Ryukyuan specialists, who arrived in March, 1958, were repatriated to their home land but there remains more than half of these indents working in the Marine Industry.

The advent of these men did not adversely affect the employment of the Islanders in the area.

The market for both Mother of Pearl Shell and Trochus Shell is still rather uncertain but the gradual revival in the Mother of Pearl Shell section has continued whilst Trochus Shell is still saleable at variable prices.

Employment conditions for Torres Strait Islanders in the Marine Industry are generally speaking, the same as applied in 1958.

The divers agreement as published in last year's report remains in force, in toto, for the 1959 season and the trochus conditions were altered very slightly to allow for necessary modification, consequent upon the depressed market state. Torres Strait Islanders employed in the Marine Industry are as follows:—

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----|
| Privately owned vessels | 341 |
| Islander owned vessels | 405 |

ACCOUNTS TO 31st MARCH, 1959

| — | Number of Accounts | Deposits | | Withdrawals | | Balance 1st April, 1958 | | Balance 1st April, 1959 | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|----------|-------|-------------|-------|-------------------------|-------|-------------------------|-------|
| | | £ | s. d. | £ | s. d. | £ | s. d. | £ | s. d. |
| Torres Strait Islands .. | 6,455 | 400,292 | 14 3 | 395,035 | 18 3 | 270,954 | 18 9 | 132,525 | 19 6 |
| | | | | Investments | | .. | | 143,685 | 15 3 |
| | | | | | | | | £276,211 | 14 9 |

| Section | Number of Accounts 31st March, 1958 | Number of Accounts 31st March, 1959 | Balance 31st March, 1958 | | Balance 31st March, 1959 | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------|--------------------------|-------|
| | | | £ | s. d. | £ | s. d. |
| Islands | 4,282 | 4,404 | 141,056 | 15 3 | 153,245 | 3 1 |
| Missions | 725 | 758 | 79,059 | 2 1 | 71,480 | 7 1 |
| Island Funds | 111 | 120 | 37,420 | 1 4 | 38,972 | 2 3 |
| Child Endowment | 1,145 | 1,173 | 13,419 | 0 1 | 12,514 | 2 4 |
| | 6,263 | 6,455 | £270,954 | 18 9 | £276,211 | 14 9 |

BADU ISLAND
(Government Teacher—P. R. Frith)

BADU ISLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

Total number on roll—125.
Comprising 62 boys, 63 girls.

The native teaching staff of six teachers are now enrolled under the Primary Correspondence Course for instructional purposes to enable them to become proficient in the present methods of teaching. The new school was officially opened in June by the Deputy Director of Native Affairs, Mr. P. J. Killoran, and guests included Mrs. P. J. Killoran and her two children, Mr. A. Hoole, Superintendent, Brisbane Dental Hospital and Miss Fogarty. A large number of Islanders from adjacent islands were also present for this memorable occasion.

Steady progress has been made in all grades throughout the year. The Badu School Committee has met periodically, and again has worked enthusiastically in raising money for the School Fund. The staff and children thank them for their wonderful efforts.

MARINE INDUSTRY

This year has been rather adverse financially to the men employed on luggers, financially owing to the regrading of the Mother of Pearl. However all able bodied men were once again manning the luggers operated by the Nona Brothers and the catches were higher than any other boats working Mother of Pearl. Another lugger, the "Kelsia," was allocated to Badu to be worked under Tanu Nona, this now gives eight luggers to this Island. It is gratifying to notice that all these luggers are fully manned by the local men. Surplus able bodied men have signed on for boats operated by the Master Pearlers.

WATER SCHEME

The water scheme was completed this year and has proved a boon to the people of the Island. Two separate installations have been erected and completed, one for the village and the other for the hospital, residence and school. Both are equipped with 5-h.p. Southern Cross pumping engines and storage tanks.

HEALTH

Feverish colds were prevalent during May and conjunctivitis. The latter infection continued spasmodically until February, 1959. November, 1958, saw an outbreak of chicken pox and gastro-enteritis again broke out in February and March of this year. Twenty two cases were reported and one death resulted from this disease.

Six cases of infected burns, two stone fish injuries, two cases of pneumonia and twelve fairly severe wounds were attended to. Several of the latter required suturing, and five patients received A.T.S. injections. Two births were attended to at the Badu Hospital. One case of snake bite occurred, species unknown.

One case of fractured tibia was referred to Thursday Island; several abdominal cases reported and it was necessary to send some to Thursday Island for investigation. In addition, the usual miscellaneous cases were admitted to hospital and

outpatient treatment was given for sores, &c. Baby weighing continued each week, weather permitting and continuity of Triple-Antigen has been maintained throughout the year. Doctor Hales and party spent 16 days during November, 1958, on a T.B. Survey.

CONCLUSION

I wish to express my sincere thanks to the Deputy Director of Native Affairs, for his ready help during the recent gastro outbreak. Special foods asked for were sent immediately, making the task of feeding the stricken children much lighter. I should also like to thank the Government Medical Officer and Radio Officer for their ready assistance at all times.

APLIN HOSTEL

(Matron—F. Stankiewicz)

During the past year, 504 patients were admitted to Aplin and the number of discharges was 373. Of these patients 101 were children from 2-14 years, 35 from 1 month to 2 years of age.

The majority of these patients had chest X-rays and attended Dr. Hales' Chest Clinic for their yearly or monthly check, the exception being babies admitted while their mothers were receiving treatment in Waiben Hospital.

This year there was an average of 16 permanent patients receiving weekly P.P. refills at Waiben Chest Clinic and on chemotherapy. Chest patients requiring anti-natal care were kept in Aplin under supervision until their confinement.

Transportation of patients to various clinics is carried out by Q.A.T. Brigade.

The child welfare clinic sister attends weekly and advises feeding of babies in Aplin, also children under school age.

An occupational therapist has been in attendance throughout the year for two days each week, leatherwork, basket work, dress making and plastic flower making being taught.

Patients enjoy films which are shown weekly, indoors during the wet and outdoors when fine. Leave is granted two afternoons a week. Visitors are allowed each day for two hours.

Church services are held each Friday 5.30 p.m. in the Recreation Hut by the visiting chaplain from All Souls Cathedral.

A native teacher has been employed for the past twelve months, school being held each morning in the Recreation Hut.

Full native staff employed numbers 28. This includes—

- Three kitchen supervisors
- Three cooks
- Three pantry maids
- One reliever
- Four yardmen
- One seamstress
- Six laundresses
- Seven assistants in nursing.

Staff have routine chest X-rays each six months to safeguard their health.

BUILDING PROGRAMME
(Foreman Carpenter—E. Niblett)

The building programme over the past year has been both extensive and extended and progress has been more than satisfactory. Generally speaking the standard has been improved in all sections.

The following is indicative of progress made:—

BADU ISLAND

Completion of concrete cottage blocks, supply of piping and materials for water supply. Completion of supply and erection pump houses, supply paint materials for repairs Government teachers residence and Badu Hospital.

MURRAY ISLAND

Repairs to Government teachers residence, supply of materials paint, &c., guttering, iron, &c., completion of radio building, paint supplied for medical aid post, guttering iron, &c., for school buildings.

DARNLEY ISLAND

Repairs, improvements to Government teachers residence, repairs improvements hospital medical aid post, supply of materials, paint, iron, hardware, &c., general repairs prefabricated earth closet for medical aid post.

YAM ISLAND

Completion of house, supply of materials, paint, iron, fibro, steps, hardware, repair and maintenance of school, Government teacher's residence and medical aid post extension. Piping, fittings, and necessary materials were forwarded for Island water supply and prefabricated erection pump house arranged. Water supply was completed.

COCONUT ISLAND

Piping fittings, materials and a prefabricated pumphouse were supplied. Supply materials, paint, hardware, &c. Repairs to cottages, Government teacher's residence, medical aid post, and school buildings.

YORKE ISLAND

Supply materials for maintenance school, medical aid post, Government teachers' residence, and extensions.

STEPHEN ISLAND

Supply materials for maintenance school and out buildings, medical aid post, and Government teacher's residence.

MABUIAG ISLAND

Supply of materials, maintenance and repairs to Government Teacher's residence, school, medical aid post. Rebuilding of school lavatories, and prefabricated pump house supplied and erected. Prefabricated radio room forwarded and erected.

KUBIN VILLAGE

Making and supply double doors, iron for school building and roofing paint. Supply materials and maintenance of a number of cottages.

SAIBAI ISLAND

Supply materials, repairs, maintenance school and medical aid post and radio building.

DAUAN ISLAND

Cutting out, prefabricating and transport and erections—4 cottages—completed; 1 store completed; 1 radio room prefabricated.

BOIGU ISLAND

Supply materials and maintenance and repairs to school, cottages and Government teacher's residence.

SUE ISLAND

Prefabricating transport, erection and completion school, medical aid post, Government teacher's cottage and lavatories, and store; supply materials, paint, &c., for maintenance of above and also radio building.

THURSDAY ISLAND

General maintenance of all Departmental buildings. Repairs and maintenance all staff quarters and native cottages. Installation of septic tanks, water services, drainage, disposal as required, and general hygiene. Construction of water tanks, 1,000-1,500 gallons. Construction of tanks for luggers, both water and fuel. Construction of trochus boilers for luggers. Rebuilding truck bodies and repairs to furniture. Construction of earth closet cabinets. Prefabricating cottages, engine rooms, medical aid posts, radio rooms for transport various islands. Sawing and distribution of firewood. Packing stores for shipment. Intake of building stores. Cutting out buildings, framing of pictures of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, and distribution of same. Carrying out water installations and minor repairs to m.v. "Melbidir."

APLIN HOSTEL

General repairs, painting and extensions. Water supply maintenance throughout centre. Replacement various buildings, drainage, sullage, &c.

WAIBEN HOSPITAL

Dismantling concrete water tank, construction 410,000-gallon water tanks, construction concrete base 38 feet by 38 feet and sitting in tanks and concreting same. Connections of rain water supply.

BAMAGA

Erection of 3 more dormitories for workers. Erection of further 6 cottages. Completion of new hospital, erection of tank stand and conversion of old hospital. Dismantling of old store. Repairs and painting and maintenance school, teachers' quarters. Supply of materials all buildings. Repairs staff quarters. Precutting of frames engine rooms. Precutting of frames buildings—Normanton, Croydon. Precutting of frames cottages—Torres Strait and extensions improvement to gaol.

COWAL CREEK

The construction of the Auxiliary Diet Centre—Aplin Annex was completed together with all out buildings, drainage, &c. Completion of a

further 6 houses. Blocks set for 2 more cottages and areas for pensioners quarters. Painting of medical aid post, general repairs, repairs to school building were carried out.

RED ISLAND POINT

Erection of 3 cottages; one under construction. Three further sets of blocks awaiting construction. Erection store building commenced.

ISLAND INDUSTRIES BOARD

General repairs to all Boards properties, business, industrial and staff. Painting of all roofs, erection of dividing fence separating private property from Boards property, installing new septic systems, reconstruction clearing drainage sullage. Inspection of all buildings for termites were made and treating done where necessary.

TAMWOY SUBURB

Erection of further 7 cottages, areas fenced and subdivided, water installations, carried out and a further 5 sets concrete blocks were completed.

AITKENVALE—TOWNSVILLE

Completion of subdivisions of dormitories into cubicles, repairs, improvements, painting of above and mess hall outbuildings were carried out.

COEN HOUSING

Prefabricating at Thursday Island of 10 pensioners cottages 22 feet by 12 feet, 2 indigent cottages 24 feet by 22 feet, shipping to Coen via Port Stewart and erection of above and completion were carried out. Complete water supply setting of sump and well in creek. Erection of 14 feet Mill 30 feet stand, erection of 15 feet tank stand with 1,000 gallon tank, and installation of water supply reticulation to each house and shower block were completed. Erection of 3 cesspit buildings, digging of cesspits was carried out.

CAIRNS TRANSIT-CENTRE—LYONS STREET

Erection and completion of building 60 feet by 34 feet concrete blocks subdivided for male and female as planned together with painting of building was completed. Erection of toilet, shower buildings combined each sex. Laundry building—rebuilding setting up of 7 existing huts including one for caretaker and construction of 7 kitchens cum dining rooms 12 feet by 10 feet was completed with necessary cooking facilities. Erection of fence, chainwire with necessary gates around whole area approximately 1,000 feet and installation of water supply all buildings was arranged and the whole area was cleared and grubbed prior to any blocks being set. Grease traps and necessary drainage have been completed.

NORMANTON-CROYDON RESERVES

An inspection and eventual layout was finalised and all frames have been prefabricated and ready for shipment. All materials necessary for commencement of works have been packed ready for shipment.

CHURCH MISSIONS

Technical advice has been given to all church offices seeking same especially with reference to future native housing problems.

MATERIALS

Materials have been supplied regularly from Department of Native Affairs, Brisbane, and requisitions completed in plenty of time. This is greatly appreciated enabling the completion of building programmes on schedule.

GENERAL MAINTENANCE

As has previously been stressed, rigid control of maintenance has been exercised necessitating only normal minor repairs to property and plant.

YORKE ISLAND

(Government Teacher—F. J. Langston)

| SCHOOL | | | | | |
|----------|----|----|----|----|-----------|
| On roll— | | | | | |
| Boys | .. | .. | .. | .. | 33 |
| Girls | .. | .. | .. | .. | 23 |
| Total | .. | .. | .. | .. | <u>56</u> |

Attendance is very good. The school is divided into seven grades which are controlled by four Island assistants and the Government Teacher. In most grades the standard is average, some good results being achieved in mechanical arithmetic, formal grammar and Social Studies. English, especially written composition, presents difficulty. Three children are attempting some Grade VIII. work, one with moderate success.

The assistant teachers are now working through the entire course from the Primary Correspondence School and this should assist them to further their own education and the papers will be of great assistance in their class teaching. They have done their job very well throughout the year and have co-operated in all matters both in and out of school.

The parents' and citizen's Association has functioned very well. A bazaar in August showed a net profit of over £200. It is our aim to sell all items at our bazaars at a fair price, with a low margin of profit, in order to bring all items within the reach of any potential buyer. Articles made by the school children as handwork were sold at a little above cost of materials. Games of skill were well patronised.

This committee has purchased a billiard table top which is now in use. Billiards may be played during hours set out by the Island Council and the proceeds from this game are being used to buy further recreational equipment, books for an Island library and to provide prizes for occasional sports meetings. Material for a table tennis table has been purchased and a dart board is to be installed in the Public Hall. Plans are well in hand for this year's bazaar, after which we hope to have enough money in hand to pay for the proposed movie projector, without much assistance from the Island Fund. A Christmas tree was held again over Christmas Eve, when every child on the Island received a present from father Christmas.

HEALTH

The general health of the Island throughout the year has been very good. We were unfortunate to have an epidemic of gastro-enteritis in early March in which we lost one child. All other children responded to treatment as the people were most co-operative in reporting any irregularities in their children's health. The death of the school janitor last year following a sudden heart attack was a great loss to all as he was a willing and industrious worker both for the Government and the Island.

The T.B. survey party under Doctor Hales has just completed their survey here, and although no serious cases were discovered, some persons are to be sent to the chest clinics in Thursday Island for treatment or observation. We thank Dr. and Mrs. Hales and Mr. Brumm for their untiring efforts to clear these Islands from this disease.

GENERAL

Despite the late start of the wet season, gardens have flourished and this year's crop of water melons has been the best for several years. Pumpkins are also plentiful and sweet potatoes are growing well. To date the rainfall has been the lowest for many years for the first quarter but it has been steady and spread over more wet days than previously.

Three luggers working mother of pearl, and a lugger and cutter working trochus employed the men from here last season. Although they spent little time at home their return here was greatly welcomed as they usually brought turtle and dugong to give a welcome change of diet to all.

This year four mother-of-pearl luggers and one lugger and a cutter working trochus are skippered by Yorke Island men. Congratulations are due to Samuel Mosby on his appointment as tutor diver to the central Islands vessels.

In conclusion, I wish to thank the D.D.N.A. and his staff, the I.I.B. and staff, G.M.O., radio officers and masters of the cargo vessels and others who by their courtesy and efficiency at all times have made our task here much easier.

MURRAY ISLAND SCHOOL
(Government Teacher—A. C. Woodward)

ENROLMENT

The present enrolment is as follows:—

| | |
|-------|-----|
| Boys | 69 |
| Girls | 72 |
| Total | 141 |

Pupils are classified into eight grades, Preparatory to Grade Seven.

STAFF

The school is adequately staffed with seven Island assistants in addition to the head teacher.

PROGRESS

During the first few months of the current year, progress was somewhat retarded awaiting the appointment of a Government teacher, but with newly-appointed assistants improving the outlook for the future is promising.

D

As in previous years, the "Language Barrier" is still the greatest obstacle to learning. Mechanical and memory work continues to give good results, but with subjects requiring the interpretation of English, some modifications to the Queensland Syllabus have been necessary.

WELFARE

The School Welfare Association has a credit balance of £171 3s. 1d., about £60 of which was raised during the year from school concerts. Out of these funds a typewriter and hand duplicator are to be purchased in the near future for use as Educational aids.

HEALTH

The general health of the people is good, and the Island has had a comparatively disease-free year, with the exception of a few emergencies, only the usual minor ailments were treated. Two cases of suspected fracture and one miscarriage were promptly transferred to Thursday Island for hospitalisation.

In August and September, the Island was visited by Mr. I. Prasad, Dentist, and his mechanic, and their services here were greatly appreciated.

At the present time the staff at the medical aid post is kept constantly busy with a particularly virile type of leg sore. Over seventy children and forty adults have so far been affected, and of this number approximately half still require treatment.

MISCELLANEOUS—OCCUPATIONS

The majority of young men have again been employed in the Trochus Industry or have gone south to work on railways and canefields. The older men and the women of the Island have been actively engaged in agriculture, and extensive plantings of bananas, yams and sweet potatoes ensure a continuous supply.

ACTIVITIES

The construction and maintenance of roads and bridges and other public works, have been carried out on "Village Days." Several entertaining concerts were performed by the Island's various associations, and preparations are under way for a combined "Southern Cross" and "Welfare Club" concert party to visit Thursday Island later this year.

BUILDINGS, ETC.

No new buildings were constructed during the year. Plumbing repairs were made to the Government teacher's residence, and a number of water tanks were assembled for private use.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, I wish to express my sincere thanks for the co-operation and assistance throughout the year, of the Deputy Director of Native Affairs, the Government Medical Officer, Radio Operators and the Masters of "Gelang" and "Melbidir."

DARNLEY ISLAND SCHOOL
(Government Teacher—O. G. Smart)

| | |
|------------------------------------|-----|
| Present enrolment— | |
| Boys | 49 |
| Girls | 54 |
| Total | 103 |
| Average attendance daily | 100 |

GRADES

Preparatory to Seventh.

STAFFING

The school is at present staffed by four male and two female native teachers. Staff changes were again made necessary by the resignation of female members. The replacements are both young people, however, and we should be able to look forward with confidence to several years of continuous service from the present staff.

PROGRESS

Progress in the main has been satisfactory. A step in the right direction has been made in the introduction of Correspondence School lessons for all teachers. These, in addition to improving the standard of teaching, also provide material to assist teachers in their preparation and presentation of lessons. All teachers here have tackled the first series of lessons enthusiastically and appear very keen to improve their own standards and status. By the end of this school year noticeable progress should have been made.

STANDARDS

Mechanical Arithmetic and English have again reached a very satisfactory standard and constructive English continues to improve slowly. Intensive speech training has eliminated many common errors in the speech of children in the school and the spoken word, at present, is definitely superior to the written word. The introduction of geographical magazines has stimulated the interest in Social Studies and the standard is thus improved. Some needlework by the senior girls for the school bazaar was outstanding.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

All children show great keenness in physical activities and games. Cricket and vigoro are very popular with the senior boys and girls. Island dancing and European folk dancing are also performed with much vigour and enthusiasm.

ACTIVITIES

The building of the new school on the old playing area made it necessary to provide more space for recreation and the senior boys together with the male staff cleared a large patch of grass and scrub to provide quite a serviceable cricket and vigoro pitch. Although the clearing was performed during the period set aside for gardening, time was still found to clear and plant a large water melon garden, which provided refreshment for hot and thirsty children.

A concert, which included new and attractive scenes to show life in other far-off lands, was produced during August and was enthusiastically received by the large audience present.

The School Welfare Fund benefited by some £70 as the result of a bazaar held in November. The Christmas break-up was a happy affair for both children and parents. The carol singing party visited all villages just before Christmas and proceeds were handed over to the Church at a special Christmas morning service. A nativity play was presented by senior pupils.

WELFARE

Members of the Welfare Committee and other interested persons were actively engaged in making items for the bazaar and costumes for the concert. At Christmas, Committee members and School staff, combined to present an impromptu burlesque which greatly contributed to the enjoyment of the children and parents present. The School Welfare Fund pass book still shows quite a healthy credit balance.

VILLAGE ACTIVITIES AND OCCUPATIONS

The majority of able-bodied men have been employed in the trochus and pearl fishing industry either on luggers or working their own and Island dinghies. Gardens have provided a good supply of fresh vegetables for home consumption and large numbers of water melons were sent to Thursday Island and to Murray Island for sale. Pigs and poultry are raised by most Island families for home supply and to provide for the various feasting during the year.

In August, a concert party organised by the "Daydream Club" visited Thursday Island to present two shows at the Memorial Hall.

BUILDINGS AND IMPROVEMENTS

Repairs were carried out to the teacher's residence. New desks and chairs were provided for the senior classes in the school.

A further step towards the installation of the eagerly awaited water reticulation scheme, was the arrival early in April of some 6,000 feet of piping. It is anticipated that the "turning on of the tap" will soon be an accomplished fact.

HEALTH

The general health of the Island people has been good. One death only has occurred on the Island during the twelve months and that a Kubin pearl diver who was brought to the cottage hospital with diver's sickness.

An outbreak of large leg ulcers caused some concern but with special treatment under direction from the Government Medical Officer at Thursday Island the sores responded well and were soon under control.

The staff at medical aid post are to be congratulated on the way their duties are carried out.

A survey team of the Flying Doctor Service visited the Island during the year to investigate the possibility of extending the service to the Islands.

GENERAL—THANKS

Grateful thanks are due to all Departmental staff at Thursday Island, Doctors and staff of the Hospitals there, Masters and crews of supply vessels, and owners of luggers for their co-operation in emergencies. Special thanks are offered to the Base Radio Officers and to the Deputy Director, Mr. P. Killoran for his sympathetic understanding of many little problems that arise.

NORTHERN PENINSULA RESERVE

BAMAGA AND COWAL CREEK
(Superintendent—Mr. A. F. Hamilton)

STATISTICS

Population of each village—

| | | | |
|--|------------|-----|-----|
| Bamaga— | | | |
| Torres Strait Islanders | .. | 299 | |
| Mainlanders | .. | 22 | |
| | | | 321 |
| Cowal Creek— | | | |
| Torres Strait Islanders | .. | 79 | |
| Mainlanders | .. | 204 | |
| | | | 283 |
| Red Island Point Torres Strait Islanders | .. | | 98 |
| Total Torres Strait Islanders | .. | | 702 |
| 476, Mainlanders | 226, Total | | |

HEALTH

| | | |
|---------------------------|----|--------|
| Hospital In-patients | .. | 202 |
| Hospital Out-patients | .. | 8,778 |
| Medical Aid Post Patients | .. | 24,570 |

CLINIC

| | | | |
|---------------------|----|----|-----|
| Children attending— | | | |
| Bamaga | .. | .. | 52 |
| Cowal Creek | .. | .. | 35 |
| Red Island Point | .. | .. | 15 |
| Total | .. | .. | 102 |

SCHOOLS

| | | | |
|---------------------|------|-------|-------|
| Children attending— | | | |
| | Boys | Girls | Total |
| Bamaga | 45 | 36 | 81 |
| Cowal Creek | 24 | 27 | 51 |
| Red Island Point | 9 | 12 | 21 |
| Totals | 78 | 75 | 155 |

SAWMILL

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|----|---------------|
| Number of logs through mill | .. | 1,243 |
| Number of log feet | .. | 310,325 |
| Sawn timber hardwood s./ft. | .. | 87,100 |
| Sawn timber soft wood s./ft. | .. | 62,000 |
| Sawn timber pre-cut for Gulf Missions | .. | 16,000 s./ft. |
| Firewood supplied to Thursday Island | .. | 150 tons |

STOCK

| | | |
|-----------------|----|-----|
| Cattle on books | .. | 120 |
| Pigs on books | .. | 42 |

FARM IMPROVEMENTS

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|----|----------|
| Fencing | .. | 8 miles |
| Cleaning | .. | 50 acres |
| Desuckering | .. | 10 acres |
| Reconditioning coconut plantation | .. | 20 acres |
| New stock yards | .. | 1 acre |

NATIVE HOUSING

| | | |
|---------------------------|----|----|
| Houses commenced | .. | 14 |
| Houses completed | .. | 9 |
| Other buildings completed | .. | 11 |
| Maintenance on buildings | .. | 28 |

ROADS

| | | |
|-------------------------|----|----------|
| Road graded | .. | 12 miles |
| Road cleared and graded | .. | 18 miles |
| Road remade | .. | 2 miles |
| Culverts made | .. | 2 |

MEDICAL

The year has been clear of serious epidemics. Some influenza was experienced. Cases of serious illness and operative cases were transferred to Thursday Island by boats. This service functioned most satisfactorily, often under adverse conditions. Dr. O'Leary visited this Reserve and completed the Polio. immunisation programme.

The new hospital has been completed and is now equipped and occupied. It is much more efficient and functional than the old building.

Child Welfare and Clinic work progresses satisfactorily. The mothers of children attending are very co-operative and the children show the advantages of this service.

There have been no known cases of hookworm but prophylactic treatment is still given quarterly. A dental team has been here for six weeks. Total inspection was made and all necessary work was completed while here. A survey team of the Flying Doctor Service visited this area during the year.

Prenatal care and the issuing of milk and supplementary foods to children and mothers is carried on as usual.

The Auxiliary diet centre at Cowal Creek is now functioning in its new building and with its large kitchen and dining room, it now handles the ex TB patients most efficiently.

SAWMILL

A reasonably successful year was experienced. Although the mill was out of action for eight weeks this lost time was partially made up by utilising the mill crew as an extra bush gang, so building up a good reserve of logs. This enabled the mill to work right through the wet season.

As the logging areas have been cut through before, the grade of logs received is not ideal, being mostly ladderwood, the hardwoods having been cut out. About 16,000 super feet of pre-cut building timbers were bundled and prepared for shipment to Gulf Missions. Building timber was also supplied to Coen and Thursday Island. Experimental prefabricated radio and engine sheds were also sent to the Islands.

The mill crew of 10 men and 4 loggers are mostly mainlanders and they show excellent aptitude for this type of work. The two No. 1 sawyers are close to first class rating and three men have been trained fully in saw maintenance.

The mill has been reconditioned and all machinery has been checked, realigned where necessary and painted. Guard fencing has been painted in safety colours.

The year has been clear of all accidents due mainly to strict safety precautions.

SETTLEMENT

Mr. Grenfell commenced duty as Settlement Overseer on 29th January, 1959, replacing Mr. Jones. General road work has been carried on. Main road from Bamaga to Red Island Point has been graded three times and is now being resurfaced.

Ex army roads to the airstrip and Mutee Head have been recleared and graded to prevent undue

deterioration. Water reticulation and maintenance has been carried on as needed and new mains have been added by 360 feet at Bamaga and 352 feet at Cowal Creek.

The slaughter house has been reconditioned and has passed inspection by a stock inspector. Maintenance work on the jetty is becoming a major job and progress is slow. Cargo and mail boats have been handled expeditiously as and when required.

FARM

Production of farm produce was low due partly to dry conditions and shortage of water.

A wide survey of the Reserve area was made to assess its value for cattle breeding and the possibilities are excellent as the area is well watered with some good natural legumes and grasses. Pasture improvement is being tried and results so far indicate that it would be satisfactory on a large scale.

Cattle on this Reserve are of rather a low grade being mostly scrubbers and the off-spring of dairy types introduced to this district by early settlers. It is expected that in the near future these cattle will be gradually improved and a more suitable beef type introduced.

The pig herd is being built up and pig meat has been sold to Thursday Island.

SCHOOLS

All schools made reasonable progress during the year and conduct generally was good. It was hoped to commence domestic science and manual training this year but shortage of supervising staff has made this advanced instruction difficult.

SOMERSET

Somerset is a small holding on the east coast and has a deal of historical interest. It was the earliest settlement in the north and was originally designed as the bastion of the north but was later supplanted by Port Kennedy on Thursday Island. It was also the scene of the end of Kennedy's explorations and the termination of Jardine's great cattle drive from the south. A large coconut plantation was planted there by Kanakas about 60 years ago, and a number of graves of early settlers are to be seen.

In order to preserve the historical relics a programme of rehabilitation has been carried out over the past year. The graves have been tidied and fenced off. The plantation is in the course of being recleared and young trees replanted where necessary. A new house has replaced the old original building used as Jardine's home and signal station.

A small number of Islanders are now living there to do the necessary work and already the coconuts are proving financially successful.

The outpost has recently been equipped with radio within the Thursday Island network.

PATROL VESSEL "MELBIDIR"

(Master—Captain A. Mellor, M.I.N.)

(Engineer—Mr. A. E. Brown)

As in previous years, the vessel has been busily engaged in her routine work, passenger carrying, both outwards and inwards between Thursday

Island and the fourteen inhabited Islands in the Torres Strait, also to Bamaga Native Settlement, Cape York.

MILEAGE

| | |
|---------------------------------|-------|
| Torres Strait | 2,300 |
| Queensland Coast (East) | 2,800 |
| Queensland Coast (West) | 1,000 |
| | <hr/> |
| | 6,100 |

CARGO CARRIED

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-------|
| | Tons |
| Merchandise | 600 |
| General D.N.A. | 200 |
| Dressed timber ex Bamaga | 240 |
| Islanders goods and chattels | 100 |
| Authorised private | 40 |
| Medical supplies | 10 |
| | <hr/> |
| | 1,190 |

PASSENGERS CARRIED

| | |
|------------------|-------|
| Natives | 965 |
| Official | 43 |
| | <hr/> |
| | 1,008 |

REFITTING AND REPAIRS

From 1st September to 18th December, 1958, the ship was at the State Government Dockyard, South Brisbane, for extensive overhaul and refitting. The work carried out was very good. In April, 1959, the ship was slipped at South Seas Pearl Company's Slipway, Thursday Island, for underwater cleaning and inspection. During the slipping some repairs were carried out to the propellor. The ship was fully surveyed in Brisbane by the Shipping Inspector, Captain J. Beckinsale and his Foreman Shipwright. The large 16-foot skiff was fitted with buoyancy tanks, and a new Carley lifesaving float was made to replace one declared unserviceable.

LIFE SAVING EQUIPMENT, ETC.

All life belts, life buoys, boats, rockets and flares were surveyed in Brisbane. Forty new life belts were provided, also three new life buoys, and a new Carley float. All life saving equipment is in A1 condition. Two life belt lockers have been supplied for emergency use.

MAIN ENGINES, AUXILIARIES, ETC.

The engines have given good service. They receive their regular maintenance and overhauls. There have been no breakdowns. A good scale of spares both for main and auxiliaries is carried.

HEALTH AND CONDUCT OF CREW

The health of the crew except for minor ailments has been generally good. There have been no accidents. The conduct of crew members has been exemplary.

SPECIAL VOYAGES

"Melbidir" carried the undermentioned M.L.As. to Bamaga and Badu—Mr. Anderson (Toowoomba), Mr. T. Gilmore (Tablelands), Mr. W. Wallace (Cairns), and Mr. H. Adair (Cook). A run was made from Thursday Island to Normanton and return with building materials for Department of Native Affairs Buildings at Croydon and Normanton.

RADIO AND SIGNAL EQUIPMENT

The new AWA 5A radio is giving excellent service. The AWA 4A is still serviceable and retained for emergency use. The radio is regularly maintained by Mr. J. McKenna, Department of Native Affairs Radio Engineer. The Aldis signalling lamp and the set of No. 3 International signal flags are in good condition.

FUMIGATION

The ship is fumigated quarterly. Mattresses and blankets are aired monthly. Regular treatment by spraying Dieldrin solution has given excellent results.

PROTECTIVE CLOTHING

Each crew member is supplied free with two pairs khaki shorts and two khaki shirts bi-annually as working dress. Each member of staff and crew are issued with rain coats and engine room staff with overalls as required.

APPRECIATION

It is desired to express appreciation to the Deputy Director of Native Affairs and Island Industries Board staff for friendly co-operation at all times, to Island Branch Managers, Island Industries Board, and their cargo workers for their efforts in landing cargo in other than normal working hours, owing to adverse weather and tide conditions, to engineer and crew members for their cheerfulness and good work, bearing in mind "A ship is only as good as her crew".

RADIO SERVICE

(Engineer-Operator—J. McKenna)

(Assistant—I. H. Mullins)

During the past year, traffic handled has shown an increase as also has the number of medical cases treated by radio. The latter is due to Mitchell River routing its medicals via Thursday Island instead of Royal Flying Doctor Service Base at Cloncurry.

At the Base Station, two new remote receivers have been installed at Milman Hill which, with the existing set, provide seven channels. This enables Cairns Aerial Ambulance frequencies to be included, giving a much better service between Cairns and Thursday Island.

A 100-watt two-channel transmitter has also been installed to augment the existing transmitter and, as well as generally increasing facilities, also give complete coverage against failure of one unit.

The Outstation equipment is deteriorating both in serviceability and performance and replacement equipment must be considered. In some of the furtherest outposts, signal level is below the acceptable minimum.

A new installation at Somerset has been completed using locally made equipment. Mornington Island, Lockhart River and Edward River

Mission station installations have been entirely reorganised with improved aerial arrangements.

TRAFFIC ANALYSIS (1957-1958)

| | |
|--------------------------------|--------|
| Total outward messages | 16,200 |
| Total inward messages | 14,800 |
| Total radio medicals | 1,300 |
| Total cases treated | 390 |
| Daily average words | 5,750 |

APPENDIX 11

ISLAND INDUSTRIES BOARD

What can be produced is bought, what can be consumed is sold! Behind the title "Island Industries Board" lies a microcosm of trade, for the Board is the channel through which the remote islands of Torres Strait and the settlements of the far northern Cape York area draw the staples and luxuries of life and through which, in turn, it sends out to the corners of the world the rich harvest of its waters and the produce of its peoples.

An annual report such as this, bound by necessity to dry facts and figures, conceals behind its lifeless data the momentous emergence of a race of people into our modern world of commerce. The training, by instruction and example, of Torres Strait Islanders in the complex workings of the forms of business now demanded in our society is the first of two primary responsibilities of the Island Industries Board. The second is the day-to-day safeguarding of the material welfare of the peoples of this area.

In great part the progress made in these basic things can be measured only in terms of the Board's trading results and a report on the one is a mirroring of the other.

The Island Industries Board is a Corporation established under "*The Torres Strait Islanders' Acts, 1939 to 1946,*" for the development of trade, assistance in industry and the advancement of the material welfare of the Torres Strait Island people. The board comprises:—

Mr. P. J. Killoran—Chairman

Mr. C. L. Waller, Mr. A. G. F. Kirk—Members

Mr. P. P. Hanley—Secretary and Accountant

GENERAL TRADING

The most notable change that has been wrought in recent years in the buying habits of our native customers is the demand for more varied and better-class consumer goods. In the last year this trend has continued and although there was a lessening in the earnings of the Strait as a whole our sales of items such as sewing machines, radios, refrigerators, furniture, &c., again showed an improvement. Perhaps the lessening of spending power highlighted another radical departure from long established custom—but it was very evident last year that our customers were questioning value against cost.

The income of Torres Strait depends upon the production and marketing of Mother of Pearl and Trochus Shell. A fall in the earnings derived from Mother of Pearl (discussed later in this report) allied to a continuing restriction of the Trochus market affected all business houses here, but the Board continued to enjoy the support of its customers and a drop in turnover for £293,335 14s. 9d. in the year ended 31st March, 1958, to £282,269 19s. 11d. is much less than was expected in the circumstances.

During the year the Board opened a new store at Warraber Island in the Central Group. This brings the total of Branch Stores to eighteen, with a further outlet planned for the Red Island Point community in the near future. All retail stores are staffed by Torres Strait Islanders, fully responsible for the ordering, rotation and sale of stocks and the keeping of accounts in their stores. A glance at the table below will illustrate the importance of the part they play in this organisation and their manifest capability in controlling considerable turnover.

The Branch Stores are staffed by 37 Torres Strait Islanders of which 9 are juniors who are being trained to take their place in the future. As part of its training programme the Board rotates these juniors through different stores and through the Head Office and Bulk Sections to give them the widest possible experience that this organisation can offer. After their appointment as assistants in Branch Stores their business education is followed up as part of the Board's policy of utilising native staff in all the positions which they are capable of holding.

Correspondence courses are also arranged by the Board for its native employees desiring such. Statistics of staff are as below with mention made of wages paid to Islanders and amount of gross Profit:—

Island Industries Board Staff—13 white, 72 natives.
Wages paid by Island Industries Board to Torres Strait Islanders—£34,008.

Gross Profit for Island Industries Board for Trading year—£48,869.

Set out hereunder are Branch Store trading figures during the past financial year:—

ISLAND INDUSTRIES BOARD

STATEMENT OF STORE TRANSACTIONS FOR THE YEAR 1958-59

| Island | Turnover 1957-58 | | Turnover 1958-59 | | Stock | | Cash | | Total Cash and Stock | |
|-------------------------------|------------------|-------|------------------|-------|---------|-------|-------|-------|----------------------|-------|
| | £ | s. d. | £ | s. d. | £ | s. d. | £ | s. d. | £ | s. d. |
| Badu | 30,095 | 3 6 | 26,778 | 8 6 | 2,835 | 8 0 | 72 | 8 11 | 2,907 | 16 11 |
| Barnaga | 20,072 | 19 9 | 25,343 | 3 6 | 2,797 | 9 4 | 383 | 8 1 | 3,180 | 17 5 |
| Boigu | 7,911 | 1 9 | 5,853 | 9 2 | 2,291 | 10 9 | 82 | 13 9 | 2,374 | 4 6 |
| Coconut | 10,070 | 6 7 | 8,888 | 14 11 | 2,632 | 17 10 | 182 | 9 5 | 2,815 | 7 3 |
| Cowal Creek | 17,700 | 11 8 | 20,313 | 13 8 | 2,115 | 0 7 | 498 | 12 10 | 2,613 | 13 5 |
| Darnley | 17,118 | 8 9 | 14,747 | 4 11 | 4,913 | 18 10 | 274 | 18 1 | 5,188 | 16 11 |
| Dauan | 5,568 | 4 11 | 4,897 | 16 8 | 1,956 | 17 4 | 125 | 7 8 | 2,082 | 5 0 |
| Kubin | 5,851 | 19 4 | 4,497 | 0 9 | 927 | 11 1 | 125 | 9 3 | 1,053 | 0 4 |
| Mabuiag | 13,559 | 1 9 | 12,145 | 7 6 | 2,351 | 9 9 | 237 | 5 3 | 2,588 | 15 0 |
| Murray | 21,044 | 0 2 | 24,962 | 10 5 | 5,314 | 15 6 | 490 | 9 10 | 5,805 | 5 4 |
| Naghir | 1,497 | 7 8 | 1,405 | 10 1 | 742 | 5 0 | 136 | 2 3 | 878 | 7 3 |
| Saibai | 11,356 | 18 11 | 9,348 | 17 11 | 2,723 | 15 7 | 37 | 8 10 | 2,761 | 4 5 |
| Stephen | 4,155 | 5 9 | 4,011 | 8 2 | 2,836 | 4 7 | 28 | 4 10 | 2,864 | 9 5 |
| Yam | 8,902 | 0 9 | 9,681 | 2 2 | 3,168 | 12 2 | 175 | 9 11 | 3,344 | 2 1 |
| Yorke | 11,052 | 5 1 | 9,715 | 15 3 | 2,738 | 4 0 | 167 | 13 10 | 2,905 | 17 10 |
| Warraber | .. | .. | 690 | 12 1 | 662 | 17 4 | 6 | 9 1 | 669 | 6 5 |
| Bulk Store | .. | .. | .. | .. | 89,887 | 2 8 | .. | .. | 89,887 | 2 8 |
| Kennedy Store | 40,472 | 0 11 | 27,904 | 13 6 | 38,706 | 7 11 | .. | .. | 38,706 | 7 11 |
| Tamwoy Store | 4,873 | 17 6 | 5,742 | 16 6 | 965 | 2 9 | .. | .. | 965 | 2 9 |
| Thursday Island Store | 62,034 | 0 0 | 65,341 | 14 3 | 8,542 | 4 10 | .. | .. | 8,542 | 4 1 |
| | £ 293,335 | 14 9 | 282,269 | 19 11 | 179,109 | 15 10 | 3,024 | 11 10 | 182,134 | 7 80 |

BUILDING

In the near future the Board hopes to make a start on the rebuilding of its Head Office and in this project as in all other parts of our rebuilding programme native tradesmen under the direction of Mr. E. Niblett will be used. Over the last few years the Board has concentrated on the renewal of its Branch Stores, feeling that preference should be given to these in the interest of native customers. All of the new stores were built by native carpenters and they are a credit to their workmanship and to the training and supervision given by Mr. E. Niblett.

MARINE PRODUCE

As mentioned earlier in this report there was a drop in the value of Mother of Pearl Shell produced in this area generally. The Board, although anticipating the restriction, felt the

reduction in value more keenly than would be expected in a normal year; for there was an unprecedented quantity of reef shell fished within the season. This reef shell contains a much greater percentage of the lower grades than that found in deeper waters and during the year the market for lower grades tightened to such an extent that the demand for the mark entirely disappeared.

Over the years the Board has built up a reputation for its grading and in the last two seasons has had the reward of this reputation in the consistent demand for its product. No matter what the circumstances or the quality of shell produced, the Board continues to hold to its own high standards. This, of course, reflects itself immediately in a year such as that under review when the quality of shell fished was lower than that of other years.

It is pleasing to report, however, that in the current season little reef shell has been fished and the percentage of higher grades has increased. Production was as under:—

MARINE PRODUCTION FIGURES FOR 1958-59

| Name of Vessel | Mother-of-Pearl | | | | Trochus | | | | Total Value | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|----|----|----|---------|----|----|----|-------------|-------|
| | T. | C. | Q. | L. | T. | C. | Q. | L. | £ | s. d. |
| Petta Nona | 23 | 16 | 2 | 3 | | | | | 8,702 | 15 4 |
| Relsie Nona | 20 | 17 | 2 | 3 | | | | | 7,625 | 5 1 |
| Naianga | 20 | 8 | 2 | 9 | | | | | 7,461 | 17 3 |
| May Nona | 19 | 15 | 0 | 0 | | | | | 7,213 | 17 0 |
| Annie Nona | 18 | 10 | 0 | 3 | | | | | 6,757 | 15 4 |
| Tilona Nona | 15 | 12 | 1 | 6 | | | | | 5,703 | 11 5 |
| Kelsia | 11 | 6 | 2 | 10 | | | | | 4,138 | 3 6 |
| Mosby | 11 | 2 | 2 | 25 | 0 | 5 | 3 | 11 | 4,104 | 7 2 |
| Sarah Nona | 10 | 18 | 2 | 10 | | | | | 3,992 | 1 5 |
| Milton | 8 | 16 | 2 | 5 | 0 | 10 | 0 | 12 | 3,287 | 17 9 |
| Cessa | 8 | 13 | 2 | 7 | | | | | 3,169 | 15 0 |
| Anna Stephen | 5 | 5 | 0 | 15 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 25 | 2,318 | 6 11 |
| Maria | 1 | 7 | 3 | 24 | 13 | 18 | 0 | 25 | 2,263 | 10 0 |
| Macey | 5 | 19 | 3 | 15 | 0 | 11 | 3 | 11 | 1,954 | 0 6 |
| Caroline | 0 | 11 | 3 | 0 | 7 | 13 | 1 | 24 | 1,178 | 10 6 |
| Adai | | | | | 11 | 2 | 0 | 12 | 1,399 | 5 6 |
| Yaza | 2 | 15 | 2 | 23 | | | | | 1,017 | 6 3 |
| Loyalty | | | | | 6 | 11 | 3 | 21 | 831 | 4 1 |
| Wadumo | 0 | 11 | 3 | 8 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 9 | 222 | 18 10 |
| Zunal | 0 | 9 | 3 | 22 | 0 | 5 | 2 | 2 | 216 | 8 0 |
| Cape York | 0 | 9 | 0 | 19 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 7 | 188 | 7 7 |
| Adiana | | | | | 0 | 14 | 1 | 4 | 90 | 0 0 |
| Dinghy | 1 | 7 | 0 | 26 | 20 | 9 | 2 | 12 | 3,077 | 17 1 |
| | 188 | 16 | 2 | 9 | 65 | 11 | 2 | 7 | | |
| Price Adjustments, &c. | | | | | | | | | 17,796 | 17 4 |
| | | | | | | | | | £94,711 | 18 10 |

MISCELLANEOUS SHELLS AND COLLECTORS SHELLS

During the year the Board has established a section devoted to the marketing of shells found in this area which are looked for by collectors or are sought by shell curio manufacturers. This section, whilst at present quite small, shows signs of considerable future expansion. Shells are collected by women in the outer islands.

Inquiries have been received from many parts of the world. These foreign orders are mainly from conchologists and their needs must be attended by a person with a knowledge of the nomenclature and quality of the specimens to be found in this area. For the present the Board is really feeling its way into this market and discovering how best the openings may be utilised to the greatest benefit of the peoples of Torres Strait.

BOATS

Recently the Board reluctantly accepted resignation of Mr. T. N. Le Grand, the Master-Engineer of the vessel "Gelam." Mr. Le Grand resigned to go into business on his own account in Papua. During his years with the Board Mr. Le Grand has given outstanding service not only within his job but wherever his assistance was required.

In many instances he went to sea under most adverse conditions to answer calls for medical help. He was instrumental in helping to save the lives of a number of Torres Strait Islanders and in his period here he became a much loved figure in the Torres Strait.

During the year the Board was again fortunate in being able to secure the services of Mr. T. E. Dunwoodie as relieving Master-Engineer. The M.V. "Kebisu" has not been in operation throughout the year. The vessel has been declared surplus to requirements. The Board is now endeavouring to dispose of the vessel.

SLIPWAY

A pearling fleet which must put to sea in all weathers and which must be constantly working throughout the season must necessarily have behind it facilities for its care and maintenance and a staff skilled in the overhaul of hulls and masts, engine and running gear and all the appurtenances of a working fleet. For these reasons the Island Industries Board operates a slipway equipped to undertake the building and repair of any of the vessels engaged in pearl fishing. Vessels up to 60 feet can be slipped at the Board's yard on Victoria Parade. During the year some 440 gross tons of vessels were slipped.

The yard itself consists of three slipping cradles, one derrick, capable of lifting up to 3 tons, circular saws of various sizes, band saws, a planing machine, power grinding wheels, a gulleting machine, power drills and a steam box. All machinery is electrically driven and is maintained by a trained native staff under the direction of a native foreman. All of the Slipway Staff has been in the employ of the Board for a considerable time—some as long as 15 years. They are fully trained men, capable of undertaking jobbing work on any pearling vessel. In addition to usual boat building skills they are also versed in rigger's work and sailmaking.

All supplies required in the operation of the slipway are drawn from a hardware and ships chandlery store located in the same premises. This store, again conducted by native shop assistants supplies not only the slipway and the Islander-owned fleet but many of the boats and businesses of Torres Strait. It also handles

builders hardware and the entire requirements for the erection of a home from flooring to ridge capping can be purchased at this store.

Hereunder is a list of vessels slipped during the years:—

BOATS SLIPPED
(1st April, 1958, to 31st March, 1959)

| Boat | Date Slipped | Gross Tons |
|-----------------------|--------------|------------|
| Launch " Sarah Nona " | 17-4-1958 | 20 |
| Launch " Gelam " | 6-5-1958 | 30 |
| Ketch " Loyalty " | 31-5-1958 | 25 |
| Launch " Kebisu " | 18-6-1958 | 30 |
| Ketch " Petta Nona " | 27-6-1958 | 25 |
| Cutter " Cape York " | 9-7-1958 | 10 |
| Ketch " Relsie Nona " | 16-7-1958 | 22 |
| Ketch S.S. " Dona " | 29-7-1958 | 25 |
| Cutter " Sania " | 18-9-1958 | 15 |
| Ketch " Milton " | 18-10-1958 | 22 |
| Ketch " Adai " | 10-12-1958 | 22 |
| Cutter " Sania " | 9-1-1959 | 15 |
| Launch " Gelam " | 18-2-1959 | 30 |
| Launch " Sarah Nona " | 20-2-1959 | 20 |
| Ketch " Tilona Nona " | 24-2-1959 | 22 |
| Ketch " Relsie Nona " | 4-3-1959 | 22 |
| Ketch " Petta Nona " | 19-3-1959 | 25 |
| Ketch " Kelsia " | 20-3-1959 | 22 |
| Ketch " Annie Nona " | 21-3-1959 | 22 |
| Ketch " Cessa " | 23-3-1959 | 20 |
| | | 444 |

MINERAL

The Board during the year under review has given assistance to various islands in the installation of their water reticulation hookups by the provision of the services of the Board's mechanic on engine installations and its vessels have similarly conveyed the necessary gear and equipment to the Islands of Torres Strait free of all cost to the islands concerned.

Taking a broad view, it can fairly be said that the Board's activities throughout the year have met with the approbation of the population of Torres Strait as is exemplified by their support.

The Board's policy in past years has provided for stability and with the rebuilding programme nearing completion, the Board looks to the future with confidence in its ability to continue a progressive policy of assistance to all Torres Strait Islanders throughout the area.

APPRECIATION

The Island Industries Board records with appreciation the assistance given by the Director of Native Affairs, and the officers of his Sub-Department, particularly in the purchasing of goods required for the Board's stores. To the officers of State Stores too, a special word of thanks for their assistance in filling the requirements of a business that is gradually changing and evolving as the needs of the people of this area become more sophisticated.

The Board also records with appreciation, the work of its officers throughout the area of Torres Strait which has been unremitting throughout the year.

APPENDIX 12

EDWARD RIVER MISSION
(Superintendent—Gordon B. Green)

STAFF

Rev. D. S. Halliday—Chaplain and Teacher.
Mrs. D. S. Halliday—Nursing Sister.
Sister I. B. Johnson—Church Army—Welfare Officer.
Mr. N. Wheeler—Head Cattle Man.
Rev. E. Gebadi—Relieving Teacher.

STATISTICS

Full blood 246
Half blood 2

**THE CHURCH AND PROGRESS TOWARDS
CHRISTIANITY**

One of the greatest events at Edward was the completion of a permanent church and the subsequent opening and dedication by the Bishop on the 2nd December, 1958. Attendance at daily and Sunday services are good and special Christmas and Easter services are very well attended. There have been five marriages this year. Hymn practice and Sunday school services are held weekly.

HEALTH

General health of the people is improving and people more willing to be admitted to hospital where necessary. Dr. Tuffley (Flying Doctor) has been most helpful but unfortunately he is not able to come for about five months of the year as there is no all weather airstrip. The people badly need regular dental treatment and we are trying to arrange this. Dr. Tuffley has attended to some extractions and Salk Vaccine and Triple Antigen has been given to the children and most have hookworm treatment regularly, although the older people are still very frightened of "white man's" medicine and hospital treatment.

Sister P. Fittock relieved in the hospital while Mrs. Halliday was on furlough.

SCHOOL

Attendance is good and the standard of teaching is improving with the three aboriginal girls as assistants. One class this year is attempting 5th Grade and sewing classes have commenced and it is hoped to start Domestic Science classes this year. The Rev. Ephraim Gebadi relieved Rev. Halliday whilst on furlough. Application has been made for a school building as, at present, school is held in a temporary bush timber building. There are 47 children on the roll.

WELFARE

Progress towards improved domestic life is slow but many are showing more interest and the continuing of regular visits to each village home is showing results. Personal and home cleanliness has improved. All girls' and women's and most boys' clothing are made by aboriginal girls under the supervision of Sister Johnson. The preschool and school kitchens are well organised and provide good and regular meals for all children. Arts and crafts classes are held regularly and it is hoped to have regular supplies of crafts available for sale within the next few months. The Girl's Club is usually well attended.

CATTLE

Many were branded this year and we are hoping for a first sale of bullocks next year. A lot of work is necessary such as fencing for various paddocks and yards, &c., to enable this section of the mission to flourish. Half of the fencing is finished in the bullock holding paddock.

GENERAL

This year, apart from routine mission work, much time has been spent on the making of roads, village houses made of bush timber and cabbage leaf walls and roof, completion of church, new church hall, village wells, &c.

The mission wishes to thank sincerely the Director and Deputy Director of Native Affairs, the Radio Operators, the Medical Officers of Thursday Island Hospital, the Board of the Cairns Aerial Ambulance, the Flying Doctor (Charters Towers) and others who have given their time and skill to assist in the welfare of the people and development of the mission.

APPENDIX 13

MITCHELL RIVER MISSION

(Superintendent—F. W. Currington)

STAFF

Rev. D. M. Sutherland—Chaplain.
Miss S. M. Card—Teacher.
Mrs. Clarke—Dormitory Matron (resigned 31-3-59).
Sister H. Allcock—Nursing Sister (resigned)
G. Wheeler—Cattle Manager.
N. Clarke—Assistant Superintendent.

STATISTICS

| | |
|--------------------|-----|
| No. of Full bloods | 506 |
| No. of Half bloods | 20 |
| Total Population | 526 |
| No. of Births | 15 |
| No. of Deaths | 9 |
| No. of Marriages | 6 |

AGRICULTURE

Sweet potatoes, pumpkins, cassava, beans, bananas, papaws and mangoes, and other vegetables, have been harvested. It is very pleasing to see the increased number of gardens in the villages this year.

INDUSTRIAL IMPROVEMENTS

Satisfactory progress has been maintained during the year. Mr. George Wheeler (Cattle Manager) has done excellent work with the cattle. New fences with steel posts, which are much more satisfactory than wooden posts, have been erected. Killers have been supplied as usual for the benefit of the Mission inmates. Two mobs of cattle have been sold at a satisfactory price (station delivery) and we are now negotiating for another sale. Thirty-five bulls were purchased to improve the herd. In the near future we hope to buy a new portable spray dip which is very essential for the upkeep of the herd.

IMPROVEMENTS

Several new houses have been erected in the various villages, and others repaired. Timber

and iron for a number of kitchens have been purchased, and some are already erected. We hope to have kitchens provided for all dwellings in the near future. New lavatories have been erected during the year, and a new sanitary system is in progress. Water has been laid on in the Dormitory kitchen, and the kitchen has also had a new cement floor. The airstrip has been kept in good order and satisfactory to the Department of Civil Aviation requirements.

CONDUCT

Satisfactory. No serious offences.

EMPLOYMENT

We have no difficulty in obtaining employment on cattle stations for all able-bodied men not required for Mission maintenance. Most of our men are excellent stockmen and their employers speak highly of them.

SCHOOL

At the end of the school quarter there was a total attendance of 108 children—50 boys and 58 girls. The average attendance was 103.29. The Head Teacher (Miss M. Card) was assisted by four native teachers. The syllabus of the Queensland Primary Schools is followed with adjustments made to meet the needs of the aboriginal children and the work is taken more slowly in covering the subjects in the various grades. The older girls have attempted the lessons of the Primary Correspondence School, three being in Grade V. and one in Grade VI. It has taken about a year to do half the Grade's work but the help given from the Correspondence Teachers has given encouragement. The Grade VI. girl is now leaving school but is to continue her lessons and is already working part time in the Superintendent's Office.

RELIGION

Services during the year have been maintained as usual by the Chaplain and Catechism classes and religious instructions in the Mission school have been conducted regularly. During the year there were 5 marriages, 17 baptisms, and 8 burials.

HEALTH

Average of daily treatments—39.

Iron and vitamins were given where needed to people.

Infants.—Baby Clinic held on Mondays—Weights and check up of all infants, mainly all of three years of age and under.

Milk and Porridge are given to mothers on Monday mornings, and extra milk and porridge is given to mothers with bottle-fed babies, and any child who needs extra.

Mothers confined in own homes. All meals are given for five days afterwards. Nursing of mother and babe is done at home.

Iron Vitamin B Calcium Lactate Tablets given to all expectant mothers for three months prior to confinement, and afterwards if needed. Extra food is given to any elderly folk as required, and extra porridge and milk are given where required.

Hookworm Survey was carried out by Mr. O'Shea in November, 1958. Hookworm treatment was given to all people away six months at least, more if hookworm were present.

Dental.—Flying Dentist every three months. Last visit was on 24th March, 1959.

Medical.—Flying Doctor at end of every month for a Clinic.

Radio Network.—Doctor on Thursday Island on call to give any advice to any questions on any illness and orders the Ambulance plane when required.

DORMITORY

The number of children being fed at the dormitory is 113. They receive three meals daily and clothing quarterly. The dormitory was under the supervision of Mrs. Clarke (Dormitory Matron), who has recently resigned, and until a new Matron arrives it is under the care of native women supervised by Mrs. Sutherland.

RECREATION

General sports, football, rounders, native dancing, and talkie pictures are frequently shown.

APPRECIATION

The assistance given at all times by the Director and Deputy Director of Native Affairs and their staffs, and including the Base Radio Operators, is much appreciated.

APPENDIX 14

AURUKUN MISSION

(Superintendent—Rev. W. F. MacKenzie)

STAFF

Mrs. MacKenzie, B.A., Dip. Ed.—Matron and Head Teacher.

Sister A. A. Cameron—Medical.

Mr. T. S. Bartlett—Engineer and Mechanic.

Mrs. Bartlett—Teacher.

Mr. H. Henderson—Builder and Carpenter.

Mrs. J. Henderson—Assistant Matron.

Mr. J. Hudson—Cattle.

Rev. and Mrs. G. L. Filmer who were with us for three months left in May to go to Mapoon where Mr. Filmer took over as Superintendent.

AGRICULTURE

Owing to the lateness of the wet, much of the work put into cultivation work was lost. The early rains did not continue and the young plants died off. As soon as the paddocks could be worked after the heavy rains came, the season was too far advanced. Fortunately, a good area of cassava was planted and this was able to struggle through the dry period. In preparation for planting, many truckloads of humus was brought from a dry swamp, spread over the paddocks and ploughed in. Sweet potatoes died out and fresh tubers had to be obtained from Cairns. Consequently, only a small area could be planted.

DAIRY HERD

Milk from the dairy herd is given to the school children and the young children in the village. While there is plenty of feed for the

cows during the wet, over 30 gallons of milk are distributed daily. In the dry months there is less milk yield, but fodder is conserved during the wet and used to feed the cows as the feed dries off. More introduced grasses were planted out also for cattle feed. These included Rhodes Grass, Buffel Grass, Green Panic, Elephant Grass and Legumes as Centro, Puro, Townsville Lucerne and Stylo Lucerne.

CATTLE

Sixty bullocks were killed for local consumption. 144 head were sent to Marina Plains and were taken south by the "Wewak." 980 calves were branded and new yards were built at Bamboo and fencing on large paddocks in different parts of the run was carried out.

Bulls which were brought to Edward River last year and had to be left there owing to dry conditions were brought to the run. The cattle work is in the care of Jerry Hudson.

ENGINEERING AND MACHINERY

This work is under the care of Mr. T. S. Bartlett: Trucks, tractor and all engines were kept in good running condition. One Ford Blitz truck was sent to Mapoon, one Blitz was brought here from Weipa. This latter vehicle is in the process of being completely overhauled. Pipe lines and hand pump were installed at Wutan for new Banana plantation. The hand pump does not pump sufficient water and the Department is kindly assisting this work by forwarding a power pump. Pipe lines were laid at the Mission for irrigation on a small scale. An open air working bay was built. This bay gives 350 square feet under cover and is used for repair work. Steel girders to take 18-foot span were made out of old railway lines and scraps of iron rod. This gives freedom of movement. A boat carrier or trailer was built to enable the workboat and dinghies to be brought up from the anchorage to the workshop where repairs are carried out.

BUILDING AND CARPENTRY

This work is under the direction of Mr. J. Henderson. The Girls' Dormitory was painted. The Dispensary was finished and painted internally, furniture and cupboards were made and installed. The head stockman's house was finished and painted inside. A second staff house is nearing completion. Eight new houses were built by the men, under supervision. These houses were built of adzed timber, round timber, split slabs and bark. Sheets of bark were cut out in the bush and stock piled at the Mission for use in repairing village houses. The older boys are learning to express themselves in wood-carving, and very creditable models of crocodiles, turtles, snakes, &c., have been carved.

SAWMILL

The sawmill from Weipa was shifted here by Enterprise Exploration Co., by means of barges. Employees of the Company assisted by Mr. Henderson and Mr. Bartlett and Mission workers erected the building and installed the 40-h.p. Southern Cross engine, drive shaft, saw benches, trolley lines, &c. Timber roads were cut out of the bush, logs were brought in to the mill. Teams also went up the river cutting logs and floated them to the landing from where they were hauled to the mill.

ARTS AND CRAFTS

The village women make table mats, fruit baskets and serviette rings out of pandanus leaves. Dyes from various roots are used to obtain different colours. The Mission handles the sale of these articles, a small percentage being kept to defray handling costs.

SCHOOL

There are 138 children on the roll, as against 125 last year. Four of these children came from Coen; their bush-bred mother, originally from the Holyrold River at the southern end of the Reserve wanted her children to learn to read and write. The rest were village born, second, third or fourth generations. As usual now and for many years past the school has its annual long holiday after the wet season is over, Christmas time being anything but a holiday time in this part of Australia's monsoonal belt. An experiment is being tried to assist discipline and progress. The children have been divided into school houses, each with their colours and flags. The girls' houses are called after local flowers, Alamander, Hibiscus and Orchid, while the boys' houses are named after aeroplanes, Helicopter, Drover and Cessna.

HEALTH

Health maintains a fairly good standard. The diet for the children is kept to fresh foods as far as is possible. Fresh food is traded from the surplus hunting by the village people. Fish, crabs, shell fish, wallaby, pig, birds, eggs, roots, yams, and papaws, and also from the Mission cultivation, items such as sweet potatoes, cassava, pumpkins, beans, and some bananas, fresh beef and milk are all supplementary to rice and flour. There are still a few who have regular Tuberculosis checks, but these numbers are decreasing and with the B.C.G. we hope that Tuberculosis will be completely checked.

For the period under consideration, there were nine births and five deaths. Four out of the five who died were very old people. The fifth was a middle-aged woman who had a bad heart.

The Flying Doctor from Charters Towers continues to visit us and his advice and help is invaluable. We appreciate the great help given to us in cases of emergency by the Cairns Aerial Ambulance. Daily contact through the Native Affairs Wireless Network is also invaluable as we are able to get advice from a medical officer in cases of emergency.

Mass Hookworm treatment is carried out six monthly, or more often in known infected cases. Mr. Sheppard of the Hookworm Control, Cairns, visited this Mission and tested all the population. We are pleased to be able to report that the number of cases is less than half the number in the previous 1955 survey.

Baby clinic is held every week. All pre-school children are weighed and examined. There are 63 under school age children in the village this year. Triple Antigen is given to all babies.

OLDER CHILDREN

The boys as they leave school get instruction in carpentry, engineering and general maintenance work, also agricultural work. Some of

the older girls go back to school as pupil teachers, and others are taught domestic work. All receive instruction in plain and fancy sewing.

The Mission was greatly honoured last September by a visit from the Governor, Sir Henry Abel Smith.

The men welcomed him in full tribal dress and decorations. They lined up in two lines and as the Governor walked between the lines the front rank turned about and crossed their spears with those of the rear rank, making an effective archway through which the Governor passed. In the evening special tribal dances which had not been shown in public previously were danced. A great deal of preparatory work had been done in making totemic objects as figures of birds, fish and animals. These were brought out and set up while the members of that particular totem performed the appropriate dance.

POPULATION

Births 9—6 males, 3 females.

Deaths 5—3 males, 2 females.

Marriages 6.

Total population 580.

SPIRITUAL WORK

Morning prayers are held each day in the church, and the usual Sunday services. Attendance is good and good interest is shown. Classes of instruction are held for those who wish to join the Church. In the bush, work is still faithfully carried out amongst the bush people by Archiewald.

FUTURE ACTIVITIES

The slaughter house will soon be finished. Plans have been drawn up for a new type of house for the people in the village. When these have been approved, work will be started on the houses. This will involve the felling of logs out bush and carting them or floating them in to the sawmill, cutting the required timber for the construction of the houses. The banana plantation at Wutan is to be extended. A new cook house for the children and workers is to be built. We would like to build a dormitory for the older boys where they could have room for hobby work and recreation. We hope to build a large workshop combining building and engineering workshops. On the cattle side a new hut is planned for Bamboo and installation of tank and troughing for water for the cattle during dry spells. A spray dip is also to be installed at Bamboo for the cattle work.

THANKS

Our thanks are given to the Honourable the Minister for Health and Home Affairs, and his Department, also the Director of Native Affairs, the Deputy Director and their respective staffs in Brisbane and Thursday Island, the Secretary for Missions and his staff, the Ladies of the Church Missionary Organisations, the Flying Doctor and the Pilot, the Medical Officers and Nursing Staff at Thursday Island Hospitals and the Convalescent Centre, the Cairns Aerial Ambulance and all other friends who have helped and encouraged us here at Aurukun to enable us to look after the people in our care.

APPENDIX 15
MORNINGTON ISLAND MISSION
 (Superintendent—Rev. D. L. Belcher)

STAFF

Mrs. Belcher—Matron.
 Mr. W. D. Page—Industrial Assistant.
 Mrs. Page.
 Mr. E. C. Butler—Builder.
 Mrs. Butler.
 Sister N. Graham—Nurse.
 Miss M. S. Bain, B.Sc.—School Teacher.

STATISTICS

| | |
|--|-----|
| Births | 13 |
| Deaths (4 aged, 1 premature birth) | 7 |
| Stillbirth | 1 |
| Marriages | 6 |
| Exemptions | 3 |
| Transfers to Mission | 3 |
| Transfers (pending) | 3 |
| Population (Half Bloods 43, Full Bloods 308) | 423 |

RELIGION

Daily services are held and the Sacraments are administered. Eighteen young people were confirmed and became communicant members of the Church. Twenty-nine adults were baptized, of which seventeen were Bentinck Islanders.

AGRICULTURE

Sweet potatoes, tomatoes and other vegetables are raised on a small scale; pineapples, bananas and papaws have been established. Village gardens are attempted on a small scale. A rotary hoe has recently been provided by the Government through Loan Funds. Two hundred coconuts have been planted.

CATTLE

We are now slaughtering two beasts per week and the quality of the beef is good. One bush cattle yard has been erected, and a beef house. The head stockman and six others are engaged in this work, which is limited to the provision of beef for local consumption.

A small quantity of milk is produced for the use of children.

BUILDING

One staff dwelling has been completed, also a girls' village dormitory. Fifty-five concrete-floored earth closet toilets have been erected in the village, and six 30 feet by 10 feet prefabricated dwellings for native families have been completed.

The erection of buildings of a permanent nature has been continued and material is now available from Loan Funds for erection of Ration Store, Ablution sheds, Engine and Cold Room shed.

EMPLOYMENT

Normally, fifty men are employed on cattle stations and droving in the Gulf area, and twenty-five women and girls are employed on cattle stations as domestics. Other men are employed on M.V. "Cora."

HEALTH

Anaemia is a problem and expert investigation is being undertaken. One T.B. case required further hospital treatment, and has responded.

Regular dental work has been carried out by visiting Departmental dentists, and this is greatly appreciated. Improvement in hygiene and sanitation continues.

SCHOOL

(Report by Miss M. S. Bain)

| | |
|------------------------|----|
| Number of Pupils, 100— | |
| Preparatory I. | 4 |
| Preparatory II. | 11 |
| Preparatory III. | 22 |
| Preparatory IV. | 18 |
| Grade III. | 19 |
| Grade IV. | 14 |
| Grade V. | 12 |

Native Teacher—Mrs. Ellen Richards.

Native Monitors—9.

Mrs. Ellen Richards continues to teach the First Grade and has made good progress. Mrs. Butler is teaching reading to the Preparatory children and they are becoming much more confident in this vital subject. All other Grades receive concentrated instruction in reading and are improving noticeably. The old method has been discarded in favour of the Reading Method adopted recently by Queensland Schools. Progress is attributable to the method, to the use of many excellent Readers which were procured from the South (including the First Australian Readers written by Mrs. W. F. MacKenzie of Aurukun) and to the personal teaching by the Staff of each Grade in this subject.

This year two girls are attending Blackheath College, Charters Towers; Shirley Richards, daughter of the Teacher Mrs. E. Richards, is in the sub-Junior Grade and Lorna Wilson is studying Grade V. Recent reports indicate that both girls are making encouraging all-round progress.

GENERAL

There is steady progress in the social development of the people and the acceptance of responsibility. The Bentinck Islanders are included in this pattern. There is some difficulty in persuading mothers to collect regularly the specially prepared food, &c., for small children and babies; there is felt the need of a child welfare nurse.

One of our young women, Sister Ina Richards, who has recently obtained exemption, returned here for a holiday and has now gone to Atherton to complete obstetric training. During her stay here, Sister Richards assisted in the medical work.

The conduct of the people is satisfactory, a trend which has continued for some years. Disputes are readily settled.

Mr. Ted Butler's appointment as builder has accelerated construction work. Also, he is doing good work amongst the Scouts and Cubs.

Mr. and Mrs. L. J. McMillan were transferred to Mapoon in October, 1958. Mr. Ted Butler, Builder, and Mrs. Butler were appointed in July, 1958.

THANKS

We thank the Director of Native Affairs and Staff, and the Royal Flying Doctor Service for their interest and practical help.

APPENDIX 16

HAMMOND ISLAND

(Priest-in-Charge—Rev. O. McDermott)

STAFF

Residential Priest—Rev. R. J. Docherty, M.S.C.
Two Sisters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart.
Lay-Worker—Francis Dorante.

STATISTICS

| | |
|-----------------|-----|
| Births | 2 |
| Marriages | 2 |
| Deaths | 1 |
| School Children | 38 |
| Residents | 110 |

DISCIPLINE

Discipline has been very good. A good community spirit is evident and there is splendid co-operation between the residents and staff.

Church services are well and regularly attended. The parish Mission conducted by Rev. Father Hogan, C.S.S.R., of Townsville was most successful and the Missioner was very impressed by the response he received.

HEALTH

No serious illness or epidemic occurred during the year and an excellent standard of health has been maintained. The Mission folk need no urging when it is advisable to seek the excellent medical facilities provided by Thursday Island Hospital and the Town's two dentists. Sister Burchell of the Children's clinic pays regular visits to the Mission. The children regard her as a good friend and parents are most appreciative of her unflagging interest in their youngsters.

A good standard of housing has been achieved and the rules of hygiene are well observed. Concrete foundations have been laid for two new homes. Work has commenced on the installation of septic systems and the provision of more adequate water supply, which will be of great benefit during the dry weather in the closing months of the year. Water from a perpetually-flowing spring will be pumped to an elevation and reticulated.

The sea and the home gardens yield their quotas of nourishing foods to sustain a healthy community.

EDUCATION

Good progress has been made in all Departments of school work. Domestic science, arts and crafts and instrumental music have been taught with gratifying results. Attendances at school have been excellent. A former pupil of the Mission school will be a candidate for the Junior examination this year and another girl is a full-time pupil in the Thursday Island Convent commercial training class. A couple of boys who left school last year are gaining useful experience assisting Francis Dorante in the many tasks that fall to his lot as carpenter, tinsmith, boatbuilder, mechanic and generally handyman of the Mission. The installation of a film projector in the school has given the Mission a medium of education which is most appreciated. Educational and general films are screened regularly.

EMPLOYMENT

Marine industries have provided employment for the majority of the men. Francis Sabatino brought in 30 tons of pearl shell last season; he is doing a splendid job training younger divers for deep water work. For 1959 season, more men than usual have signed on trochus boats; this is due in great measure to the retrenchment in the number of pearling boats. Some men, too old for marine work, have found difficulty in obtaining regular work in their calling as carpenters and boat builders.

STAFF CHANGE

Shortly after Easter, Father Collins, who had spent four years on the Mission left on transfer to Alice Springs. His place has been taken by Father Richard Docherty, a very experienced missionary from the Northern Territory, who founded the Port Keats Mission for the primitive Fitzmaurice River natives and over a period of 23 years, moulded this Mission into one of the best in Northern Territory. Father Docherty is a keen and accomplished gardener and he hopes to repeat at Hammond Island the success that marked his Territory garden efforts.

BISHOP'S VISIT

The Most Rev. J. P. O'Loughlin, M.S.C., Bishop of Darwin, visited Hammond Island in May during his triennial visitation of Thursday Island parish and expressed his pleasure at the improvements made since his last visit. He was delighted by the new school. The Bishop administered confirmation to 25 adults and children.

CONCLUSION

Opportunity is here taken to extend the thanks of all on Hammond Island Mission to the Honourable the Minister for Health and Home Affairs, Mr. C. O'Leary, Mr. Killoran, and their staff for their sympathetic interest and support during the past year.

APPENDIX 17

LOCKHART RIVER MISSION

(Superintendent—J. A. Warby)

STAFF

Mrs. J. A. Warby—Bookkeeper.
Sister H. D. Conn—Nursing Sister.
Mr. J. Kaines—Cattle Manager.
Mr. J. Cook—Farm Overseer.
Miss E. Somerville—Teacher.
Mrs. J. Cook—Teacher.
Mr. W. Namok—Carpenter.

GENERAL

Advance has been made in the character of the people and the operation of the Lockhart River Aboriginal Christian Co-operative Society Limited has assisted considerably in this. Self-respect and initiative have shown significant increases and today situations which once could not have been handled by our people are dealt with successfully with complete confidence.

While every effort is being made to help the people to uplift themselves and their standards to where they constitute a new way of life, it is

recognised that the material aspects of this are, after all, the lesser part, and that any new way of life should be as firmly based on a strong spiritual foundation as the people's old way of life was on their original beliefs.

Advance also has been made materially, especially with housing.

MARINE

The engine of the "Mary Lockhart," the Mission cargo boat, was replaced with a new "Southern Cross" 3-cylinder marine diesel. This boat is 30 feet 6 inches long and has done a magnificent job.

The construction of a slip for slipping boats up to 50 feet is being proceeded with. Work on the breakwater to protect the slip has temporarily ceased but suitable timber to erect the breakwater is cut and ready for transporting to the job.

CHURCH

The Rev. J. B. Goodman completed his period of service here last October, since when we have been without a Chaplain. However, the Rev. E. Baldwin is expected to arrive here next September for this vital work. Meanwhile the Church services continue to be taken by the lay people of the Mission. We are very glad to welcome the Lord Bishop of Carpentaria, who was able to be with us in January, and were fortunate in having the Rev. R. S. Campbell from Thursday Island present with us at Easter.

Numerous language hymns with original words and music by the people have been composed this year.

LOCKHART RIVER ABORIGINAL CHRISTIAN CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY LIMITED

The Board of Directors has assumed greater responsibilities in the past year and discharged its duties satisfactorily.

When the Co-operative Society was first established in 1954, it was concerned solely with the production of Trochus Shell. Since this time, and especially in the last eighteen months with the trochus market not as prosperous as formerly, steps were taken to establish other industries to afford gainful employment for our people. Progress has been made in cotton farming and paddle making, while handicrafts are being constantly developed. Negotiations are in progress in an endeavour to establish gold mining as an industry.

TROCHUS

The past year has been a poor one for trochus production, both for "Yola" and "Cape Grey." The engine of the "Yola" deteriorated to the point of being most unreliable, and although every effort was made to keep the boat at sea, it proved fruitless as the engine was worn out. It was a great relief therefore, when we were able to purchase a new 58-h.p. Perkins Marine Diesel to replace the old one, and this has been operating very satisfactorily. Shell production on this boat rose immediately.

DINGHY BUILDING

The Co-operative now employs its own aboriginal shipwright to carry out repairs

to vessels and to build and repair dinghies. A second shipwright is undergoing training in Sydney at present.

COTTON FARMING

An area of 70 acres was ploughed last year, but only 40 acres of this have been planted to date, the balance being too wet to work at present. The varieties planted were Miller, Empire and Oklahoma Triumph.

The cotton farm is situated 13 miles distant from the Mission in the Lockhart River Valley. This pioneering effort is still in its experimental stage but high hopes are being held for its success as it could be the basis of a stable economy here. The future plan is to bring new areas of the Lockhart River alluvial flats under the plough each year for cotton production, and to sow the old cultivation with pasture grass for the production of fat cattle.

PADDLE INDUSTRY

The production of paddles for Thursday Island commenced and about 200 pairs have been made.

MINING

Alluvial gold was discovered at Alpha Creek and negotiations are in progress regarding permission to work certain areas.

CO-OPERATIVE CONSUMER STORE

This has been operating satisfactorily under the Manager, Peter Creek, who has proved most efficient at this type of work. This store handles most of the smaller retail goods previously sold through the Mission Store.

HANDICRAFTS

These are now sold through the Co-operative Society instead of the Mission and there is a growing trade in these.

ADULT EDUCATION

Owing to lack of staff, the Adult Education Class has been temporarily discontinued, but should receive new life on the arrival of Mr. J. Eldridge our new Headmaster, who is expected to arrive here in September.

Harry Rokeby and Victor Macumboy were sent to Sydney for 6 months training in butchering and oxy and arc welding respectively. On their return, Frank O'Brien and John Butcher were sent to be trained as a mechanic and shipwright respectively for 10 months. This training is carried out in conjunction with the Australian Board of Missions Co-operative Department.

Michael Omeeny who was sent to St. Aidans Teachers' College, Dogura, Papua, at the beginning of 1958 has now qualified as an "A" Grade Teacher and is expected to return home to take up his duties here at the end of this year.

VILLAGE HOUSING

Six rammed earth houses were completed and occupied in time for the wet season. These houses are built on raised concrete foundations, and have wooden floors throughout except in the kitchen and on the patio, which are both cement. Roofs are of galvanised iron. Each house has its

own shower recess and laundry under the one roof. They are warm, durable and handsome houses, and extremely popular with the people. The two largest size are 950 square feet. Two are 700 square feet and two are 500 square feet. The exteriors and interiors are sealed with cement. Work is also proceeding on three timber houses.

STAFF HOUSING

A large veranda and two bedrooms were added to the Agriculturist's house. Better houses are required for the Hospital Sister, Cattle Manager and the second school teacher.

ENGINEERING

Mr. W. Bailey resigned in January, 1959, and since then this side of the Mission work has been handled by Mr. J. Cook. The five mechanics are becoming more capable. Victor Macumboy is showing the advantage of his Sydney training in welding, while another, Frank O'Brien, is at present in Sydney training as a mechanic. The mechanics gain valuable experience in the continual overhauling and maintenance of machinery in use at the Mission. Eight men are now capable truck and tractor drivers, while another eight are good tractor drivers.

ST. JAMES' SCHOOL

| | |
|-----------------|----------|
| No. of Scholars | 80 |
| Attendance | 79.6 |
| School held | 192 days |

STAFF

In September Miss A. Hann retired after twelve years as Head Teacher, during which time she saw many changes in the school. One of her most cherished possessions is a model exercise book containing the work of many of her scholars. Mr. John Eldridge has been appointed in her place and takes up his appointment in September next. In the interim, Miss Ena Somerville is acting as temporary teacher. Miss Somerville has had 11½ years experience in New Guinea and is endeavouring to raise the scholastic standard of the school.

Weekly tests have been instituted and the best composition appears in the monthly paper *The Lockhart News*. Samples of art work have been sent south and there is a keen spirit of competition amongst the scholars.

A *Domestic Science Course* has been commenced, the girls gaining practical experience at the Children's Centre.

Manual Work—Classes V. and VI. are showing promise in the making of paddles, one of the new industries of the Co-operative Society.

IMPROVEMENTS

The Upper and Kindergarten Schools have been painted with paint supplied by the Department of Native Affairs, and it is hoped shortly that water will be laid on to the schools.

CATTLE REPORT

Beef.—Due to good brand-ups over the last three years, there is a notable increase in bullocks to be found on the Mission. This will allow yearly sales to take place from now on, which was impossible before. Four hundred and twenty cleanskins were branded in the last twelve months, and four new yards built.

FENCING

The Mission paddock is completed except for one small gap of ¼ mile and has been divided into two. A small paddock has also been re-fenced.

DAIRYING

An eight-stand dairy shed has been built with yards and walk-through bails. Milking machines can be simply installed when desired. Beef cows are at present being milked but it is hoped that they will shortly be replaced with a suitable dairy breed.

PASTURE

Ground is being prepared in the Lockhart Valley for experimental pasture stands. It is expected that seed will be sown in July.

GENERAL

The year 1958-59 has been one of development in accordance with a long range plan. The results will not show in spectacular form but will rather allow a far greater general improvement in the running and management of cattle.

HOSPITAL REPORT

Births—10 (males, 7; females, 3).
Deaths—3 (2 aged, and 1 infant eight months with Chronic Meningitis).
Inpatients—56 General, 10 Obstetric.
Transferred to Cairns—3.
Transferred to Thursday Island—7.
General health of the people is good.

EXTENSIONS

The Hospital has shown a tremendous improvement this year with the addition of an Obstetric Ward, a bathroom, and two water closet toilets and a small veranda. This was made possible by donations to the Mission raised by Sister H. D. Conn. All the above are lined and sealed with fibro and painted in pastel colours. The bathroom is of the modern type with separate shower recess, bath and hand basin. The obstetric ward is louvred on two sides and also fitted with a hand basin. The Hospital has been further improved by certain equipment supplied by the Department of Native Affairs, such as an obstetric bed, two hospital beds, cosyby cot, steel cupboard and six bedside lockers.

HEALTH INSPECTOR'S VISIT

A visit was made by Inspector Sheppard of Hookworm Control Office, Cairns, when all people were tested and treated for hookworm. The Mission now has a new microscope which was specially donated to investigate hookworm infestation.

REMOVING PATIENTS FOR FURTHER TREATMENT

During the year ten patients were evacuated to Cairns or Thursday Island for further treatment.

CHILDREN'S CENTRE

All children receive two meals each week day at this centre. The floor of this is now cemented throughout, and donated paint is on hand to paint it. An extra stove has been installed on which are prepared special foods for pre-school children as young as four months. Pre-school children receive Pentavite and Colliron twice daily or three times daily, if and when necessary. School children receive Vitamins A, D and C twice daily and Ferri Ammon Cit. when necessary.

Three women are employed full time and now make most of the children's clothing.

WATER SUPPLY

This continues to function satisfactorily. Water is reticulated to all houses in the new village.

D.N.A. RADIO

A new high aerial was installed, which resulted in improved reception.

APPRECIATION

Our thanks are due to many people and organisations, especially to the Director of Native Affairs and his staff, the General Medical Officer and Thursday Island Hospital Staff, the Queensland Aerial Ambulance Brigade, the Department of Native Affairs Radio Network and the Australian Board of Missions, and to all who have assisted us in many ways.

APPENDIX 18

MAPOON MISSION

(Superintendent—Rev. G. L. Filmer)

STAFF

Mrs. Filmer, S.R.N.—Matron and Medical Work.
Mr. L. J. McMillan—Assistant.
Mrs. McMillan—Temporary Teacher.

STATISTICS

| | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| Births | 9 |
| Deaths | 1 |
| Marriages | 1 |
| School children | 67 |
| Resident full bloods | 106 |
| Resident half bloods | 154 |

In reviewing the work of our mission during the past year, we must place on record the debt we owe to folk in the south and elsewhere, without whose continued help our station could not possibly carry on.

Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Green left the Mission in October, 1958, their places being taken by Mr. and Mrs. L. J. McMillan, who were transferred from Mornington Island.

GENERAL IMPROVEMENTS

A bush road has been cut to the out-station, and a short road of compressed stone has been made from the beach to the bulk store. These roads were made for the Ford blitz truck, which was very generously handed over to us from Aurukun last August. It is giving excellent service.

Our thanks are due to Aurukun also for repairing and refitting our motor dinghy. The large flat-bottom dinghy has also been repaired and with this being towed behind the motor boat, the work of unloading cargo from the ships has been much facilitated. The small bud-dinghy is now serviceable again, this being invaluable for many small jobs. A two-paddock fish trap

was also erected last year, and its value in supplementing the diet of the people cannot be overestimated.

A cold room is now in course of building, and this will enable us to keep quantities of fish and beef for much longer periods without the necessity of salting. The fowlruns have been repaired and three paddocks are now bearing crops of pumpkins, water melons and grain sorghum. The banana plantation has been rejuvenated and several dozen papaw trees are showing promise.

HEALTH

There has been considerable improvement in the general health of the people, especially the children, and any showing signs of under nourishment are given special attention. Iron pills, Cod Liver oil and Pentavite are given to each child daily. Care is taken to see that daily rations are of the best possible quality.

Half-yearly hookworm treatment has been given to every person on the Mission. A survey in this field conducted by the Cairns Health Department in September showed an incidence of 36 per cent. which is somewhat disappointing in view of the dry conditions prevailing at that time. Every effort is being made however to combat the disease. We express our appreciation to Inspector Shepherd of the Department for his assistance and helpful advice generally. We record our thanks to the Cairns Aerial Ambulance, and to the Doctor and staff of the Royal Flying Doctor Service. Three patients were flown out, two to Cairns and one to Thursday Island.

CATTLE

This work continues to have difficulties. Trouble is experienced with wild pigs as they pollute scanty water supplies in the dry season. Two grand musters during the year were successful, and the state of the pastures at the moment promises even better things in the year to come.

EDUCATION

There are 67 children attending school at present, and average attendance for the yearly period has been 60. Much more progress has been made since Mrs. McMillan took over responsibility in teaching, assisted by native helpers. We feel however, that the appointment of a teacher would relieve one of our most pressing needs. The boys who have got beyond the stage of regular classes are trained in carpentry or cattle work, while the girls are taught sewing, cooking and other domestic activities. Several entries were made in an exhibition of child art in Brisbane.

EMPLOYMENT

Owing to reduced labour requirements, Aluminium Laboratories of Canada Ltd., employed only 10 men during the past year.

Some who could not be given work locally on the Mission have gone to outside stations. Unfortunately the trade in crocodile hides had to be discontinued during the year owing to bad prices, but there are indications that we may be able to commence again shortly. The women continue the making of fans, feather flowers and shell necklets.

CHURCH SERVICE

Attendances have been fair, although there is much room for improvement. The Christmas Nativity Play was very well received, and Easter Attendances were very gratifying. There have been several additions to the roll of membership. If this side of our work is progressing, then all else is very worthwhile.

GENERAL

We wish to thank the members of the mission Committee in Brisbane for their constant attention to our needs, and we are especially grateful to the ladies of the Presbyterian Women's Missionary Union for the packing and despatch of the boxes of Christmas gifts.

To all those who have assisted the Mission by work and prayer we express our thanks and with the future of Mapoon still to be decided as regards position and general policy, staff, councillors and people look forward to the future with hope towards progressive development.

APPENDIX 19

ST. PAUL'S MISSION

(Priest-in-Charge—Archdeacon C. G. Brown, B.A.)

STAFF

Rev. J. A. Dobbs, Th.L.
Mr. F. A. Ayre.
Miss E. M. Ivy, B.A.
Miss M. St. George.

STAFF CHANGES

Rev. J. A. Dobbs was ordained priest in March and left the Mission to become assistant curate of St. John's parish, Cairns, Mr. Ayre left in October to take up Diocesan work at Alice Springs, Miss Ivy left in December to return to Africa, and enter upon her novitiate with the Community of the Sacred Passion, Zanzibar diocese.

THE CHURCH

The clerestory windows, eleven in all, have been glazed with tinted Cathedral glass. Services are held daily, morning and evening. Baptisms 3, marriages 1, burials 2.

THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

The new college was solemnly blessed by the Lord Bishop on the 13th December. The building is of fibrolite roof and walls with concrete

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floor and foundations. It affords accommodation for the Principal and twelve students. Number of students 1958—9, and 1959—12.

RETREAT

A Retreat for priests was held in September, conducted by Rev. Father Sutherland, Chaplain of Mitchell River Mission. The Mother's Union supplied the material needs of the retreatants with its usual efficiency.

SCHOOL

Days open, 302. Average number of children, 65. Teachers, 5. Water has been laid on both to the Primary and Kindergarten schools. The annual prize giving took place on 12th December, followed by a nativity play presented in the church by the children under the direction of Miss Ivy.

COUNCIL

The annual election was held in January, Councillors elected—Napau Pedro, Nasonah Kris, Andai Ware, Jacob Abednego, Sammy Lowah, Napau Pedro was appointed Chairman.

COURT

Six cases came before the Court during the year.

POLLING BOOTH

The Mission was granted the facility of a Polling Booth for the Federal Elections in November, 1959. Votes were recorded.

HEALTH

The Health Officer (Mr. J. P. O'Shea) paid a second visit to the Mission in December. As a result of his visit it is pleasing to report that the hygiene conditions of the Mission have considerably improved. All lavatories are fitted with regulation cabinets, the nightsoil is deposited in the sea, and incinerators are in use at every house. Further, the swampy area in the middle of the village has been cleared of dense undergrowth and effectively drained with the result that mosquito infestation has been substantially reduced.

MEDICAL SURVEY

Dr. G. Hales and party, including a radiographer and two nurses visited the Mission in January. A thorough examination by skin test was made of the whole population, together with people from Kubin and Gerain Settlements.

OBITUARY

Two deaths have to be recorded, unfortunately both infants. One was due to drowning in a well. As a consequence of this fatality all wells are now covered. In the other case, removal to hospital was prevented by bad weather.

CO-OPERATIVE

The registered office of Moa Island Christian Co-operative Society Ltd., is now situated at the

Mission. The Society numbers 120 shareholders. The Board of Directors consists of eight members—four elected, four appointed, two each by the Lord Bishop and Director of Native Affairs respectively. The present chairman and vice chairman are Jacob Abednego, St. Paul's and Wees Nawia, Kubin Secretary Fr. Brown.

Rev. W. A. Clint, Australian Board of Missions, Director of Co-operatives visited the Island in October and attended the annual meeting at Kubin. Mr. W. H. Williams, Australian Board of Missions, Mining Consultant, visited the Island in December and attended a meeting of the Board. Having informed the members that under present circumstances Wolfram mining was impracticable, he suggested an investigation of the possibilities of a market garden project. This suggestion was accepted by the Board together with proposals for pig and poultry raising. Flora Namok of this Mission returned in December, after a year's tuition in commercial subjects at Ipswich High School, during which period she resided with Rev. Colin

Ware and Mrs. Ware at Booval Rectory, all expenses being met out of Australian Board of Missions Co-operative funds. At present employed in the Diocesan office, it is expected she will be appointed Secretary of the Society later. Educational classes for Co-operative members were conducted by Miss Ivy during the year.

VISITORS

His Lordship the Bishop, Rev. W. A. Clint, Messrs. W. H. Williams, Ian Splading, Mr. and Mrs. Toohey and children, Miss L. Schoedler, Mrs. Johnson and children, Mrs. G. Hales, Mr. and Mrs. H. Bennier and children.

THANKS

Thanks are due to Archdeacon Knight of Brisbane for a gift prize of school books, also the Director of Native Affairs, the Deputy Director of Native Affairs and staff for their courteous and unfailing help at all times in the affairs of the Mission.