

[No. 20.]

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

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REPORT

OF THE

ABORIGINES PROTECTION BOARD

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30th JUNE, 1950

Laid on the table of the Legislative Council, 10th October, 1950, and ordered to be printed, 14th November, 1950.

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A—No. 20.

Report of the Aborigines Protection Board for the Year Ended 30th June, 1950

Aborigines Protection Board, Adelaide,

1st September, 1950.

To His Excellency, Lieutenant-General SIR CHARLES WILLOUGHBY MOKE NORRIE, K.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O., M.C.,
Governor in and over the State of South Australia, and its Dependencies in the Commonwealth of Australia.

May it please Your Excellency—

We do ourselves the honour to submit the annual report of the Aborigines Protection Board for the year ended 30th June, 1950.

During the year 12 meetings of the board were held. The members of the board serve in an honorary capacity, and are keenly interested in the welfare and happiness of the native people.

Mrs. W. Ternent Cooke, who has been a member of the board since its inception, was granted extended leave of absence to enable her to visit Great Britain.

The year under review has been marked by important developments in welfare work amongst the aborigines of South Australia. Additional areas of land have been acquired for dedication as reserves for aborigines. A large pastoral station has also been offered as a future home for the aborigines living at Ooldea and along the Trans-Australian Railway Line. This property is now being inspected with a view to ascertaining its suitability as a home for the nomadic people, whose chief interest in life is still hunting native game and gathering native foods. It is realized that little can be done for the older members of this group, except to provide them with opportunities for hunting. If the property proves suitable, the younger people will be provided with employment to enable them to acquire a sound knowledge of pastoral pursuits and sheep husbandry, and thus to become an asset in the community.

The land acquired by the board comprises:—

1. Two thousand and nineteen acres, sections 455 and 456, hundred of Baker.
2. Ten acres, section 35, hundred of Bonython.
3. Allotment 24, town of Cowirra, near Mannum, hundred of Youngusband.
4. One thousand four hundred and eighty-five square miles in the north-west corner of the State.

The property comprising section 455 and 456, hundred of Baker, is a well appointed farm, and will be operated in conjunction with Primrose Farm, which it adjoins. Both farms are part of the Point McLeay Aboriginal Station, and are under the control of the manager of that station.

The property was purchased on a walk-in walk-out basis for the sum of £9,250. The cattle and sheep taken over were in excellent condition, and the house, farm implements and plant, fences, etc., were also in good order. Pastures had already been established over a large area, and there is ample water of excellent quality.

The principal asset in this property is an area of 1,000 acres of good firewood. Approximately 500 tons of firewood per annum are required at Point McLeay Station, and supplies of available fuel in the district are rapidly dwindling. It is estimated that an average yield of five tons of firewood per acre will be obtained over the 1,000 acres, and that it will be necessary to cut 100 acres of firewood each year to meet the demands at Point McLeay. A small portion of the timber growing on the block was cut some years ago, and the secondary growth of timber in this area is almost ready for cutting again, thus it is expected that the firewood required for Point McLeay Station will be readily available for many years to come.

The land acquired in the hundred of Bonython is to be dedicated as a reserve for aborigines and used as a camp site for persons in casual employment on the wharf at Thevenard, and in other occupations in the Ceduna district. The site of the existing reserve at Ceduna is unsatisfactory in that it is adjacent to the main road from Ceduna to Thevenard, and, when overseas ships are berthed at Thevenard, contact is frequently made by the seamen with the natives with unhappy results. Moreover, the town of Ceduna is extending, and the reserve is becoming surrounded with the homes erected by local residents.

There are no houses adjacent to the newly acquired land. It is proposed to erect some huts on the reserve when building materials are available, and to provide water from the Tod River service.

A new water main will be laid along portion of the road leading from Streaky Bay to the reserve, and farmers whose property abuts the road will be able to use the water from the new pipe line.

The small block of land acquired at Cowirra, near Mannum, has been a native burial ground for a very long period. Mr. J. Ledo, who lives nearby, and has shown a commendable interest in preserving the burial ground, has been appointed honorary caretaker. Mr. Ledo has decided to plant the area with a suitable grass, and to erect headstones at the site of all known places of burial. The district council of Mannum has erected a substantial fence enclosing the land acquired. The board expresses its sincere thanks to the members of the council, and to Mr. Ledo, for the action taken to preserve this native burial ground.

The land in the north-western corner of the State acquired during the year, and dedicated as a reserve for aborigines, adjoins the large area previously set apart as a home for the last remaining nomadic aborigines inhabiting that region. The area now reserved for this group comprises 27,620 square miles of land, some of which provides ample opportunities for securing native game and other foods, the balance being used for pastoral purposes.

The eastern boundary of the newly acquired land abuts the western boundary of the Ernabella Presbyterian Mission, from which centre the whole reserved area is controlled by arrangement with the Aborigines Protection Board.

The land suitable for pastoral purposes is worked for the benefit of the aborigines by the Ernabella Mission in co-operation with the board.

EXEMPTIONS FROM THE PROVISIONS OF THE ABORIGINES ACT.

In harmony with the policy of the board to provide all aborigines of character and ability with an opportunity to become useful members of the general community, a considerable number of such persons were released during the year from the control of the board.

An unconditional declaration of exemption was made in respect of five aborigines, and also of 40 others who had completed satisfactorily a period of three years probationary exemption.

A limited declaration of exemption was made in respect of 17 aborigines.

Applications for exemption received from 16 aborigines were not granted, as it was considered they had not yet reached the standard of character and development required in exempted persons.

Applications received from nine other aborigines were considered by the board, but a final decision has not yet been made.

It was considered necessary in the interests of the persons concerned to revoke limited declarations of exemption previously made in respect of 17 persons, nine of whom were women and children. This action was rendered necessary because of the excessive use of intoxicating liquor by some of the persons concerned.

THE FILM—"BITTER SPRINGS."

The part played so effectively by the aborigines from Ooldea in making this film has stimulated interest generally in the welfare of aborigines in South Australia. The premiere of the film was, quite appropriately, held in Adelaide at West's Theatre, Hindley Street, on the 23rd June, 1950. It was a brilliant gathering, and the film was well received, comments in the press being most favourable and complimentary to the aborigines who took part. The value of the ceremonial dances and corroborees associated with the normal tribal life of the aborigines was amply demonstrated in their natural acting in the film. The comment of many people was—"the aborigines stole the show."

Mr. Ralph Smart, director of the film, stated—"The Ooldea and Koonibba natives who took part in the Ealing Studios production of Bitter Springs proved to be a happy and friendly group of people willing to co-operate fully to ensure the success of the venture. During their several weeks' stay in camp at Warrens Gorge, 14 miles from Quorn, they endeared themselves to everybody. We learnt that they have much more intelligence than they are generally given credit for, a great sense of humour that rarely deserts them, and quite a number have shown surprising initiative. In the past I have made documentary films in which I have used ordinary people who were not actors to play parts, and now, having worked with the natives, I must say that I find there is a greater percentage of natural actors among the natives than there is among white people. The enthusiasm of the natives has grown all the time, and they will rehearse a scene as many times as we wish, and, just as trained actors will, they put in new touches and improve their performance with each rehearsal. Probably the training the natives get in their corroborees helps to make them such good actors.

"Now that the film is finished, and particularly as they have done so well, I only wish we had another story which they could help to film. They are good natured, cheerful people, who rarely sulk and soon forget their differences. We found them good companions, and pleasant folk to work with. Possibly the most interesting and helpful aspect of the natives from Ooldea was that among their number were some who were comparatively sophisticated, and who spoke excellent English, whereas the majority were completely "bush" and full of the gaiety and friendliness of their kind. The sophisticated natives were able initially to help us gain the confidence of the others, and later became our chief actors and leaders.

"The film 'Bitter Springs' will undoubtedly gain friends for the natives, both in their native land and in countries far removed from it."

GRANTS TO MISSIONARY ORGANIZATIONS.

During the year under review the South Australian Government provided financial assistance to enable the under-mentioned organization to erect buildings, and to provide improved water supplies for the benefit of the aborigines:—

Ernabella Mission—	£
Kitchen-dining hall	375
Improved water supply	250
United Aborigines Mission—	
Gerard—	
Improved water supply	725
Dormitory building	700
Oodnadatta—Dormitory building	800
Finniss Springs—Improved water supply	300
	<hr/>
	£3,150

Grants recommended for the ensuing year are:—

	£
Koonibba Mission—Dormitory building	750
United Aborigines Mission—	
Additional native cottages	1,500
Addition to school building	300
	<hr/>
	£2,550

DISPERSAL OF ABORIGINES LIVING IN LARGE GROUPS.

The steadily increasing population at Point Pearce, Point McLeay, and other missions for aborigines is viewed with concern by members of the board.

It is considered that from 200 to 250 people is the maximum number that can be effectively provided for at Point Pearce and Point McLeay. Unfortunately the present population of both stations is much greater than this. The board has given careful consideration to this problem, and had adopted the following policy, which provides for the dispersal of certain groups of aborigines over a wider area of the State during the next few years.

1. Young people just married, or about to marry, regarded as being capable of living and working in the general community, to be provided with housing facilities. It is suggested that the families concerned selected by the board should be housed in small groups of from two to four houses in various country towns, preferably on railway lines, highways, coastal districts, or at other places where work is available on public undertakings, farming and pastoral activities, and also in the fishing industry. It is hoped, if this plan is adopted, the children of such parents would be able to attend public schools in the districts where they live, and thus grow up without a knowledge of mission station

life and the disabilities associated therewith. The ultimate aim with regard to persons comprising this group is to exempt them and have them absorbed in the general community.

2. The second group comprises people whose standard of living is not sufficiently high to fit them for living in houses in the general community, as suggested for the first group. The board desires to establish small villages in selected areas on the basis of the set up at Swan Reach reserve, where there is a community of five or six families. Members of these families live a more or less communal life, with the men engaged in fishing and trapping, or working on farms or pastoral properties in the vicinity. It should not be difficult to secure small blocks of land for this purpose, where it would be possible to settle small groups of people, preferably of one clan, or in any case of similar outlook and mode of living. It is considered that the best position for such settlements would be along the river frontage or in the more sparsely populated parts of the State, where it would be possible for the children to attend school, as in the case of the children residing at Swan Reach.

3. Following the removal of the people considered to fit into the two abovementioned groups, there would still remain a considerable number of people who must be regarded as being essentially mission natives, that is to say, people who must live under supervision at aboriginal stations, and in institutions conducted by missionary organizations.

WELFARE WORK AND SERVICE.

The physical, mental and moral welfare of the aborigines is a matter of continuous concern and constant effort for improvement by the board.

During the year additional ration depots have been opened. Rations are distributed regularly by missionaries, pastoralists, police officers, and other interested people.

In large centres of aboriginal population medical practitioners are retained for the treatment of sick aborigines, and in remote areas where there is no resident doctor, patients are conveyed to the doctor for attention. Medical supplies are provided at all aboriginal missions and institutions and on many pastoral stations. In addition, blankets and clothing are provided, as required.

Special schools for aborigines are to be found in many parts of South Australia, and the board has provided in these schools wireless receiving sets to enable the children, particularly in the remote areas, to receive broadcasts made by the Education Department. In addition to the usual subjects of the curriculum, handicrafts of various kinds are taught so as to provide a useful and profitable means of employing leisure hours. School books and other requisites are provided by the board.

Training of young girls in domestic science at the Salvation Army Home, Fullarton, has been maintained during the year, and training is also provided at the various missions, not only in domestic science, but in weaving, dressmaking, etc.

Regular contributions by the Aborigines' Friends' Association for medical, educational, and other purposes have been made as usual during the year under review, and this help is greatly appreciated by the board.

REPORTS FROM POLICE OFFICERS, MISSIONARIES, AND STATION MANAGERS.

Police reports indicate that, apart from a fondness for intoxicating liquor, the natives give very little trouble, and are mostly in continuous employment.

It is again desired to stress the value of, and to express grateful thanks for the excellent service rendered by departmental officers, missionaries, pastoralists and police officers throughout the State in exercising a friendly supervision of the natives, and also in distributing rations on behalf of the board to those in need.

PRESBYTERIAN MISSION—ERNABELLA.

The superintendent of the mission, the Rev. R. M. Trudinger, reports a year of steady progress at Ernabella.

During the early years of mission work, the objective was to retard the process of detribalization as much as possible, and this has been beneficial in every way to the native people. The time has now arrived, however, for a definite programme of education and work to prepare the people for an earlier contact with the outside world than had been anticipated. This is due to the steady development of the pastoral industry in the surrounding areas, with the resultant opportunities of employment. While the older people will still maintain themselves by hunting, the younger people are wanting to take up work which is both useful and remunerative.

Wells have been sunk and timbered, and equipped with windmills, troughs, stockyards, etc.

A spinning and weaving industry for women and girls has been established, using locally produced wool for weaving into blankets, scarves, and other useful articles designed by the native girls.

The older men are employed as shepherds, shearers, well sinkers, etc., and there is a general air of prosperity reflected in the increased activities in the trading store.

The pastoral work at Ernabella is developing on sound lines. Water supplies are being established over a wider area of country, and additional plant has been acquired for baling the wool for market.

The educational work has been maintained at a high level, and two native girls trained in the school are now assistant teachers. The teacher, Miss Baird, claims that Ernabella is one of the happiest schools in Australia.

The medical work has been maintained as usual. Sister Dawkins had a busy time at the hospital. Her particular emphasis was on infant welfare. Special feeding for all concerned has been introduced, and growing confidence in the hospital and in the sister-in-charge has been shown by young mothers, and also by expectant mothers. This is vitally important, as the maintenance of population is a major problem on any young aboriginal mission. Infant mortality is still higher than could be wished, but the birthrate is also on the increase—1949 being a record year in Ernabella's history. Sister Turner is again doing this work in a temporary capacity until a new permanent missionary sister volunteers.

UNITED ABORIGINES MISSION.

The work of the United Aborigines Mission at the various mission centres has been maintained as usual during the year. This missionary organization has now completed 25 years' service amongst the aborigines in South Australia.

In his annual report the general secretary, Pastor L. J. Samuels, states—"Although the year under review has brought its difficulties, and there has been hard work for all concerned, I can say without hesitation, there has been much progress and blessing on all the stations under the control of the council. The faithful and consecrated service rendered by our missionaries and associate workers has been noted and deeply appreciated."

At the Colebrook Home, Eden Hills, a home and training are provided for more than 60 children. The matron and staff have laboured diligently to give these children every opportunity to prepare for a life of useful citizenship and service. Many young men and women who were brought up in this home are now doing responsible work in the general community.

At Finnis Springs a splendid season was experienced with plenty of feed and water.

A large building was completed during the year, and there is now a nice block of buildings, including the school, with kindergarten and handwork rooms, and the hospital adjoining. The kindergarten leader is a native girl trained at the mission. Two girls from the weaving class gained their weavers' certificate at the School of Arts and Crafts.

One of the large tanks to be incorporated in the new water storage scheme is almost completed. This scheme will be proceeded with as materials become available.

The superintendent, Mr. Pearce, reports that, with the help of many friends, a most encouraging and successful year has been experienced. The response of the native residents, particularly in spiritual matters, has been exceedingly good.

Considerable progress has been made at the Gerard Mission during the year. In addition to the usual educational and other welfare work, the erection of a new house for the superintendent was commenced. Work will soon begin on a new dormitory for the native children, and it is expected that the installation of the new irrigation plant will soon be completed.

A successful season was experienced, and, given the necessary staff, the future of the Gerard Mission is full of promise.

At the Nepabunna Mission educational work amongst the children was continued throughout the year. The work of the mission has been extended to cover two groups of aborigines previously living at Nepabunna, but now employed at the Leigh Creek Coalfield, and also at Copley. There is plenty of work available in the district, and all able-bodied persons are in full-time employment as a result of the abundant rains which fell during the year.

The position at Ooldea is a matter of some concern to the officials of the mission. The aborigines engaged at Quorn in the production of the film, "Bitter Springs" returned to Ooldea, but experienced considerable difficulty in settling down to their old way of life. As mentioned elsewhere in this report, efforts are being made to obtain a more suitable sphere as a home for this group of native people. Meantime, the educational, medical, and other social activities of the mission are being maintained by Mr. and Mrs. Green, and other members of the mission staff. The children in the dormitory are well and happy, while the older boys and girls are employed preparing and baking bread, gathering firewood, etc. The girls also assist with the domestic duties in the dormitory. A system of visual education has been adopted by using films provided by the Education Department.

A number of children have been admitted to the children's dormitory at Oodnadatta during the year. The local police officer and the superintendent of the mission at Oodnadatta have gathered in a small company of previously neglected children from the remote pastoral areas. No further admissions are possible until the new dormitory building has been completed. The children in residence have shown a great improvement both physically and mentally as a result of the care and protection afforded in this new home.

UMEEWARRA MISSION, PORT AUGUSTA.

Matron K. M. Simmons reports that, notwithstanding staff difficulties, a very successful year was experienced.

The general health of the inmates, both adults and children, was very good.

On the 30th June, 1950, there were 36 children in the home, 22 girls and 14 boys, four children being admitted to the home during the year.

The total number living on the mission is 100, of whom 60 are children.

There are 40 children in attendance at the special school connected with the home—some of the scholars live with their parents on the reserve.

The matron and staff had a fortnight's holiday at the beach 25 miles from the home. The whole party lived in tents provided by the Commonwealth Railways and other friends.

A display of school work on the 30th June was a great success.

In addition to caring for the children, Matron Simmons has established a labour bureau, and by this means a considerable number of men and women are provided with work.

A number of aborigines needing medical attention are accommodated at the Mission while attending the local hospital.

The Umeewarra Mission is doing a great work amongst the aborigines living at Port Augusta and for many miles beyond the mission boundary.

LUTHERAN MISSION, KOONIBBA.

The superintendent, Pastor Eckermann, reports that the Koonibba Mission has had a year of satisfactory progress. The population of the mission has varied from 180 to 350, the average number on the station throughout the year being 210.

The spiritual work continues to flourish. Services at Koonibba are well attended, and the various centres on Eyre Peninsula, from Port Lincoln to the Nullarbor Plain, where the mission natives have settled, are visited at least once each quarter.

The special school for aborigines at Koonibba has 71 children on the roll, and the reports received from the inspectors of the Education Department have been most encouraging. The head teacher, Mr. Bruggemann, and the assistant, Miss Mibus, continue to make a special feature of handicraft work, for which the children show a particular aptitude. A wood turning lathe and a leather sewing machine have been added to the school equipment. Another interesting feature of school work is the exhibition of educational films shown on the 16 m.m. sound projector belonging to the mission, and this is proving to be a valuable teaching aid. The projector is also used for regular fortnightly picture shows for all aborigines residing on the station and in the surrounding area.

Perhaps the most significant development during the period under review has been the introduction of arts and crafts amongst the native women of the mission similar to the type of handicraft training in the school. Mrs. Bruggemann and Miss Mibus spend two afternoons each week with the native women on handicraft work, chiefly sewing, dressmaking, and basketmaking. Great interest has been shown by the women, and articles to the value of £150 have been made and sold, in addition to the dressmaking done by the women for their own families. The purchase of two knitting machines, the first of which has already arrived at the mission, will greatly enhance the value of this work.

On the farm there was a harvest of 3,600 bags of wheat, and, in addition, 1,500 sheep are depastured on the station.

A syndicate was formed during the year for the purpose of acquiring a neighbouring property of 7,000 acres for the benefit of the mission, and to permit extension of farming activities.

The Children's Home is cared for by two Matrons, Miss Heidrich and Miss Baxter, and, at the end of the year, there were 47 children in residence. Five girls who have left school were placed in domestic service. It is proposed to erect a new dormitory for the boys living on the mission during the current year.

The mission hospital has had an average of two inpatients and 12 outpatients daily for the year under review. Sister Kleinig worked with great devotion during an epidemic of gastro enteritis, which caused four deaths in July

and August, 1949. The sister-in-charge of the hospital at present is Sister Jericho. The medical work of the mission and the surrounding areas is under the care of Dr. Freda Gibson, of Ceduna.

The manager of the farm, Mr. Gaden, has been in charge of the farming and the pastoral section of the mission work for many years, and is rendering efficient service in that capacity.

One of the present problems is the difficulty of obtaining employment in the immediate vicinity of Koonibba for the men able and willing to work. At least half of the men working away from home are obliged to travel more than 50 miles from the station.

The necessary supplies of foodstuffs, medicines, school requisites, etc., have been provided, as usual, by the Aborigines Protection Board.

POINT McLEAY STATION.

The population at Point McLeay on the 30th June was 321, comprising 172 males and 149 females. During the year there were 24 births, and three deaths.

Several families usually resident at Point McLeay have removed to various parts of the State, and appear to be able to maintain themselves in the general community.

Although the majority of the adult population enjoyed good health, there was considerable sickness amongst the children. There was a serious outbreak of measles with complications, in addition to other complaints, and the nurse-in-charge experienced a very busy year. Every effort is made to maintain a high standard of health.

Every family receives a free issue of milk daily, with provision for extra supplies for infants. The school children are also given a free issue of milk each day during school hours. Unfortunately some of the parents do not provide plain wholesome food for their children, notwithstanding expert advice and increased financial resources.

The conduct of the majority of the people has been satisfactory, but a number of the young men are addicted to the use of intoxicating liquor, and cause considerable trouble when under its influence.

During the year two new rooms were added to two cottages, thus making two very nice four-roomed houses.

The old dairy building was renovated and converted into a piggery, and the old stable buildings were also renovated, and are now in good order.

The livestock are in excellent condition, due to the development of irrigated pastures. The milking herd has given satisfactory yields of milk for local consumption, and also cream for the butter factory.

Twelve breeding sows were purchased from Point Pearce Station during the year, and 153 young pigs were sold for the sum of £369 5s. 8d., an average of £2 8s. 3d. per head.

Returns from the sheep were highly satisfactory. The shearing is done each year with machines operated by native workmen with a percentage of "learners." Approximately 11 lb. of wool was obtained from each adult sheep, while the hoggets yielded slightly more than 8 lb. each. The wool sold realized £2,166 6s. 3d. Seven hundred and two sheepskins sold averaged 14s. 9d. per skin.

Harvest returns at Point McLeay were not as good as usual due to the absence of rain at a critical period and a plague of rabbits. Supplies of wirenetting have now been received, and the boundary fences are being made rabbit proof.

At Primrose Farm much better results were achieved, particularly in the matter of establishing pastures. Additional land has been cleared at this centre, and practically all the land has now been cultivated.

Notwithstanding the difficulties created by staff shortages the educational work on the station has been maintained throughout the year by Mr. Lawrie, the head teacher. Periods of absence from school, when the scholars accompany their parents proceeding to other parts to engage in seasonal occupations, create a real problem for the teachers, and retards the mental development of the children.

The spiritual work at Point McLeay is carried on by Captain Badenhop and Envoy Crowell, two lady officers of the Salvation Army, who succeeded Captain Munro during the year. The canteen established recently is proving a great help to the native people. Regular visits to the station were made by officials in charge of Salvation Army work in South Australia.

Sister M. M. Rowlands, who has been in charge of the medical work at Point McLeay for many years, has decided to retire. It is desired to record sincere appreciation of Sister Rowland's splendid work which has been maintained at a high level during her long period of service.

Reserves for aborigines in the southern district are also under the supervision of the manager of the Point McLeay Station, Mr. Bartlett, who has given much time and work in an effort to establish the native occupants in the dairying industry, and to enable them to become independent of departmental assistance. Much of the land comprising these reserves is of poor quality, unsuitable for cultivation, particularly in the Coorong area. Wind erosion creates serious drifting, which requires constant supervision and treatment.

POINT PEARCE STATION.

A census of the native population at this station on the 30th June, 1950, revealed a total of 371 persons, 195 males and 176 females. Of this number 216 are under the age of 16 years.

There were 16 births and five deaths.

The health of the natives was satisfactory. Twenty-three patients were conveyed to the hospital at Wallaroo, and two to the Royal Adelaide Hospital for special treatment. Sixty-four dental patients were treated during the year, and 22 persons were provided with spectacles.

As in other parts of the State, the conduct of the local natives was very good, apart from the consumption of intoxicating liquor, which is undoubtedly the chief cause of trouble amongst the natives.

Two natives were provided with fishing nets to enable them to engage in fishing on a commercial basis. Other fishermen assisted in previous years are making a good living.

Renovations, comprising repairs to roofs, wall treatments, renewal of doors, windows, etc., were effected at 32 cottages occupied by native families.

In addition, 10 rain water tanks were cemented, and it is proposed to place a 1,000gall. tank at each cottage as soon as possible.

The school building was also renovated, two class rooms being treated, and all windows, doors, etc., put in good order and condition. A 2,000gall. tank was purchased and placed in position, and a 1,500gall. tank was repaired. The school residence was also renovated, and a septic tank system installed.

All houses occupied by members of the staff were repaired, and the construction of a new flat at the nurses' quarters to provide a home for assistant teachers at the local school was commenced. When finished, this building will be a very useful asset.

The religious services have been maintained by the Lutheran and Methodist Churches, and the attendances are stated to be satisfactory. The Methodist service is usually followed by the exhibition of a religious film, which is much appreciated by the native congregation.

On Anzac Sunday a roll of honour, on which the names of aborigines from the station who served in the two world wars are inscribed, was unveiled by the Protector of Aborigines at a service which he conducted in the presence of a large congregation.

The dry autumn weather adversely affected all livestock, nevertheless the financial returns were fairly satisfactory. Three thousand one hundred and sixty-seven sheep, including 765 lambs, were shorn, and 28,856 lb. of wool sold for a net return of £4,754 14s. 11d. A total of 1,038 sheep skins sold realized £1,237 17s. 10d.

The returns from sales of pigs was also very good, 307 pigs, principally weaners, were sold for the sum of £1,713 15s.

The cattle suffered a loss of condition due to the shortage of water and feed. One hundred and sixteen head of cattle sold realized £938 18s.

Harvest results were only fair. All farming work was done by four native sharefarmers, who, in addition to receiving wages, free housing, milk, water, firewood, medical attention, etc., receive two bags of grain in each 10 bags harvested. Each sharefarmer this year received 114 bags of wheat. Of the station share of the grain harvested 270 bags were sold, 1,048 bags retained for stock feed, and 511 bags for seed. The oat crop yielded approximately one ton of hay per acre.

Efforts are being made to establish pastures on some of the station land to enable a larger number of livestock to be carried.

A statement of receipts and expenditure of the department, and income and expenditure statements of the Point McLeay and Point Pearce Stations are appended.

We have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your Excellency's most obedient servants,

M. McINTOSH, Chairman,	} Aborigines Protection Board.
J. B. CLELAND, Deputy Chairman,	
GORDON ROWE,	
LEN. J. COOK,	
A. M. JOHNSTON,	
W. R. PENHALL, Secretary.	

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1950.

1949. £		£	1950. £
	AMOUNTS RECEIVED AND PAYMENTS MADE ON ACCOUNT OF EXPENSES IN CARRYING OUT THE FUNCTIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT ARE SHOWN HEREUNDER :—		
	ABORIGINAL WELFARE—		
	Payments on account of expenses were :—		
3,587	Administrative officers	4,050	
666	Medical, dental, nursing, and welfare officers	544	
520	Payroll tax for child endowment	568	
128	Portion of superannuation pensions met by the Government	290	
8,997	Provisions, blankets, clothing, medicines, fares and transport of aborigines, allowances and office expenses	11,563	
139	Aborigines Home, North Adelaide—Maintenance of	139	
468	Development of reserves for aborigines	640	
117	Assistance to aboriginal fishermen	124	
246	Training half-caste girls for domestic service	278	
—	Purchase of motor vehicle	706	
	Grants—		
	Finniss Springs Mission—		
400	Towards cost of additional school buildings	—	
100	Towards cost of erecting telephone line to Alberrie Creek Railway Station	—	
—	Towards water supply	300	
	Gerard Mission—		
—	Towards water supply	725	
—	Towards new dormitory	700	
—	Oodnadatta Mission—Towards new dormitory	800	
	Ernabella Mission—		
—	Towards dining hall	375	
—	Towards water supply	250	
—	Lutheran Mission—Towards social hall	100	
15,357		22,152	
135	Less refund of rail fares, etc.	186	
15,222			21,966
	POINT PEARCE STATION—		
	Expenditure—		
7,974	Salaries, wages, and allowances	8,471	
6,748	Rations, farm stores, implements, and sundries	7,888	
5,426	Trading store—Purchases and expenses	5,826	
20,148		21,485	
	Receipts—		
11,657	Sales of produce, etc.	13,862	
5,817	Store sales	5,740	
17,474		19,102	2,883
	POINT McLEAY STATION—		
	Expenditure—		
7,866	Salaries, wages, and allowances	9,384	
5,990	Rations, farm stores, implements, and sundries	7,918	
42	Rent—Hundred of Baker	42	
—	Purchase of land—Hundred of Baker	9,252	
5,185	Trading store—Purchases and expenses	5,830	
19,092		32,428	
	Receipts—		
4,490	Sales of Produce, etc.	5,475	
5,510	Store sales	5,938	
10,000		11,413	21,018
£26,988	COST OF ABORIGINES TO THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS ENDED 30th JUNE, 1950		£45,862

W. R. PENHALL, Secretary, Aborigines Protection Board.

1st September, 1950

POINT PEARCE ABORIGINAL STATION.

REVENUE STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1950.

1948-49. £	THE EXPENDITURE INCURRED AND THE INCOME EARNED BY THE UNDERTAKINGS FOR THE YEAR WAS :—	1948-50. £
	ABORIGINAL WELFARE—	
	Expenditure incurred in maintaining the Institution for the welfare of aborigines was :—	
732	General administrative costs, including salaries, pay roll tax for child endowment, travelling, and office expenses	883
6,892	Rations, firewood, medical services, and maintenance expenses, including wages paid to aborigines	7,618
7,624		8,501
252	Against which rent of officers' residences and school building returned	243
7,372	Net expenditure on aboriginal welfare	8,258
	MIXED FARMING OPERATIONS—	
	Earnings for the year were :—	
10,099	Sale of farm produce, meat, and livestock (including value of natural increase)	12,209
	Expenditure incurred in earning that amount was :—	
1,564	Management expenses, including salaries, pay roll tax for child endowment, travelling and office expenses	1,937
7,421	Farm working expenses, including wages, fertilizers, seed, farm stores, and insurance	6,681
		8,618
1,114	Surplus on Mixed Farming Operations	3,591
	TRADING STORE—	
	Earnings for the year were :—	
5,950	Sale of groceries and clothing amounted to	5,768
	Expenditure incurred in earning that amount was :—	
5,407	Purchase of groceries and clothing, wages, pay roll tax for child endowment, and expenses of operating and maintaining the trading store	5,675
543	Surplus from the Trading Store	93
1,657	Net Surplus from Mixed Farming Operations and Trading Store	3,684
£5,715	RESULTING IN A NET COST FOR THE YEAR OF MAINTAINING ABORIGINES AT THE STATION.	£4,574

1st September, 1950.

W. R. PENHALL, Secretary, Aborigines Protection Board.

POINT PEARCE ABORIGINAL STATION.

BALANCE-SHEET AS AT 30TH JUNE, 1950.

1949.	NATURE AND SOURCE OF FUNDS EMPLOYED.	1950.	1949.	FUNDS EMPLOYED ARE REPRESENTED BY—	1950.
£		£	£		£
	FUNDS PROVIDED BY THE STATE TREASURER—			FIXED ASSETS—	
	For Capital and Other Purposes—		21,143	Cottages and station buildings (at cost)	21,094
166,019	From moneys made available by the State Government out of General Revenue from 1st January, 1916	169,012	9,499	Fencing, water supply, and farm improvements (at cost)	9,662
			2,758	Implements and vehicles (less depreciation)	2,372
			537	Furniture and hospital equipment (less depreciation)	542
339	For Special Purposes—		33,937		33,870
	From General Funds to finance the outlay on stores and services, which outlay is recoverable	1,152		CURRENT ASSETS—	
166,358	Total Net Funds provided by the State Treasurer	170,164	3,488	Stock of materials and stores	3,776
	Less Cost of maintaining the aborigines at the station—		6,320	Livestock	5,105
117,864	Cost to 30th June, 1949	123,579	110	Sundry debtors—Sale of stores and produce	259
5,715	Cost for year ended 30th June, 1950	4,574	350	Advance to Accounting Officer	350
			116	Cash in hand	146
123,579		128,153	£10,384		9,686
42,779	BALANCE STATE TREASURER'S FUNDS IN THE UNDERTAKING AT THIS DATE	42,011			
	CURRENT LIABILITIES—				
1,542	Sundry Creditors—Stores and Services	1,295			
£44,321		£43,306	£44,321		£43,306

The value of 17,800 acres of Crown lands reserved for the use of aborigines residing at Point Pearce is not taken into account in this balance-sheet.

1st September, 1950.

W. R. PENHALL, Secretary, Aborigines Protection Board.

POINT McLEAY ABORIGINAL STATION.

REVENUE STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1950.

1948-49. £	THE EXPENDITURE INCURRED AND THE INCOME EARNED BY THE UNDERTAKING FOR THE YEAR WAS :—	1949-50. £	£
	ABORIGINAL WELFARE—		
	Expenditure incurred in maintaining the station for the welfare of the aborigines was :—		
064	General administrative costs, including salaries, travelling, and office expenses	999	
6,257	Rations, firewood, fares, and medical services supplied to aborigines, and station maintenance expenses	7,467	
6,921		8,466	
185	Against which rent of officers' residence was	181	
6,736	Net expenditure of aboriginal welfare		8,285
	MIXED FARMING OPERATIONS—		
	Expenditure for the year was :—		
2,022	Management expenses, including salaries, travelling, and office expenses	2,348	
7,068	Farm working expenses, including wages, fertilizers, seed, farm stores, rent and insurance	4,359	
9,090	Total expenditure for the year on account of mixed farming	6,702	
4,315	Against which income earned was :—		
	Sale of farm produce, meat and livestock (including value of natural increase)	5,351	
4,775			1,351
11,511	Deficit on mixed farming operations		9,636
	TRADING STORE—		
	Earnings for the year were :—		
5,450	Sale of groceries and clothing	5,764	
	Expenditure incurred in earning that amount was :—		
5,505	Purchase of groceries and clothing and wages and expenses of operating and maintaining the Trading Store	5,504	
—	Surplus from the Trading Store		260
55	Deficit from the Trading Store		—
£11,566	RESULTING IN A TOTAL NET COST FOR THE YEAR OF MAINTAINING ABORIGINES AT THE STATION		£9,376

W. R. PENHALL, Secretary, Aborigines Protection Board.

1st September, 1950.

POINT McLEAY ABORIGINAL STATION.

BALANCE-SHEET AS AT 30TH JUNE, 1950.

1949.	NATURE AND SOURCE OF FUNDS EMPLOYED.	1950.		1949.	FUNDS EMPLOYED ARE REPRESENTED BY—	1950.	
£		£	£	£		£	£
	FUNDS PROVIDED BY THE STATE TREASURER—				FIXED ASSETS—		
	For Capital and Other Purposes—			23,818	Land, cottages, and station buildings (at cost)	33,492	
217,587	From moneys made available by the State Government out of General Revenue. From 5th January, 1916	239,355		6,115	Fencing, water supply, and farm improvements (at cost)	6,529	
	For Special Purposes—			3,458	Implements and vehicles (less depreciation)	3,718	
1,174	From General Funds to finance the outlay on stores and services, which outlay is recoverable	1,142		399	Furniture and hospital equipment (less depreciation)	416	
218,761	Total Net Funds provided by the State Treasurer		240,497	33,790			44,155
168,486	Less Cost of maintaining the station—				CURRENT ASSETS—		
11,566	Cost to 30th June, 1949	180,052		1,796	Stock of materials and stores	3,255	
	Cost for year ended 30th June, 1950	9,376		3,938	Livestock	3,951	
180,052			189,428	524	Sundry Debtors—Sale of stores and produce	567	
				300	Advance to Accounting Officer	300	
				29	Cash in hand	18	
38,709	BALANCE STATE TREASURER'S FUNDS IN THE UNDERTAKING AT THIS DATE		51,069	6,587			8,091
	CURRENT LIABILITIES—						
1,668	Sundry Creditors—Stores and Services		1,177				
£40,377			£52,246	£40,377			£52,246

The value of 4,145 acres of Crown lands reserved for aborigines residing at Point McLeay is not taken into account in this balance-sheet.

1st September, 1950.

W. R. PENHALL, Secretary, Aborigines Protection Board.

POINT PEARCE AND POINT McLEAY ABORIGINAL STATIONS.

REVENUE STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1950.

1948-49. £	THE EXPENDITURE INCURRED AND THE INCOME EARNED BY THE UNDERTAKINGS FOR THE YEAR WERE :—	£	1948-50. £
	ABORIGINAL WELFARE—		
	Expenditure incurred in maintaining the Institution for the welfare of aborigines was :—		
1,396	Administration costs, including salaries, pay roll tax for child endowment, travelling and office expenses	1,882	
13,149	Rations, firewood, medical services and maintenance expenses, including wages paid to aborigines	15,085	
14,545		16,967	
437	Against which rent of officers' residences and school buildings returned	424	
14,108	Net expenditure on aboriginal welfare		16,543
	MIXED FARMING OPERATIONS—		
	Earnings for the year were :—		
14,414	Sale of farm produce, meat and livestock (including value of natural increase)	17,560	
	Expenditure incurred in earning that amount was :—	£	
3,586	Management expenses, including salaries, pay roll tax for child endowment, travelling and office expenses	4,280	
14,489	Farm working expenses, including wages, fertilizers, seed, farm stores, rent and insurance	11,040	
		15,320	
—	Surplus of Mixed Farming Operations		2,240
3,661	Deficit on mixed farming operations		—
17,769	Net expenditure on Aboriginal Welfare and Mixed Farming		14,303
	TRADING STORES—		
	Earnings for the year were :—		
11,400	Sale of groceries and clothing amounted to	11,532	
	Expenditure incurred in earning that amount was :—		
10,912	Groceries, clothing, wages, pay roll tax for child endowment, and expenses of operating and maintaining the trading stores ..	11,179	
488	Surplus from the Trading Stores		353
£17,281	RESULTING IN A NET COST FOR THE YEAR OF MAINTAINING ABORIGINES AT THE STATIONS ..		£13,950

1st September, 1950.

W. R. PENHALL, Secretary, Aborigines Protection Board.

POINT PEARCE AND POINT McLEAY ABORIGINAL STATIONS.

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30TH JUNE, 1950.

1949.	NATURE AND SOURCE OF FUNDS EMPLOYED.	1950.	1949.	FUNDS EMPLOYED ARE REPRESENTED BY—	1950.
£		£	£		£
	FUNDS PROVIDED BY THE STATE TREASURER—			FIXED ASSETS—	
	For Capital and Other Purposes—			Land, cottages and station buildings (at cost)	54,588
	From moneys made available by the State Government out of		44,961	Fencing, water supply and farm improvements (at cost)	16,191
383,606	General Revenue	408,367	15,614	Implements and vehicles (less depreciation)	6,090
			6,216	Furniture and hospital equipment (less depreciation)	958
	For Special Purposes—		936		
	From General Funds to finance the outlay on stores and services,				
1,513	which outlay is recoverable	2,294	87,727		77,825
385,119	Total Net Funds provided by the State Treasurer	410,661	5,284	CURRENT ASSETS—	
	Less Cost of maintaining the stations—		10,258	Stock of materials and stores	7,031
286,350	Cost to 30th June, 1949	303,631	634	Livestock	9,056
17,281	Cost for year ended 30th June, 1950	13,950	650	Sundry debtors—Sale of stores and produce	826
			145	Advance to accounting officers	650
		317,581		Cash in hand	164
81,488	BALANCE STATE TREASURER'S FUNDS IN THE UNDERTAKING AT THIS DATE	93,080	16,971		17,727
	CURRENT LIABILITIES—				
3,210	Sundry creditors—Stores and services	2,472			
£84,698		£95,552	£84,698		£95,552

The value of 17,800 acres at Point Pearce, and 4,145 acres at Point McLeay reserved for the use of aborigines is not taken into account in this balance-sheet.

1st September, 1950.

W. R. PENHALL, Secretary, Aborigines Protection Board.