

1934-35-36.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

---

REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION

OF

THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

FOR THE

YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1935.

---

---

*Presented by Command ; ordered to be printed, 1st May, 1936.*

---

---

[*Cost of Paper.*—Preparation, not given ; 755 copies ; approximate cost of printing and publishing, £49.]

---

Printed and Published for the GOVERNMENT of the COMMONWEALTH of AUSTRALIA by  
L. F. JOHNSTON, Commonwealth Government Printer, Canberra.

No. 237.—F.1131.—PRICE 2s.

## CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
Report of Administrator .. .. .	5
Report of Deputy Administrator, Alice Springs .. .. .	8
Aboriginals—	
Legislation .. .. .	11
Aboriginal Reserves .. .. .	11
Mission Stations .. .. .	12
Aboriginal Medical Benefit Fund .. .. .	12
Employment of Aboriginals .. .. .	12
Employment of Half-castes .. .. .	13
Housing Scheme for Half-castes .. .. .	13
Expenditure on Aboriginal Affairs .. .. .	13
Kahlin Compound .. .. .	13
Half-caste Home, Darwin .. .. .	14
Half-caste Home, Alice Springs .. .. .	14
Aboriginal Affairs, Alice Springs .. .. .	14
Offences by Aboriginals .. .. .	15
Aboriginal Census .. .. .	15
Botanic Gardens .. .. .	16
Agriculture .. .. .	16
Courts .. .. .	16
Education—	
Schools and Attendances .. .. .	17
Correspondence School .. .. .	17
Scholarships .. .. .	17
Fisheries—	
Pearling .. .. .	19
Fishing .. .. .	19
Salt Production .. .. .	19
Licences Issued .. .. .	19
Overseas Exports .. .. .	20
Lands and Survey—	
Surveys and Drafting .. .. .	20, 21
Medical Service—	
Darwin Medical District .. .. .	23
Darwin Hospital .. .. .	24
Leper Hospital .. .. .	25
Kahlin Beach Aboriginal Hospital .. .. .	25
Katherine Hospital .. .. .	26
Pine Creek Hospital .. .. .	27
Laboratory .. .. .	28
Alice Springs Medical District .. .. .	28
Alice Springs Aboriginal Hospital .. .. .	29
Notifiable Diseases .. .. .	29
Meat Inspection .. .. .	30
Medical Benefit Fund .. .. .	30
Population .. .. .	31
Mines—	
Gold—	
Tennant Creek .. .. .	33
Granites .. .. .	35
Tanami .. .. .	35
Arltunga .. .. .	35
Winnecke .. .. .	35
Pine Creek .. .. .	36
Fletchers Gully .. .. .	37
Tin .. .. .	37
Maranboy Battery .. .. .	37, 41
Tantalite .. .. .	38
Wolfram .. .. .	38
Mica .. .. .	38
Assay Work .. .. .	38
Assistance to Miners .. .. .	39
Police—	
Return of Offences .. .. .	43
Prison .. .. .	44
Public Trustee .. .. .	45
Registrar-General, Births, Deaths and Marriages .. .. .	46
Shipping .. .. .	46
Stock and Brands .. .. .	46

### ABORIGINALS.

The general health of the natives has been good, although many cases have been treated at the various clinics.

One case of polyandry has been discovered in the Territory. It appears that the husband of the woman was taken to prison and that it was reported to the lubra her husband had died, whereupon she became the wife of another native. Subsequently the first husband was released from gaol and rejoined his lubra, who, according to reports, is now living happily with her two husbands.

All moneys received on behalf of aboriginals and half-castes are paid into Trust Accounts opened in the Commonwealth Savings Banks at Darwin and Alice Springs, but, when the amount of any individual is £20, the sum is withdrawn from the Trust Account and deposited separately to the credit of the individual.

The Kahlin Compound's Canteen has had a profitable year, it having a credit balance of almost £415.

The half-caste girls' laundry has had a busy year, the profits, amounting to £278, being shared by the laundresses.

There was a decrease of 34 convictions for the year as compared with last year.

### LANDS AND SURVEYS.

As, in accordance with directions, no pastoral leases were granted by the Northern Territory Land Board, there has been very little change in the statistical information. The revenue collected for the year amounted to £24,439 0s. 5d.

Two Staff Surveyors were appointed at the close of the financial year and have been fully occupied ever since.

### BIRTHDAY HONOURS.

Congratulations are extended to Doctor C. E. Cook (Chief Medical Officer) and to Monsignor F. X. Gsell (of the Bathurst Island Mission) on having conferred upon them the decorations of C.B.E. and O.B.E. respectively on the occasion of His Majesty's last birthday.

### PUBLIC SERVICE.

The Officers of the Service have given of their best and I again thank them for their loyalty, co-operation and the existing *esprit de corps*.

Two officers were dismissed and one resigned during the year.

It would be very advantageous if some scheme were evolved whereby the Northern Territory Public Service could become a part of the Commonwealth Public Service, so that the permanent officers would not have to spend all their best years in the tropics.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

R. H. WEDDELL, Lt.-Col.,

Administrator.

## REPORT OF DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR, ALICE SPRINGS.

During the year, the portion of the Northern Territory lying south of the twentieth parallel has advanced considerably and this is due chiefly to the greatly increased activities in mining. The high value of gold has been maintained and, although the value of base metals generally has continued too low to enable profitable working, the price of tungsten ores advanced and operations have been carried on at the various wolfram fields. Unfortunately, the price is now consistently falling, and it is anticipated that before very long it will be so low that work will necessarily be discontinued. The chief centre of mining activity has been at Tennant Creek and the population in that vicinity is now approximately 600 persons. Many businesses have been founded there and practically the whole of their supplies are obtained from South Australia, being railed to Alice Springs, whence they are forwarded by road transport.

The purchase by the Commonwealth of the 15-ton road Transport Unit has proved a great boon to the Territory in that it has enabled large quantities of material and goods to be transported without delay and at a greatly reduced cost. The authorities of the Finke River Mission at Hermannsburg availed themselves of the opportunity to have the material for their pipe line for their water supply freighted by the unit and in consequence the material, weighing approximately 100 tons, was carted at less than £2 per ton whereas the general rate is £5 per ton. This great saving in freight charges also enables pastoralists to expend any funds available for improvements to far greater advantage. The unit, which consists of a diesel-engined tractor and two trailers, is fitted with automatic trailer steering, bogie springing for wheel articulation and Westinghouse brakes, fitted so that they act from the rear forwards. It clearly demonstrates the great advancement which has been made in transport facilities in recent years. The unit was produced after extensive experiment by the Overseas Mechanical Transport Directing Committee, who have issued a bulletin in connexion with the unit and its trials in this Territory prior to its purchase by the Commonwealth Government for use in the Northern Territory.

The pastoral industry has not advanced to any extent during the year. This is due to the poor season experienced and the low prices offering for cattle. Indeed, the pastoralists in some areas, where very little rain has fallen, have done well to carry on at all, as quite a number have only a few cattle and no reserve funds to meet bad seasons when no fat cattle are available for export.

During April and May of this year the Minister for the Interior (Honorable T. Paterson) accompanied by the Secretary of the Department (Mr. H. C. Brown) and a Parliamentary Party visited the Territory. They visited the mining fields at Tennant Creek, Granites, Arltunga and Winnecke and also inspected a great deal of pastoral country on their travels. The Minister received many deputations and treated their requests with understanding and sympathy.

In September, 1934, the Acting Administrator (Mr. J. A. Carrodus), accompanied by the Director of Mines, visited this portion of the Territory and sent several days at Alice Springs, Tennant Creek and Hatches Creek.

In August, Sir Herbert Gepp, with a party, including a geologist and a financial representative, visited Tanami and the Granites.

A visit was made to Alice Springs in May by the Senior Auditor of the Commonwealth Audit Office Staff in South Australia, who investigated the system of dealing with public moneys and accounts and the methods of checking. He expressed himself well satisfied with his observations.

The tourist traffic which has been mentioned from time to time in previous reports has not increased. A publican's licence has, however, now been granted at Aileron Station, where suitable accommodation is being erected and where it is proposed to provide a golf course, tennis court, &c., for the convenience and pleasure of guests. It is thought that these, coupled with the very pleasant sunny days experienced throughout the winter months, will attract a number of people from the south each year. Aileron Station is on the main north road about 80 miles from the railhead at Alice Springs.

## ABORIGINALS.

The administration of aboriginal affairs has continued satisfactorily, but unfortunately there have been three changes in the office of Deputy Chief Protector of Aborigines. Although the policy remains the same, the continuity of work is broken. Except for some prevalence of venereal disease, the general health of the aboriginal population has been good.

The aboriginal medical hut situated in the native camping area has proved a great boon and many cases have been treated there—particularly wounds, which are plentiful as the result of fights. The aborigines know only one method of settling a difference and that is by violence. There have been several cases of fighting and some of the combatants have been brought before the court. Another offence for which local aborigines have been prosecuted is loitering in the town, which is a prohibited area for unemployed aborigines. It appears to be very difficult for some of them to resist the temptation of being in the town.

In the early part of the year a number of natives from the western district came to Alice Springs, but as it was undesirable that they should stay here, efforts were made to persuade them to go back to their districts where they would be less in contact with the white population and where native food was more plentiful. Many did return to their own districts. It is found that after aborigines are about the town for a time it is a difficult matter to persuade them to return to their own districts.

The Finke River Mission at Hermannsburg has continued with its work. It has a similar policy of allowing the bush natives to remain at the Mission Station for a short period only. Instead of the natives congregating at the Mission, the Missioners now send Christianized natives out amongst the tribes and at intervals they themselves go about the country to ascertain how their work is being performed. During the last months of 1934 the Missioner-in-Charge (Reverend Albrecht) went to South Australia for a holiday and while there succeeded in raising sufficient funds to lay the pipe line from Koprilya Springs to the Mission Station. The pipes are now at the station and the work of cutting the trench for the line is well in hand. Practically all the work is being done by native labour. A well is also being sunk and good water is available but the well is not yet completed nor is it known just how much water can be obtained from it.

The Aborigines' Friends' Association has ceased active work in this district. Its former representative (Mr. Kramer) has now left the country and the work has been handed over to the Finke River Mission, which proposes to settle a native missionary in the camp at Alice Springs and for one of the missionaries to visit the camp at intervals. It is understood that the Aborigines' Friends' Association is assisting the Finke River Mission in this matter with the donation of funds.

The Roman Catholic Missioner at Alice Springs is investigating the possibilities of establishing a Mission Station on the Whistleduck Aboriginal Reserve or at some other suitable locality where aborigines congregate.

The care and welfare of the children in the Half-caste Institution at Alice Springs have been the duty of Mr. and Mrs. Jones, who were appointed as Superintendent and Matron of the Institution at the beginning of the year under review. The work, which is under the supervision of the Deputy Chief Protector, has been satisfactorily performed. The number of inmates continues to increase and now totals 120, some of whom are adults and some very young children. The general health of the inmates is satisfactory. They all appear well fed and happy.

The education of the children has previously left much to be desired, but this has now been overcome by the appointment of two qualified teachers who have been seconded from the South Australian Education Department.

When old enough, the females are taught domestic arts, such as cooking and sewing, which fit them to accept positions when opportunity offers.

It was hoped that some tuition could be given in various classes of manual work to the males when they were sufficiently old enough and strong enough, but nothing has yet been accomplished in this direction. There is little doubt that the most suitable occupation for these boys is station work and when they are old enough they are put to this work.

A considerable amount of work has been done in repairing and improving the buildings at the Institution during the year.

During the trial of two aboriginals on a charge of murder in February suggestions were frequently made that the aboriginals had been seriously ill-treated by a police officer. A Board of Inquiry was appointed to investigate the matter but the inquiry is not yet completed.

#### COURTS.

The business in the various Courts has been very extensive throughout the year. The Local Court sat monthly and at each sitting had several items of business to deal with. The Courts of Summary Jurisdiction at Alice Springs and at Tennant Creek sat frequently and as desired. The Supreme Court sat at Alice Springs in February and again in June in its Criminal Jurisdiction—the former sittings occupying approximately three weeks.

The Licensing Bench sat quarterly and dealt with several applications of various natures. The Licensing District has been enlarged and now includes Tennant Creek.

A third legal practitioner has commenced a practice in this portion of the Territory.

#### GAOL.

Much has been said in the past in regard to the need for improved accommodation in the Alice Springs Gaol. It is hoped that funds may be made available during the ensuing year for the provision of a new gaol embodying modern principles.

#### EDUCATION.

The Alice Springs School remains the only public school in this portion of the Territory. The enrolment has varied very slightly from that of last year. A few pupils have accompanied their parents to Tennant Creek but have been replaced by new arrivals and children just reaching school age. The teaching staff has not varied. Arrangements were made with the South Australian Government for this school to be inspected at regular intervals by an inspector of the South Australian Education Department and the first inspection was made in August, 1934.

Sufficient children are now residing at Tennant Creek to warrant the provision of a school and the material for the school building and a teacher's residence has already been obtained. It is anticipated that the building will be erected and the school opened in the near future.

The School Committee Ordinance became effective on the 19th December, 1934. The Ordinance provides for a committee of citizens—partly elected and partly nominated—whose duties are to report upon the material requirements of the school, to advise on the subject of repairs, &c., to the school buildings; to promote the beautifying of the grounds and the establishment and maintenance of gardens; the formation of a library; to stimulate interest in school affairs on the part of both children and parents; and other matters which are enumerated in the Ordinance.

The first election in connexion with the Committee for the Alice Springs School was held on 11th June, 1935, and the meeting was well attended.

Children who reside at a distance which prevents their attendance at the public school continue to receive the benefits of tuition by correspondence at the expense of the Administration.

For the purpose of enabling children residing in this portion of the Territory to receive the advantages of higher education, provision has been made for the grant by the Government of one scholarship annually with benefits to the value of approximately £300. The scholarship will be awarded by competitive examination and all children within certain specified limits will have the opportunity to compete. The first scholarship examination will be held at the end of the 1935 school year.

#### HEALTH.

Although a Government Medical Officer has been stationed at Alice Springs for some years, the only hospital in the district is a nursing home which was established by the Australian Inland Mission. Although this home has served a very useful purpose in the past it is now far too small and lacking in both accommodation and facilities to meet the requirements of the district.

With the growth of the Tennant Creek mining field it has been necessary to provide some medical assistance. The Medical Officer stationed at Alice Springs visits the field when necessary and a medical aid post is in course of erection there. It is anticipated that this will be only a temporary measure and that the field will require a well-equipped hospital and a resident medical officer in the not far distant future.

The contract for the removal of night-soil and garbage in the Alice Springs Health Area expired during the year and a new contract for a period of three years was entered into.

As a result of reports in connexion with the prevalence of tuberculosis amongst aboriginals at the Hermannsburg Mission Station, Mr. Anson of the Medical Branch visited the Mission Station and carried out an investigation.

The general health of the community has continued to be classed as good and there were no outbreaks of infectious disease.

During the year the medical officer has been called into the country to attend serious cases and these have necessitated the travelling of long distances.



During the visit of the Minister a demonstration was given of the use of neckchains as compared with handcuffs. As a result the Minister approved of the resumption of the use of light-weight neckchains as being more humane than handcuffs.

#### STOCK.

The pastoral industry has experienced another poor season. The rainfall has again been well below the average and consequently there has been a shortage of feed and water on pastoral properties. The prices offering for fat cattle in the Adelaide market, to which most of the cattle from the southern portion of the Territory are sent, have been very low. As a result there has been little improvement of properties, although a few head of stud stock for the improvement of herds have been imported.

The stock routes have been in bad condition so far as feed is concerned and for the first time for some years no applications were received for authority to draw water for travelling stock at the various wells on the North-South stock route.

A few mobs of cattle from the northern portion of the Territory are travelling along this route, but they will not arrive at the railhead in marketable condition and will need to be sold here for re-stocking or placed on agistment for fattening next season.

A comparatively good season has been experienced in the district south west of Alice Springs and several land-holders in that district are endeavouring to arrange for cattle to be placed on their properties on agistment. Some of these properties are used for sheep-raising only, at present.

Although the price of wool has been fair, sheep-raisers suffer a disadvantage in that there is no local market for their surplus wethers and it is too costly to send them south.

#### WORKS.

A considerable amount of the work performed by the Works and Services Branch is the maintenance of wells and bores and water-drawing appliances as well as the provision of additional water supplies on the various stock routes. A staff is employed during the whole of the year on this work.

A considerable amount of road-making and road repairs has also been performed during the year.

Several buildings were renovated and painted and new buildings have been erected at Tennant Creek. The work is performed under the direction and supervision of the Resident Engineer who is stationed at Alice Springs. The year has been a very busy one for the Works Branch.

The 15-ton transport unit has been a great advantage during the year and 246 tons of material and goods representing 52,744 ton miles have been transported by it at substantially reduced costs and also, it is pleasing to record, at a profit since it was taken over by the Commonwealth Government.

#### STAFF.

The staff generally have performed their varied duties in a very commendable manner and with that *esprit de corps* which is so desirable where a large volume of varied duties has to be undertaken by a comparatively small staff.

V. G. CARRINGTON,  
Deputy Administrator.

### REPORT OF THE CHIEF PROTECTOR OF ABORIGINALS.

*Legislation.*—During the year a consolidation of all Ordinances concerning aborigines in the Northern Territory was published. Further amendments are under consideration, the most immediate of which deals with alleviation of suggested disadvantages on the part of certain adult half-castes caused by prohibitions regarding the drinking of alcoholic liquor.

*Staff.*—A position of Assistant Chief Protector of Aborigines was created and filled by the promotion thereto of an experienced officer.

The positions of Superintendent of the Aboriginal Compound and Matron of the Half-caste Home, Darwin, and of Superintendent and Matron of the Half-caste Institution, Alice Springs, were vacated and filled again.

Five protectors were appointed, and consequent upon staff changes a new Deputy Chief Protector at Alice Springs.

*Aboriginal Reserves.*—Public interest was drawn to the important question of control and administration of aboriginal reserves in the Northern Territory, by murder trials of natives from Caledon Bay and Port Keats. Subsequently the Minister gave certain missionary societies permission to establish stations among the tribes concerned. No doubt a new means of contact with civilization will thus be afforded the tribes. Authorities of the Roman Catholic Church selected the district of Port Keats, and have begun building operations. They report they have been well received. The Methodist Missionary Society explored much of the East Arnhem Land coast in order to find a suitable site for a station. An area selected for a mission reserve on Whistleduck Creek in Central Australia was considered unsuitable there being, according to reports, few aborigines in the district. Furthermore, with a view to preventing recurrence of trouble with the natives of Arnhem Land, the Minister enlisted the services of Dr. D. F. Thomson, B.Sc., anthropologist. Dr. Thomson's task is to establish friendly relations with the uncivilized tribes, to study their languages, to teach them that they must abide by the white man's law, to report on their health, and to conduct a general anthropological survey.

Owing to the discovery of gold at Tennant Creek, the boundaries of the Warramunga reserve were completely altered. The declaration of the new boundaries by the Governor-General appeared in the *Commonwealth of Australia Gazette* of 12th July, 1934.

A more suitable site has been suggested for the aboriginal reserve in the Maranboy district.

An emergency landing ground for aeroplanes was set up on the Bathurst Island reserve, the local tribes being granted provisions for regarding themselves as the caretakers.

A number of private persons and organizations made representations to the Branch, requesting consideration of proposals for additional reserves, the extension of existing reserves, and the appointment of special officers to patrol reserves in order to prevent illegal intrusion.

An application requesting the abolition of the Woolwonga reserve was refused.

Consideration is being given to complaints that dingo-trappers trespass on the south-west reserve during the scalping season. An Afghan has already been convicted of trespassing on this reserve.

Particulars of the present aboriginal reserves in the Territory are as follows:—

	Square miles.
Bathurst Island .. .. .	786
Arnheim Land and Islands adjacent to the coast .. .. .	31,200
Groote Eylandt .. .. .	910
Oenpelli .. .. .	2,000
Manassie .. .. .	120
Wangite .. .. .	388
Larrakeyah .. .. .	14
Daly River .. .. .	2,850
Woolwonga .. .. .	153
Warramunga (Tennant Creek, former area 150 square miles) .. .. .	270
Mount Conway (Alice Springs district) .. .. .	25
South-west corner of Northern Territory .. .. .	27,875
Humbert River .. .. .	579
Proposed reserve on Whistleduck Creek, east of Wycliffe Well .. .. .	337
	Acres.
Darwin Compound .. .. .	32
Half-caste Home, Darwin (Section 691) .. .. .	$\frac{1}{2}$
Maranboy .. .. .	6
Pine Creek (Sections 64, 65, 66, 79, 80, and 81 now hospital) .. .. .	3
Alice Springs .. .. .	674

#### MISSION STATIONS.

The following are the areas at present held by various mission societies:—

	Square miles.
Bathurst Island .. .. .	16
Goulburn Islands and part mainland .. .. .	100
Oenpelli .. .. .	200
Groote Eylandt .. .. .	200
Crocodile Islands .. .. .	81
Elcho Islands .. .. .	200
Hermannsburg .. .. .	995

The Roper River Mission is a mission station without a lease. The area is 230 square miles.

#### PROHIBITED AREAS.

An area of land adjoining the Golden Dyke Battery, near Grove Hill, was declared by the Administrator to be a prohibited area for aboriginals.

#### ABORIGINAL MEDICAL BENEFIT FUND.

Darwin employers' contributions amounted to £530 14s. as compared with £457 14s. for the previous year. The fund had a credit balance of £941 17s. 6d. at the 30th June, 1935.

Collections in Alice Springs district amounted to £151 18s.

Five medical officers and a trained medical assistant conducted regular medical examinations of aboriginals in town and rural centres. A medical survey was made of the inmates of the Hermannsburg Mission, where an outbreak of tuberculosis was reported. All other mission stations in the Territory were visited by medical officers during the year.

The members of the medical staff, who are also protectors of aboriginals, rendered valuable assistance to the branch. The Aerial Medical Service was sometimes utilized to transport sick and injured aboriginals to hospital for treatment.

It was pleasing to note that the Commissioner appointed by the Western Australian Government to inquire into the administration of aboriginal affairs in that State, recommended in his report the establishment of an aboriginal medical benefit fund, such as was established in the Northern Territory in 1933.

#### EMPLOYMENT.

During the year 209 town licences and 331 country licences were issued.

One hundred and sixty agreements were entered into by employers of aboriginals and half-castes in town districts.

Close supervision of employers was exercised, four licences being cancelled because of non-compliance with the conditions thereof.

#### ABORIGINAL DROVERS.

Sixty aboriginal drovers were employed under agreement during the droving season.

#### RECOGNIZANCES.

Eighty-one recognizances were entered into by employers in respect of the removal of half-castes and aboriginals from various districts in the Northern Territory and three were renewed in respect of half-castes employed in southern States.

#### ABORIGINAL TRUST FUND, DARWIN.

	£	s.	d.
Credit balance as at 1st July, 1934 .. .. .	2,896	9	6
Receipts during the year 1934-1935 .. .. .	4,522	5	11
Withdrawals during the year 1934-35 .. .. .	3,458	5	0
Credit balance as at 30th June, 1935 .. .. .	3,960	10	5

The value of goods supplied by employers to aboriginal drovers in lieu of wages is not included in the above statement.

Receipts increased by £722 2s. 5d. and expenditure decreased by £67 5s. 1d. as compared with the previous year.

Cash orders numbering 2,211 and amounting to a total sum of £1,851 7s. 9d. were issued.

Orders for goods to the number of 939 were issued for a total amount of £1,606 17s. 3d.

Trust accounts were opened in the Commonwealth Savings Banks at Darwin and at Alice Springs, into which all moneys received on behalf of aboriginals and half-castes are now paid. When money received on behalf of any individual totals twenty pounds, the sum is withdrawn from the main Trust Account and deposited separately to the credit of the individual, who will thus enjoy interest as it accrues.

#### ABORIGINAL TRUST FUND, ALICE SPRINGS.

	£	s.	d.
Actual credit as at 1st July, 1934 .. .. .	877	18	3
Receipts during the year 1934-35 .. .. .	498	2	6
Withdrawals during the year 1934-35 .. .. .	454	12	0
Credit balance as at 30th June, 1935 .. .. .	921	8	9

#### AGED AND INFIRM ABORIGINALS.

There was a considerable increase in the number of aged and infirm aboriginals fed and clothed at the seventeen rationing depots. The increase was most noticeable at Alice Springs, where 130 persons were rationed as compared with 70 for the previous year.

#### EMPLOYMENT OF HALF-CASTES.

The number of half-caste inmates in Government institutions at 30th June, 1935, was 230 comprising 90 males and 140 females.

Thirty-two female half-castes were employed under special agreements with European employers in town centres. Five girls were likewise employed in country districts.

Sixteen female half-castes were employed in Government institutions.

Four half-caste girls continued their training for the nursing profession.

Twenty-seven half-caste youths were working as apprentices in the pastoral industry.

#### HOUSING SCHEME FOR HALF-CASTES.

The eight houses erected under this scheme were all occupied during the year. Two owner-tenants completed wells on their property. The total cost of the houses was £1,200, of which sum the following amounts have been repaid by tenants since 1st January, 1934—

	£
By deposits and repayments of principal by tenants .. .. .	305
By purchase price fully paid by owners .. .. .	300
<b>Total .. .. .</b>	<b>605</b>

#### MARRIAGES.

Permission was given by the Chief Protector of Aboriginals for the marriage of nine female half-castes, six with Europeans, and three with half-castes. Three applications were refused.

#### EXPENDITURE ON ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS.

##### *Darwin.*

The gross expenditure was £2,798 9s. 6d. Repayments to credit of expenditure amounted to £1,119 1s. The net expenditure was £1,679 8s. 6d.

##### *Alice Springs.*

A total expenditure of £3,003 15s. 7d. was incurred in respect of aboriginal affairs south of the twentieth parallel of south latitude.

#### KAHLIN COMPOUND, DARWIN.

The average number of aboriginals and half-castes maintained at the Darwin Compound during the year was 148. In addition, four unemployed female aboriginals, ten male, and fourteen children received rations at various times throughout the year. Seventeen aged and infirm aboriginals were issued with rations, clothing and blankets. Lodging was provided for 200 aboriginals employed in Darwin. Thirty police witnesses brought to Darwin in connexion with Supreme Court trials were provided with board and lodging. Two persons were convicted for trespassing on the Kahlin Compound aboriginal reserve. One female half-caste was sentenced to a term of imprisonment for being absent from the Half-caste Institution without permission. Three persons were convicted for consorting with female half-castes.

The actual cost of maintenance of the institution was £1,899 which included the salaries of matron and superintendent and wages paid to the half-caste staff. An analysis of expenditure follows:—

	£	£
Rations, tobacco and expendable stores .. .. .	1,090	
Equipment and maintenance and new buildings .. .. .	178	
Material for clothing and blankets .. .. .	318	
Establishment charges .. .. .	32	
Salaries and wages .. .. .	996	
		2,614
<i>Less</i> amounts credited on account of sustenance of aboriginals, hire of labour, sale of blankets, firewood, clothing and miscellaneous sales .. .. .		715
<b>Actual cost of institution .. .. .</b>		<b>1,899</b>



*Canteen.*

During the year cash sales amounted to £220 15s. Orders for supply of goods and rations, to the value of £316 2s. 3d., were fulfilled. The canteen had a credit balance of £404 15s. 11d. at the 30th June, 1935.

*Laundry.*

The volume of work in this section showed a further increase for the period under review. Earnings amounted to £313 and expenses to £35. The profits derived from this enterprise were shared by the two permanent laundresses and their assistant.

*Clothing Section.*

The following is a list of articles manufactured during the year :—

Shirts	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	507
Trousers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	542
Dresses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	567
Rompers, pyjamas	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	158
Other garments	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	29
									1,803

*Compound Earnings, 1934-35.*

									£
Firewood sales	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	179
Blanket sales	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	37
*Clothing sales	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	243
Miscellaneous, fish, &c.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	106
Hire of labour	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Board and lodgings	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	66
Laundry receipts	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	313
Canteen sales	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	537
									1,482

*Transport Section.*

This section, which is staffed by half-caste male inmates, performs all Administration hauling work in Darwin. The staff effected all running repairs to the vehicles. The ambulance service was also conducted by this Section.

The total mileage travelled by the motor truck was 9,295 miles.

Further improvement was manifest in the various experimental industrial enterprises which were conducted at the Kahlin Compound.

*Labour Section.*

The services of unemployed aboriginals, who were rationed at the Compound, were made available to the Curator of the Botanical Gardens, the Matron of the Darwin Hospital, the Health Inspector and the Administration.

**HALF-CASTE HOME, DARWIN.**

The number of inmates in the Half-caste Home, Darwin, at 30th June, 1935, is shown in the subjoined table—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Half-caste children	10	51	61
Adult half-castes	5	15	20
Nurselings living with aboriginal mothers	1	1	2
Half-caste inmates residing with employers	1	14	15
	17	81	98

Employment was found for six unemployed half-caste youths. Four boys and one girl were permitted to leave the Institution to reside with their parents. Fifteen females were admitted as in-patients to the Darwin Hospital. Minor ailments were attended to by half-caste nurses supervised by the Matron of the Darwin Hospital. The daily average of children attending school was 38. Minor repairs were effected to the children's dormitory. A temporary dining-room and kitchen were provided for half-caste inmates.

**HALF-CASTE HOME, ALICE SPRINGS.**

The total number of inmates at 30th June, 1935, was 132, comprising 73 males and 59 females.

*Staff.*

Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Jones were appointed superintendent and matron respectively on 8th July, 1934.

*Clothing Section.*

One thousand and twenty-seven articles of clothing were manufactured by half-castes employed in the clothing section.

*Employment.*

Eleven female half-castes were found employment as domestics during the year.

Nine half-caste boys were apprenticed to cattle stations.

*Health.*

One hundred and twenty-three patients were treated during the year.

**ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS, ALICE SPRINGS.**

Dr. P. J. Reilly, Government Medical Officer at Alice Springs, was appointed Deputy Chief Protector of Aboriginals.

Thirty town licences and 81 country licences were issued. Thirteen agreements were entered into between employers and aboriginals.

\* Clothing manufactured for aboriginal requirements is issued free of charge, and the value of such issues is not included in this item.

*Rationing.*

The average number of aboriginals rationed at the Alice Springs Depot was 130.

One hundred and forty-two aboriginals were rationed at rural depots.

There has been a considerable increase in the number of aboriginals in and around Alice Springs, due to drought conditions prevailing prior to the general rains in March, 1935. It was estimated that approximately 400 are residing in the vicinity of Alice Springs. It has been recommended that these detribalized natives be either removed to a new reserve at a distance from the town, or that the present town reserve be converted into a compound with a superintendent in charge.

*Ill-treatment.*

An inquiry was held at Alice Springs into the alleged ill-treatment of aboriginals by a member of the police force and other persons, the findings of which will be published at an early date.

*Medical Clinic.*

The clinic has been in continual use throughout the year.

*Convictions and Committals recorded against Aboriginals for Year Ended 30th June, 1935.*

Assault .. .. .	22
Assault police .. .. .	1
Riotous and offensive behaviour .. .. .	9
Unlawful possession .. .. .	15
Prohibited area .. .. .	37
Possession firearms .. .. .	1
Escaping custody .. .. .	1
Shooting with intent .. .. .	4
Murder .. .. .	3
Assault—bodily harm .. .. .	2
Drunkenness .. .. .	5
Drinking liquor .. .. .	2
Possession of opium and articles .. .. .	13
House-breaking .. .. .	2
Larceny .. .. .	2
Fighting in compound .. .. .	10
Refusing to remain in reserve .. .. .	2
Unlawfully use gun .. .. .	1
Unlawfully wounding .. .. .	3
Abduction .. .. .	1
Loitering in township .. .. .	1
	137

Aboriginals who appeared before the courts on capital charges were provided with counsel. There was a decrease of 34 convictions for the present year as compared with the previous year.

## ABORIGINAL CENSUS.

YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1935.

*Summary.*

District.	Full Bloods.				Half-castes.				Total.
	Adults.		Children.		Adults.		Children.		
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	
Alice Springs .. .. .	146	180	22	20	11	18	..	..	397
Alice Springs Home .. .. .	..	..	..	..	12	17	54	36	119
Arltunga .. .. .	222	232	51	39	2	2	..	2	550
Anthony Lagoon .. .. .	70	55	14	15	1	3	4	3	165
Barrow Creek .. .. .	170	150	47	59	15	5	6	6	458
Borrooloola .. .. .	304	288	90	82	11	7	14	10	806
Brock's Creek .. .. .	95	50	20	22	10	7	1	..	205
Charlotte Waters.. .. .	264	337	102	101	9	14	3	10	845
Daly River .. .. .	990	640	160	128	5	2	2	3	1,930
Darwin .. .. .	1,320	1,030	310	260	50	68	54	102	3,194
Hermansburg Mission .. .. .	87	79	50	51	3	9	1	2	282
Katherine .. .. .	114	99	46	31	7	7	2	7	313
Lake Nash .. .. .	37	26	10	10	2	..	..	..	85
Maranboy .. .. .	210	133	45	60	8	2	..	1	459
North West Patrol .. .. .	585	610	250	280	9	..	..	..	1,734
Newcastle Waters .. .. .	139	146	47	31	11	8	3	5	390
Pine Creek .. .. .	55	43	4	4	5	4	1	..	116
Rankine River .. .. .	80	40	14	17	12	6	5	5	179
Roper River .. .. .	702	675	305	305	13	9	16	12	2,037
South-West Patrol .. .. .	344	351	226	250	12	9	7	3	1,202
Timber Creek .. .. .	920	436	270	220	21	2	2	1	1,872
Wave Hill .. .. .	410	355	75	60	1	1	3	1	906
	7,264	5,955	2,158	2,045	230	200	183	209	18,244

## ABORIGINAL CENSUS—continued.

District.	Nomadic.		In regular Employment.		In Supervised Camps.		Others.		Total.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Alice Springs ..	..	..	101	55	51	123	27	40	179	218
Alice Springs Home ..	..	..	..	..	66	53	..	..	66	53
Arltunga ..	221	224	62	49	2	2	..	..	275	275
Anthony Lagoon ..	23	25	41	14	..	..	25	37	89	76
Barrow Creek ..	80	74	95	12	63	134	..	..	238	220
Borroloola ..	200	200	99	16	120	171	..	..	419	387
Brock's Creek ..	71	52	55	27	..	..	..	..	126	79
Charlotte Waters ..	202	266	48	45	44	37	89	114	383	462
Daly River ..	760	530	65	43	252	170	80	30	1,157	773
Darwin ..	1,020	900	440	238	274	322	..	..	1,734	1,460
Hermansburg Mission ..	3	2	43	26	88	111	7	2	141	141
Katherine ..	63	52	54	48	15	12	37	32	169	144
Lake Nash ..	21	24	25	6	3	6	..	..	49	36
Maranboy ..	155	121	23	4	30	16	55	55	263	196
North West Patrol ..	800	880	44	10	..	..	..	..	844	890
Newcastle Waters ..	4	4	61	23	135	163	..	..	200	190
Pine Creek ..	25	22	35	24	5	5	..	..	65	51
Rankine River ..	..	..	65	21	46	47	..	..	111	68
Roper River ..	825	825	85	44	126	132	..	..	1,036	1,001
South-west Patrol ..	299	321	104	60	186	232	..	..	589	613
Timber Creek ..	922	517	291	142	..	..	..	..	1,213	659
Wave Hill ..	235	210	151	76	103	131	..	..	489	417
	5,919	5,249	1,987	983	1,609	1,867	320	310	9,835	8,409

W. B. KIRKLAND,  
Acting Chief Protector of Aborigines.

## REPORT OF THE CURATOR OF THE BOTANIC GARDENS AND INSPECTOR OF AGRICULTURE.

## BOTANIC GARDENS.

The gardens have been maintained during the year under review.

Over 100 lb. of seed of wild lucerne, *Stylosanthes sundaica* was collected and most of it was sold to pastoralists in various parts of the Territory. Young plants of trees and ornamental shrubs, &c., were also sold and some distributed to public institutions, hospitals and schools. Revenue from sales amounted to £50 4s. 8d.

## AGRICULTURE.

*The Peanut Industry.*

There now remain on the land some 28 peanut growers on the Katherine and Daly Rivers. These may all be well described as veterans—there are no newcomers.

Season 1933-34.—The crop amounted to 16,000 bags or 390 tons. Prices ranged around 4d. to 5½d. per lb. Sales were on the whole satisfactory, but prices rather on the low side especially for some of the best parcels.

Season 1934-35.—The estimated crop this season is about the same in bulk as last year (about 400 tons). Present indications are that the market prices will be about par with last season's, say from 4d. to 5½d. per lb. There is indeed, with the exception of the importation of seed from Rhodesia, nothing new to report.

A further consignment of pure Virginian Bunch peanut seed was received from the Rhodesian Department of Agriculture.

Fourteen hundred pounds of seed were received and distributed at cost price to growers on the Daly River and the Katherine. Germination was very good and a heavy yield is reported from all who obtained a share of this importation. The seed was planted under quarantine regulations. The crops have been inspected and found healthy and they have been released from quarantine.

*Tuba Root, Derris spp.*

Plants of this crop have not shown much liking for the Territory climate to date, but experiments are still being made in the gardens and by several settlers.

## DAIRYING.

At Stapleton, Mr. H. G. Sargent has been selling butter throughout the year and has shown that dairying can be made a profitable industry in supplying the local market.

There have been no other developments in agriculture during the year.

C. E. F. ALLEN,  
Inspector of Agriculture.

## REPORT OF THE CLERK OF COURTS.

In the Local Court at Darwin there was the average number of cases, totalling 156, but in the Police Court there was a considerable increase there being 410 actions as against 334 for the preceding twelve months.

The North Australia District Licensing Bench dealt with the usual number of applications.

The Bankruptcy Court dealt with one application.

In the Supreme Court four sessions were held at Darwin and two at Alice Springs. There were 40 trials in the Criminal Jurisdiction. A *nolle prosequi* was entered in respect of two informations. Five civil actions were tried including one for divorce. Two civil actions are still in the course of hearing. Twelve appeals from Courts of Summary Jurisdiction were heard. Orders authorizing the Public Trustee to administer the estates of 22 deceased persons respectively were granted and letters of administration with the will annexed of one deceased person were granted to the Public Trustee and one Probate. Besides the grants to the Public Trustee, three Probates were issued, and six grants, made elsewhere, were resealed. There were also interlocutory proceedings and other matters in Chambers relating to Probate Jurisdiction, summons for direction, general advice to practitioners, and orders authorizing the removal of prisoners from the Darwin Gaol to the Darwin Hospital.

J. W. NICHOLS,  
Clerk of Courts.