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# **NATIVE AFFAIRS**

Information contained in Report  
of Director of Native Affairs  
for the Twelve Months ended  
30 June, 1952.

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## Native Affairs—Annual Report of Director of Native Affairs for the Year ended 30th June, 1952.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit Annual Report under “*The Aboriginals Preservation and Protection Acts, 1939 to 1946,*” and “*The Torres Strait Islanders Acts, 1939 to 1946,*” as at the 30th June, 1952.

### POPULATION.

The estimated population of aboriginals, half-bloods, and Torres Strait Islanders is—Aboriginals, 9,540; Half-bloods, 6,875; Torres Strait Islanders, 5,150.

Aboriginals and half-bloods are to the extent of 46 per cent. located on Government Settlements and Church Missions. The areas and approximate population of these Institutions are—

—	Area.	Full-blood.	Half-blood.	Torres Strait Islanders.	Total.
	Acres.				
Palm Island Government Settlement .. .. .	15,510	626	634	..	1,260
Cherbourg Government Settlement .. .. .	26,765	197	838	..	1,035
Woorabinda Government Settlement .. .. .	54,800	279	418	..	697
Cape York Settlement .. .. .	97,620	180	20	150	350
Yarrabah Mission (Church of England) .. .. .	39,710	123	500	..	623
Lockhart River Mission (Church of England) .. .. .	588,400	297	3	..	300
Edward River Mission (Church of England) .. .. .	554,880	300	1	..	301
Mitchell River Mission (Church of England) .. .. .	616,320	679	13	..	692
Mapoon Mission (Presbyterian) .. .. .	2,140,800	117	168	..	285
Aurukun Mission (Presbyterian) .. .. .	1,216,000	652	8	..	660
Weipa Mission (Presbyterian) .. .. .	1,600,000	158	..	..	158
Mornington Island Mission (Presbyterian) .. .. .	245,120	325	36	..	361
Monamona Mission (Seventh Day Adventist) .. .. .	4,318	171	114	..	285
Doomadgee Mission (Brethren) .. .. .	57,600	299	47	..	346
Hope Valley (Lutheran) .. .. .	71,000	144	121	..	265
Hammond Island (Catholic) .. .. .	3,660	..	85	..	85
Country Reserves .. .. .	..	4,993	3,869	..	8,862
Torres Strait Islands .. .. .	..	..	..	5,000	5,000
	7,332,503	9,540	6,875	5,150	21,565

The remainder, viz., 4,993 full-bloods, 3,869 half-bloods, are located on country reserves and camps in country towns and on cattle stations where they are employed. The total also includes nomads.

It can be accepted that the recorded population figures for Government Settlement and Church Missions are correct and accurate. In the absence of a recent census of full-bloods and half-bloods located on country reserves, an estimated population only can be recorded but it can be taken that these figures are reasonably accurate.

### ADMINISTRATION OF ACTS AND POLICY.

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

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

It has always been the policy of the Queensland administration to lift its coloured wards beyond the category of mendicacy. Such attainment cannot be achieved by merely providing the people with a primary education and then making them available for manual or domestic employment. The Queensland policy is for the training of boys to fit them to take their place in the community as tradesmen and as pastoral and rural workers with a good general knowledge of the requirements of those vocations. Over many years this policy has prevailed and will continue. It is a determined policy after years of experience in the upliftment of Queensland's coloured population and it is maintained that the policy is giving a reasonable measure of success and is creating contentment and happiness amongst the people.

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

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

Prominent amongst them are—

Gross earnings by aboriginals over the year, total .. .. .	£354,637
Gross earnings by Torres Strait Islanders over the year, total .. .. .	£379,222
Savings Bank deposits by Torres Strait Islanders, total .. .. .	£316,019
Savings Bank deposits by Queensland aboriginals, total .. .. .	£265,978
Savings Bank withdrawals by Torres Strait Islanders, total .. .. .	£342,372
Savings Bank withdrawals by Queensland aboriginals, total .. .. .	£279,091
Value of marine produce won by Torres Strait Islanders off their own boats	£134,034
Value of produce produced on various Government Settlements .. .. .	£14,440
Number of aboriginal and Island teachers, clerks, trainee nurses, artisans, &c., employed mainly in native administration .. .. .	1,110
Number of men employed in essential industries in Queensland .. .. .	4,500
Number of men in the marine industry	1,300
Every aboriginal and Island worker in Queensland is covered by the State Workers' Compensation Acts.	

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

#### EMPLOYMENT OF ABORIGINALS AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDERS.

Consistent with basic-wage adjustments and industrial award amendments, regulations have been issued to provide for proportionate increases in the remuneration for aboriginals and Torres Strait Islanders. Aboriginal workers, by virtue of their general aptitude, remain an

important labour unit, particularly in the pastoral industry, and without such labour that great industry would experience difficulty in operating. It is, therefore, only reasonable that these protected workers should not be overlooked when wages conditions are considered.

The amended Schedule is as follows and, in addition to the rates indicated, aboriginal workers receive food and accommodation:—

When an aboriginal is employed in a calling covered by an award from the provisions of which he is not specifically excluded, full award rates shall be paid.

The rate of wages payable to aboriginal employees not covered by an award, in addition to food and accommodation, shall be as follows:—

General station hands—including also general farm labourers, houseboys, gardeners, yardmen, and all employees not otherwise specified—

	Weekly.		
	£	s.	d.
Head stockman or stockman in charge of out-stations .. .. .	8	0	0
Adults 21 to 45 years .. .. .	7	0	0
Over 45 years, if active .. .. .	6	5	0
Over 45 years, if not active .. .. .	4	10	0
18 to 21 years .. .. .	5	0	0
Under 18 years .. .. .	4	0	0

Cooks—Cooking for—

Europeans—Male .. .. .	7	5	0
Europeans—Female .. .. .	5	5	0
Aboriginals—Male .. .. .	6	10	0
Aboriginals—Female .. .. .	4	15	0

Domestic Servants—Females—

Experienced General (over 18 years) .. .. .	4	0	0
Over 18 without experience .. .. .	3	10	0
16 to 18 years .. .. .	3	0	0

Drovers—

Drovers in Charge .. .. .	8	0	0
Drovers .. .. .	7	10	0

Married Couples—

Husbands in accordance with regulation scale of wages for particular occupation in which engaged.  
Wife at regulation rates.

Horse and Saddle Allowance—

In addition to the foregoing rates, any employee providing his own horse in the performance of his duties shall be paid a horse allowance at the rate of 3s. per week, and if required to provide his own saddle, a saddle allowance at the rate of 5s. per week.

Employees engaged by the day shall be paid a minimum amount of 18s. per day with food.

Employees engaged by the hour shall be paid at the rate of 4s. per hour with a minimum of 8s. plus one meal.

In the case of any employer who does not provide food and accommodation in addition to the wages prescribed herein, he shall make an allowance in lieu thereof at the rate of £1 15s. per week.

If food only is supplied and not accommodation, an allowance at the rate of 15s. per week shall be made in addition to the prescribed rates.

Notwithstanding anything herein contained, a Protector of Aborigines shall claim higher rates than these prescribed rates when satisfied the ability of the aboriginal warrants such higher payment and may claim a lower rate in respect of an employee not considered capable of earning the prescribed rate, provided that in the case of a claim for a lower rate, the approval of the Director of Native Affairs shall be first obtained.

Similarly, the interests of Torres Strait Island workers in the marine industry have not been neglected and annually their remuneration and bonus payments are considered in relationship to cost of living standards and the ability of the industry to pay.

#### HEALTH.

Early in June, 1952, an unseasonal outbreak of M.T. malaria occurred at Murray and Darnley Islands and to a lesser extent, Yam Island, in the Western Group of Torres Strait Islands. Although ten deaths resulted, prompt medical aid and appropriate drug supplies prevented the outbreak from assuming major proportions. Dr. M. Mackerras, Queensland's foremost authority on malaria, together with Drs. Mack and Phillips, were flown from Brisbane to join Drs. Barnes and Spencer, of the Thursday Island Hospital, in treating the sufferers and combating the disease. Blood plasma, Atebrin and Paludrine were flown by R.A.A.F. Lincoln bomber from Brisbane and dropped on the effected Islands by "storpodos." Anti-malarial measures were immediately undertaken.

The ready response for assistance was really amazing and the prompt action of the Queensland Government, its medical advisors, and helpers will not go unnoticed by the people of the Torres Strait Islands.

Elsewhere throughout the State the health of the native population has been reasonably good, no serious outbreaks or epidemics being reported from the Settlements or Missions. This can definitely be attributed to the facilities for medical aid and treatment built up over a period of years. Again, with modern air travel, Flying Doctor Service, Aerial Ambulance system and wireless, isolation is now more or less non-existent and the once remote centres are now within easy reach of medical aid.

The work of controlling tuberculosis introduced and advised upon by Dr. Macken during her extensive survey undertaken during the year 1950-51 has been continued with beneficial results, while periodical visits of dentist, optometrist, and the hookworm microscopist were conducted to the Settlements, Church Missions, and outback areas.

The Cherbourg Settlement, in harmony with Woorabinda and Palm Island Settlements, is now equipped with a Maternal and Child Welfare Clinic, the Clinic being opened in December, 1951. Under the guidance of a qualified sister, prenatal and post-natal advice is given mothers and the value of the advice given need not be stressed. The Clinic is managed and administered on similar lines to the State Government Clinics throughout Queensland.

#### INDUSTRIAL OPERATIONS.

*Cattle Raising.*—On the three Government Settlements and Foleyvale Reserve the following cattle are depastured, the value of this live-stock as a Departmental asset being £162,593. The figures quoted are as at the 31st March, 1952:—

Settlement.	Beef Cattle.								Dairy Cattle.				Horses.			
	Bulls.	Breeders.	Spayed Cows.	Steers.	Heifers.	Weaners.	Bullocks.	Total.	Bulls.	Cows.	Heifers.	Weaners.	Total.	Draught.	Saddle.	Total.
Cherbourg	20	449	128	46	310	37	..	990	..	..	..	..	..	12	48	60
Aboriginal Training Farm	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	76	17	29	125	..	..	..
Woorabinda	59	1,865	1	536	420	524	130	3,335	..	..	..	..	..	40	117	157
Foleyvale	3	..	..	..	..	..	1,270	1,273	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Palm Island	..	..	..	19	..	..	65	84	3	104	19	97	223	17	12	29
	82	2,114	129	601	730	561	1,465	5,632	6	180	36	126	348	69	177	246

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

202 bullocks .. .. £4,925

#### *Cattle Transfers.*—

From Woorabinda to Foleyvale—370 steers, valued at £3,360.

From Cherbourg to Foleyvale—220 steers, valued at £1,776.

To view returns from cattle-raising operations in their true perspective, to the above figure must be added £9,060 representing the value of

cattle killed for local consumption on the Settlement. Accordingly, sale returns for the period under review amount to £13,985. The extremely dry conditions which prevailed during the year, although not seriously affecting the herds, did retard their progress.

In keeping with Departmental policy, all cattle sold last year were disposed of by public auction, sales being conducted at Rockhampton and Brisbane. Beasts fattened on Foleyvale pastures command a ready market and all yardings are keenly sought.

## DEVELOPMENT OF SETTLEMENTS.

Over the year, the supply position of piping and general building materials and machinery eased somewhat, with the result that the various works programmes more or less reverted to normal times. In addition to the major works and installations quoted elsewhere in this report, it was possible to carry out repair work on existing buildings, plant, &c., and make general improvements.

A brief summary of the major works and installations is as follows:—

## PALM ISLAND.

*Electric Light.*—Installation was completed and Palm Island is now fully equipped with electric current for both domestic and industrial use.

*Radio Telephone.*—In March of this year, the Postmaster-General's Department technicians completed the Palm Island unit of the radio telephone installation between Townsville, Great Palm Island, and Fantome Island. The Settlement is now in direct telephone contact with the mainland. Emanating from this facility, an inter-Settlement telephone system now operates, each administrative building being connected with the general office, thus adding to the efficiency of management and control. The present wireless system will be retained until such times as Fantome Island is equipped with radio telephone and the Postmaster-General's Department is satisfied the Palm Island telephone has been adequately tested and proved.

*Buildings.*—An Arcon steel structure has been purchased and, when erected, will be the new quarters of the Maternal and Child Welfare Clinic. All materials are on hand and the building is in course of assembly. Over the year, native workers were instructed in the manufacture of concrete bricks to be used in the construction of modern cottages and the stockpile now permits commencement of the work. When built, the cottages will be allotted to native families.

## WOORABINDA.

*Water Supply.*—With the exception of the installation of the pumps to operate the treatment plant, this work has been completed and delivery of the pumping plant is expected within the next month. Apart from the construction of a 40-foot high concrete water tower with a 30,000 gallon capacity and filtration plant, the scheme embraced a completely new reticulation system. The installing engineers were officers of the Department of Local Government, but the fact that all native labour was used is worthy of mention.

*Buildings.*—The plan for the gradual demolition of the old-type native houses and replacement with modern cottages progressed a further stage and during the year five such cottages were erected. Each home is equipped with electric light, laundry, and bathroom, and the buildings erected would favourably compare with similar houses in and around Brisbane.

*Sawmill.*—In the past, Woorabinda has been somewhat handicapped by the inadequacy of its sawmill to meet demands, but all materials are now on hand to completely overhaul the mill

and consequently overtake the timber lag. The modernisation consists of the installation of a P.B. type locomotive boiler with a 35-h.p. steam engine, a new breaking-down frame, and a No. 1 bench. The planing machine has also been reconditioned. When completed, the mill is expected to recover approximately 5,000 super feet of timber per week, thus greatly assisting the carrying out of the Settlement's building programme.

## CHERBOURG.

*Water Supply.*—Plans for a new water supply were drawn up some two years ago but, unfortunately, work of installation has not yet commenced due to the fact that the Woorabinda scheme had priority and the Department of Local Government was not in a position to proceed with the work until the new Woorabinda system was completed. This work is now almost finalised and a start on the Cherbourg project is expected in the near future.

*Irrigation.*—As part of an extensive irrigation system, 25 chain of 6-inch mains were laid at the Aboriginal Training Farm, hydrants being provided at convenient points. The work is of a permanent nature as, bearing in mind the severe drought of 1951-52, it is intended to introduce complete irrigation.

*Trade Training Centre.*—Under the supervision of a first-class operator, a Trade Training Centre was recently opened. A modern workshop has been established fully equipped to enable the manufacture of joinery and furniture. The centre will eventually operate as a training school for young aboriginals in all phases of cabinet-making. At present it is intended to keep products down to goods to be used within the Department—viz., joinery, including windows, easements, doors, and plain furniture, such as chairs, tables, babies' cots, school desks and forms. All sections of this Sub-Department have been invited to submit orders, while natives requiring furniture for home use can also submit requests. As the scheme progresses and output is stepped up, additions will be made to the list of articles manufactured.

## CHURCH MISSIONS.

The Queensland Government continues its helpful policy in assisting with the financial problems of the various Church Missions in the State. Compared with 1950, when subsidies totalling £14,464 were paid, the present figure £58,212 indicates the extent of Government help. This latter figure does not include special grants to Missions, and expenditure under this heading for the year under review was £31,940. This special financial assistance permitted the erection of schools, hospitals, dormitories, staff and native housing, and the purchase of farm machinery, motor vehicles, and equipment for improving existing water-supply systems. Work of installing electric light plants and cold rooms on the Gulf Missions is also in hand.

The various churches controlling Aboriginal Missions in Queensland have continued to labour in the interest and welfare of the people under their control and to these workers on the established Missions, isolated from the general amenities of life, a debt of gratitude is owing.

EXEMPTIONS FROM THE PROVISIONS OF "THE ABORIGINALS PRESERVATION AND PROTECTION ACTS, 1939 TO 1946."

It can be said that the value of an exemption certificate is now more appreciated by natives than in the past, not because it means freedom from control but because of the sense of security the recipient feels in the knowledge that he or she has been sufficiently educated, both scholastically and industrially and is therefore competent to manage and control his or her own affairs and business dealings.

Each application is considered on its merits, and the qualifications necessary to obtain a certificate embrace, in the main, education, conduct, trade training, working ability, and mode of living. During the year, 91 applications were granted. Separate certificates are not issued to young children whose names are included on the mother's certificate and, on taking these into consideration, over 120 persons were released from Departmental jurisdiction.

EDUCATION.

The first school term of 1952 saw the introduction of a new syllabus to be used in schools throughout Queensland and the Settlement

schools were no exception. A good deal of organisation and work was required of the head teachers and assistants, as the method of approach to the teaching of the various subjects differed greatly from the system previously obtaining.

Perusal of reports submitted by the head teachers of the Settlement schools reveals that, although periodical staff shortages were experienced, the students maintained good progress throughout the year.

*Manual Training and Domestic Science.*—The value of this type of training, particularly for aboriginal boys and girls, cannot be over-estimated and, although the new syllabus limits somewhat this field of instruction, it is intended, as far as practicable, to fully continue this study in aboriginal schools. These classes constitute the basis for advanced study at a later date particularly for young lads who are interested in or show aptitude for general trade training.

As at 31st March, 1952, the number of children receiving primary education was 2,389, and the following table indicates the enrolment at the various Settlements, Missions, and Torres Strait Island Schools:—

ABORIGINAL SCHOOLS.

Description of School.	Name.	Enrolment 31st March, 1952.		
		Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Settlement .. .. .	Cherbourg .. .. .	148	154	302
Settlement .. .. .	Palm Island .. .. .	114	86	200
Settlement .. .. .	Woorabinda .. .. .	79	85	164
Aboriginal Mission .. .. .	Aurukun .. .. .	51	48	99
Aboriginal Mission .. .. .	Doomadgee .. .. .	42	43	85
Aboriginal Mission .. .. .	Lockhart River .. .. .	40	28	68
Aboriginal Mission .. .. .	Mapoon .. .. .	28	40	68
Aboriginal Mission .. .. .	Mitchell River .. .. .	39	38	77
Aboriginal Mission .. .. .	Monamona .. .. .	36	33	69
Aboriginal Mission .. .. .	Hope Vale, Cooktown .. .. .	32	32	64
Aboriginal Mission .. .. .	Mornington Island .. .. .	52	57	109
Aboriginal Mission .. .. .	Edward River .. .. .	10	10	20
Aboriginal Mission .. .. .	Weipa .. .. .	18	14	32
Aboriginal Mission .. .. .	Yarrabah .. .. .	94	86	180
Island Mission .. .. .	St. Paul's, Mos Island .. .. .	35	41	76
Island Mission .. .. .	St. Michael's, R. C. Palm Island .. .. .	26	30	56
Island Mission .. .. .	Hammond Island .. .. .	14	12	26
Inland Mission .. .. .	Normanton .. .. .	7	7	14
Reserve .. .. .	Cowal Creek .. .. .	17	19	36
Reserve .. .. .	Bamaga .. .. .	26	22	48
Reserve .. .. .	Red Island Point .. .. .	9	10	19
Torres Strait .. .. .	Island Schools .. .. .	296	281	577
	Totals .. .. .	1,213	1,176	2,389

*Secondary Education.*—The Departmental policy of placing secondary education at the disposal of promising students or those interested has been continued and the following table shows the number of aboriginal pupils attending secondary schools in Queensland:—

All Souls' College, Charters Towers—4 boys.

Mt. Carmel College, Charters Towers—3 boys.

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

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

Paul Burns, of Palm Island, was a candidate for the 1951 Senior Examination and, although unsuccessful, the experience gained must be of great benefit to him in later life. At present, Burns is gainfully employed at Palm Island Settlement.

Marion Hamilton, a pupil of St. Saviour's Convent High School, Toowoomba, is showing

progress as her report for the term ended 25th April, 1952, indicates—

“Marion Hamilton

Commercial ‘A.’ Place in Class—3rd.

Subject.	No. in Class.	Percentage.
Christian Doctrine	25	86
English .. .. .	25	75
Arithmetic .. .. .	25	40
Shorthand .. .. .	25	92
Typing .. .. .	6	95.2
Bookkeeping .. .. .	25	69
Conduct—Good.		
Physical Culture—Good.		
Homework—Very satisfactory.”		

It is realised that success of native students in competitive examinations cannot be achieved over a few years, as there is no denying that the

aboriginal child finds difficulty in retaining theoretical knowledge and more readily responds to practical work. However, with the existing facilities for better health, home life, moral training, sporting activities, and general welfare, the time must come when the child's aptitude for study will advance.

It is along these lines the Department is working and the secondary education plan will always exist.

#### ABORIGINAL ACCOUNTS.

As shown in the following table of deposits, withdrawals, and balances, the total amount held in trust in the savings-bank accounts of aboriginals is £510,781 18s. 5d. Every facility is provided for aboriginals to withdraw within reason against their savings-bank accounts.

#### TRANSACTIONS FOR TWELVE MONTHS ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1952.

	Total.		Savings Bank Balance as at 30th June, 1952.	Commonwealth Stock.	Total Funds.
	Deposits.	Withdrawals.			
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Cherbourg .. .. .	30,805 9 4	30,549 3 7	4,109 18 2	1,000 0 0	5,109 18 2
Palm Island .. .. .	35,659 15 2	36,600 17 5	5,199 15 11	21,000 0 0	26,199 15 11
Woorabinda .. .. .	26,806 5 8	24,945 18 6	4,548 7 10	4,000 0 0	8,548 7 10
Various Protectorates ..	172,706 8 9	186,994 18 1	29,419 12 8	313,000 0 0	342,419 12 8
Torres Strait Islands ..	316,019 17 1	342,372 17 2	43,504 3 10	85,000 0 0	128,504 3 10
£	581,997 16 0	621,463 14 9	86,781 18 5	424,000 0 0	510,781 18 5

The balance, £510,781 18s. 5d., represents the savings of aboriginals from their earnings. A separate account for each individual is kept by the Director of Native Affairs, and the current Commonwealth Savings Bank rate of interest is credited annually to each account.

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

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

In the case of the deceased aboriginal, immediately following death being reported, action is taken to distribute the estate amongst the next-of-kin. The number of estates so administered was 80, and the amounts made available to next-of-kin were £6,400 1s. 4d.

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

- Aboriginals receiving their exemptions from the provisions of the Act and receiving their savings in a lump sum to set them up in business suited to their calling;
- Homes being built for aboriginals from their savings;
- Plant and equipment being provided from savings to allow the aboriginal to improve his industrial status;
- Funds made available for aboriginals to enjoy a holiday at the seaside.

#### CHILD ENDOWMENT ACCOUNTS.

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

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

	Endowees.
Country Protectorates .. .. .	327
Cherbourg Settlement .. .. .	130
Woorabinda Settlement .. .. .	93
Palm Island Settlement .. .. .	104
Torres Strait Islands .. .. .	723
	<hr/>
	1,377

The annual payments on account of the children of these endowees totalled £75,644 1s. 3d.

When aboriginal children are wholly maintained in Mission and Government Settlement Institutions, the endowment is paid to the Institution funds. These funds are utilised solely for the benefit of the children by providing luxury foodstuffs, better type of clothing, all forms of sporting and general recreation equipment, library books, and reading material.



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

	Number.
Fantome Island .. ..	3
Woorabinda Settlement .. ..	45
Cherbourg Settlement .. ..	120
Palm Island Settlement .. ..	275
Hope Vale .. ..	7
Daintree Mission .. ..	12
Doomadgee Mission .. ..	80
Monamona Mission .. ..	138
Mitchell River Mission .. ..	87
Aurukun Mission .. ..	160
Mapoon Mission .. ..	114
Mornington Island Mission .. ..	150
Weipa Mission .. ..	47
Yarrabah Mission .. ..	318
	1,556

#### APPRECIATION.

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

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

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

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

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

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

C. O'LEARY, Director.

#### APPENDIX I.

##### PALM ISLAND ABORIGINAL SETTLEMENT.

(Superintendent, Mr. G. Sturges.)

#### OFFICIAL VISITORS.

Mr. C. O'Leary, Director of Native Affairs.  
 Mr. P. J. Richards, Deputy Director of Native Affairs.  
 Mr. R. J. J. Hart, Visiting Justice.  
 Mr. Sellwood, Public Service Inspector.

#### STATISTICS.

Marriages ..	11
Births ..	45 (25 Males and 20 Females)
Deaths ..	19 (11 Males and 8 Females)

#### HEALTH SERVICES.

Control of the Palm Island Hospital was vested in the Townsville Hospitals Board as from the 1st June, 1951. The Hospitals Board has taken a keen interest in the Palm Island Hospital and many improvements have been made. A new dental clinic has been erected. A drying room is to be commenced in the near future and the installation of an X-ray plant will be proceeded with in the near future.

#### BABY WELFARE CLINIC.

In my last annual report, I pointed out that the mothers of this Settlement are "clinic conscious." This statement is proved by the complete co-operation on the part of the mother and child, as out of the 213 children aged five years and under attending the clinic, there were only three deaths and it appears that these deaths occurred where the mothers did not co-operate as required.

It is an outstanding and pleasing fact that visitors to this Settlement, without exception, comment on the healthy appearance and excellent condition of the children.

An Arccon roof structure, which will be used as a basis of the new baby clinic building, is now on hand and it is anticipated a commencement on the construction of the building in the near future will be made. The completion of the building will enable the expansion of the clinic service.

#### HYGIENE AND SANITATION.

This service is being continually improved and expanded. The Hygiene Officer's report indicates that every phase of hygiene is being carefully attended.

#### EDUCATION.

It is pleasing to report that the staff position has improved. This, together with the introduction of the new school syllabus, extends to the native children a standard of education similar to that enjoyed by coloured and white children attending State and Church schools. In keeping with the Government's policy of extending opportunities of higher education to children of aboriginal parents, children from this Settlement are attending the following schools:—

All Souls' College, Charters Towers—4 boys.

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

Mt. Carmel College, Charters Towers—3 boys.

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

#### STAFF HOUSING.

A new staff house is nearing completion and it is anticipated that another house will be commenced in the near future.

## NATIVE HOUSING.

Materials are now being accumulated for this work and the construction of cottages will be commenced at an early date. The cottages will be of concrete-brick construction. Native tradesmen have been in training for some time on this type of construction.

## RAINFALL.

52.13 inches. This is less than half the total for 1951 and approximately 20 inches less than the average rainfall. Of the above total, 39.86 inches fell during January, February, and March. Consequently, there was a serious drought during the cooler months of the year, the period in which major farming activities take place.

## FARM.

Produce has been limited, owing to the severe drought during the growing period and also from the fact that a full-time farm overseer was not available.

Farm produce was as follows:—

Lettuce .. .. .	4,000 head
Radish .. .. .	10 sacks
Chinese cabbage .. .. .	50 sacks
Marrow .. .. .	400
Cucumber .. .. .	2,000
Eschalots .. .. .	15 sacks
Tomatoes .. .. .	2 ton
Sweet potatoes .. .. .	4 ton
Pumpkin .. .. .	1 ton
French beans .. .. .	10 cwt.
Silver beet .. .. .	20 sacks
Carrots .. .. .	10 sacks
Kohl Rabi .. .. .	12 sacks
Beetroot .. .. .	5 sacks
Peas .. .. .	2 cwt.
Water melons .. .. .	2,000
Pineapples .. .. .	1,000

## DAIRY.

Milk produced .. .. . 6,040 gallons

## STOCK.

Bulls .. .. .	3
Cows .. .. .	104
Heifers .. .. .	19
Weaners .. .. .	97
Steers .. .. .	19
Working Bullocks .. .. .	65
Total .. .. .	307

## HORSES.

Draughts .. .. .	17
Saddle .. .. .	12
Total .. .. .	29

## PIGS.

Boars .. .. .	2
Sows .. .. .	9
Weaners and Stores .. .. .	77
Total .. .. .	88

43 pigs were killed for rations during this year.

## SETTLEMENT DEVELOPMENT.

*Electric Light.*—This project has been completed and is now in full operation. Current is available continuously. All native cottages which are of a safe standard are supplied with current. Fifty street lights are installed and all administrative buildings, work shops, staff quarters, and Church missions are supplied with current.

The installation of electric light is a definite boon and much appreciated by the staff and native residents.

*Radio-Telephone.*—A radio telephone system was installed by the Postmaster-General's Department immediately electric power became available. This Settlement now has continuous communication with the mainland and telephone communication may now be made throughout the Continent and overseas, if desired.

The Postmaster-General's Department is to be congratulated on the excellence of the installation. Every step, technical and otherwise, has been taken to ensure satisfactory operation of the service.

*Inter-phone Communication.*—This system consists of twelve telephones, all connected with the office switchboard and, after office hours, with the Superintendent's house, where another switchboard is installed. Any 'phone may be connected with the mainland through the radio telephone.

The administration has been materially assisted by both telephone installations.

## SOCIAL AND WELFARE ASSOCIATION.

This association is now well established and, in fact, has become an integral part of the Settlement administration. All members and associates take a keen interest in their work and the affairs of the Settlement generally.

## BOY SCOUTS AND GIRL GUIDES.

Both organisations continue their excellent work. The boys and girls are very interested in scouting and guiding and are indeed a credit to themselves and their organisations.

## EMPLOYMENT.

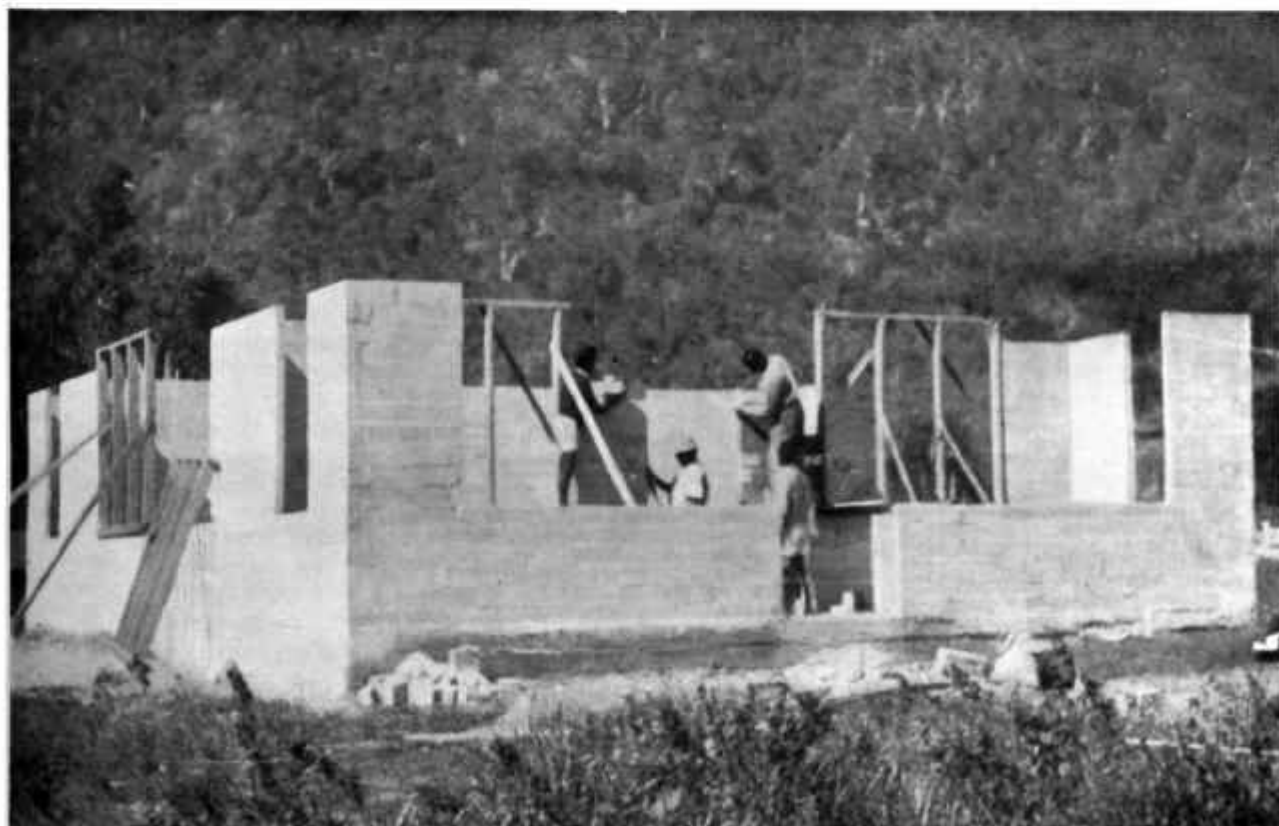
The demand continues to be high, especially for domestics. Very few natives are returned as unsatisfactory and those in employment are contented and happy.

Native cane-cutters from this Settlement employed in the Ingham area cut 12,967 tons of cane and earned £7,587 12s. wages. Fifty-two females and 75 males are employed in the pastoral industry. The gross wages will amount to £17,990 15s. 8d. In addition to wages, the above natives are supplied with board and lodging by their employers.

In conclusion, I desire to extend my appreciation to the Honourable the Minister for Health and Home Affairs, the Under Secretary, Department of Health and Home Affairs, the Director of Native Affairs, the Deputy Director of Native Affairs, Head Office staff, Superintendents and staff of Cherbourg and Woorabinda Settlements and Church Missions, and also to the Protectors of Aborigines (police) and the Townsville Hospitals Board and staff. Complete co-operation by all has ensured that the administration of this Settlement has been efficiently performed in the interests of the native residents.



**Concrete Brick Manufacture, Palm Island Settlement.**



**Construction Concrete Brick Native Cottage, Palm Island Settlement.**

### BABY WELFARE CLINIC.

(Baby Welfare Officer, Mrs. E. H. Hilyard-Smith.)

Number of children .. .. .	213
Out-Patients attendances .. .. .	13,497
Clinical examinations .. .. .	10,180
Ante-Natal Clinic attendances .. .. .	833
Camp inspections .. .. .	235

The total number of children under the supervision of the clinic was 213, an increase of 17 over last year.

There were only three deaths among the children attending the clinic, and these were due to negligent mothers, who failed to bring their children to the clinic at the first sign of illness.

The number of out-patients' visits to the Baby Welfare Clinic was 13,497, an increase of 6,264. The complaints which were of a minor nature consisted of scabies, insect bites, scalp infections from various causes, and furunculii. A number of cases of *otitis media* also occurred.

There were 10,180 clinical examinations made. Examinations are a weekly routine in which all children are stripped, weighed, and thoroughly examined. Doubtful and special cases are seen daily as a precautionary measure. The general health of the babies and young children is maintained remarkably well, owing to constant supervision and to the generous supply of a well-balanced diet, rich in vitamins.

Each child is supplied with an adequate layette on the mother's discharge from the maternity ward of the hospital. Thereafter, a three-monthly supply of clothes is issued, which the mothers are taught and encouraged to make themselves.

There were 833 ante-natal attendances during the year. These clinics are well attended. The patients are seen weekly and the usual routine examinations are made—i.e., urinalysis, presentation, and blood pressure. It is thought advisable that these native women should be seen weekly, as they need education and training in ante-natal care. Also, abnormalities are detected early and the necessary steps are taken to correct them.

Camp inspections are carried out as frequently as possible and help considerably in training and teaching the native population the danger of leaving food, soiled linen, and the debris of camps generally exposed to dust and flies. They are also impressed with the need to observe the simple laws of hygiene and sanitation and the general cleanliness of their homes.

### HYGIENE AND SANITATION.

(Hygiene Officer, Mr. D. Garrett.)

*Sanitary Service.*—A new pneumatic-tyred sanitary wagon has been constructed and another wagon is under construction.

The sanitary service is now on the following basis:—

- Hospital cleaned twice daily.
- Staff quarters cleaned daily.
- Dormitories cleaned daily.
- Public lavatories cleaned daily.
- Native cottages cleaned three times weekly and in the case of large families, a daily service is in operation.

*Disposal of Night-Soil.*—The brick disposal pits brought into operation last year have proved highly efficient.

*Water Supply.*—The completion of the Settlement reservoir has ensured a wholesome supply of water to the main Settlement area. However, all wells are inspected regularly and tests made of the water where necessary. All wells are chlorinated, thus ensuring that the water is fit for use whenever required.

*Fly and Mosquito Control.*—All likely breeding grounds are regularly examined and sprayed with DDT or Gammexane. Native cottages are fumigated when required with Gammexane smoke generators. The swamp near the piggery has been drained.

### OUTLYING AREAS.

*Casement.*—A rubber-tyred handcart has been constructed. The cart carries six pans and is easily propelled by one man.

The pit system of night-soil disposal has been inaugurated in this area.

A washing trough has been installed and a well completed for the necessary water supply.

*Pencil Bay.*—This area is regularly inspected and a new concrete-lined well fitted with pump has been completed.

### PALM ISLAND SCHOOL REPORT.

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

Since my last annual report, the staffing position of the Palm Island School has improved. It is felt that more staff will be needed to cope with the requirements of the new syllabus. One department I would like to see better staffed is the manual training section. A fully qualified manual training teacher is badly needed, and I feel sure would be a valuable asset. It is hoped that some consideration might be given to appointing a manual training teacher to this school.

The children are graded as follows:—

Class.	Boys.	Girls.
Prep. .. .. .	15	12
Grade I. .. .. .	18	16
Grade II. .. .. .	24	14
Grade III. .. .. .	17	17
Grade IV. .. .. .	21	8
Grade V. .. .. .	14	10
Grade VI. .. .. .	5	9
	114	86

The average attendance was 168.3, and promises to be even higher this year with its increased enrolment.

Forty (40) boys received instruction in manual training, while forty-four (44) girls attended the sewing room.

*Visual Education.*—Visual education has played an important part in the education of these girls and boys. We are indebted to the Education Department for having sent regular supplies of 16-m.m. movie films (both talkie and silent) and these were screened several times to the children before being returned.

In addition, this school now has a filmstrip library of over 100 filmstrips, and these are graded and used to augment the movie films and so help to expand the general knowledge of the children who are in need of some visual background. This library was made possible by the Settlement Social and Welfare Association. Included in the library are filmstrips suitable for the infant classes in telling some of the stories usually told to prep. classes, while others bear on nature study, geography, history, industries, and travel, as well as strips on manual training work and other occupations.

I understand a radiogram has been ordered for this school and should arrive soon. When installed, the children will be able to participate in the school broadcasts and so further enhance their education.

*School Library.*—The library is well patronised by the children, each class having a special period set aside for it to spend a half hour in pleasant recreational reading. It has been noticed the child who reads the most is usually good at most other things in class, including self-expression. Records are kept by each teacher of the books completely read by each child.

*Accommodation.*—Vocational training for the older children is most important and we are still hoping that up-to-date manual training and domestic science schools will be built in the near future.

The accommodation for children is now somewhat over-taxed. Consideration will need to be given to the building of another wing to the existing building, to house the infant classes. If this were done, it would be possible to make the small room, one time the provisional school for whites, at present used by one of the classes, available as a teachers' retiring room.

With four teachers now on the staff, the need for a retiring room for use during recess periods and before and after school is felt. The matter has been brought under the notice of the Superintendent and this facility will be made available when the building position eases.

*General.*—In addition to the ordinary curriculum, the senior boys engage in fish curing and smoking projects and a little gardening is also attempted.

Sport and recreational training receive constant attention.

Steady progress is being maintained and there has been an improvement in the conduct and discipline.

#### SOCIAL AND WELFARE ASSOCIATION.

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

It gives me much pleasure to present annual report on the activities of the Palm Island Social and Welfare Association for the twelve months ended 31st March, 1952.

*Committees.*—There are still nineteen committees functioning and each has a representative on the executive committee.

The executive committee meets regularly each Monday night, holidays excepted, and members of the public are invited to attend.

Apart from the general business transacted, some fruitful discussions have taken place, the visiting public being invited to express their views and enter into the debates. Through these discussions, more people are being kept in touch with the doings of the association and consequently are able to explain to their less-educated friends what is expected of them and how they can help the organisation in its efforts to improve conditions here.

*Arts and Crafts Show.*—Again, as in former years, the arts and crafts show takes pride of place in the Association's activities. Our last show constituted an all-time record, when 2,230 odd entries were received in the pavilion display. The school work and women's work—cookery and needlework—were the two heaviest contested sections of the show.

The show was officially opened by the Director of Native Affairs, Mr. C. O'Leary, who also had the pleasing duty of declaring the Sturges Reservoir and the Hamilton Power-house officially open.

Launches from Townsville and Lucinda brought several hundreds of visitors to the show.

An official show dinner was tendered Mr. O'Leary, and other guests included officials and delegates from Cherbourg and Woorabinda Settlements.

We are grateful to the sister organisations on Cherbourg and Woorabinda Settlements for the interest each displayed in our show by bringing along exhibits both of a competitive and non-competitive nature.

Our show this year is to be held on the 28th and 29th July, 1952, and already activity is evident among some of the native residents.

The inter-Settlement competition which is conducted in conjunction with Settlement shows was held at Cherbourg Settlement. Palm Island was successful in gaining second place in the contest for the Arthur Jones Shield, the winners being Cherbourg Settlement. Despite this defeat, Palm Island is leading by over 120 points on the aggregate of the contests, which are held annually. The team obtaining the highest points over three years retains the shield.

*Football.*—Football is still as popular as ever, the best result being the representative team's victory over Charters Towers.

Early this season a very exciting game was played at Ingham, when at half-time hope of winning the match was almost abandoned, the scores being 28 to 4, in favour of Ingham. However, to everyone's surprise, the Palm Islanders played a very skilful game and won by 35 to 33. Our boys have been commended on the clean, sportsmanlike games they play.

*Boxing.*—This sport continues to flourish and early this year a troupe of boxers visited Mackay, where they were victorious over their opponents. Tournaments are conducted fortnightly on alternate Saturdays to the dancing contests.

*Dancing.*—As is the custom when our football team visits the mainland, it is accompanied by a band of entertainers in the person of native dancers. They never fail to draw a good attendance and their items of dancing, spear and boomerang throwing, fire lighting, &c., are ever popular with the spectators.

Dancing is encouraged on the Settlement and the Association presents trophies to the team putting up the best and most consistent performances during the year. Each second Saturday a contest is held on the picture show grounds and is well patronised by the local residents.

The juveniles have been encouraged to take up dancing and two teams are seen in action each contest night.

*Fishing Contests.*—These contests have become quite popular and have provided outings and enjoyment for many of the residents. A trophy donated by the Association for the heaviest fish caught during the year was won by Munday Williams with a 38-pounder. When these contests are held, all surplus fish caught by the contestants are given to the Hospital.

*Stalls.*—Closely allied to our sporting activities is the work of the stall committee, which on picture nights, tourist days, and during fishing contests conducts a stall selling soft drinks, peanuts, potato chips, ice creams, and sweets. These stalls show good financial returns and the Association depends largely on such efforts to build up its revenue.

*Hat Making.*—Towards the end of last year this Association commenced production of Palm Leaf hats and one Brisbane firm placed an order for 500 of these hats. It has since placed a further order, and numerous clients in various towns are now interested.

*The "Palm Island News."*—Despite shortages of paper, this newspaper has continued in production and still enjoys a circulation of approximately 200 copies a week. People who have been closely associated with this Settlement still look for their weekly copy of the "P.I.N." We feel that our Christmas number was easily the best yet produced and the local photos reproduced very well.

Progress is being made in training two natives in the art of producing photographic reproductions and it is hoped that more local pictures suitable for reproduction will be forthcoming. It is intended to print a special "Show Number" on the occasion of the Settlement annual show.

*Library.*—This section of the organisation is a popular rendezvous for young and old each Friday night. The number of volumes and periodicals is steadily increasing and gratitude is expressed for the assistance received from the Department.

*Pictures.*—The mid-week pictures have become an integral part in the life of this community and the quality of the programmes screened has improved considerably. The serial, the news-reel, and other shorts are proving very popular.

In addition to the regular screening of 35-m.m. films, a special screening of Education Department's films is made once a month following a Saturday night's entertainment. These are shown by the head teacher on the 16-m.m. talkie machine which is brought on to the ground from the school.

The filmstrip library referred to in the school report is steadily building up and now approximately 120 filmstrips are on hand. Apart from the ones of special interest to the children, recent additions should be very helpful to our local tradesmen. Some of these have been obtained through the Department of Labour and Industry in Melbourne and deal mainly with building practices as well as workshop activities.

Some valuable text-books and large wall charts bearing on the proper care and use of tools and machinery should be of special interest to our young tradesmen.

*Tape Recorder.*—A tape recording machine which was purchased during the year has brought untold happiness to our people here. At the Cherbourg Show, a recording was made of the Honourable the Minister's speech and on return to Palm Island it was replayed for the benefit of the residents.

Towards the end of the 1951 school year an important meeting of teachers was held in Townsville to hear a representative of the Department of Public Instruction discuss the new syllabus to be inaugurated early this year. The head teacher was allowed to take the tape recorder to this meeting and obtained a complete recording of the lecturer's remarks. As it was not possible for the whole of this school staff to go to Townsville to attend that lecture, the head teacher, on his return, was able to play over to the school staff the recording he had made and so enlighten them on the new syllabus requirements.

More recently still, the Monamona Mission Band visited the Island and a recording of its playing was made. Although this has been played over and over to the people at the pictures and elsewhere, it is still very popular and brings happiness to its audiences as they listen to it being played for them.

Then, too, I have found the tape recorder most valuable and a great saving of time, and one's voice, too, on days when large parties of tourists visit the Settlement and call at the welfare rooms.

It has also proved invaluable in detecting weaknesses in children's speech. A surprising result was achieved on one occasion when a recording was made of a child whose voice was almost inaudible to its teacher, but when replayed and amplified it was found this child spoke in perfect English. The recording of concert items has also proved popular, as has the recording of native dances, for which purpose it was partly purchased. It has been a good investment from every angle.

*Brass Band.*—The band committee through its efforts in gathering and sale of trochus shell has well over £400 to its credit, and other avenues are being examined whereby this can be increased and the establishment of the bank become a reality.

*Finances.*—The Association's finances are in a sound position. The purchase of the tape recorder and the rewiring of the picture plant on the completion of the power house has made big inroads into our bank balances, but it is felt this expenditure was justified, just as much as money spent on sporting equipment, library books, &c.

*Appreciation.*—The Association's thanks are extended to the Honourable the Minister for Health and Home Affairs (Mr. W. Moore, M.L.A.), the Under Secretary, Department of Health and Home Affairs (Mr. Robinson), the Director of Native Affairs (Mr. O'Leary), the Deputy Director of Native Affairs (Mr. Richards), our Superintendent (Mr. Sturges), and to all others who have taken an interest in our affairs.

The business firms with whom this Association has dealings have been courteous, tolerant, and ever ready to be of service to us.

To those members of the staff and the public who have assisted this organization we say "thank you."

There is still room for greater effort and it is only by united and concerted efforts that progress can and will be achieved.

#### SCOUTING.

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

The Palm Island troop of native boy scouts has been reorganised, the membership being 24 boys, the majority of whom are newcomers to the movement. Natives occupy the position of assistant scout master and troop leader.

Mr. Dau, assistant teacher in the local school, has shown considerable interest and application has been made for a warrant to enable him to become a fully qualified assistant scout master. Mr. Dau's attendance at a training camp in the near future will further his scouting knowledge and consequently benefit the troop.

Although no camps have been recently arranged, it is intended to re-establish the camping site at Esk Island. These camps are greatly enjoyed by the lads and invariably widen their scouting knowledge.

The troop is grateful to the Department for its assistance during the year.

#### GIRL GUIDE MOVEMENT.

(District Commissioner, Mrs. G. E. Krause.)

Since the departure of our captain, Mrs. Waite, the work of keeping the movement functioning has been my responsibility, and I am pleased to report that interest has been maintained.

The company, which comprises 18 girls, is made up of three patrols.

I am happy to relate that the girls are very keen to attend meetings and consequently are making steady progress in their work.

#### FANTOME ISLAND LAZARET.

*Statistics.*—Number of patients admitted during the year, 11; Number of discharges, 10; Patients remaining as at 30th June, 1952, 69.

*Health.*—Smears taken from patients are submitted to the Department of Public Health monthly for examination, and of the 49 presented for the month of June 42 proved negative. June was not an isolated case, as such results are obtained month after month, with the result that during the year under review

ten patients were certified free of the disease and discharged from the Institution. These results can definitely be attributed to the use of modern drugs, careful and excellent nursing, and comfortable quarters. The discharges have been a big factor in increasing the morale of the other patients, thereby obtaining their full co-operation in all matters. The general health of the patients has been good.

During the year, visits to Fantome Island were made by the Secretary of the Relatives and Friends' Association and the Secretary of the Australian Red Cross Society accompanied by the Association's medical social worker. The visitors were genuinely impressed by the prevailing conditions and the general well-being of the inmates, and the undermentioned quotation was taken from a letter received from the Red Cross Association—

"I was most impressed by the contentment of the patients, brought about by the splendid management of the whole Settlement. We were taken on a complete tour of the Settlement by the Mother Superior and both Miss Garth and myself felt that these unfortunate people were being made as happy and comfortable as possible by your Department and the devoted care of these wonderful women."

*Development.*—Expectations of completing the installation of electric light at Fantome Island were not realised, due to the fact that it was found necessary to undertake further work on the Palm Island system. However, with the exception of wiring the power station housing the 20 K.V.A. 240/415 generating unit, all work has been completed and the inmates of Fantome Island should shortly have the use and comfort of electric current.

*Water Supply.*—All materials are on hand for the water supply system and work is now in progress. The scheme, which will be capable of serving approximately 300 persons at an average rate of 100 gallons per head per day, calls for the installation of two 100,000-gallon elevated Braithwaite pressed steel tanks and the first section of these units has been erected. The diesel engine and pumping plant is also on hand. Very little reticulation work will be required as the pipes, &c., at present in use have been found suitable.

The installation is under the supervision of engineers attached to the Department of Local Government, and without any unforeseen delays the next six months should see the completed job.

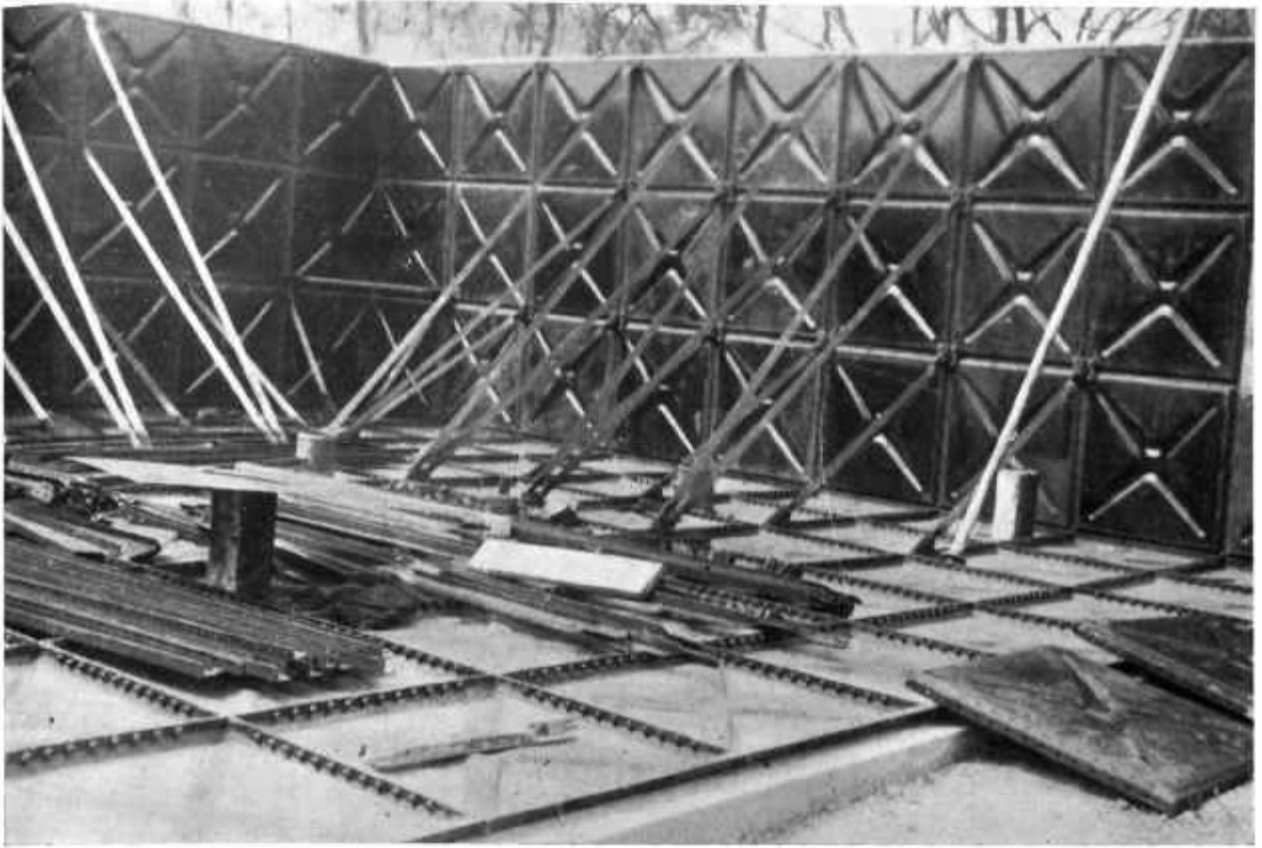
#### APPENDIX 2.

#### CHERBOURG ABORIGINAL SETTLEMENT.

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

#### HEALTH.

Throughout the year no serious outbreaks or epidemics were experienced and the health of the community has been good. Such conditions can be attributed to the visiting medical officer, hospital matron and staff, and the hygiene officer.



Construction Steel Tanks, Fantome Island Water Supply.



Construction Steel Tanks, Fantome Island Water Supply.



The Cherbourg Hospital is now under the control of the South Burnett Hospitals Board, and statistics of staff, treatments, and other medical facilities are as follows:—

Visiting Doctor—Dr. B. Monz.

Matron—C. L. Rynne.

Staff—4 sisters, 3 experienced nurses.

Native Staff—32 males and females.

Number admitted to hospital .. .. .	1,237
Number discharged from hospital .. .. .	1,199
Number of deaths .. .. .	8 (3 male, 5 female)
Number of births .. .. .	53 (28 male, 25 female)
Daily average .. .. .	37
Patients in hospital at end of year .. .. .	36
Major operations .. .. .	4
Minor operations .. .. .	99
X-ray at Wondai and Kingaroy .. .. .	33

#### Dentist.—

Number of visits, 18; number of patients seen, 265.

Extractions, fillings, and minor denture repairs are carried out at the hospital, while full dentures are supplied and fitted at the Brisbane Dental Hospital.

*Optometrist.*—The Government visiting optometrist visits the Settlement every three months.

The visiting medical officer attends the hospital on Mondays and Thursdays each week and is on call for urgent cases at all times.

#### TRANSFERS.

To Cherbourg, 20 (12 males, 8 females); from Cherbourg, 34 (25 males, 9 females).

#### MARRIAGES.

Six.

#### EXEMPTIONS.

During the year, eight males and four females were granted exemption from the Aborigines Preservation and Protection Act and Regulations and now control their own affairs and business dealings.

#### EMPLOYMENT.

Number of persons under agreement, 70.

During the year, all labour demands were met, male labour being supplied to employers for all seasonal crops, both for day and contract labour, harvesting peanuts, onions, potatoes, maize, and peas; also for fencing, ringbarking, general farm workers, and station hands. Female domestics are working mostly in the near country towns and in the metropolitan area.

#### SAWMILL.

Number of hardwood logs cut	756
Total log content milled .. .. .	319,726 super feet
Recovery .. .. .	226,982 super feet
Days worked .. .. .	185
Average daily recovery .. .. .	1,227 super feet
Pine logs received .. .. .	88
Pine logs content .. .. .	37,051 super feet
Sawn timber supplied to Palm Island .. .. .	18,000 super feet

During the year all hardwood mill logs were cut by contract native labour and this method has proved satisfactory. The carting and snigging contractor also rendered good service. A number of small breakdowns were experienced, the mill being out of production for eight weeks, which included three weeks over the Christmas holidays.

Chemical tests have been taken of the mill water supply and it is hoped a new water supply will be connected up with Baralban Creek. Water from this creek shows a mineral hardness of 8 per cent., against 48 per cent. (52 per cent. in February, 1952) from our present supply from Barambah Creek. This is being offset by chemical detergents pending the installation of a new supply.

The planing machine is being reconditioned and will once more be in operation by the end of June. Repairs were carried out to the steam engine and boiler and No. 1 bench.

#### BUILDING AND CARPENTRY.

The major works completed were—

6 20 feet by 22 feet native cottages built.

1 28 feet by 24 feet native cottage built.

4 2-room extensions.

5 Garage-type buildings.

Extensions to the retail store.

8 feet by 8 feet by 7 feet cold room. This room was built from a blueprint and the native carpenters were congratulated by the installing electrical engineers on the excellence of the job.

Repairs were effected to the dormitories, office, hospital, gaols, and staff houses. General building maintenance has been kept up. Quite a number of people are taking an interest in their homes and, on request, supplies of materials and tools are supplied to them to carry out the necessary repairs.

#### PAINTING.

On this work, three to five men have been working for approximately nine months of the year. It is hoped that by the end of the year all administrative buildings, dormitories, and staff houses will be painted externally and most of the internal work completed. Native cottage-owners are oiling the outside of their houses and paint is supplied to those willing to paint the inside.

#### TRADE TRAINING WORKSHOP.

The year under review saw portion of the old manual training school altered and repaired as a trade training workshop. The aim of the workshop is to train promising men and lads in joinery and modern furniture manufacture while at the same time produce such items for Settlement and Departmental use. The workshop has been outfitted with modern machinery and with the exception of a number of specialised tools is complete.

The instructor is Mr. G. B. Cooper, and under his supervision the shop has already turned out 35 children's cots, 40 children's commodes, 20 tables, and 55 chairs, in addition to numerous small jobs.

Difficulty will be experienced for a time in securing adequate timber for both the workshop and the building programme, but in the near future it is hoped to overcome the problem.

At present, three men and five lads are employed, each one having had previous training in the manual training school. It is interesting to note that three of the boys were awarded bronze medals for exhibits displayed by them at the 1952 Queensland Industries Fair.

With the arrival of the specialised tools previously mentioned, production will be greatly increased.

#### CHILD WELFARE CLINIC.

A maternal and child welfare clinic was started in December, 1951, and is temporarily situated in the hospital outpatients' department under the control of Sister D. K. Sidgwick.

The clinic is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, the system of examination of the children being similar to that used in Government clinics throughout the State.

Cots complete with mattresses and mosquito-nets have been issued to indigent natives, while others who are in a position to purchase their own cots can do so at the Settlement retail store at a very low cost. Hypol, minadex, pentavite, milk of magnesia, feeding bottles, and teats were also issued.

It is found that by close co-operation between the clinic sister, Settlement matron, and hygiene officer, parental indifference to child welfare has been overcome and, since its establishment, the clinic has proved its worth and is a great boon to the Settlement.

Plans for a new clinic building are being prepared and the aim is to house the clinic in its own building before the end of the year.

Babies up to 12 months .. .. .	54
Number of toddlers on roll (12 months to 5 years) .. .. .	168
	<hr/>
	222
	<hr/>

At present one native girl is being trained, but when the new building is completed an increase in staff will be required.

#### HYGIENE.

The hygiene and sanitary gangs are under the control of Mr. A. G. Anderson, who was appointed to the Settlement staff in May, 1951. No outbreaks of disease from fly infestation were experienced, which speaks highly of the work of the hygiene officer and his native employees.

#### WATER SUPPLY.

Owing to the extremely dry weather in the winter and spring of 1951, Barambah Creek, from which the Settlement water supply is drawn, stopped running for nearly eight months. Just before the first rain in January, the mineral content hardness reached 52 per cent. In September, 1951, it was 48 per cent.

The installation of the new water supply and treatment works, plans of which are completed, is eagerly awaited. It is understood a start will be made in the new financial year. Repairs of breaks on main and feeder pipe lines were effected by the Settlement plumber. Modifications are under way to the shafting on the main pump drive.

#### MOTOR VEHICLES.

All Settlement vehicles have been giving good service but country roads do not lead to trouble-free travel and many breakages occur necessitating extra maintenance. The Murgon Shire Council has graded the Murgon-Settlement road several times during the year, but as most of the road surface requires remetalling, grading is really only a temporary measure. The Settlement vehicles collectively run 3,500 miles per month.

#### SPORT.

Two boxing tournaments were held during the year, when Cherbourg lads more than held their own with boxers from the local towns and Brisbane.

Cricket and football are played in season, our teams competing in district competitions.

#### RELIGIOUS BODIES.

The Church of England and A.I.M. hold services in their churches every Sunday and meetings during the week. Periodical Catholic services are held in the school buildings. These three denominations also give religious instruction to the school children one afternoon each week.

#### RAINFALL AND CATTLE.

Although 1,763 points of rain were registered during the twelve months, the severe drought experienced throughout Queensland was felt at Cherbourg Settlement. No rain fell during five months of the year, while of the yearly total, 915 points were registered in 1952. The previous highest registration was 170 points in November, 1951. Surface water was non-existent but fortunately it was possible to water the stock from August to the middle of March at the Settlement bores which number six.

Due to the heavy growth of grass, several bad bush fires were experienced, which resulted in the burning out of the Settlement pastoral areas. The cattle generally held their condition, but from August onwards the effect of the continual dry feeding was felt, particularly in the case of the herd cows.

It was possible to obtain agistment country for 400 weaners of mixed sexes, while a further 150 head were tailed from late October to December. This undoubtedly was the means of saving at least 50 per cent of the young stock, as over a period of 2½ months only 16 head were lost. Extensive dipping operations were carried out during the year. In February, 400 weaners were transferred to Woorabinda Settlement.

As a safety measure against bogging of cattle in the dry season, it is intended to completely fence out Barambah Creek.

The head stockman, Mr. A. West, together with his native helpers, is to be congratulated on the work performed by them during the extremely dry season.

#### MEAT ISSUE.

Owing to the dry season, we could only kill an average of one beast per week over the 12 months, the balance of the issue being made up with corned meat supplied from Brisbane. Soup is issued during the winter months.

## CHERBOURG SETTLEMENT SCHOOL.

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

*Enrolment.*—The enrolment varied from 297 during the first quarter to 291 during the December quarter. The mean quarterly enrolment was 294.25.

*Attendances.*—The attendances for the year were 28,414 boys and 27,871 girls, a total of 56,285. The average daily attendance for the year was 137.26 boys and 134.64 girls, a total of 271.9.

As has been usual in former years, the attendance was affected by colds and some sickness during the winter months and by a number of cases of chicken-pox during the December quarter. However, considering all factors, the attendance has been very satisfactory.

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

*Progress.*—Progress may be considered quite satisfactory. The admissions in the infant section settled down to school routine more rapidly than at the commencement of any previous year and, due to good staffing conditions in this section, showed more progress than in previous years. Although the main section of the school maintained steady progress throughout the year, increased staff towards the end of the year meant more individual attention and improved results.

*Domestic Science.*—This section has operated satisfactorily throughout the year. As usual, children attending exhibit keen interest and enthusiasm. Progress may be considered reasonable. The enrolment varied from 41 to 46 girls. An average of 34 girls from the middle grades of the primary section attended this section for needlework instruction.

Scones were baked twice weekly as a contribution towards the morning lunch of the primary school children. Work was prepared for display at the various Settlements' Shows, Murgon Show, and the Aboriginal Jubilee Exhibition in Brisbane. Girls from this section prepared and served luncheon to official visitors to the Cherbourg Show.

Passengers on the Pioneer tourist coaches are given an opportunity to inspect the work of this section during their visits to the Settlement.

*Manual Training.*—This section has operated reasonably satisfactorily throughout the year. The enrolment, apart from an average of 29 primary school boys, varied from 11 to 14. The boys of the primary section senior grades attend on two full days for instruction in manual subjects. Generally, all boys attending exhibit interest and enthusiasm.

The cabinetmaker's shop is still attached to this section. With the proposed separation of this section next year from the manual training portion, it should be possible for the manual training teacher to give greater individual attention to students and greater progress should then become evident.

The senior boys attached to this section, together with the native tradesmen of the cabinetmaker's shop, have completed, under the guidance of the manual teacher, an addition to the present building and it is now possible to separate the manual training section from the cabinet workshop. With the appointment of a person in charge of the workshop, the manual training teacher will be able to devote his energies solely to the regular classes and thus enable this section to operate as was originally envisaged.

Work for display at the various Settlements Shows, Murgon Show, and the Aboriginal Jubilee Exhibition at Brisbane was prepared and exhibited. The display stand for the inter-Settlement competition was prepared and erected.

*Staffing.*—This year the school staff, both white and native, has been more stable than in previous years. Miss Trappett resigned on the 24th August, 1951, on account of marriage. Mr. T. D. Murphy commenced duty on the 10th September, 1951. All members of the staff have shown industry and punctuality and are to be commended on the earnest way they devoted themselves to the duties required of them.

*Cleaning.*—All school cleaning operations were performed by older school children. Class rooms, equipment, and other school offices were cleaned regularly and in a satisfactory manner.

*Accommodation.*—As previously obtained, all accommodation is at a premium. Class rooms are taxed to the limit and do not tend to produce self-reliance. Organisation and administration continues to be a problem and will be so until all school children are housed in class rooms in close proximity to each other. Provision is being made for the utilisation of the old Settlement hall for the infant section next year and this will relieve the accommodation problem of that section. However, the main school building will be still taxed to the utmost, and it is earnestly hoped that new buildings in close proximity to the infant section will be erected during the coming year and thus enable all portions of the school to receive adequate supervision and guidance to the head teacher. The Director of Native Affairs has been acquainted with the matter and it is understood that adequate accommodation will be provided during the coming financial year.

*General.*—The school was closed on the 7th September, 1951—Cherbourg Show—and the 5th November, 1951—Teachers' Convention at Murgon re the New State School syllabus.

Owing to the incidence of poliomyelitis in the area this year, no district school sports were held. Hence, there has been no opportunity to display any prowess in the athletic field.

The primary, domestic science, and manual training sections submitted numerous entries in all available classes at the Cherbourg Show, and were very successful as regard awards. A display from all sections of the school formed part of the general Settlement display at the Murgon Show. Samples of work were also displayed in the Aboriginal Jubilee Exhibition at Brisbane.

The film projector continues to operate satisfactorily and much general knowledge is obtained by the children from this source. Our thanks are extended to the Department of Public Instruction for the regular and punctual supply of films.

The usual breaking-up festivities were held on the last day of the school year. Children were entertained with various games in the morning and were the guests of the Welfare Association at a special screening of pictures during the afternoon. The usual sweets, ice creams, drinks, and fruit were distributed and all appeared to enjoy the day.

It has been considered that the standard of education to be attained in the Settlement school might be increased now that better staffing conditions prevail and an attempt will be made next year to apply the new State School syllabus, with some reservations, up to and including Grade VI. A perusal of the new syllabus requirements leads to the opinion that reasonable success might be expected from the attempt. A preliminary testing of all grades confirmed this opinion, and it has been found that it will be possible to introduce this syllabus in its entirety in the infant section. Other grades should be able to satisfy the Mathematics section and the English section with minor adjustments. Other subjects will require some adjustment for next year but the following year it should be possible to apply the new syllabus as a whole up to and including Grade VI.

This change-over of syllabus means a complete reclassification of all present grades in the school and, in some cases, a fusing of two present grades into one grade. In these cases some children will be accelerated as much as eighteen months. The general standard will be accelerated about twelve months. With the addition of a further female teacher, who is expected to commence next year, it should be possible to iron out early troubles and have the scheme working satisfactorily by the middle of the year. It becomes apparent that school staffing by competent teachers now becomes essential if any measure of success is to be attained with this new scheme. Next year, this school will be reasonably staffed for this purpose and it is earnestly hoped that the staffing will be maintained at that numerical strength. Native teachers, particularly those who have continued on the staff over a period of years, have been of good value within the limits of their capabilities, but, now, unless they are capable of good training, their value will be negligible except for the purposes of supervision.

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

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

List of goods manufactured at manual training section and cabinet workshops:—

**WOODWORK—**

1 cabinet, 1 wall cabinet, 3 filing cabinets, 1 kitchen cabinet, 4 cupboards, 1 sideboard, 2 combination wardrobes, 7 tables, 21 chairs, 11 coffins, 1 truck seat, 20 shutters, 6 case-ment sashes, prefabricated furniture, 24 tables, 48 forms, 50 pedestal cabinets, 5 sets shelving, 2 ping pong tables, 1 large knife box, 1 commode, 1 salt box, 1 fire screen, 1 meat safe, 2 pairs crutches, 1 blackboard, 1 fuse box and fittings, 1 stove recess light, 16 doors.

Various repair jobs too numerous to record separately, including glazing, ceiling a veranda, installing cupboards, &c., were carried out.

An addition was made to the present workshop to house the manual training classes apart from the cabinet workshop and also to provide a new plumber's shop.

Show display stands were prepared and erected.

Float for Foundation Day procession was set up.

A room was added to a native cottage.

**SHEETMETAL—**

24 pannikins, 1 tub, 2 buckets.

**LEATHERWORK—**

2 halters, 3 pairs reins, 2 sets reins, 3 surcingles, 3 pairs stirrup leathers, 3 bridles, 72 dog collars, 3 girths.

**SOCIAL AND WELFARE ASSOCIATION.**

(President, Mr. H. R. Pascoe.)

Pleasure is taken in submitting the Seventh Annual Report of the Cherbourg Welfare Association for the year ended 20th February, 1952.

*Meetings.*—During the year, meetings were held monthly as usual and, when necessary, special meetings were called to deal with urgent business. The attendance generally could be improved.

*Finance.*—The financial position of the Association is quite satisfactory and the Treasurer's report shows as follows:—

	£
A credit in the Trading Account of .. .. .	579
Receipts for the year .. .. .	2,748
Expenditure for the year .. .. .	2,851
Assets of the Association .. .. .	15,538
Liabilities .. .. .	1,134
Assets over Liabilities .. .. .	14,404

It should be noted that the revaluation of assets as quoted above was recently made by a State Government Insurance representative.

*General.*—The affairs and activities of the Association have progressed smoothly during the year, the year's most notable achievement being the installation of a public library, which now offers the pleasures and benefits of reading to this community.

A roll of honour, which is made of bronze, was unveiled during the year as a lasting tribute to those gallant members of this community who served and, in some cases, paid the supreme sacrifice during the past two world wars.



Hay Baler, Aboriginal Training Farm, Cherbourg Settlement.

The recreation hall continues to be the profitable centre of welfare activities. Pictures have been screened on 187 occasions during the year and fortnightly dances have been held.

We express our appreciation to the welfare officer and his wife for their interest and efficiency in the care of Association property and in the supervision of all welfare functions. Especially do we appreciate their efforts in regard to the festivity, when approximately 600 people have the pleasure of receiving a gift from Santa Claus. On Christmas Day, under the supervision of Mr. and Mrs. Rees, approximately 250 indigent natives and dormitory inmates sat down to Christmas dinner in the hall. Our sincere thanks are due to the Department for providing funds for this treat.

*Youth Club.*—Various gymnasium equipment has been purchased and it is hoped that a Youth Club will be active in the near future.

*Electric Light.*—The Association provided £156 towards the cost of electric light used by inmates in their cottages.

*Show Society.*—Under the presidency of Mr. Goodchild, a creditable annual show was held in September. The show was opened by the Honourable the Minister for Health and Home Affairs, Mr. Moore, M.L.A. Several other members of Parliament were present.

Although unfavourable seasonal conditions were prevalent both ring and pavilion sections provided excellent exhibits. A feature of the show was the success of Cherbourg in the inter-Settlement competition for the Jones Shield. Functions held on show nights were very successful.

Thanks are due to all those officers, organisers, and helpers who by their efforts contributed to the success of all functions during this important annual event.

*Cricket.*—The cricket club was active under the presidency of Mr. Anderson. It fielded both "A" Grade and "B" Grade teams in the Murgon District Cricket Association competition. Whilst unsuccessful in the "A" Grade competition, the "B" Grade team completed the season by winning the premiership undefeated. Cricketers are to be commended for finance raised by their section during the season.

*Football.*—This section was active throughout the season. With the help of Mr. Rees, as president, and Mr. Vinson, as team manager, a good standard of football was maintained. Although no major successes were gained during the season, it is hoped that footballers by their attention to training and by the observance of good conduct will again win laurels for Cherbourg in this branch of sport.

*Boxing.*—Boxing tournaments were held during the year, all tournaments being well patronised.

During the year, resignations were received from the president, Mr. E. H. Goodchild, and from the secretary, J. Hamilton. Our thanks are due to Mr. Goodchild and Mr. Hamilton for the work and efforts made by them in the interest of this Association. Geoffrey Doolah has since acted as secretary and I have acted as president.

Since its inception, this Association has done much to improve and provide worthwhile amenities for this community. It is not only the duty of the Association, but is the duty of all, to make this place a little better for those that come after us. Let us all take an interest in Settlement affairs and gladly lend a helping hand in making Cherbourg a better, healthier, and happier community.

To Mr. Wessling, we offer our thanks for his interest and help, to Mr. Goodchild for the work he does as treasurer, and to Departmental and Settlement officials who by their actions or interests help towards the successful functioning of this Association.

#### HYGIENE OFFICER'S REPORT.

(Hygiene Officer, Mr. A. G. Anderson.)

*Infectious Diseases.*—Fourteen males were found to be suffering from gonorrhoea during the year and all of these patients were treated for same.

*Draught Horses.*—At the present time we have nine draught horses. It is brought to notice that these horses are in constant use, save one that has been in Cherbourg paddock for the last three months and on the advice of the head stockman is being left in Cherbourg as it is not fit to be worked. Nineteen draught horses have been shod during the year.

*Sanitation.*—During the past year much trouble has been experienced with regards to breakdown of the sanitary wagon. If a truck could be supplied to hygiene, the sanitation could be carried out much more quickly and the truck used for many purposes which, at the moment, have to be carried out as and when a dray can be made available. The position has been brought under the notice of the Superintendent and consideration is now being given to the supply of a truck for the purpose required. Much work with regard to repairs to sanitary boxes will be carried out in early June or July. This will entail the fixing of new lids and doors in the majority of cases.

*Dogs.*—Seventy-six (76) dogs were destroyed during the year, but the number of dogs has increased instead of decreased, and it is strongly recommended that an order be given to the effect that one dog only be allowed to a family and that no bitches be allowed on the Settlement. Roughly, there are about 200 to 300 dogs on the Settlement at the time of writing and it is impossible to make the natives keep dogs out of their houses. This is a matter to which I think some thought should be given before a decision is made.

*Slaughtering.*—Constant supervision has been maintained on all slaughtering for issue to the natives.

*Drainage.*—During the year minor repairs have been effected and a tri-weekly inspection of drainage systems carried out.

A complete drainage system was installed at the head stockman's residence and at the remodelled retail store.

*General.*—Under instructions received from the Superintendent, electric meter readings have been taken twice a month.

An inspection of houses is carried out regularly and, as has been noted in my monthly reports, there are certain natives who persist in having untidy and dirty houses. On two or three occasions, as his time has permitted, Dr. Monz has undertaken an inspection in the company of myself. Much has yet to be done before they can be relied upon to have an understanding of personal and collective hygiene.

#### ABORIGINAL TRAINING FARM.

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

The extremely dry weather experienced for practically the whole of the year did not permit the undertaking of major works or improvements, as, of necessity, the majority of the time was spent in irrigating fodder crops for the dairy herd. However, the good rains experienced in 1952 should assist in overtaking the lag.

*Dairy Herd.*—Despite the drought, the herd weathered very well indeed when it is considered only seven animals were lost. Of these, three were heifers, the remaining four being aged cows. During July, 1951, testing of the herd was commenced and has since been continued each month. The majority of cows tested so far have shown reasonably good results, although the milk yield generally has not been very high, which must be attributed to the prolonged dry weather. The average test per cow is approximately 4.5. At the end of March the total number of stock was 125. Of this number, there are 17 which are approximately eighteen months old and 29 which are from six to twelve months old, making a total of 46 head of young stock.

*Machinery.*—During January, 1952, a new 4-unit Alfa Laval Speedway milking machine was installed, which is a great asset to the dairy. These machines are working efficiently and no trouble has been experienced with any of the herd.

*Piggery.*—For the twelve months 124 pigs were sold to the Darling Downs Co-operative Bacon Association, and the total number of pigs on hand at the end of March was 60. One boar was purchased from Gatton College on December 13, 1951. This was the only pig purchased for the year. A number of young breeders have been selected and these will replace old breeders which will be sold when they are no longer useful as breeders. Fencing of further pig runs has commenced and it is intended to fence approximately 15 acres for grazing of natural pastures. It is also intended to plant 3 acres of lucerne for grazing.

*Farming.*—On account of the dry weather conditions, the growing of general crops was limited to some extent and irrigation of fodder crops was actually the most important. However, potatoes and broom millet were harvested for sale. Cape barley, oats, poona peas and sudan were grown for fodder. Lucerne was also mown whenever possible but for approximately five months this was irrigated and grazed. Present crops making good progress are maize, milo, potatoes, pumpkins, broom millet, lucerne, cape barley and oats. A hay baler was purchased and lucerne and sudan has been baled and stored for winter feed. At

present, a horse-drawn mower is used for mowing and it is suggested that a power mower could be purchased and used to great advantage. It is also suggested that planters and cultivator be attached to the tractor. Inquiries have been made with regard to using the present planter and cultivator as part of this equipment and, if this can be done, it will lower the cost considerably and would enable planting and especially clearing of crops to be done more efficiently and quicker than at present.

*Orchard.*—The citrus trees were retarded in growth to a great extent during the last year. This was due to extremely cold winter conditions and dry weather. However, not many of the trees died and at the present time, they are looking well. The trees were sprayed and fertilised but with the development of the trees, it will be necessary to have a permanent irrigation system to obtain the best results.

#### APPENDIX 3.

#### WOORABINDA ABORIGINAL SETTLEMENT.

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

*Health.*—The general health has been satisfactory, as the period under review has been free of any serious epidemics.

The hospital is now under the control of the Rockhampton Hospitals Board. The Board has maintained a staff of matron and two sisters (white) and six native trainee nurses.

*Visitors.*—The Honourable the Minister for Health and Home Affairs, Mr. W. M. Moore, M.L.A.; Mr. James Clarke, M.L.A.; Mr. P. Whyte, M.L.A.; The Deputy Director of Native Affairs, Mr. P. J. Richards; Dr. Fullagher, Medical Superintendent, Rockhampton Hospital, together with members of the Rockhampton Hospitals Board.

#### *Statistics.*—

Births	..	..	32 (19 males, 12 females, 1 stillborn).
Deaths	..	..	11 (4 males, 7 females)
Marriages	..	..	3

Six children were removed to the settlement from Cracow because of neglect by their parents.

*Education.*—Advancement has been maintained in all sections. The services of an assistant male teacher has helped considerably in the school.

*Employment.*—The number of natives sent to positions outside the settlement did not show any appreciable increase over last year due to the fact that the Settlement Developmental Programme necessitated the retention of the majority of male labour at the settlement. Female labour was not restricted in any way.

*Native Housing.*—The period under review saw the erection of five first class cottages complete with laundry and bathroom.

*Garage.*—All motor repair work has been carried out on the settlement by a white officer with a staff of three natives.

*Transport.*—An International utility has replaced the Ford V8 utility and a Pontiac sedan has been allotted to the settlement to take care of passenger running.



General View, Woorabinda Settlement.





Treatment Plant, Woorabinda Water Supply.



Concrete Water Tower, Woorabinda Water Supply.

The trucks, as well as maintaining the transport of goods and passengers between Woorabinda and Foleyvale and goods between Woorabinda and Duaringa, carried the following number of passengers to and from the railway:—

- 147 on medical orders—free.
- 72 making holiday trips for which a fare of 7s. 6d. is charged.  
Payments made to this office by outside natives amounted to £32 5s. 0d.
- 207 escorts and removees—free.
- 175 to employment or exempted persons making visits here to relatives for which a fee of 15s. 0d. is charged.

*Sawmill.*—One small bench has been running to obtain timber supplies for some of the building work. The bench has been driven by an old Wallis Tractor, as the steam engine was condemned. Preparations are now being made to instal a new boiler, a new engine and a breaking down frame and No. 1 Bench. These installations will greatly increase the timber output.

*Power House.*—Power and light supplies have been maintained through the year. The Engineer, Mr. Simmonds, resigned to take up a position at Port Moresby, and Mr. Butcher has now taken charge of the Station. One more native trainee has been added to the staff. Sale of electricity to officers returned £70 19s. 11d.

*Retail Store.*—The value of sales by the store has increased to £17,479 5s. 8d.

*Conduct.*—The conduct of the natives can be considered as very fair, as only one criminal case occurred during the period.

The visiting Magistrate, Mr. Fitzsimmons, has paid regular visits and inspects the Settlement and Police Court Records. Fines totalling £23 2s. were imposed, all for charges of gambling.

#### FARM.

Like other centres throughout Queensland, Woorabinda did not escape the severe drought of last year, with the result that farming activities were of necessity somewhat curtailed. Efforts made, however, were reasonably successful, as the following list of crops grown reveals:—

Cabbage .. ..	2,619 head
Cauliflower ..	398 head
Turnips .. ..	27 cwt.
Lettuce .. ..	234 cases
Radish .. ..	319 bunches
Beetroot .. ..	30 cwt.
Kohl Rabi .. ..	12 cwt.
Onions .. ..	2 tons 6 cwt. 2 qrs.
Carrots .. ..	1 ton 17 cwt. 3 qrs.
Sweet Potatoes ..	1 ton 16 cwt.
Pumpkins .. ..	1 ton 3 cwt.
Beans .. ..	136 bushels
Tomatoes .. ..	88 bushels
Cucumber .. ..	145 bushels
Squash .. ..	165 sacks
Watermelon .. ..	2,700 (47,000 lbs.)
Milo Hay .. ..	92 bales
Sudan Grass Hay	175 bales
Meadow Hay .. ..	510 bales
Oranges .. ..	32 cases

#### PASTORAL.

Cattle held at Woorabinda as at 31st March, 1952, total 4,384—2,469 female and 1,915 male. This number includes 922 male cattle held on account of Foleyvale and 178 heifers held on account of Cherbourg because of the drought in those areas. Cattle killed for rations during this period numbered 305 head for a carcase weight of 139,030 pounds, of which 117,191 pounds was issued as rations to the natives and 21,839 pounds were sold to officials and other workers for a return of £393 16s.

The dairy herd was tested for tuberculosis, the results showing all animals free of the disease.

Three hundred and twenty-seven hides were sold over the period for £345 14s. 2d., and a commission refund was made to Brisbane Office of £4 16s.

Brandings during the period totalled 527—255 females and 272 males. This is the lowest brandings for some years, owing to exceptional dry year.

*Horses.*—Draught horses now number 46, and saddle horses 117.

Brandings were 6 draught horses and 12 saddle horses.

*Pigs.*—The last of the Woorabinda pigs, 1 boar, has been moved to Foleyvale, where the general conditions are more favourable to pig raising.

#### FOLEYVALE RESERVE.

Foleyvale is regarded as the Department's agricultural and cattle fattening centre, as the terrain and waterways lend themselves to extensive operations in the industries mentioned. Unfortunately, the prolonged drought experienced throughout the State was severely felt at Foleyvale, its influence seriously retarding the agricultural programme. However, despite such conditions, a small crop of cotton was successfully harvested and a planting of 10 acres of pumpkins yielded 200 bags. The opportunity was also taken to fallow 320 acres of ground for conditioning purposes.

Beneficial rains were received in March and since that time much leeway has been made up, plantings consisting of 370 acres of wheat, 240 acres of milo and 33 acres of pumpkins. In addition many acres were put under pasture grasses.

Improvements were limited mainly to ring-barking, clearing and fencing and, of 200 acres of land cleared, 100 acres were broken up and completely fenced. In addition 6 miles of subdivision fencing was completed. Two prefabricated steel frame buildings recently purchased to house the Foleyvale native workers are now on the site ready for erection. Irrigation is shortly to be introduced and one 40 h.p. engine and centrifugal pump together with necessary piping has been procured. When installed, this plant will be capable of pumping 60,000 gallons per hour.

*Pig Industry.*—Pig raising operations carried out under the free range system have commenced and a herd of approximately 90 pigs now exists. An initial sale of 10 pigs sold as baconers to Lakes Creek Meat Works realised £12 per head. Although in its infancy, the industry on present indications should develop into a sound and profitable venture.

#### WOORABINDA SETTLEMENT SCHOOL.

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

*Attendance.*—The number of pupils enrolled at the end of March, 1952, was 164, consisting of 79 boys and 85 girls. The daily average attendance for the year ended 31st March, 1952, was 133 (boys 64.9, girls 68.1).

*Classification of Pupils.*—At the 31st March, 1952, the classification of pupils was as follows:—

Classes.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Grade VI. .. ..	3	10	13
Grade V. .. ..	6	6	12
Grade IV. .. ..	15	13	28
Grade III. .. ..	13	10	23
Grade II. .. ..	15	11	26
Grade I. .. ..	16	16	32
Prep. .. ..	11	19	30
<b>Totals .. ..</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>164</b>

*Children of Officials.*—Nine of the pupils enumerated above are children of white officials.

*Staff.*—The staff consists of three white teachers, four monitors and a male vocational teacher for the boys.

*Curriculum.*—Towards the end of the period covered by this Annual Report, a New Syllabus was introduced into the schools under the control of the Department of Public Instruction. As far as possible and practicable, this syllabus will be followed in this Aboriginal School.

*Settlement Shows.*—A comprehensive but non-competitive display was sent from this school to the Show held at Palm Island Settlement in July, 1951. Needlework, leatherwork, woodwork, tinsmithing were embraced by this display. In addition, this school entered the competitive sections.

In September, 1951, competitive exhibits were sent to the Cherbourg Show.

Our own local Show had been held in May, 1951, and here the pupils exhibited in the 39 sections into which the school work was divided. They provided 228 exhibits.

*Queensland Industries Fair.*—On the 10th December, 1951, this school was officially informed that the Queensland Industries Fair would be held in Brisbane in April and May, 1952. The school responded by sending 61 exhibits in fancywork and other needlework, leatherwork, woodwork, tinsmithing, and trade drawings.

*Cultural Aspect of School Life.*—Much encouragement is given to the teachers and pleasure to the children by the readiness with which the Department adopts suggestions and supplies equipment for the good of the pupils.

*Piano.*—Last August, a second-hand piano was delivered and its presence has already justified its purchase. Songs are now taught and learned with much less labour.

*Film Projector.*—About the same time, screenings of pictures were commenced. The machine is a Bell and Howell Gaumont, 16-m.m Model 601 Sound Projector.

Films are obtained from the Department of Public Instruction, the Shell Company and the Queensland Health Education Council.

*Percussion Band and Recorder Group.*—The Department supplied drums, tambourines, triangles, cymbals, sleigh bells, Indian bells and castanets. Two Cescant recorders and necessary books have also been received.

*Visit to Rockhampton Carnival.*—In June, 1951, the Head Teacher and his wife, assisted by the native Senior Sergeant of Police, took charge of a party of children (17 girls and 13 boys) and took them to Rockhampton to see the Carnival. This visit was educational in the best sense of the word. The Scouts' Hall was made available for the accommodation of the party. Segregation was an easy matter because of the adequate rooming facilities.

At the Carnival, the various pavilions were inspected quite critically by the children, who, because of their experience with our own local shows, knew how to evaluate the efforts of exhibitors and the skill of the stewards responsible for the appearance of the respective displays.

Many of the children had rides on the octopus, merry-go-round, electric cars and the miniature railway train. Visits were also made to side-shows such as the glass blower, the wonderful woman, the monkey show, the snake charmer and the ferris wheel.

Inspection of the various animals as seen in the grand parade was a special attraction.

The highlight of the whole visit was Wirth's Circus.

*Queensland Bush Children's Health Scheme.*—Fourteen school children participated in this scheme. They went to Emu Park and were accommodated at the Leslie Wilson Home.

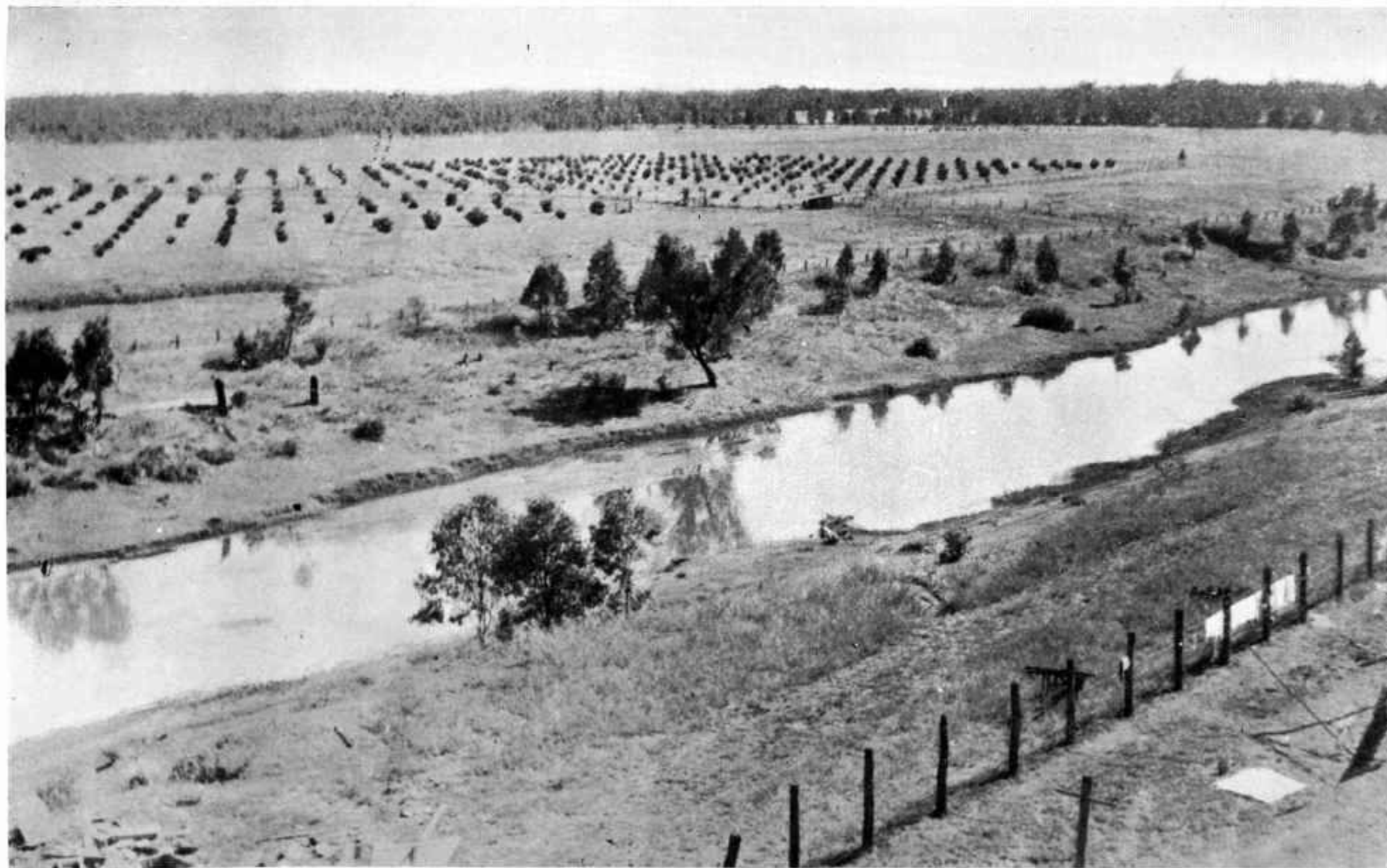
*Night Classes.*—Night classes, inaugurated in November, 1945, by the Head Teacher, have been conducted during the year under review. Whether these classes will be continued depends upon the enthusiasm shown by the natives.

#### SOCIAL AND WELFARE ASSOCIATION.

(President, Mr. C. Jensen.)

As president of the Woorabinda Social and Welfare Association, it is with pleasure that I submit this, the Seventh Annual Report of activities of this association for the period under review.

Every assistance and co-operation has been given me by all officials and native committees whenever required.



Citrus Orchard, Woorabinda Settlement.



Overseer's Quarters, Foleyvale Reserve.



McKenzie River Causeway, Foleyvale Reserve.

*Recreational and Social.*—Recreational and social events have been conducted continuously during the year. A fancy dress ball was staged and some most humorous and original costumes were presented, leaving a difficult problem for the judges who came a considerable distance to officiate. One costume depicting a wild man was displayed by Clifford Murray (nickname, "Wake-em-up") and was so realistic that, until the mothers of children present reassured their youngsters that it wasn't a bogey man, the children were leaving the hall in fright.

A belle of the ball contest is being held during show festivities for which a full complement of participants is expected.

#### SPORTING.

*Football.*—The football season has opened very successfully. This season we are fielding two strong teams. With the advent of several Yarrabah and other northern lads and removees from Cherbourg, it has built our football strength considerably. Matches have already been played against Mount Morgan (two teams) and Theodore and decisive wins have been experienced in each case. Two teams are travelling to Rockhampton to play under flood lighting, the first experience under these conditions our lads will have. A strong Rockhampton team will be playing at Woorabinda during show week.

*Cricket.*—This sport continues to be popular. A new concrete wicket has been laid down and the results have far exceeded expectations. Our old ant-bed wicket did not give the cricketers good practice for outside games on concrete. Last season centuries and high scores were common. Every match played was won convincingly by Woorabinda. It is hoped to take a full aboriginal team to Rockhampton for country week next season and such visit will give our team more experience against city clubs.

*Boxing.*—Several bouts against members of Y.M.C.A. at Rockhampton were staged, the win percentages being well in favour of this settlement. A Golden Glove runner up was well beaten by one of our contestants. Contests are held fortnightly and some very good bouts have been staged. Whenever visiting sporting teams are here, boxing is arranged for their benefit and is always enjoyed by visitors and inmates alike.

*Basket Ball.*—This sport for the girls continues to be popular. Matches have been played against Theodore and Cracow this season resulting in wins for our players. Negotiations have been in hand for some time to try to arrange a game against Rockhampton's best, but, so far, unsuccessfully. Accommodation and distance appears to be the main drawback. It is hoped to iron out this difficulty in the near future.

*New Year's Day Sports.*—Owing to extreme drought conditions experienced this period, our usual New Year's Day Sports were not held. The cancellation of this annual event caused a blank over the New Year celebrations.

*1952 Show.*—This year's show is the fourth annual competition between settlements for the Jones Shield. A bumper display is expected. Unfortunately, this report is submitted before results are known.

*Talkie Screening.*—Pictures are being shown successfully every Saturday night. This association has been under considerable expense with the plant and when a new amplifier (for which arrangements to purchase and instal have been made) suitable to the plant is received, trouble-free service should be ours. Serials are shown and where possible all Western films, which are very popular with the inhabitants.

*General Activities.*—Throughout the year, various functions have been regularly held. On Wednesday nights, children's dances are conducted and every Friday night an adult dance is held. Frequently, an old time dance has been held on a Monday night and has been very successful. A good dance hall for these functions is badly needed.

*Finance.*—The finances of the association are steadily increasing. The advent of our own picture show and a concentrated drive for funds has increased our capital to £850 at the end of the period. This result is most satisfactory.

In conclusion, I would convey thanks to the Director of Native Affairs, the Deputy Director of Native Affairs, Superintendent, Head Office Staff and all officials and native committees for the assistance rendered.

#### APPENDIX 4.

#### TORRES STRAIT ISLANDS AND PENINSULA.

*Marine Industry.*—The population of Thursday Island, white and coloured, and the Islanders of Torres Strait and aboriginals on Cape York Peninsula are in the main dependent on the marine industry, viz., pearlshell and trochus shell, for a livelihood. From this industry are the corollary undertakings of shipwright, blacksmith, carpenter, storekeeper, &c., but without the pearling and trochus industry of Torres Strait and the eastern waters of Cape York Peninsula, Thursday Island as a town would be non-existent and the Islanders and aboriginals would be in a particularly difficult position industrially. It is therefore natural that every effort to further this industry must be taken to permit the continuation of this outpost of Australia as a unit in the life of a nation and for its ultimate defence.

Approximately 1,300 Islanders and aboriginals are engaged in this industry. Of this total, 600 men, mainly Islanders, are employed on vessels controlled and managed by the Director of Native Affairs. These vessels are the property of the Torres Strait Islanders. The balance of the men are employed on privately owned vessels.

It can be estimated that less than ten per cent. of all workers in the industry are other than Islanders and aboriginals. Therefore, the Islander enjoys a near monopoly of the responsible positions of diver, tender and engineer on

the pearling luggers. The Islander and aboriginal has a monopoly of the crew work. Discussion has eventuated recently over the desirability of the introduction of Asiatic labour to this industry and many and varied arguments were adduced in favour of that proposal. Strong opposition to it emanated from the Torres Strait Islanders, their contention being that properly managed and controlled, the fleets on which they were employed could give a return beneficial to the owner and at least equal to that which any other nationality could give. An examination of the pearlshell catches by various divers will reveal that the Islander had considerable support for his argument as revealed below. The underquoted statistics apply to the fishing season 1951 and indicate the tonnage returns of luggers of equal size and capacity, the highest catch by one boat for the season was 22 tons as shown—

Islander Diver	.. ..	22 tons
Islander Diver	.. ..	20 tons
Malayan Diver	.. ..	17½ tons
Islander Diver	.. ..	16½ tons
Islander Diver	.. ..	16 tons
Islander Diver	.. ..	14½ tons
Japanese Diver	.. ..	13 tons 18 cwt.
Japanese Diver	.. ..	10 tons
Japanese Diver	.. ..	5½ tons

For the year ended March, 1951, the value of marine produce won by Islander-owned vessels was £91,279. For the year ended March, 1952, being the period under review, the total value of the produce won was £134,034. Details of such earnings are recorded in Schedule 2. Weather conditions militated against satisfactory working in the pearlshell industry, the result being that this year's production was nine tons less than the previous year.

In 1951, trochus shell attained a record price of £300 per ton. However, towards the end of the year a severe slump, due principally to over-production, occurred and it is doubtful now if a price of £100 per ton could be received.

The remuneration paid to divers, tenders, engineers and crews in the pearling industry and to captain and crew of workers in the trochus industry are provided by Agreements between employers and employees.

The Divers' Agreement for 1952 season is hereunder—

#### DIVERS' AGREEMENT—1952.

Agreement made this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_  
 One Thousand Nine Hundred and Fifty-two between \_\_\_\_\_ Owners of the vessel \_\_\_\_\_ hereinafter called the Owners and \_\_\_\_\_ hereinafter called the Diver, Whereas the vessel is now lying at anchor in the harbour of Thursday Island and the Diver is desirous of taking the vessel to the Queensland Pearl Shell and Beche-de-mer fishing grounds in Torres Strait and vicinity for one purpose of procuring Pearl Shell and other Marine Produce which may be desired by the Owners from time to time and supplying same to the Owners during the whole of the fishing season of 1952 ending on the 31st

January, 1953, sign off of the crews to be completed by that date. *Now it is hereby agreed* between the parties hereto as follows:—

1. The Owners hereby grant permission to the Diver to take charge of the vessel and to proceed in it to the above fishing grounds.

2. The Diver agrees not to take the vessel to any other fishing grounds without the Owners' consent. The Owner agrees not to send the vessel to any other grounds without first obtaining the approval of the Shellers Appeal Board.

3. The Diver agrees to supply all M.O.P. Shell and other Marine Produce obtained by the Diver and Crew of the vessel during the fishing season of 1952 to the Owners and the same shall become and remain the property of the Owners immediately it is obtained by the Diver and Crew and shall be delivered by them to the Owners or their authorised representatives at such place in Thursday Island and at such times as the Owners may direct, provided that no costs shall accrue against the Diver for transport or wharfage. Marine Produce includes all types of Shells, shell meat, dugong and all kinds of edible fish, and Beche-de-mer, turtle meat and shells.

4. The Owners will pay to the Diver for the supply of live M.O.P. Shell fished from waters regarded as F.A.Q. clean, chipped, dry and ready for packing as per the schedule set out below:—

#### LAY.

	Up to 10 tons.	Over 10 tons and up to 14.	Over 14 tons and up to 18.	Over 18 tons.
Sound .. ..	£ 270	£ 285	£ 320	£ 330
D. .. ..	220	225	240	245
E. .. ..	150	150	155	155
EE. .. ..	90	90	95	95

The rates set out above shall be retrospective after the tonnage stated is reached.

No deduction shall be made for loss of weight of shell subsequent to weighing.

For M.O.P. Shell not provided for in this Agreement, Lay at Seventy-five per cent. (75%) above rates.

5. The Owners shall be entitled to deduct from the Diver's lay all advances made by the Owners to or on account of the Diver for rations, wages and bonuses or other payments to 2nd Diver, 3rd Diver, 4th Diver, Tenders, Engineer and Crew, and other payments or advances made against the Diver's account.

No liability for payment of Workers Compensation and Pay Roll Tax shall accrue against the Diver.

6. The Diver shall pay the cost of all fuel used over and above the amount of Two hundred pounds (£200) in the case of Luggers and Three hundred pounds (£300) in the case of Power Boats.

7. The Diver agrees with the Owners that he will pay wages to the Crew as follows:—

2nd Diver .. ..	£20 per month
3rd Diver .. ..	£20 per month
4th Diver .. ..	£20 per month
1st Tender .. ..	£20 per month
2nd Tender .. ..	£18 per month
3rd Tender .. ..	£18 per month
4th Tender .. ..	£18 per month
Engineer .. ..	£20 per month
Crew .. ..	£17 per month

Diver's liability for efficient white Engineers £6 per week.



If, during the current season, a white man is displaced by an Islander, the Islander shall receive £6 per week as above.

8. The Diver agrees to conduct and manage the vessel in the following manner:—

- (a) Crews at all times must be aboard their respective vessels unless given permit to leave by the Stern Tender and all breaches of this clause should be reported in writing to the Director of Native Affairs and the Shipping Master.
- (b) Any crew member who deserts his boat during the season or whose services are terminated through his own fault or because of misconduct, neglect of duty, breach of this Agreement, or at his own request, shall not participate in bonus payments.
- (c) The Diver agrees to pay the following bonuses to men employed aboard his vessel:—

Two (2) Diver Boat ..	$\frac{1}{4}$ (33 $\frac{1}{3}$ %) nett earnings
Thres (3) Diver Boat ..	$\frac{1}{3}$ (33 $\frac{1}{3}$ %) nett earnings
Four (4) Diver Boat ..	$\frac{1}{2}$ (50%) nett earnings

Try Divers with one year's experience or more shall be paid extra bonus at the rate of £2 per ton from the Diver's share and Trainee Divers for the first year shall be paid extra bonus at the rate of £1 per ton by the Owners where the Stern Diver reports that his services during the season have been satisfactory.

For the purposes of this Agreement Trainee Divers are first year Try Divers.

Provided that such bonuses do not reduce the Diver's income below £200.

Such bonus to be apportioned as follows:—

Two (2) Diver Boat—

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

Three (3) Diver Boat—

2nd Diver .. ..	2 shares
3rd Diver .. ..	2 shares
1st Tender .. ..	2 shares
2nd Tender .. ..	1 share
3rd Tender .. ..	1 share
Engineer .. ..	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ shares
4 crew .. ..	3 shares to be divided equally

Four Diver Boat—

2nd Diver .. ..	2 shares
3rd Diver .. ..	2 shares
4th Diver .. ..	2 shares
1st Tender .. ..	2 shares
2nd Tender .. ..	1 share
3rd Tender .. ..	1 share
4th Tender .. ..	1 share
Engineer .. ..	2 shares
5 crew .. ..	3 shares to be divided equally

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

15. The owners may make advances on wages due up to 50 per cent., subject to accounts being in credit and with the prior approval, where required, of the Director of Native Affairs. The initial amount to be paid to crews on sign on not to exceed £5 per man. Bonus will not be paid until termination of this Agreement.

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

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

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

Regulations dated 10th April, 1952, covering remuneration for trochus workers is as hereunder—

1. These regulations may be cited as "The Islanders Regulations, 1952."

#### REPEAL.

2. "The Islanders Regulations, 1951," made under the provisions of "*The Torres Strait Islanders Acts, 1939 to 1946*," and "*The Aboriginals Preservation and Protection Acts, 1939 to 1946*," are hereby repealed.

#### EMPLOYMENT ON VESSELS.

3. (a) Minimum wages payable to Islanders and aboriginals employed on vessels licensed and working in the trochus shell industry shall be—

Captain—Islander or aboriginal, £22 per month and food.

Islander member of crew, £17 per month and food.

Aboriginal member of crew, £14 10s. per month and food.

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

Captain	.. .. .	£8 per ton
Chief Officer	.. .. .	£2 10s. per ton
Crew	.. .. .	£1 5s. per ton

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

#### WELFARE.

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

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

	£	s.	d.
Badu School Benefit Fund .. .. .	37	15	5
Bamaga Welfare Fund .. .. .	122	12	4
Coconut Welfare Club Fund .. .. .	51	0	4
Coconut School Welfare Fund .. .. .	0	7	6
Darnley School Welfare Fund .. .. .	11	2	10
Dauan School Welfare Fund .. .. .	2	5	10
Dowar "Southern Cross" Club Fund .. .. .	87	2	0
Mabuag Welfare Fund .. .. .	20	18	0
Mabuag School Welfare Fund .. .. .	131	16	6
Murray Welfare Fund .. .. .	310	4	3
Murray School Welfare Fund .. .. .	152	18	1
Saibai School Welfare Fund .. .. .	7	17	11
Yam Welfare Fund .. .. .	61	7	6
Yam School Welfare Fund .. .. .	4	19	3
Yorke "Seagull" Welfare Fund .. .. .	88	7	1
Western Island Hospital Welfare Fund .. .. .	56	17	10
Eastern and Central Island Hospital Welfare Fund .. .. .	130	16	9



Apprentices Island Industries Board Slipway Workshop, Thursday Island.



Islanders Curio Making—Thursday Island.

### EDUCATION.

In the Torres Strait Islands, apart from Mission Schools at St. Pauls, Moa Island (Anglican), and Hammond Island (Catholic), nineteen (19) Departmental schools are established for the education of approximately 900 children. White teachers are in charge of the schools at Badu, Mabuiag, and Yorke Islands. On Murray and Darnley Islands, despite that accommodation is available for married white teachers, it has not been possible to replace the recent officers who were transferred from those centres to the Department of Public Instruction.

The isolation of this area and the hard living conditions for white officers makes it very difficult to maintain a continuous white staff on the larger islands. On the smaller islands native Island teachers are in charge of schools and, taking all this into consideration, they perform a very good job.

### HEALTH.

For the early portion of the period under review, the health of the Torres Strait people was reasonably satisfactory, although the absence of continuous medical surveys of the Islands and the Peninsula Missions militated against the accurate assessment of health problems. Again the inability to secure the services of a Tuberculosis expert caused a break in the surveys which had operated last year. However, it is known that action already taken will rectify this disadvantage in the near future.

In the month of June, 1952, a severe outbreak of malignant malaria occurred on Darnley and Murray Islands and to a lesser degree on some of the other islands. Prompt action by the Department of Health and Home Affairs in despatching medical officers experienced in tropical diseases to the area prevented the spread of the epidemic. The fact that this outbreak was localised in the Torres Strait Islands and was not allowed to extend to the mainland is a compliment to those medical officers who handled it.

The assistance in the administration rendered by approximately 20 Torres Strait Island trainee nurses has been appreciated. Generally, their conduct has been good and their services satisfactory. It is understood from the Medical Superintendent that more extensive training will be undertaken next year to enable these girls to attain a greater degree of efficiency than is possible at present.

An indication of the work being carried out in the Thursday Island Hospital, the maternity section thereof and the Waiben Isolation Hospital is revealed by the following statistics

for the month of May and it can be taken as an average over the twelve months under review:—

#### MAY STATISTICS.

	T.I.H. Gen.	Maternity.	Waiben.
Admissions and Discharges—			
Remaining in Hospital 30-4-52 ..	68	7	56
Admitted during May .. ..	58	16	9
Treated during May .. ..	126	23	65
Discharged during May .. ..	62	18	11
Deaths during May .. ..	2	..	..
Remaining in Hospital 31-5-52 ..	62	5	54
Daily average .. ..	66.4	8.2	58.3
Combined daily average .. ..	132.9	..	..
Maternity and Birth Statistics—			
Confinements .. ..	12	..	..
Single births, living .. ..	12	..	..
Total births .. ..	12	..	..
Deaths .. ..	..	..	..
Born before admission .. ..	..	..	..
Outpatient Department—			
Number of new registrations .. ..	239	..	..
Number of re-visits .. ..	817	..	..
Total visits made .. ..	1,056	..	..
Daily average on 6 day week basis ..	38.8	..	..
Ambulance Service—			
Cases treated, accident .. ..	22	..	..
Cases treated, transport .. ..	622	..	..
Total cases treated .. ..	644	..	..
Mileage travelled .. ..	661	..	..
X-Ray—			
Patients attended .. ..	259	..	..
X-rays taken .. ..	324	..	..

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

Schedule 1 provides statistics of the small hospitals established in the Torres Strait area. These hospitals cater for cases not warranting removal to the Thursday Island General Hospital. This schedule also reveals statistics of births, deaths and marriages in the area. The excess of births over deaths, 194 to 59, is a pleasing factor.

*Aplin Hostel.*—To provide for the care and supervision of patients discharged from the Waiben Hospital and prior to their returning home, the Department has established the Aplin Hostel on Thursday Island. This Hostel was opened on the 15th February, 1952, and during the year, 43 patients were admitted, 9 discharged, 4 admitted to the General Hospital, leaving a balance of 30 inmates at the 30th June, 1952. Aplin Hostel is staffed by white and coloured employees of the Sub-Department of Native Affairs and the Hostel provides, apart from excellent accommodation and feeding, amenities and recreation suited to the type of patient for which it caters.

### ACCOUNTS.

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

	Number of Accounts 31-3-51.	Number of Accounts 31-3-52.	Balances 31-3-51.		Balances 31-3-52.	
			£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Islanders .. ..	3,884	4,021	101,757	4 9	94,514	3 0
Aboriginals .. ..	874	780	32,901	16 3	43,146	0 3
Child Endowment .. ..	969	824	8,871	14 6	13,358	19 10
Island Funds .. ..	66	65	12,393	13 1	15,245	15 7
	5,793	5,690	155,924	8 7	166,264	18 8

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

boats and for those essential requirements of life which necessitate provision for the rainy day.

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

Transactions on the above accounts for the twelve months ended 31st March, 1952, are as under—

—	Number of Accounts.	Deposits.	Withdrawals.	Balance, 1-4-51.	Balance, 31-3-52.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Torres Strait Islands and Missions .. .. .	5,690	350,812 15 4	340,472 5 3	155,924 8 7	116,564 18 8
		Investments Commonwealth Loan		..	49,700 0 0
				£	166,264 18 8

#### CAPE YORK SETTLEMENT.

(Superintendent, Mr. G. H. Thomas.)

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

Added to this acquired area is the adjacent old Government controlled camp of Cowal Creek with an area of 53,120 acres. For effective supervision, both these areas have now been amalgamated and constitute the Cape York Peninsula area with total acreage, 97,620, and aboriginal and islander population 350.

The lay-out of Bamaga township which is the centre of administration of the area is on well defined and modern lines and very serviceable cottages suited to the climatic conditions are provided for the people.

The provision of water is well under way and the cultivation of food and other crops has not been neglected.

The following statistics as furnished by the Superintendent indicate the progress during the year:—

#### Buildings.—

- Number of homes completed, 7 white, 16 native.
- 2 native cottages under construction.
- 2 machinery sheds.
- 1 hospital.
- 1 temporary school.
- Bamaga branch store has been enlarged.
- Area of cleared land is now 50 acres.
- Number of pineapples, 1,500.
- Number of citrus, 100.
- Number of pawpaws, 100.
- Number of mangoes, 200.
- Sweet potatoes under cultivation, 3 acres.
- Cassava under cultivation, 3 acres.
- Mixed vegetables under cultivation, 3 acres.
- Number of cattle, 56.
- Number of pigs, 84.

During the year, the following timber, &c., has been made available to other areas—

- Firewood for Thursday Island District Hospital 240 cords.
- Fencing posts, Badu Island School, 27.
- Electric light posts, Thursday Island, 10.
- Sawn timber, Thursday Island, 500 sup. ft.
- 14 ft. building posts, Thursday Island, 13.
- Fencing battens, 1,400 lin. feet.

*Sawmill.*—The old unit has operated satisfactorily but on a minor scale and, during the year, has provided approximately 40,000 lineal feet of timber for use in the building programme at the Settlement. It is anticipated that the new sawmill will be completed within eight weeks, and will comprise the following—

#### 2 Benches—

- 1 Breaking down bench.
- 1 Running out bench.

The above will be powered by a 80 h.p. Diesel unit and the daily output of the Mill should be approximately 2,000 super feet.

*Weir.*—Satisfactory progress has been made with the construction of the weir and it is anticipated that within three months this job should be completed. Delay has been occasioned by the wet season, when work was impracticable.

*Hospital.*—A hospital building has been completed at Bamaga and is functioning satisfactorily.

The daily average is four in-patients and thirty out-patients.

*Fencing.*—5,000 posts have been split for fencing in the reserve area and during the year, a further 8 miles of boundary fencing has been completed, and 40 acres of farm area have been fenced.

During the year under review, the Mutee Head people moved into Bamaga Settlement without mishap and are now adequately housed in the new cottages provided. They are happy in their new location and the population is at present in the vicinity of 300.

*School.*—A new school has been opened at Bamaga and the daily enrolment is 27 boys and 23 girls. The school continues to function at Red Island Point where 9 boys and 6 girls attend.

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

**PATROL VESSEL "MELBIDIR"**

This vessel rendered excellent service throughout the year proceeding to southern and northern ports.

In addition to carrying stores to all Islands in Torres Strait, visits have been made to Lockhart River on the East Coast and to Gulf Missions on the West Coast of the Peninsula. Two trips were made to Cairns for urgently required stores and timber.

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

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

**WIRELESS NETWORK.**

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

Base Station—Thursday Island.

Out Stations—19.

This State Government owned radio service has contact with all the larger Islands of Torres Strait and all Church Missions on the Peninsula. It provides a twice daily service with emergency services as required.

The value of the installations was exemplified recently during the malaria epidemic in the Torres Strait. Without that service it is certain that the success which attended the control of the epidemic would not have been possible. Likewise, regular contacts between far distant Missions and Islands on administrative matters makes for an efficient and speedy administration between the Director of Native Affairs and the Missions and Islands.

New land installation at Coconut Island has been completed and is operating satisfactorily.

It will be possible to complete Hope Valley Lutheran Mission, which is outside Cooktown, installation in the very near future.

Five dry battery operated sets are on order and when delivered will mean that every inhabited Island of the Torres Strait will be in radio contact with Thursday Island. These sets will be installed on small islands, the population of which does not warrant the installation of the larger and more expensive radio equipment, but where some form of radio communication is desirable.

Radio traffic has increased during the year and approximately 80 messages daily, representing 3,000 words per day, are transmitted and received. Medical traffic averages a minimum of 4 messages per day, and during the year, in co-operation with medical officers of the Thursday Island Base Hospital, several major outbreaks were diagnosed and effective treatment rendered either by radio or a visit by a Doctor to the Island. Cases in point are Mornington Island—suspected encephylitis, Lockhart River Mission—Scrub Typhus; Mabuiag, Badu, Kubin, and St. Paul's where diphtheria immunisation was carried out.

During medical emergencies, Thursday Island Base Station has remained on the air for periods up to 12 and 14 hours daily for the receipt and transmission of medical emergency messages, all of which have been finalised with satisfactory results.

A proto-type receiver has been constructed and tested in connection with experiments for the installation of remote receivers which have become a necessity due to high electrical interferences at Thursday Island.

*Frequencies.*—A new frequency has been completely equipped and a further new frequency obtained that will assist communication after sunset, and installation is going forward as crystals become available.

**SCHEDULE 1.**  
**HOSPITAL STATISTICS—YEAR ENDED 31-3-52.**

	Darnley Island.					Badu Island.					Saibal Island.				
	Monthly Average In-patients.			Out-patients Monthly.		Monthly Average In-patients.			Out-patients Monthly.		Monthly Average In-patients.			Out-patients Monthly.	
	M.	F.	Total.	No.	Treatments.	M.	F.	Total.	No.	Treatments.	M.	F.	Total.	No.	Treatments.
April, 1951 ..	.08	.08	.16	66	683	1.5	1.00	2.5	80	240	.45	1.2	1.65	145	295
May ..	..	..	..	120	663	.66	2.1	2.76	51	159	.6	.9	1.5	114	248
June ..	.08	.07	.15	107	689	1.5	4.5	6.00	78	310	1.00	1.00	2.00	207	112
July ..	.06	.1	.16	123	894	3.00	2.2	5.2	96	361	.2	.6	.8	191	172
August ..	..	..	..	115	411	1.2	3.7	4.9	96	370	.29	1.2	1.49	144	101
September ..	4.26	6.00	10.26	132	552	2.6	2.5	5.1	214	328	..	..	..	177	178
October ..	1.00	.13	1.13	135	699	2.7	2.48	5.18	108	241	..	..	..	193	204
November ..	..	..	..	151	776	4.4	3.7	8.1	90	256	..	..	..	193	201
December ..	..	..	..	128	407	3.5	2.00	5.5	86	206	..	..	..	205	164
January, 1952 ..	..	..	..	82	291	3.00	2.5	5.5	92	356	..	..	..	309	373
February ..	.16	.18	.34	130	455	2.5	2.5	5.00	83	252	..	..	..	267	250
March ..	..	..	..	101	267	.8	.26	1.06	216	309	.2	..	.2	222	179
	In-patients, monthly average 1.01					In-patients, monthly average 4.73					In-patients, monthly average .64				
	Out-patients, number treated 1,390					Out-patients, number treated 1,290					Out-patients, number treated 2,367				
	Out-patients, number of treatments 6,787					Out-patients, number of treatments 3,388					Out-patients, number of treatments 2,477				

## SCHEDULE 1—continued.

PERIOD 1-4-51 TO 31-3-52.

Place.	Births.	Stillbirths.	Deaths.	Marriages.
Thursday Island Hospital .. .. .	120	4	25	..
Thursday Island .. .. .	2	..	2	9
Badu Island .. .. .	4	..	1	1
Saibai Island .. .. .	9	..	4	..
Boigu Island .. .. .	3	..	1	..
Dauan Island .. .. .	1	1	1	..
Coconut Island .. .. .	1	..	1	..
Cowal Creek .. .. .	..	..	3	..
Yam Island .. .. .	1	..	2	..
Mutoe Head (Bamaga) .. .. .	9	..	2	..
Yorke Island .. .. .	1	..	1	3
Red Island Point .. .. .	1	..	2	..
Murray Island .. .. .	16	..	6	1
Mabuiag Island .. .. .	3	..	3	2
Darnley Island .. .. .	8	1	..	2
Kubin Village .. .. .	3	1	2	4
Dowar Island .. .. .	..	..	..	..
Stephen Island .. .. .	1	..	..	..
Rennell Island .. .. .	..	1	..	..
Naghir Island .. .. .	..	..	..	1
St. Paul's Mission .. .. .	10	..	3	1
Hammond Island .. .. .	1	..	..	..
	194	8	59	24

## SCHEDULE 2.

BOAT CATCHES, YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1952.

Name of Vessel.	M.O.P.	Value.			Trochus.			Value.			Blacklp.			Value.			Value Total Production.				
		£	s.	d.	T.	C.	Q.	L.	£	s.	d.	T.	C.	Q.	L.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Petta ..	22 1 2 26	9,074	16	5	5	6	3	23	1,447	9	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	10,522	5	8	
Cessa ..	5 11 2 1	2,273	10	0	32	9	3	25	7,465	18	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	9,739	8	4	
Millard ..	..	..	..	..	39	19	2	19	9,638	3	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	9,638	3	6	
S.S. Dona ..	..	..	..	..	32	6	2	16	7,779	3	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	7,779	3	11	
Ella ..	..	..	..	..	33	2	2	15	7,548	10	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	7,548	10	5	
Relsie Nona	14 8 1 14	5,618	7	5	8	17	0	12	991	16	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	6,610	3	5	
Tymapi ..	16 5 1 18	6,580	12	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6,580	12	3	
Mosby ..	5 12 1 20	2,330	1	4	13	10	2	1	3,170	16	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	5,500	17	4	
Uropi ..	..	..	..	..	22	15	3	16	5,407	7	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	5,407	7	5	
Naianga ..	5 19 3 1	2,436	8	3	10	4	0	19	2,783	1	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	5,199	10	2	
Caroline ..	..	..	..	..	20	11	0	4	5,148	6	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	5,148	6	7	
Adelphi ..	5 3 0 24	2,082	11	11	10	15	3	6	2,920	10	10	..	..	..	..	..	..	5,003	2	9	
Thoran ..	1 1 1 20	462	9	7	16	16	1	5	4,215	3	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,677	12	11	
Maria ..	..	..	..	..	17	10	1	27	4,123	9	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,123	9	7	
Sania ..	..	..	..	..	16	4	0	12	3,862	17	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,862	17	11	
Rebecca ..	..	..	..	..	14	16	1	12	3,665	19	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,665	19	5	
Aldai ..	..	..	..	..	12	12	3	7	3,119	10	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,119	10	0	
Macey ..	4 12 3 25	1,791	2	10	8	3	0	9	970	1	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,761	3	10	
Adiana ..	..	..	..	..	9	9	3	13	1,872	6	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,872	6	7	
Nancy ..	..	..	..	..	7	3	0	3	1,725	5	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,725	5	1	
Yaza ..	1 19 3 1	845	15	2	2	15	3	10	755	13	10	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,601	9	0	
Kismot ..	..	..	..	..	7	10	3	6	1,567	6	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,567	6	3	
Cape York ..	1 8 0 16	606	14	9	3	1	2	10	833	10	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,440	4	11	
Zunal ..	0 3 1 23	67	10	4	4	16	1	4	1,192	8	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,259	18	9	
Loyalty ..	..	..	..	..	3	11	3	26	974	3	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	974	3	2	
Danie ..	0 15 1 7	341	17	5	0	9	3	5	109	14	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	451	11	5	
Wadumo ..	..	..	..	..	2	8	2	23	272	15	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	272	15	0	
Dinghy ..	2 7 2 21	1,071	10	5	61	9	1	15	14,896	9	9	0	4	2	10	12	17	0	15,980	17	2
	87 11 0 21	£35,583	8	1	419	0	3	7	£98,437	17	8	0	4	2	10	12	17	0	134,034	2	9

Wolfram—1 ton 6 cwt. 0 qr. 7 lb.; Value, £2,587 11s.

## APPENDIX 5.

## ISLAND INDUSTRIES BOARD.

(Acting Manager, Mr. C. O'Leary, Director of Native Affairs.)

## CONSTITUTION.

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

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

Members—Mr. P. J. Killoran; Mr. C. R. M. Clelland.

Secretary—Mr. J. C. Robertson.

The extent of operations by Island Industries Board might best be recorded in reproducing here, paper read by the Acting Manager at the 1952 Congress of the Co-operative Union of Queensland, held in Brisbane.

Co-operation and co-operative effort in the industrial life of the Torres Strait Island race was not particularly difficult to implement on scientific lines in that co-operation in all walks of life and industry is one of the outstanding traits of these 6,000 people who occupy 20 habitable islands in Torres Strait between Cape York (the most northern point of Queensland) and the southern coast of Papua.

As with most coloured races, co-operative effort in food production, home building, village development, fishing and all phases of industrial pursuits are second nature to the Islanders, and with a knowledge of this psychology, the Queensland Government, as part of its protection and up-liftment policy, determined an encouragement of the development of the people on progressive co-operative lines.

As far back as 1900, Torres Strait Islanders worked their canoes, dinghies and small cutters in the production of marine produce, viz. pearl shell, beche-de-mer and trochus shell, in a small way. Through missionary organisations they disposed of such marketable produce on a system which allowed an equal division of the return amongst all workers employed. This unorganised system of co-operation was gradually developed until 1930 when the Queensland Government acquired the business of Papuan Industries Limited which as a trading concern was then furthering the co-operative effort in Torres Strait. With this acquisition and with the passing of "*The Torres Strait Islanders Act of 1939*," by Queensland Parliament, co-operation in work and effort was definitely established by the Government. The Act provided for the establishment of the corporation known as Island Industries Board. The functions of that Board are extensive and provide coverage for every industrial activity of the Torres Strait Islanders.

Here are the Board's functions—

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

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

3. Acquire and distribute information relating to or as to the best manner of carrying on any

such business, trade or occupation as aforesaid and undertake the education, instruction and training of Islanders or other persons in any such business, trade or occupation and for that purpose establish, maintain and conduct all such schools and classes as the Board may deem necessary; and enter into contracts of apprenticeship with any such person as aforesaid.

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

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

- (a) Any question relating to any trade, commerce, or business carried on by or in which Islanders are interested or engaged;
- (b) Markets for goods produced or manufactured by Islanders, and trade with other countries in, and the method of marketing, such goods;
- (c) Generally as to how the trade, industries and commerce of Islanders can be best encouraged, developed and protected.

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

7. Any surplus profits of the Board shall be allocated or appropriated for the general welfare of Islanders and in such manner as the Governor in Council shall from time to time determine.

The result of that Legislation and the organisation corollary to it has provided the following:—

- (a) The establishment of a head office and retail store in Thursday Island in which are employed 12 whites and 5 coloured. The total permanent employees of the Board is 93.
- (b) The establishment of a boat slip in Thursday Island on which all Torres Strait owned luggers and cutters are repaired and dinghies built for sale to the Islanders. In this boat slip Island boys receive, as apprentices, training as boat builders and under the supervision of one white man they and Island tradesmen engaged by the Board efficiently carry out all overhaul and repair work required on the 25 luggers and cutters, the property of Torres Strait Islanders.



- (c) The establishment of a Marine Produce Store in which is received all pearlshell and trochus shell won by Island owned vessels. These vessels are managed and directed by the Director of Native Affairs, who is also Manager of Island Industries Board. Island Industries Board, in accordance with its approved functions, receives the produce, weighs, sorts and packs it for shipment overseas. This overseas disposal is arranged by the Board on prices obtained by tender or negotiation to the best advantage of the Islanders. From the proceeds of sale, Islanders receive a nett return after ordinary trading charges have been deducted. Apart from its percentage charge of 5 per cent., Island Industries Board makes no profit on these sales. Herein is one of the outstanding advantages of co-operative producing and selling. Islanders engaged on their own boats receive a higher return for their production than applies with other boats. This is a natural result of co-operative trading.
- (d) The establishment of a Bulk Store to provide storage of all goods destined for transport to 17 Branch Stores on the Torres Strait Islands.
- (e) The transport of all goods, food, clothing and hardware, &c., to Torres Strait Island Retail Stores, distant up to 150 miles from Thursday Island. Such goods are carried by the Board's vessels and sold on the Islands at Thursday Island prices.

In these Retail Stores trained Islanders, officers of the Board, are engaged as Branch Managers, Assistant Managers and Clerks. They are provided with houses, receive remuneration as determined by the Board consistent with the extent of duties required of them, e.g., the Branch Manager, Badu Island, which is the largest Branch Store controlled by the Board, receives wage of approximately £12 per week. This store has an annual turnover of approximately £10,000.

As the Island owned boats produce marine produce annually to the value of approximately £200,000, the importance of obtaining the best overseas market for such cannot be overlooked. To secure such profitable market, the Board must consistently apply itself to market movements and ultimately enter into agreements with buyers. It is not always advisable, as the Board has learned, to negotiate with buyers who operate on a fluctuating market. The basis of good dealing must be a stabilised price with a reputable purchaser. Both factors must aim at a continuation of an industry that means bread and butter to these Island workers, who regard the ocean as their domain, the birthright of their race. The Board is compelled to be conscious of its responsibility for the future of the Islanders. Independent pearlers can withdraw from the industry as market fluctuations compel such action, but the Board cannot retreat from its undertaking to see that the Island worker is not only receiving a fair remuneration for his work, but is protected in the years to come in an industry which he has done so much to establish.

In effect, the Board's policy is—

1. Stabilisation of the Marine Industry in Queensland to ensure continuous employment for Torres Strait workers.
2. Continued reasonable prices for this produce to ensure a decent living wage for workers.
3. Development of other industries such as wolfram mining, dugong oil production, &c., to guarantee employment for such workers who are incapable of employment in the Marine Industry.
4. Training of men as boat builders, plumbers, house carpenters, &c.
5. The training of boys as storekeepers and clerks to allow them to fit into the general pattern of Island Administration.

The general trading by Island Industries Board is extensive as is indicated by the following figures for last year—

	£	
Annual purchases ..	112,000	
Annual sales ..	145,500	
Gross profit ..	23,000	representing 15·8% on sales
Nett profit ..	1,400	representing ·9% on sales
Assets—		
Cash .. ..	10,000	
Sundry debtors	33,000	
Stock .. ..	70,000	
Furniture, plant, &c. .. ..	4,000	
Vessels .. ..	9,500	
Land, buildings, &c. .. ..	9,600	
Staff employed—		
20 on slipway .. ..		} Apart from these permanent workers, the Board engages as circumstances demand up to 100 temporary workers on the Islands to carry out various jobs.
9 in bulk store .. ..		
5 in retail store .. ..		
7 on ships .. ..		
30 in branch stores .. ..		
10 in various occupations		
Wages bill for staff,	£33,000.	

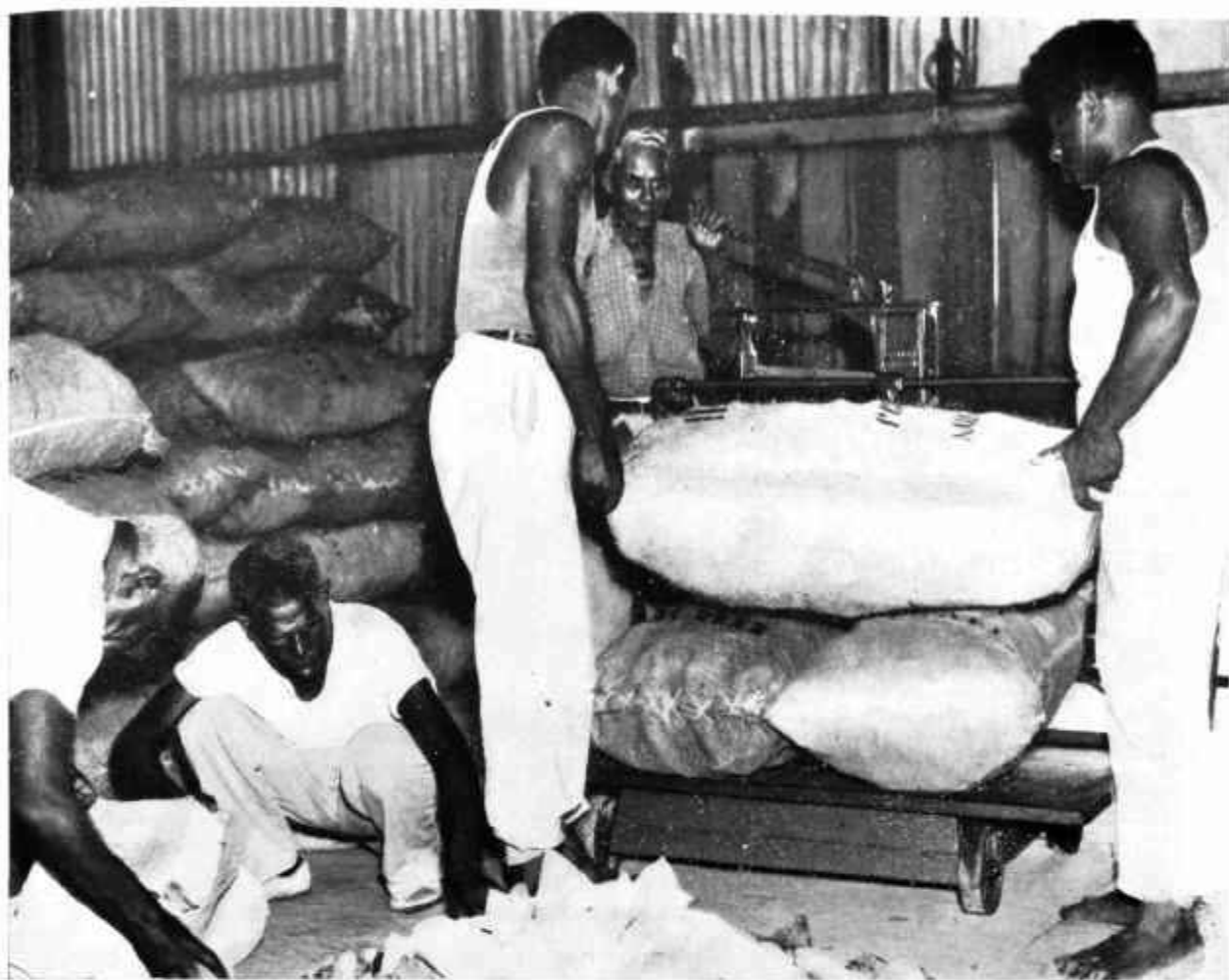
The nett profit indicates the extent of this co-operative venture. It is run for the benefit of the Islanders who participate in such benefits by obtaining goods and services at a minimum cost. Its future is protected financially and it has a record of service of which it can be proud.

The activities of Island Industries Board are not confined solely to the benefit of Islanders and Aborigines. It does not enter into active competition with other traders on the Island who mainly cater for the white population, but the Board's policy is if and when those white traders find difficulty in meeting the reasonable demand of customers, then the Board will readily assist.

#### TRADING.

Island Industries Board owns and controls—

1. Nineteen (19) Retail Stores and one Bulk Store. The turnover through these Stores for the year was £164,769/3/4.



Marine Produce Store, Island Industries Board, Thursday Island.



Island Industries Board Bulk Store, Thursday Island.

2. A Marine Produce Store where pearlshell and trochus shell won by Islanders are received for sale. Wolfram has also been received and sold through this Store during the year. The sales of these products realised £171,608/14/7.

3. A Slipway on which the 25 luggers and cutters owned by Torres Strait Islanders are repaired.

4. Cargo Boats—"Dell" and "Kebisu." The "Neptune" and "Cormorant" have been acquired recently.

5. Assets to the value of £147,264/8/4.

Hereunder is statement of Store transactions for the year.—

Islands.	Turnover.		Cash.		Stock.		Total Cash and Stock.	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Badu Island .. .. .	17,342	3 3	115	5 3	1,408	16 6	1,524	1 9
Bamaga .. .. .	10,180	7 6	180	15 9	1,930	17 4	2,111	13 1
Boigu Island .. .. .	4,056	12 8	389	12 6	1,172	1 11	1,561	14 5
Bulk Store, T. I. .. .. .					30,286	17 7	30,286	17 7
Butcher Shop .. .. .	1,353	5 10			115	8 9	115	8 9
Coconut Island .. .. .	4,534	0 11	15	14 8	1,024	1 7	1,039	16 3
Cowal Creek .. .. .	5,934	17 10	34	6 3	729	2 8	763	8 11
Darnley Island .. .. .	10,561	6 2	83	13 2	1,557	18 4	1,641	11 6
Dauan Island .. .. .	3,844	16 9	63	3 0	928	9 7	991	12 7
Dowar Island .. .. .	1,147	18 9						
Kennedy .. .. .	27,690	9 7			27,416	3 7	27,416	3 7
Kubin Village .. .. .	6,627	10 9	49	0 11	310	12 6	359	13 5
Mabuiag Island .. .. .	8,537	7 9	384	18 8	1,938	3 2	2,323	1 10
Murray Island .. .. .	15,804	6 0	104	10 3	2,802	2 11	2,906	13 2
Muttee Head .. .. .	4,562	18 10						
Naghir Island .. .. .	2,513	13 3	36	7 8	1,082	16 10	1,119	4 6
Rennell Island .. .. .	1,170	7 3	2	1 0	590	16 0	592	17 0
Saibai Island .. .. .	7,605	2 11	102	18 3	735	8 2	838	6 5
Stephen Island .. .. .	3,371	17 10	149	15 4	1,322	19 1	1,472	14 5
Thursday Island .. .. .	33,025	18 9			5,037	11 4	5,037	11 4
Yam Island .. .. .	5,707	8 2	60	6 0	1,381	3 3	1,441	9 3
Yorke Island .. .. .	5,399	8 5	42	9 0	1,151	12 7	1,194	1 7
	£ 180,971	19 2	1,814	17 8	82,923	3 8	84,738	1 4
Less Transfer of Goods not actually part of turnover	16,202	15 10						
	£ 164,769	3 4						

Continuous supervision and inspection of the books and accounts of all Branch Stores operates. Such inspection is the responsibility of one of the Board's officers. Where shortages occur beyond which the Board regards as reasonable a separate investigation is instituted.

When the conditions under which the Board operates is understood it is only reasonable to expect that some shortages in stocks will occur. The fact that goods for Branch Stores must be transported by small vessels and oftentimes on pearling luggers in charge of Island crews and unloaded at the Islands in dinghies, sometimes in heavy weather, makes the problem of accounting for shortages practically impossible. Furthermore, the fact that every Branch Store is managed by a Torres Strait Islander of reasonable but limited ability when compared with the average white man accentuates the Board's difficulties in obtaining accurate returns for goods despatched. Nevertheless, although the figures of surpluses and shortages at the date of the last audit are not available for this report, it can be assumed that the percentages will be reasonable and in keeping with ordinary business transactions.

#### MARINE PRODUCE.

Apart from its functions as a storekeeper, the Board accepts the responsibility of disposing of all marine produce won by the Torres Strait Islanders' fleet, controlled and managed by the Director of Native Affairs. Therefore, the Board acts as selling agent for the Director of Native Affairs and as such, is required to satisfy him that the best market is obtained for the

Islanders' produce. In keeping with this responsibility, the Board has regular contact with local and overseas buyers in America, England and the Continent. The Board claims that the price which it received for this year's marine produce, viz., Mother-of-Pearl Shell and Trochus Shell, compares favourably with any local producers and by reason of its success in this direction it holds the confidence and appreciation of the Island workers.

Hereunder is contract entered into by the Board with the Otto Gerdau Company of New York for the disposal of pearlshell for the 1952 season—

#### PEARL SHELL AGREEMENT.

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

Whereas it has been agreed between the Vendor and the Purchaser for the sale and purchase of certain Mother-of-Pearl Shell on the terms and conditions as hereunder set forth.—

1. The Vendor shall sell and the Purchaser shall purchase all the Mother-of-Pearl Shell produced, purchased, controlled or otherwise handled by the Vendor during the season ended 31st January, 1952.

2. The Vendor has the right to dispose of any Mother-of-Pearl Shell produced by him as will be sold in Australia for manufacturing purposes in Australia.

3. The price to be paid for the said Mother-of-Pearl Shell and the terms of its disposal shall be as follows:—

- (a) Island Industries Board will forward to the Otto Gerdau Company, New York, all Mother-of-Pearl Shell produced with the exception of that referred to in Section 2.
- (b) The Vendor will draw drafts at 90 days from the date of shipment for the minimum guaranteed price shown below on all Mother-of-Pearl Shell shipped from Thursday Island to the Otto Gerdau Company.
- (c) The Mother-of-Pearl Shell remains the property of the Vendor until the drafts are met.
- (d) The Agent's commission to be (10%) on the selling price.
- (e) The Otto Gerdau Company, New York, through its accredited agent, guarantees the Vendor the following nett prices F.O.B. Thursday Island:—

Grades AA, A, B and C	£635 Australian currency per ton
Grade D	£485 Australian currency per ton
Grade E	£320 Australian currency per ton
Grade EE	£230 Australian currency per ton

The Otto Gerdau Company is authorised by the Island Industries Board to sell all Mother-of-Pearl Shell to the best advantage of the Board and for any prices received over and above the Purchaser will remit quarterly to the Vendor the difference between the amount originally paid and the gross profits of all sales less 10% of the gross sales.

#### SLIPWAY.

The Board has established a slipway for the overhaul and repair of the Torres Strait Islanders' fleet.

The following vessels were slipped during the year:—

	Gross tonnage.
Ketch "Loyalty"	25
Ketch "Nianga"	26
M.V. "Swingle"	30
M.V. "Remus"	10
M.V. "Weiben"	7
Cutter "Kismet"	10
Ketch "Adelphi"	25
Ketch "Adiana"	25
M.V. "Gelam"	30
M.V. "Atlas"	10
M.V. "Pearline"	12
M.V. "Weiben"	7
Cutter "Zunal"	5
M.V. "Gelam"	30
Ketch "Petta"	25
Cutter "Yaza"	10
M.V. "Kebisu"	30
Ketch "S.S. Dona"	25
Ketch "Gloria" ("Ella")	23

Some 447 gross tons of shipping has been slipped at Island Industries Board Slipway during the past twelve months. Vessels of all types and build, such as launches, cutters, ketches and cargo motor ships up to sixty feet have been slipped for major overhauls and general repairs.

All major overhauls and repairs are carried out by slipway native labour, the work being supervised by a white shipwright officer and led by two leading coloured hands.

The work is as good as you see in any southern shipyard, from dove-tailing a deck beam to laying in the garboard strake.

All types of machinery are installed for working jobs such as drilling machine, planer, circular and band saws. These machines are worked by electricity supplied from the town power house.

The natives are taught to sharpen and maintain this machinery.

A hand forge has been installed also tools for forging. Most of the metal work and fittings for rigging are made with the aid of this forge.

Although the natives are being taught the practical side of ship building, they are also being taught the theoretical side, classes being held in working hours, twice weekly. Material and drawing implements are supplied by the Island Industries Board.

Rigging, stropping blocks, splicing, such as eye splice, short and long, are all carried out when required. Tools such as chisels, hammers, &c., are owned and well cared for by each employee.

Every native employed is receiving ship-builder's wages and each employee belongs to an Industrial Union.

Twelve new dinghies have been built including one twenty-five foot sailing cutter. Fourteen used dinghies have been repaired. Dinghy work is carried out by the apprentices while ships work is done by the men. There are three apprentices and seventeen shipbuilders.

Each year, at Christmas time, the shipyard closes down for fourteen days to enable the coloured employees to visit their various Islands and homes.

All native employees are from the Torres Strait Islands and have proved themselves intelligent and eager to learn all the arts and crafts of shipbuilding and of making themselves eligible for any shipbuilding trade in Australia.

#### GENERAL TRADING.

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

	1949-50	1950-51	1951-52
Stock (end of year)	£ 50,456	£ 51,974	£ 67,718
Sales	145,030	145,444	170,173
Purchases	104,062	98,886	120,043
Charges (Freight, Insurance, &c.)	30,116	23,907	30,091
Stock (beginning of year)	38,355	50,457	51,974
Gross profit	22,953	19,168	35,783

STATEMENT OF SALES OF PRODUCE  
FOR YEAR ENDED 31/3/52.

	T.	C.	Q.	L.	£	s.	d.
Mother-of-Pearl Shell ..	93	11	1	14	45,145	5	10
Black Lip M.O.P. ..	0	16	3	17	177	9	4
Total M.O.P. ..	94	8	1	3	45,322	15	2
Trochus ..	470	8	0	0	123,197	5	0
Grubby Trochus ..	8	4	0	21	574	13	1
Total Trochus ..	478	12	0	21	123,771	18	1
Wolfram ..	1	5	1	14	2,514	1	4

## APPENDIX 6.

## YARRABAH MISSION.

(Superintendent, Major L. V. Wakefield.)

*Staff.*—

Mr. G. Gretton (Store)  
Mr. N. Brown (Farms)  
Mr. P. Lepine  
Mrs. L. V. Wakefield  
Miss E. V. Odom  
Miss F. Phipps (School)  
Sister M. Stanley (C.A.) (Hospital)  
Miss I. Sanders (Matron Girl's Dormitory)  
Miss. P. Duncan (School)

*Statistics.*—

Births .. .. . 27  
Deaths .. .. . 14  
Marriages .. .. . 5

*Health.*—Generally good. Four tuberculosis cases in Cairns Base Hospital. In July, 1951, the Hospital building had to be evacuated as its condition had become dangerous. All patients and equipment were removed to the building then in use for the Boys' Dormitory. No building is as yet available for the Boys' Dormitory. As from the 5th April, 1952, the control and administration of the Hospital has been taken over by the Cairns Base Hospital.

*Dental.*—Visits by the Travelling Dentist were made in May and October, 1951, 142 patients receiving treatment. Other patients were treated at the Cairns Hospital as required.

*Education.*—The staff consists of Miss F. Phipps, B.Sc., and Miss Pearl Duncan who trained in Sydney, three native women, one boy as a Junior Teacher and one girl trainee.

At the beginning of the year, the school was regraded according to the New Syllabus of the Education Department.

There are three girls and two boys in Grade VI. All children who are more than two years older than their grade age are in a separate class. Some are taught individually, some in small groups. Those who can reach the standard are then placed in the grade nearest their age.

It is surprising how many children here are unwilling to do written work, yet orally they show quite an extensive knowledge of the subjects, including Arithmetic.

From fourteen to sixteen years of age, the boys and girls become trainees. The girls are trained for housework, laundry, cooking, sewing and as hospital aids. Any boy or girl who desires is allowed to remain at school. From these, we hope to get Teachers, Hospital Assistants and Storemen. Four boys over fourteen years of age asked for night classes. These are taken by Miss Duncan and Mr. Brown.

There is a school at Oombunghi settlement for twelve children. It is in charge of Roslyn Choikee, one of the Oombunghi women and is visited by Miss Duncan.

*Water Supply.*—This caused uneasiness during the last quarter of 1951. Owing to the light rainfall during October, November and December, water carting became necessary. The rainfall for 1951—6,715 points—was much below the average.

A small quantity of 2-inch piping was obtained for urgent repairs, but the prospect of securing sufficient material to implement the plan submitted by the Department of Local Government Engineer in August, 1950, still appears remote.

*Farms.*—The following was taken from the report of Mr. G. E. Stephens, Department of Agriculture and Stock, dated the 2nd April, 1952:—

“Consequent upon my recent inspection of the farm activities at Yarrabah Mission, I am very pleased to be able to advise that much progress of a very satisfactory nature has been made during the past six months. A very pleasing feature is the renewal of fences around the farm areas. This will permit intensive development of both field crops and pastures without fear of destruction by wandering stock.

Taking the settlements in turn, the following items were noted:—

*Mourighan.*—The maize crop of about 12 to 15 acres appeared to be even in growth and of good vigour. Several rows or part rows that had not received fertiliser at planting provide an excellent demonstration of the absolute need for fertiliser in crops grown in this soil. Following on similar indications in previous crops at other parts of the Mission, it clearly indicates that the use of fertiliser is a requisite to success on all the Mission farms. This is in line with experience on soils of granite origin in other parts of the State. It is generally recognised that crops produced on granite soils are of good quality but good yields can be obtained only by the use of fertiliser.

The banana area down Mourighan Creek appears to be satisfactory and producing well. A new planting adjoining the old area at the southern end of the farm appears to be satisfactorily established, whilst a small area of new scrub land on the opposite side of the road is being prepared for further banana planting.

A sweet potato plot of the variety "Star of Queensland" is making good progress and gives promise of satisfactory yield.

*Dijinghi.*—Pineapples are the most important crop on this farm. Progress of all the plants has been quite satisfactory, although naturally the weaker planting material has been rather slow in becoming established. Many of the plants in the original planting are ready for fruit induction treatment. Alpha-naphthalene acetic acid (Tymore or other brand) or acetylene solution may be used for the purpose. Forty-eight hours of fine weather following treatment is necessary and a repetition of the treatment after about ten days is recommended to obtain a high percentage of fruiting.

One pineapple area appears slightly pale in colour and the leaves are thin in texture, indicating they are in need of a dressing of sulphate of ammonia.

Control of weed growth appears to have been well maintained.

The banana area and a small area of sweet potatoes on this farm also are satisfactory.

*Long Scrub.*—A new area of land on the lower side of the road is being brought under cultivation. It should make a good addition to the farm. On the older cultivation area, a satisfactory crop of maize reported by Mr. Brown to have returned about  $\frac{3}{4}$  ton per acre was harvested early in the year and the land has since been prepared for other crops. Sweet potatoes are being planted on a fairly large area and other land is being prepared for vegetable crops.

A well grown crop of cassava is approaching maturity.

*Oombunghi.*—About 12 acres of maize in the early tasselling stage is satisfactory although dry weather during February and early March has caused reduced height of the plants. The yield should be fairly good, however. Seeding with grass in this area is urgently necessary now if pasture is to be established in the paddock this year.

The area between the maize and the creek has been fenced but some further clearing of rubbish in the lower corner has to be completed.

A small paddock for the establishment of molasses grass has been fenced and ploughed and seed sown in portion of it, but germination was unsatisfactory, probably due to dry conditions. The planting of roots would now give the quickest growth and, whilst it would not be possible to plant a large area by this means, it should be possible to establish a small plot to have the grass available on the farm for future expansion.

The large prospective pasture area between the church and Back Beach has been cleared of most of the second growth and fencing is in progress."

#### *Farm produce.*—

532 bunches Bananas
948 lbs. Pawpaws
2,953 lbs. Pumpkins
94 bags Cassava
9 bags Sweet Potatoes
1,816 lbs. White Turnips
898 lbs. Swede Turnips
883 lbs. Carrots
340 lbs. Beetroot
150 lbs. Cucumbers
1,048 lbs. Tomatoes
116 Pineapples
766 Cabbages
52 bags Maize

#### *Area under cultivation.*—

26 acres Maize
3 acres Pineapples
6 acres Sweet Potatoes
1 acre Cassava
1 $\frac{1}{2}$ acres Pumpkins
4 acres Bananas
1 acre Cucumbers
$\frac{1}{2}$ acre Marrow
$\frac{1}{2}$ acre Cow Peas
$\frac{1}{2}$ acre Turnips, Carrots and Beetroot
$\frac{1}{2}$ acre Long Beans
$\frac{1}{2}$ acre Tomatoes
$\frac{1}{2}$ acre Potatoes
4 acres awaiting planting
27 acres being prepared
5 acres being cleared
Total .. .. 81 $\frac{1}{2}$ acres.

*Stock.*—Muster 1951—Horses, 77, Cattle, 106.

The dry season affected adversely the condition of all stock.

*Garden Competition.*—This was held as usual and created keen competition. Mr. G. E. Stephens, Department of Agriculture and Stock, once again kindly officiated as judge.

*Industrial Operations.*—Repairs to native houses have been effected with bush materials.

It has not yet been possible to get the sawmill into operation.

The Government has sanctioned expenditure for the purchase of a breaking down saw. The dismantling and transport of this to the Mission has presented difficulties but these are being overcome and most of the material is now at the Mission.

*Employment.*—There is full employment on the Settlement for all adult male workers. On 31st March, 1952, 21 males and 13 females were employed on Agreement.

Wages collected for savings bank accounts for the twelve months ending 31st March, 1952, total £7,737 13s. 8d. Credits to Aboriginal Provident Fund amounted to £1,078 18s. 9d.

In conclusion, I would express my appreciation of the assistance and advice so freely given by Mr. C. O'Leary, Director of Native Affairs, and officers of his Department throughout the year.

## APPENDIX 7.

## DOOMADGEE MISSION.

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

*Staff.*—

Melville G. Read  
 Mrs. Road  
 Sister I. Black  
 Miss P. Roberts  
 Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Weeks  
 Mr. and Mrs. A. Hockey  
 E. Jennings  
 D. Potter  
 J. Talbot

*Statistics.*—

Births, 12  
 Deaths, 7  
 Marriages, 7

*Health.*—The Flying Doctor based at Cloncurry paid several visits to the mission to render assistance and give advice. The wonderful service which the Flying Doctor is ever ready to give to native and white people alike is deeply appreciated.

*Hospital.*—The following cases were treated:—

Fractures, 6  
 Lacerations, 6  
 Burns, 4  
 Other Injuries, 6  
 Abscesses, &c., 4  
 Epileptic, 1  
 Infections, 3  
 Conjunctivitis, 4  
 Dysentery and Gastritis, 6  
 Skin Diseases, 40  
 Dental Extractions, 6  
 Pre-natal and Confinements, 12  
 Mastoids, 2. One of these cases was taken to Cloncurry Hospital and successfully operated on. The other case has been treated here and has not developed.  
 Appendicitis, 1. The case was taken to Cloncurry Hospital and successfully operated on.  
 Osteomyelitis, 2. One case was taken to Cloncurry Hospital for treatment but has not been entirely successful.

*Epidemics.*—Dengue Fever in January, February and March, 1952, affected almost all the native people here and in the district. At the Mission, it resulted in the deaths of one young girl and three old people.

*Hygiene.*—Hygiene is taught to young and old. All wearing apparel of dormitory inmates is laundered daily and every dormitory inmate baths and puts on freshly laundered clothing after their bath every day.

Cleaning, washing, scrubbing and disinfecting is carried out by natives daily under supervision.

*Conduct.*—Conduct on the whole is very good.

*Education.*—Staff—Mrs. Read and Mr. and Mrs. Hockey.

School closed down on the 30th November, 1951, owing to ill health of Mrs. Read and other considerations. It was re-opened on the 31st March, 1952, and until Mrs. Hockey is able to assist, is being carried on by Mr. Hockey with the assistance of a native girl teacher.

Miss P. Roberts has complete charge of the kindergarten-age girls and boys.

School was conducted for 166 days. Total attendance, 13,614. Average attendance, 82.

## Classification as at 30th November, 1951—

	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Kindergarten .. ..	15	5	20
Prep. 1 .. .. .	9	5	14
Prep. 2 .. .. .	7	8	15
Prep. 3 .. .. .	5	7	12
Prep. 4 .. .. .	3	9	12
Grade II. .. .. .	3	9	12
<b>Totals .. .. .</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>85</b>

*Religious.*—Brief meetings are conducted every morning and evening, except on Sundays when the usual religious services are held. One or more meetings are held on evenings during the week and the attendances at these meetings particularly are encouraging.

*Industrial.*—Rainfall for the year totalled 570 points.

In the pastoral areas, gross growth followed the heavy rains of 1950-51 which ceased abruptly in February, 1951. When this dried off later in the year bush fires raged throughout the district. We lost some horses and some miles of fencing and yards were destroyed, but our cattle losses were negligible. Likewise, in the drought conditions which prevailed right through to the end of March, 1952, we suffered comparatively few cattle losses.

It was in the matter of agriculture that the Mission suffered chiefly because the big natural river rock-hole reservoir which supplies the Mission's domestic and irrigation requirements dropped to a lower level than it has ever been known to fall. In consequence of this, we had to severely restrict irrigation.

*Livestock.*—

Cattle on hand at 1st April, 1951 .. ..	989	
Less natural estimates loss .. .. .	51	938
Plus brandings for the year .. .. .	408	1,346
Deduct killings for Mission consumption .. ..		67
Cattle on hand at 31st March, 1952 .. ..		1,279
Horses—Mission owned .. ..	70	
Native owned .. ..	25	
Goats .. .. .		95
		54

*Fencing.*—Fires destroyed some fencing. Some repair work has been done but no new fencing work has been carried out owing to lack of materials.

*Stock Yards.*—Some yards at the extreme north of the Reserve have been destroyed by fires. No replacements have been effected and very little repair work has been possible.

#### *Agriculture.*—

Area enclosed for agriculture, 67 acres  
Area in banana plantations, 2½ acres  
Area in citrus trees, 8 acres (approximately 150 trees)

#### Harvest—

			Tons.	Cwt.
Sweet Potatoes	..	..	3	2
Bananas	..	..	2	6
Citrus	..	..	1	10
Mangoes	..	..	0	10
Total	..	..	7	8

The rat plague which commenced in November, 1950, and continued until October, 1951, made vegetable growing practically impossible except on garden (cottage) scale. Young citrus trees were ringbarked by the rats and though most trees were saved at the cost of much labour, the growth of nearly all trees has been impaired and many have died. Tunnelling underground by the rats upset channel irrigation and this, followed by the drought conditions and helped by a hurricane which broke down scores of banana stands, ruined our banana harvest for the main 1951-52 season.

#### BUILDING.

*Native Accommodation.*—The six two-roomed native cottages mentioned in our last report as being incomplete have since been completed. Angle steel with which to build the two other two-roomed cottages planned is still awaited.

*Electric Power Houses.*—The concrete floor of the power house and cold room built last year in the Mission compound is now complete.

Concrete power house as required has since been erected in Native Village.

Both these buildings are now complete except for fitting of windows and doors which will be done as soon as necessary timber on order for the frames arrives.

*Painting.*—Corrugated iron roofs of several buildings have been repainted and more painting of roofs and walls is to be carried out during the cooler weather of winter months.

*Thanks.*—We would express our thanks to the Director of Native Affairs and to the Deputy Director of Native Affairs and staff of the Brisbane Office of the Department for their co-operative assistance during the year under review.

I would also like to place on record our thanks to the Flying Doctor Service for these services referred to in the report above.

#### APPENDIX 8.

##### MONAMONA MISSION.

(Superintendent, Mr. W. E. Zanotti.)

#### *Statistics.*—

Births	..	..	..	13
Deaths	..	..	..	8
Marriages	..	..	..	3

*Health.*—The general health of our people has been particularly good. An intensive campaign has been carried out against hookworm and other parasites in conjunction with the Cairns Hookworm Clinic and results have been very satisfactory.

We would record our appreciation of the work of the medical staffs at both Cairns and Mareeba Hospitals, and, as we have a monthly visit from a medical officer from Mareeba and a quarterly visit from the Flying Dentist stationed at Cairns, the real needs of our people are adequately catered for.

Arrangements are now completed for the initial treatment of Hansen's disease suspects by Mareeba Hospital and they will then return to the Mission for further treatment by the Nursing Sister in charge of local medical work. Smears from these suspects have been taken periodically by the Mission Sister and the medical staff at Mareeba, but none have been removed for this type of disease.

There have been eight deaths during the year, four from senile decay, one from tuberculosis and three babies who were not really robust at the time of birth.

A short epidemic of influenza and a deal of gastro enteritis, together with some irritating skin trouble has also been handled by the Sister in charge of medical work.

*Conduct and Discipline.*—The conduct and discipline has been particularly good and has continued to improve on previous standards. The authority of the Superintendent and his staff is well respected and the people generally are doing a fine job of work.

*Education.*—The average attendance has been 75 pupils dispersed over grades ranging I to VI. An intelligent interest is shown in all phases of the work which has been under the control of one white teacher, one native teacher and four native assistants. As well as the normal school subjects, the native arts and crafts are kept well before the pupils. One of the more advanced art students has been sent to Avondale college to further his work and arrangements are being made to send others on for further education. We are badly in need of a new school for which plans and specifications have been approved. This we hope to commence building as soon as finance becomes available.

*Choir and Brass Band.*—Our choir and band continues to play a large part in Mission activities and the band has been fortunate enough to be invited to take part in several functions and festivals covering quite a large area of the North. A recent trip to Townsville



and Palm and Fantome Islands was a highlight for members of the band. At Palm and Fantome Islands, the boys were greatly appreciated by the natives, some of whom had sons and brothers whom they had never heard play. Both of these bodies are a most pleasing asset to our local community life.

*Buildings.*—Our building programme has continued on up to schedule. Two new native cottages have been completed and allotted to residents, the building of these cottages being the entire work of native builders. The new Senior Girls' Dormitory has yet to be internally fitted and fenced, but the sawmill is completed and in full operation. An additional steam engine has been installed in the boiler room and this unit supplies the village with its electricity and will very shortly take care of our water requirements. As time permits, picket fences are being erected where necessary. A new vehicle shed and blacksmith's shop have been erected and are now in general use, whilst the workshop is still in the process of having new and existing equipment installed.

*Poultry.*—An additional fifty pullets have been added to our poultry stocks and we are gradually building up this side of the farming.

*Agriculture.*—We are persisting with general farming and, although part of the year was not productive, we are fortunate to have had good crops of snake beans, french beans, corn and pumpkins. Earlier in the year, there was also a good supply of cow peas and wong bok. The tractor and the rotary hoe are a great asset, and we also have two very good ploughs. An additional field of bananas has recently been planted and the pineapple crop appears to be a promising one. The sweet potato planting during the past year did not yield a satisfactory crop.

*Cattle.*—The past year was not a good one from the dairy end. The season was a particularly dry one and the obvious result of decreased milk yield was apparent. Our herd is gradually improving, but it will be quite some time before our milkers reach top standard. We are preserving our beef cattle with a view to building up our numbers and also allowing the younger stocks to reach maturity and so gain their true value.

*Goats.*—We have not yet got the herd established, the past year having been very dry and conditions generally were against improvement in any type of stock. However, the herd is now looking well and it is possible that the existing herd will be well culled and new breeders introduced.

*Religion.*—Daily study is conducted and a special service is held each Tuesday and Friday evenings. On the Sabbath, three meetings are held, the afternoon meeting being mainly for the young people who we try to include in the running of the meeting. Daily reading is also included as part of the school programme.

*Recreation.*—Organised games are usually provided for the natives on Saturday evenings. Physical culture and tumbling are part of the school responsibility and such games as rounders, volley ball, &c., are encouraged. Transport is made available for our people to attend district sports and rodeos where they take a very active part in the horse and bullock riding events.

*Tourists.*—Tourists come to the Mission on organised trips each Sunday and each Wednesday when displays of native crafts and boomerang throwing are given. A general tour of Mission activities is conducted and whenever practical, band items are given.

*Exemption.*—During the year, four people were given Certificates of Exemption from "The Aboriginals Preservation and Protection Act."

The past year can be considered a most satisfactory one from all angles and we take this opportunity to thank the staff of the Sub-Department of Native Affairs for their co-operation during this time.

#### APPENDIX 9.

##### LUTHERAN MISSION, COOKTOWN.

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

During the period under review, which is the third year of our reconstruction activities at "Hope Vale," steady progress has been maintained for the advancement of the spiritual and temporal welfare of the natives placed under our care. It is both pleasing and encouraging to note that the natives are happy and appreciate the assistance the Department of Native Affairs and the church have given them to become citizens of our land enjoying protection and security from want.

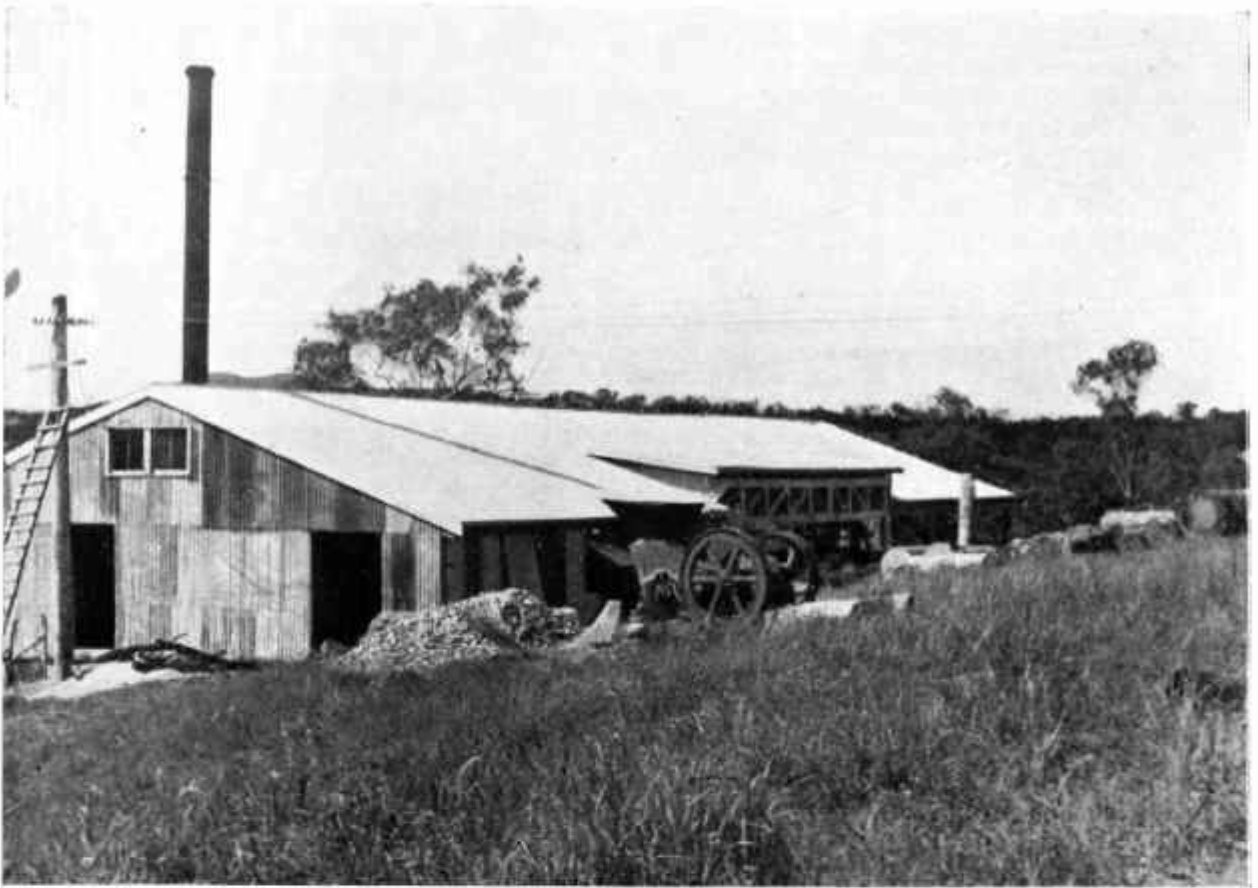
One of the fundamental tasks of the Mission and its staff members is to teach the native to become self-sufficient and to be able to carry responsibility. I am, therefore, happy to report that a number of families have begun in a small way to clear land, grow crops and market them. The income from sales made is banked to the credit of the native concerned. This year, many more families will embark on this venture. At present, 44 families have approximately 60 acres of scrub land cleared, half of which has been planted with tropical fruits and vegetables.

*Agricultural.*—During the past season, the Mission was able to put under crop 68 acres of land consisting of the following:—

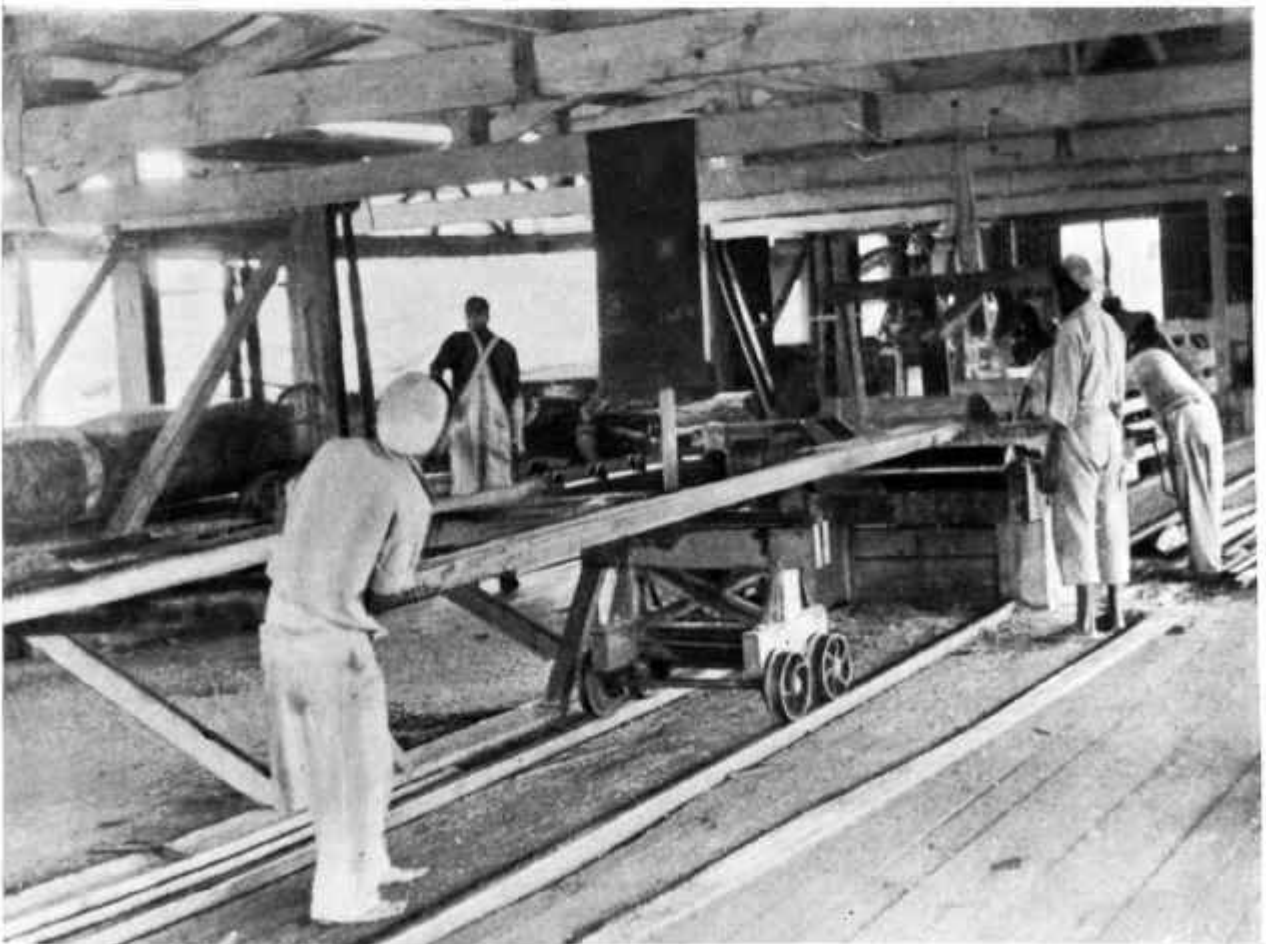
- 32 acres peanuts
- 15 acres Maize
- 9 acres cotton
- 3 acres maniochs
- 2½ acres sweet potatoes
- 2½ acres bananas (1,500 trees)
- 3 acres pineapples (14,000 pines)
- 1 acre pawpaws (200 trees)

Despite an abnormal season, a fair return from all crops is anticipated.

The lack of farm machinery has retarded our agricultural pursuits. At a recent Church conference, an appeal was made for a four-furrow disc plough, tandem disc harrows and corn sheller. News has come to hand that the above items are being donated to the Mission by a number of generous members. Plans are now being made to have at least 100 acres under crop for the next season.



Sawmill, Monamona Mission.



Interior View Sawmill, Monamona Mission.

*Fishing.*—At the latter part of 1951, our newly acquired boat, the "Joallan," with a crew of 12 natives, ventured out on trochus shell diving. The boat was able to earn the Mission an income of £591 10s. Owing to a drop in the price of shell, this industry has temporarily been abandoned, but, later in the year when the weather is more favourable, shell fishing will be revived.

At the present time, investigations are being made as to whether Dugong fishing could be profitably undertaken during the winter months.

*Cattle.*—At present, the Mission have 70 head of mixed cattle, 15 horses and 26 goats. More cattle is an urgent necessity. An offer of 120 head of shorthorn heifers at £14 per head has been made. Most unfortunate it is that the lack of finance and materials for construction of larger holding paddocks is preventing the purchase.

*Health.*—The health of the natives has been good. With a qualified nursing sister employed, patients are able to receive immediate and experienced attention.

The following is a record of treatments administered:—

Month.	Outpatients.	Outpatients seen by Doctor.	Bed-patients.
<b>1951.</b>			
April .. ..	421	Nil	Nil
May .. ..	400	Nil	Nil
June .. ..	510	3	9
July .. ..	402	Nil	Nil
August .. ..	381	Nil	Nil
September .. ..	380	Nil	Nil
October .. ..	489	10	1
November .. ..	461	3	1
December .. ..	240	1	1
<b>1952.</b>			
January .. ..	335	5	1
February .. ..	392	6	1
March .. ..	321	Nil	Nil
<b>Totals .. ..</b>	<b>4,732</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>14</b>

Last June, Mr. S. Thompson, the Hookworm Microscopist, examined all persons on the Mission. 100 natives were found to be positive cases. Despite monthly treatments, there are still 30 hookworm patients under treatment.

On two occasions, 83 natives received dental treatment.

*Statistics.*—

Births .. ..	9
Marriages .. ..	6
Deaths .. ..	2

*School.*—The appearance of the school has greatly improved since last August when the necessary furniture arrived.

On the roll are 64 children—32 boys and 32 girls.

Below is a tabulated statement of classes and numbers—

Class.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Grade IV. .. ..	3	3	6
Grade III. .. ..	6	6	12
Grade II. .. ..	1	1	2
Grade I. .. ..	5	3	8
Prep. 4 .. ..	1	3	4
Prep. 2 .. ..	2	4	6
Prep. 1 .. ..	14	12	26
<b>Totals .. ..</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>64</b>

Three female monitors assist the teacher with the lower classes. Subjects are taught according to the school syllabus. The pupils are doing good work in those subjects where skill is required. All children can speak their own tribal language, but as their command of the English language improves, they do better in English subjects. School gardens have been made, but the lack of gardening tools is retarding our work somewhat. During the week, Mission tools are in use clearing land.

*Cooktown Natives.*—Due to a heavy programme of work on the Mission and staff members being fully occupied on other tasks, very little work has been done to improve conditions for the natives residing on the Cooktown Reserve. It is indeed gratifying to learn that the Department of Native Affairs has now employed a full-time Welfare Officer in the person of Rev. G. Scarlett.

*Religious.*—Divine services and devotional exercises have been held regularly and attended faithfully. Choir practice is conducted twice weekly. Many new chorales and anthems were learned.

*Conduct.*—The conduct and behaviour of natives have been good.

*Staff.*—The staff at Hope Vale consists of the Reverend and Mrs. V. Wenke, Superintendent, Mr. Gordon Rose, Store Manager and Farm Supervisor, Mr. Clarence Hartwig, Carpenter, Mrs. Olive Hartwig, School Teacher and Miss Ruth Rohde, Nursing Sister.

The natives and the staff at Hope Vale as well as the members of the Board of Lutheran Mission, Cooktown, herewith express their sincere gratitude and thanks to Mr. C. O'Leary, the Director of Native Affairs, and to Mr. P. J. Richards, Deputy Director of Native Affairs, and their staff members for every assistance and helpful co-operation rendered to our Mission during the past year.

APPENDIX 10.

AURUKUN MISSION.

(Superintendent, Rev. W. F. McKenzie, B.A.)

STAFF.

Matron and Head Teacher, Mrs. W. F. Mackenzie, B.A. Dip.Ed.; Building and Saw Mill, Mr. C. D. Sydney; Cattle, Mr. L. E. Little; Assistant Matron, Mrs. Little; Dairy and Agriculture, Mr. J. B. Hill; Building and Engineering, Mr. W. D. Page; Temporary Assistant Matron, Mrs. D. L. Belcher.

During the year under review, there were considerable changes on the staff. In June, Miss Jean McGrath our Nurse was taken ill with poliomyelitis and was taken to the Cairns Base Hospital by the Flying Ambulance. I wish to place on record the appreciation of the sterling work done by Miss McGrath and I am glad to be able to state that she is surely, though slowly, regaining her health and strength. Her illness was a great blow to the Mission work, especially that amongst the sick and the children.

Mr. J. B. Hill joined the staff in August. He holds a Diploma of Animal Husbandry from Gatton College and has had considerable experience in dairy work.

In November, Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Smith joined the staff, but, unfortunately, through Mr. Smith's ill health, they were forced to give up the work.

In April, Mr. W. D. Page joined the staff as engineer and carpenter.

*Health.*—During the year, the general health of the people has been good. There have been no serious epidemics. Injections for Whooping Cough and Diphtheria were given to the younger children. Treatment for Hookworm was given both to adults and children. The trouble experienced with Scabies has been brought under control by the use of Tetmasol.

Dr. Barnes, Government Medical Officer at Thursday Island, and Sister Grace paid a visit in April and all the children in the Mission underwent a test to ascertain their haemoglobin content. Those with low blood count were tested further for Hookworm. One child was found to be badly infected. We were very glad to have this medical patrol as Dr. Barnes was able to advise us on cases that were causing some anxiety. Patients needing re-examination for tuberculosis have been sent to hospital for periodical check-up. Four patients were returned sufficiently cured to be able to live normal lives.

The number of births has been very gratifying. From 1st July, 1951, to the 17th May, 1952, there were 19 births, 12 males and 7 females. Deaths—5. One woman died with secondary heart failure, one male with tuberculosis in hospital, two males from senile decay, 1 female child died from birth injuries. Marriages—2 legal and 2 tribal.

The gain in population through births over deaths, if it continues, is proof that these people shall not die out, and we are also very grateful to the Medical Staff at Thursday Island for their care, also for advice given so readily, to the Native Affairs Department for facilities given, to the Flying Doctor and the Cairns Aerial Ambulance. I feel that a new era of hope is dawning for these people, when one looks back to the old days without wireless communication and slow sailing boats and how we had to wrestle unaided with sick cases. Now one is full of hope for the future.

*Cultivation.*—Large quantities of seed from the varieties kindly sent by the C.S.I.R.O. were harvested for planting this year, but unfortunately, owing to the erratic weather and poor rainfall, very little could be planted this "wet".

This was a great disappointment as the Phaseolus, Cow peas, Pigeon peas, Ground Nuts, Peanuts, Soya Beans, Bulrush Millet and Sorghum proved eminently suitable for this climate. Of the Sweet Potatoes, several varieties proved suitable for this area and good returns were harvested. South Sea Yams and Cassava as usual yielded very well. The coconut plantation yielded very well and many nuts were used as food, either eaten raw or the flesh grated and used in cooking. Through the Director's help, a new double disc plough was obtained and also a motor mower. With the help of the latter, great quantities of grass were cut in the village and Mission. This grass was put down to rot with manure from the milking yard and fowl run, together with a sprinkling of superphosphate to speed up decomposition. Two heaps put down last year were used with great benefit in the cultivation this year. The banana plantation yielded many excellent bunches of bananas. The pineapples were not such a success as we are still awaiting our water scheme.

*Cattle.*—Mr. Little made a good delivery of 380 head of bullocks to Miranda Downs Station, and then proceeded to Georgetown to purchase horses. Unfortunately, dry conditions made the journey back to the Mission very difficult. Mr. Little had the misfortune to injure his arm on the way back and the final stages of the journey were further handicapped by a severe bout of influenza, both of which interfered with the full enjoyment of a well earned leave. The Mission stockmen engaged on the trip did their part faithfully and well under trying conditions. During the period of Mr. Little's leave, the cattle have been under the care of Mr. Hill. In conjunction with Mitchell River Mission, Aurukun has purchased a number of good stud bulls.

The milking yards, shed and bails were completed before the "wet" started. About 50 tons of stone were carted by the new truck to level off the yards, while the bail area was cemented. Mr. Hill has been working hard on the dairy and records of the yields of the various cows kept as a guide to selective breeding to augment further the milk supply. During the peak period, 25 gallons of milk were shared out amongst the school children, the tiny children, babies and mothers. About three tons of hay were cured from the introduced grasses and legumes. Work is being carried out on two large paddocks where various fodder crops are being grown for the dairy herd. These paddocks are to be subdivided into smaller five acre blocks and each block planted with different pastures which have proved suitable to this area. This plan was suggested by a visit to the Tropical Agriculture Experimental Station at South Johnstone. From this Station come two of our best legumes puro and centro. It is felt that by careful attention to the dairy herd and to the cultivation whereby a plentiful supply of milk and home grown food, together with a daily ration of fresh beef, supplemented by coconuts, fish, shell fish and bush tucker will provide a balanced diet for the coming generation of children and thereby build up a healthy and vigorous race.

*New Truck.*—Excitement ran high at the Mission on the evening of 23rd June when the "Melbidir" and "Cora" were both in port and the latter unloaded on to H.M.A. Barge Nark Royal (a raft made out of 42 petrol drums—home made Aurukun) a fine new Austin truck and timber jinker. All the male portion of the village was down at the landing to help or to watch. When the truck was finally driven down the ramp from the raft by Mr. Draffin of the Department of Native Affairs and safe on shore, the welkin rang with cheers and shouts, and as many as possible who could find a toe-hold climbed up for the triumphant ride up to the Mission. This truck, supplied through the Department from Loan Funds, has been of tremendous help in bringing in logs from the bush, carting loads of stone for the milking yards and for the making of a raised road through a swampy patch on our main road from the landing, also for gathering material for the compost heaps, and many other jobs.

*Discipline.*—On the whole, conduct has been very good, due to the care exercised by the Councillors and Village Policemen.

*Bush Work.*—The widow of our native worker, Uki, still continues her faithful work amongst the people of the Kendall and Holroyd River districts. A patrol was made last year in a small 14 foot launch. Owing to the lack of space and inability to carry sufficient fuel, we accepted the generous offer of the Superintendent of the Mitchell River Mission and the small boat was towed to the Holroyd. A number of people were contacted there, but owing to the dryness of the season, most of the people had moved further inland. The trip had to be a hurried one, owing to the size of the boat and the state of the weather. Long visits to each of the districts were impossible. As the boat had only six inches of freeboard, any change in the weather had to be dodged. It is hoped at some future date to have a larger boat, more suitable for proper patrol work in order that adequate fuel and supplies, also medical supplies and comforts can be taken to the bush people. It must be stressed that this work can only be well done by frequent patrols to supplement the great work done by Archiewald and her helpers.

*Sawmill and Buildings.*—Mr. Sydney has been unavoidably delayed in finishing the repairs to the Mission House, owing to the lack of material, much of which went astray, and also owing to the fact that we were unable to get a competent helper. With the arrival of Mr. Page and Allan Parry from Mapoon Mission, the work is now progressing rapidly. A team of our own native men and the older school boys are also helping in this work and receiving good training.

Logs are floated down the rivers and trucked from the landing to the sawmill. The timber when cut is used for many jobs around the Mission and to supplement the work on the Mission House. About 4,000 super feet have been cut and planted.

Six new houses have been built in the village and others repaired.

*Church Services.*—The usual early morning weekday service begins each day's work. A main service is held on Sundays and at regular intervals the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper is held. Four adults joined the Church after a period of preparation.

*School.*—At the close of the first term of this year, 1952, there were 99 children at school, 51 boys and 48 girls. The year's attendances have been satisfactory, there having been no major epidemics. The work has been carried on by the Head Teacher, with the help of four native women teachers and three pupil teachers. To assist our younger scholars to make better progress with the third of the three R's, a quantity of hand material was prepared during the year, chiefly with the help of Mrs. Little, but also with the help of the older boys and girls. This material was based on that described in Dorothy Williams' little book, "A Realistic Approach to Number Teaching."

Hygiene lessons based on the book, "Subject—Health," have been very popular with the children, and many of the stories and rhymes for the younger children have gone over well.

The best liked lessons are the hand-work ones, particularly drawing, and, though playtime follows the weekly drawing period, it is difficult to get the children to put away their work and go out to play. The older children did some good modelling during the past year, including models of hands, feet and heads, of which the feet models were particularly good. Some very good needle work, both plain and fancy, has been done by the older girls in the latter part of the year. This was carried out under the very able tuition of Mrs. D. L. Beleher who came to assist during Mrs. Little's leave.

*Sport and Recreation.*—The favourite relaxation is hunting picnics in the bush for the boys and fishing down on the river bank for the girls. After the "wet" is over and bush food is ripening, the girls go to the coconut plantation at Wutan for six weeks in the care of the Matron and dependable women. Here they can fish, swim, gather shell fish or dig roots in the bush to their heart's content. The boys go away to a good hunting spot with trusted people and they, too, have a wonderful time hunting and fishing. In the village all able-bodied people hunt and often a game of football is indulged in when a number are back at the Mission. Native dances are held, usually during the full moon period.

*Thanks.*—The Mission wishes to express thanks to the Director of Native Affairs, the Deputy Director of Native Affairs and their staffs and a special word of thanks to the members of the staff who conduct the wireless sessions for their unflinching help and co-operation in the case of sickness. Thanks are due to Dr. Barnes and the staff of the Torres Strait Hospital and the Waiben Isolation Hospital, to the Department of Health and Home Affairs, the Flying Doctor, the Cairns Aerial Ambulance, to the Mission Committee and the ladies of the church guilds and hosts of kind friends who have helped and encouraged our work.

APPENDIX 11.  
MITCHELL RIVER MISSION.

(Superintendent, F. W. Currington.)

STAFF.

Rev. E. Wingfield, Chaplain.

Miss G. Ashby, Head Teacher.

Sister Lorna Heath, Matron in charge hospital.

Statistics.—

Births	..	..	..	12
Deaths	..	..	..	9
Marriages	..	..	..	3

*Religion.*—Rev. E. Wingfield, our Chaplain, is away at present on furlough. Morning prayers are held each week day and Church services each Sunday.

*Conduct.*—Satisfactory.

*Employment.*—The demand for native stock boys on the cattle stations is still great and all suitable boys are out on employment.

*Industrial Improvements.*—The cattle continue to make good steady progress. Since the beginning of the year, over 1,000 calves have been branded to date. Edward River Mission was supplied with a number of killers for the year. The Mission workers and other natives on the Mission are well supplied with fresh meat as we kill every other day at the Mission. Fifty (50) Shorthorn and Devon Cross bulls have been purchased and this will definitely improve the herd. New branding yards have been built between here and the boundary and another yard built on the run East of the Mission. New fences have been put around the bullock paddock and the horse paddock, also a new killing-pen erected. We have already had a bullock sale this year, and we were very fortunate to have been able to sell as most of the stock routes are closed owing to drought conditions and not many cattle sales are taking place. A new saddle sire was purchased recently.

*Agriculture.*—There is not such a great crop of sweet potatoes this year, owing to the light "wet" we have had, but what we have planted is a new and fresh variety and look excellent. The pawpaws, bananas and pineapples are bearing well and the vegetable garden is making good progress. I am pleased to report that a number of natives in the villages have some very good private gardens of their own this year, which no doubt is a good thing.

*General.*—Eleven new houses were erected in the villages (made from bush timber and cabbage palm) and also a new clothes store at the Mission. A waggon has been built for use in the wet weather and also yard building and a new bridge built over Magnificent Creek. During the year, a windmill was erected and water laid on to all staff quarters and villages. Though we have not yet received our water supply tank, a

small temporary one is being used in the meantime, this tank only holding 200 gallons does not last long or go far.

Considerable work has been carried out on the aerodrome. Thanks to the Department of Native Affairs, we now have a new horse drawn mowing machine, and this is going to help us keep down the growth of grass considerably.

*School.*—Miss Wall, B.A., Head Teacher, Assistant Native Teachers—Leah Minyalk (who has been teaching at the Mission for 21 years), Doreen Dennis, Bobina Lawrence and Kathleen Lawrence.

Attendance: Total enrolments—81. Children who left during the year—4; children who started during the year—16. Total Attendance—14,068. Number of days school was open—203½. Average attendance—70.

In March of this year, Miss Wall left to get married. We were all very sorry to lose her as she had been in charge of the school for over five years. Fortunately, a week before Miss Wall left the Mission, Miss G. Ashby arrived and volunteered to assist us temporarily and we are very grateful for Miss Ashby's help.

Attendance this year has been good. As usual, the children went out camping during the Christmas holidays and an extra week's holiday was taken due to the illness of the Sister and the shortage of supplies. This year for the first time there has been a Grade V, and we hope that it will be permanent. There is a need in the school for trained native teachers and, if in the future, some of the more promising Grade V children could have a period of extra instruction elsewhere, it would raise considerably the standard of school work.

*Health.*—Temporary Sister in Charge, Miss Lorna M. Heath. Owing to the continued ill-health of Sister Ida Johnson, I have little in the way of statistical information to which to refer.

Yaws are still prevalent here, especially during the wet season and at this time there is a small steady band in the throes of treatment. Instruction in hygiene and domestic science has commenced.

Mr. Eric Charlton, Dentist, with assistant, Mr. K. Campbell, attended the much needed work of endodontia during April, but owing to the non-arrival of equipment from Brisbane, he was unable to do any filling of teeth. However, in the future he will visit us quarterly. As has been mentioned before, a fully equipped hospital is an absolute necessity here.

*Appreciation.*—The Mission wishes to express its appreciation and thanks to Mr. C. O'Leary, Director of Native Affairs, and his staff for their ever-ready co-operation and help.

## APPENDIX 12.

## EDWARD RIVER MISSION.

(Superintendent, Mr. J. W. Chapman.)

On the 21st January, a severe cyclone was experienced and every building on the Mission with the exception of the Superintendent's house was either blown down or badly damaged. The gardens suffered severely, the crops being practically blown out of the ground and a plantation of 200 pawpaws was completely destroyed. The area has since been replanted and the pawpaws are making good growth.

Because of the cyclone, not such a large area of gardens was planted as in former years, as much time had to be spent in providing and erecting temporary houses for the homeless people.

A new school building, toolhouse and cargo shed have been erected and repairs carried out on other buildings. However, some time must elapse before all buildings are restored.

The conduct of the natives has been excellent, there being no serious offence of any kind. Law and order is maintained by the natives themselves through their own police. They are doing an excellent job.

Religious services and classes are taken regularly by the Chaplain who also conducts the school. Owing to the absence of the teacher during the first three months of this year, the school had to be closed.

The most popular recreation continues to be native corroborees, and pictures shown by the Chaplain are much appreciated.

We are hoping soon to have a herd of cattle for the benefit of the Mission. The reserve contains an area of good cattle country and it is felt that this area should be made use of. It is essential to have a meat supply for the natives as soon as possible.

The Superintendent was compelled to be absent from the Mission during the months of July and August and part of September through illness. Upon his return, the erection and repair of houses damaged by the cyclone was continued. A new fish trap was erected and preparations made for planting crops towards the end of the year.

Owing to dry conditions prevailing towards the end of the year, no planting was possible. The rainy season ended on the 18th March and no further rain beyond a few points fell until the 31st December. Despite dry conditions a good crop of taro was obtained from the swamp gardens.

Statistics—Births, 5. Deaths, 1 (infant).

I greatly appreciate the interest taken and help given to this Mission at all times by the Director of Native Affairs and his staff for the welfare and advancement of the natives.

## APPENDIX 13.

## ST. PAUL'S MISSION, MOA ISLAND.

(Chaplain, Rev. A. N. Haley.)

## STAFF.

Headmaster—Mr. P. H. MacFarlane, B.A.

Teachers—Mr. and Mrs. R. P. Graves.

M.A.P.—Mrs. A. N. Haley.

Three native assistant teachers and two maintenance men.

*The Village.*—There has been renewed activity within the village during this past year. Nine new houses have been commenced. Some have been extended and others repaired. Most of this work is done with the co-operation of friends and relatives but all have combined in an effort to complete the Church before Christmas next. This latter work is being greatly handicapped through lack of materials, notably cement. With most of the men staying home this year, it is expected that many neglected jobs around the village will now receive attention.

The main sources of income for the villagers have again been wolfram, pearlshell and trochus. Over £7,000 worth of wolfram has been mined by the men and women. From a community fund, they have bought a jeep to facilitate the work. Five boats were taken out last year by St. Paul's skippers, with nearly all the crews St. Paul's men. Other men were on independent boats. This year there are only two skippers from here and considerably fewer crew. These are apart from the three Torres Strait and Gulf Mission boats which all have skippers from this Mission.

At the beginning of this year, a new chairman and council was elected and the village regulations were brought up to date by the Bishop and Chaplain.

*Church.*—All services are well attended and with the Torres Strait Mission being worked from here and the Priests and Deacons being stationed here, it has been possible to have daily masses and some of the lesser hours. These latter are mainly attended by the native clergy and staff, but others attend on occasions.

The completion of the church has already been mentioned but so far the floor of the transept chapels have been completed as have the sanctuary of the High Altar, the two side aisles and centre aisle of the nave. The latter has been enhanced by a thanks offering by the skipper and crew of the "Mercia" of a carpet reaching the full length of the church.

Another acquisition is in the form of a magnificent brass lectern, a memorial to several men who were drowned in 1946. Another memorial, a 3-foot white marble crucifix for the High Altar, is on order and should be here soon.

The Chaplain has been presented with a strip film projector by Fr. Glover and his Belgrave parishioners for use in the Torres Strait Mission. This should be a decided asset to the school as well.

*Farming.*—As reported last year, attempts are being made to establish co-operative farming and some progress has been made. A motored rotary hoe was recently acquired and already we have small plots of sweet potatoes, pineapples, bananas, pawpaws and rock melons which promise well. Most of the ground is badly leached and will take some building up, but bigger plantings at the beginning of the next "wet" should be possible.

Two pedigreed Saanen bucks were bought as sires for a projected goat herd.

*Buildings.*—Extensive repairs and alterations to buildings have been carried out and efforts are being made to counteract the inroads of rust, white ants and dry rot. There is much to be done as little has been done since before the war.

*Medical.*—During the year, inoculations of all children for diphtheria were carried out and extensive dental work has been done recently. Our thanks are due to the Director of Native Affairs and the Hospital Board for making this possible.

There have been no serious epidemics but numerous children and adults have been treated for minor ailments and three patients were sent to Thursday Island for hospital treatment.

*School.*—With three qualified white teachers on the staff, the school has been able to consolidate its rising standard. More use is being made of intelligence and achievement tests, so that individual pupils will progress and develop to their best advantage. The curriculum includes English, Arithmetic, Social Studies, Religious Education, Singing, Art and Craft, Gardening. Progress has been most noticeable in the lowest classes where modern activity methods have proved ideal for native children.

Two boys in grade VII attempted the scholarship examination as an experiment and, although neither was successful, one boy, Nasonah Levi, gained a pass in one subject, a near pass in another and an overall mark of 33.6 per cent. English comprehension is still the greatest difficulty especially in the answering of formal examination questions.

The school library is being built up and now contains about 70 selected fiction books, 60 social studies books and various magazines for which the senior boys have built bookshelves.

A recently acquired "Banda" duplicator is proving very useful for all branches of school work, and will, eventually, be operated by the senior pupils. An art and craft room is being fitted up for work and display.

*Statistics.*—

Births	..	..	..	15
Deaths	..	..	..	3
Marriages	..	..	..	1

Our sincere thanks are due to the Australian Board of Missions and the Department of Native Affairs for their financial and ready co-operation at all times.

## APPENDIX 14.

### HAMMOND ISLAND MISSION.

(Priest in Charge, Rev. Father T. Dixon, M.S.C.)

Hammond Island Mission for half-castes and descendants of Torres Strait Islanders is a Catholic Mission inaugurated in 1930 and re-commenced after the evacuation during the Second World War. The main task of the Mission has been the rehabilitation of the inhabitants and the reconstruction of buildings and services. Great progress to both purposes has been noted in the past twelve months, thanks to the co-operation of the people themselves, the industry of the Missionaries, the encouragement and aid coming from the Director of Native Affairs and his Department.

Two white teaching Sisters educate 28 children in the school, teaching them the usual scholastic attainments and broadening their education with lessons in pianoforte, basketry and other handiworks. Several school concerts staged during the year were a great credit to the pupils and teachers. The older schoolboys were initiated into the fundamental use of carpenters' tools by the Priest.

The health of the Island has been constantly good, there being only one death in the year. Turtle, dugong and fish are in constant supply and are served out on a community basis.

Major repairs to Mission buildings, roads and the repair of the water system have occupied the energies of the few men folk who are at home, while the majority are acting as divers and crew on various pearling luggers.

With moneys supplied by Government Loan, a well of two columns of concrete cylinders was sunk, a new head installation on the windmill stand and reticulation pipes relaid or repaired. Private wells of concrete cylinders were set down for the benefit of private use such that our water problem is now solved.

A 32/42 volt lighting plant is due to arrive and be installed in the next few months.

The Hammond Island divers and pearling crews are playing their part splendidly in the local pearling trade and this year have proved themselves so far.

Extensive hillside gardens are well tended and the hills provide ample supplies of firewood some of which is sold in Thursday Island.

A large "flattie" is under construction to facilitate transport of firewood and other commodities for sale and thus the inhabitants are assured of a wage and a solid living. In free time and voluntarily, the Priest and men are constructing a Church made from the blue granite and quartz available in profuse quantities on the Island and, it is hoped that such a building will invite new home-builders to imitate and construct sturdier and more durable homes.



The Mission is managed by Rev. Father Thomas Dixon, M.S.C., aided by Rev. Father Paul Power, M.S.C., until he was transferred and his place taken by Rev. Father James Raymond, M.S.C. Able support was given the Priests by the Sisters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart and Francis Durante, a native who pioneered the Mission as a boy.

The population has grown to some 85 inhabitants and every family is stationed in their own home with water wells to each home. The pleasing element about the population is the fact that the oldest person is 50 years and the next 42 and the rest are below 40 years.

#### APPENDIX 15.

#### LOCKHART RIVER MISSION.

(Superintendent, Mr. J. A. Warby.)

##### STAFF.

Miss A. Hann (School); Sister D. Brown (Hospital); Rev. S. Ambar; Mr. H. E. Batiste; Mr. J. Callope (Cattle); William Namok (Carpenter).

Mr. R. K. Matthews who commenced duties as Assistant Superintendent and Agriculturist on the 1st May passed away very suddenly on the 20th May after a short illness. His passing is a great loss to the Mission. The Superintendent also being ill, Mr. H. E. Batiste volunteered at very short notice to assist, and is attached temporarily to the staff as from the 1st June. His action is greatly appreciated.

*Visitors.*—The Lord Bishop of the Diocese visited the Mission on three occasions during the past twelve months.

Dr. J. H. Barnes, Superintendent of the Thursday Island Hospital, accompanied by a Sister, visited the Mission on the 14th November, 1951, to carry out a ten-day medical survey.

Mr. P. J. Richards, Deputy Director of Native Affairs, accompanied by Mr. F. G. Stephens, Department of Agriculture and Stock, also visited this Mission from the 5th to the 12th December, 1951.

Dr. J. Barnes and two Sisters made a brief visit to the Mission on the 28th May to 1st June and were able to check on the results of the hookworm campaign where a decided improvement in the health of most age groups was noted. In some cases, the improvement was very marked.

*Employment.*—Previous to January, most able-bodied men were employed on trochus boats. Very few have been signed on this year, however, mainly due to the reduced price of the shell.

*Agriculture.*—A larger area of crops was sown this year and included sweet potatoes, pumpkins, water-melons, marrows and sweet corn. All suffered from the unfavourable weather conditions and the results were generally poor.

*Cattle.*—One hundred beasts were killed for Mission use throughout the year. 469 head were branded, which constitutes a record for the Mission. The Sefton area suffered severely from the past drought and cattle had to be moved from this area to the Lockhart flats which were little affected.

*Marine.*—Plans for a slipway have been drawn up as the Mission has two cutters, one of which, the "Mary Lockhart," is used to carry cargo and passengers, while the other, "Cape Grey," is used for Trochus shell fishing. This project has proved satisfactory, 21 tons being fished to date. Until the middle of March, the crew of the "Cape Grey" was signed on under the usual D.N.A. Agreement of wages and bonus, but since then, due to the slump in the shell price, the boat is now worked on a share basis.

The operations of the "Cape Grey" have enabled a truck, complete with a spare engine, to be acquired, and this is proving invaluable, especially in the extensive building operations now under way.

*Building.*—Three new huts were built and a large number repaired. A small fibre dwelling has been erected for the agriculturist. The Department of Native Affairs has supplied two pre-fabricated buildings, one of which is to be a kindergarten and sewing room and the other is to be a kitchen and dining room for all school age children. Both of these will be decided acquisitions.

A sawmill is nearing completion and should be working in the near future.

A new village is being erected to house all people. This is located much closer to the staff houses and better supervision of the people is anticipated in addition to the improved housing conditions. The village is being erected under the general supervision of William Namok, Torres Strait Islander, who is temporarily on loan here from St. Paul's Mission. Although the teachers and matron's house has still not eventuated, the need for it is now greater than ever. A new house for the priest and a new church and store are also planned to be built.

*Water Supply.*—One windmill was erected and a pipe laid to the village area. A new well is being dug to serve the new village and to supplement the present water supply which is highly unsatisfactory. Two 2,000 gallon tanks were put into operation at the school.

*Health.*—Sister D. Brown, who is in charge of the Hospital, reports as follows:—

For the first time for a number of years our birthrate has outnumbered the deaths, three of the four deaths being old people.

Dr. Barnes, Superintendent of Thursday Island Hospital, visited the Mission late last November for a medical survey and as a result advised that an extensive hookworm treatment be given. This was carried out during December and January with very good results. Dr. Barnes advised that for health reasons, the village be moved to a new site, which will also bring it nearer to the hospital. All school and pre-school children are given an iron tonic twice daily.

*Village Work.*—The latter part of last year the young girls of the sewing class worked very well making dresses for the old women and for the small girls, also a number of men's shirts.

This year, with two new machines, it is hoped to do much more sewing and to teach a number of village women to use the treadle machine.

*School.*—Miss A. Hann is in charge of the school where she has been ably assisted by her sister, Miss H. Hann, who has been visiting the Mission for the past five months. This assistance is very much appreciated. Miss Hann, who also has the assistance of native teachers, namely, Jane King, Florence Callope, Minnie Rocky and Gloria Powlee, reports as follows:—

Number of children on roll .. ..	62
School opened .. ..	204 days
Average attendance .. ..	60.8

Steady progress was maintained throughout the year. The pre-school children are keen to attend, but this is almost impossible until such times as we have a kindergarten building.

*Manual Work.*—Girls—The Seniors cut out and make their own clothing, also dresses for the smaller children and sun suits for the toddlers. Fancywork.—Several designs for aprons were drawn, traced and worked. Work baskets were made from the pandanus palm.

Boys.—The boys helped in the store owing to shortage of manpower on the Mission. Gardening.—Swamp area was cleared, and tare, bananas and watermelons planted. To stimulate interest, each boy was given an area of land for his own garden and a prize is to be awarded at the end of the year for the best garden.

*Chaplain's Report.*—The Rev. Sagi Ambar, who is a Torres Strait Islander, and Chaplain of the Mission, reports as follows:—

For the past twelve months, there have been eight baptisms of infants, and two baptisms of children aged about six and eight and also six adult baptisms, three marriages, thirteen adults, six boys, five girls were confirmed, 228 masses, 2,227 acts of communion.

The Church services show a marked improvement and the attendance has been very satisfactory and the singing is very good. We have Mass twice weekly as well as on special days of obligation the people attend daily services well.

Religious education is provided on two mornings weekly with six half-hour periods, one for each grade. Opportunity for confessions is provided two evenings weekly and a singing practice is held every Wednesday evening. The senior girls get much pleasure and interest in cleaning and preparing the Church for services.

We also have a weekly class for confirmation and the opportunity is provided for altar servers' practice every Thursday evening. Twice a week the senior boys in school have gardening in the swamp, planting some banana suckers and tare, &c. Their work has been very good and is improving.

At present services are held in the school building, but it is hoped to start work on a church in the near future. I feel sure that a new church will assist in the worship of the people and especially will it help the younger school children who often find it difficult to draw a distinction between church and school.

*General.*—The Department of Native Affairs has made available a ration of peanut paste, cheese and cerevite oatmeal and this welcome and much needed addition to the food scale is being increasingly relished by the majority.

*Appreciation.*—Our thanks are due to Mr. O'Leary and the staff of the Department of Native Affairs for their understanding and co-operation over the past year. The splendid service of the D.N.A. radio is especially appreciated, particularly where urgent medical advice has been sought and much time taken in passing it. Likewise the ready services and advice of Dr. Barnes and his staff are appreciated also.

#### APPENDIX 16.

#### MAPOON MISSION.

(Superintendent, Rev. G. W. Holmes, B.A.,  
Dip. Ed.)

#### STAFF.

Matron—Mrs. Holmes.

The year has seen several staff changes. The fact that the present Superintendent arrived only in September makes the presenting of this report difficult. The previous Superintendent, Rev. J. C. Allan, left in July owing to the serious illness of Mrs. Allan. It was a sad loss to Mapoon and the Gulf Missions generally, because of their interest in and labours on behalf of the natives. Mr. and Mrs. Hopkinson arrived in May from Weipa and were assistants to Mr. and Mrs. Allan and after their departure Acting Superintendent and Matron till September. Mr. Hopkinson resigned as Assistant in December.

Staff changes are always unsettling to the routine work of the Mission and the close of this year found staff and people still settling down.

*Behaviour.*—On the whole, the behaviour is good, though there always seems to be one or the other disturbing the peace of the community. However, there are the faithful few who are to be trusted.

*Religious Activities.*—These continued as formerly. Services and such are moderately well attended.

#### Statistics.—

Births, 6

Deaths, 1 at Goodna Mental Hospital

*Health.*—There has been no serious epidemics. The usual minor complaints have been treated in the dispensary. The Cairns Aerial Ambulance came here in December and took a young boy with a broken leg to Cairns Hospital.

*Diet.*—There is possibly a diet deficiency owing to the lack of garden produce, no attempt being made to grow vegetables during the year.

*School.*—There are 68 on the roll, the average attendance being 52. The school is staffed by native teachers. The Department of Native Affairs provided necessary materials for school work.

*Industry.*—The women have engaged in the usual crafts of bead, feather, flower, fan manufacture, for which there is a limited market.

Men have been engaged on stock-work, work on pearling boats and other work in Thursday Island.

Some 15 men engaged in crocodile hunting during the season. During the period August-December inclusive £500 was paid out or an average of £2 10s. per man per week. Several of the crocodile hunters do well at it; the most are picnickers.

*Fowls.*—This side of Mission industry has been carefully attended to but it is felt that the result did not warrant the time and expense. There has been an average of about 200 dozen eggs per month, in good months. Most of these were sent away. For instance, in August the distribution of eggs was as follows:—

	Dozen.
Thursday Island Hospital .. ..	130
Thursday Island Agency .. ..	47
Weipa Mission .. ..	} 32
Aurukun Mission .. ..	
Various .. ..	14
Mapoon Mission Children .. ..	18

*Thanks.*—It would be impossible to mention names. Sincere thanks to the Hospital Staff, the Director of Native Affairs and staff and all who have assisted the Mission and staff at Mapoon.

#### APPENDIX 17.

##### WEIPA MISSION.

(Superintendent, Mr. J. S. Winn.)

##### STAFF.

Matron—Mrs. J. S. Winn.

Assistants—Mr. and Mrs. Royce Little.

We regret that the illness of Mr. J. T. Robinson, Administrator for Missions, has necessitated his resignation from this post, for which he was so eminently suited. We have also lost a good friend through the death of Rev. D. A. Brown, former Secretary for Missions.

After the return of Mr. and Mrs. Winn from furlough, and the appointment of Mr. and Mrs. Royce Little to the staff as assistants, Mr. and Mrs. L. Hopkinson transferred to Mapoon staff.

*Religion.*—Sunday services and morning prayers have averaged an attendance of 70. The communicants' roll numbers 80. One infant received baptism and one marriage was solemnised.

##### Statistics.—

Births, 2 female

Deaths, 5 (2 male 3 female—1 at Thursday Island Hospital, 4 at Mission—1 coronary occlusion, 2 tuberculosis, 2 old age)

##### Health.—

Outpatients, 18,492 (daily average 50)

Inpatients, 17

Patients sent to Thursday Island District Hospital for X-rays—21.

Patients sent to Thursday Island Hospital for other treatment—3.

Weipa inpatients in Thursday Island Hospital at 31st March, 1952—6.

##### In-patients at Weipa during the year—

Pneumonia .. ..	5
Sugar diabetes .. ..	1
Tuberculosis hæmorrhage .. ..	1
Influenza .. ..	6
Dingo bite .. ..	1
Stomach disorders—children .. ..	2
Illness during pregnancy .. ..	1

The out-patients' attendances were increased appreciably by an outbreak of scabies among the dormitory boys which was treated for some months without eradication until a supply of Benzyl Benzeate was obtained.

There was one tolerably severe epidemic of influenza among the villagers.

A minimum number of teeth extractions has been carried out, in view of the proposed establishment of a Dental Clinic at Thursday Island, with twice yearly visits by the dentist and the mechanic. The survey of requirements necessary on the station was made by Mr. A. J. Hoole, Superintendent of the Brisbane Dental Hospital, in June, 1951.

*School.*—Teachers—Mrs. R. Little with Ina Hall, assistant, and 2 pupil teachers.

##### Attendance.—

No. of days school was open .. ..	191
Total attendances .. ..	6,049
Average attendance .. ..	31.67
No. of pupils at 1-4-51 .. ..	31
No. of pupils at 31-3-52 .. ..	34

Work through the year has been satisfactory.

Five children who exhibited in "The Sunday Mail" Annual Art Contest open to all children under 17 years, received high commendation for their entries, the judges' comments being—

*Miss Lahey.*—"The entries from the Weipa children showed a good sense of design and lively presentation. As this particular age group demands a more developed type of work, they were not placed in the first three."

*Mr. Bustard.*—"The original drawings of the aboriginal competitors were very good and, although they did not win any prizes, they should definitely be encouraged to further their own style and not be influenced by sophisticated workers in the same medium."

*Mr. Lusby.*—"All judges were agreed that as in previous years, the work of the aboriginal competitors was like a breath of fresh air among the other drawings and showed a more unusual interest."

The entries of two of the children, Aileen Motton and Ralph Coconut, were chosen by Mr. Haines, Director of the Art Gallery, for inclusion in an exhibition of the work of twenty Queensland child artists, shown in Queensland House, London. For radio photos of their painting, photograph and biography in the exhibition which have been forwarded to Aileen and Ralph, we are indebted to "The Sunday Mail" Editor, Mr. Jackson. His gesture was much appreciated.

The successes in the Art Contest itself induced a Miss Cummins, of Brisbane, totally unknown to us, to write an offer of books, to the value of £10 to the five children to mark their achievement. Her choice of Art books and encyclopaedias for children has been highly valued by the recipients, who duly acknowledged them. We place on record our appreciation of this generous gift.

Thanks are also recorded to Somerville House for their annual gifts to the school of painting materials, books and toys; to Rev. Mackenzie, of Aurukun Mission, for his continued donation of an annual subscription to "Wild Life," and to Miss E. Mackenzie who maintains our subscription to "Child Education."

The usual school display for parents was held on the 19th December, when the year's prizes were presented, as well as the Art Prizes and Certificates, and the Commonwealth Jubilee medallions, which had arrived too late for distribution on the specified day. An interesting programme of singing and dramatisation and an International Pageant in costume was presented to an appreciative audience of parents. Sewing, painting, modelling and schoolwork were on show for the parents' inspection.

*Domestic Science.*—Mrs. Winn reports satisfactory progress. The full-time pupils, excluding two absent in hospital, number nine this year. Instruction in cooking, baking, laundry, machine and hand sewing continues. All repairs to the clothing of the school children are effected by this group, in addition to the making of all garments for the 45 dormitory inmates, 18 toddlers and infants, and part of the pensioners' wardrobes along with uniforms for the native women staff. Some of the layettes made by this Group were displayed at the General School Display.

Over the last six months period the older girls, in rotation, have advanced sufficiently to take entire charge of all cooking and bread baking for the fifty to sixty people fed daily from the Mission cookhouse, with satisfactory and consistently edible results.

*Employment.*—Luggers—two men out at present, four others have also been employed for short terms.

Caretakers, Native Cottages at Thursday Island	..	1 couple
In private employ at Thursday Island	..	1 couple
Higginsfield construction	..	1 man during 1951
Stockwork	..	3 men

The rest of the male population have been employed on Mission activities—building, gardening, fencing, cattle.

The women have worked crochet to the value of £82, all of which has found ready sale. They have also worked for odd weeks on aerodrome maintenance.

Some income for the men has been derived from the sale of cordwood on Thursday Island. However, 20 cords stacked on the beach awaiting shipment were swept away by the abnormal tides and heavy seas which accompanied the February cyclonic disturbances.

*Agriculture.*—Last March to November saw the usual excellent crop of pawpaws, enabling each child to receive at least half a pawpaw per day. The mango crop, though of brief duration, was also good. Snake beans were prolific for three months. Otherwise the vegetable crop was a failure. This year's pawpaw crop will be greatly diminished because of the damage inflicted by the gales, which snapped off trees and young fruit.

The pumping plant and a limited length of piping have been installed.

*Pasture.*—Further spreading of lucerne has been continued in the immediate area for the benefit of the milking herd. The best grazing for cattle generally lies in the hinterland of the peninsula between the Mission and Embley River and the cattle keep to this area for the greater part of the year. Rainfall for the 12 months totalled 67 inches, 29 of which fell in February of this year. This has resulted in rank growth.

*Stock.*—Thirty-seven (37) horses have been purchased for Weipa from the Georgetown area. Delivery was taken in December. Two pack saddles have been purchased and extensive repairs made to existing saddlery. With this stock and equipment, it is hoped to make the first comprehensive muster and survey possible for many years. To facilitate this, an area adjacent to the Mission and bounded on one side by the Embley River has been marked off by five to six miles of fencing posts. The shipment of wire for this is still awaited. A further two square miles holding and horse paddock, with permanent fresh water enclosed, is planned and it is hoped to commence this work in the near future. Some outlying yards have also been repaired.

*Aerodrome.*—Further work on the third runway has been continued. The original two runways have been maintained in serviceable order. They have been used only twice this year—by Missionary Aviation Auster aircraft

and by Cairns Aerial Ambulance, both of which craft removed patients of medical urgency (again justifying the clearance of these runways). To the organisations financing these aircraft, gratitude is expressed for the service rendered.

*Industrial.*—Although concern was felt and much inconvenience caused by the untimely shattering of the flywheels of the Ruston Hornsby milling engine, while new ones were being located in the South, emergency power was provided by the Ford "Disposals" truck to cut timber to enable work to go forward immediately on the building which will house the freezing units and lighting plant.

This building, 48 feet x 12 feet, of fibrolite walls on a concrete foundation, with fibrolite roofing, according to specifications drawn up by the engineers of the Department of Health and Home Affairs, was completed as far as was possible by the end of June last. However, due to shipping difficulties, the delivery of the plant and its installation is still indefinite. Substantial poles were also erected throughout the compound for the reticulation of electric power to all buildings.

A windmill to augment the village water supply has been erected.

The 36-foot well serving the Mission compound has had the side walls strongly concreted. The pumping plant has been permanently installed at this site.

The acquisition of an old International trailer from E. K. Thorpe, of Thursday Island, in exchange for a quantity of cordwood has facilitated the bringing in of logs for milling. Messmate is the timber mainly milled.

The exposed woodwork of "Miller House," the boys' dormitory block in course of erection, was unfortunately demolished by the February gales and will have to be renewed. Interior furnishings for this building have been received, some very badly damaged in transit.

Damage in the gales was also sustained by the boatshed and unloading pontoon. The shed has since been repaired. The pontoon, blown some miles up the river and submerged, has been retrieved but needs further extensive repairs. Extensive erosion, caused by 970 points of rain

overnight, took place in the beach road and cliff face. A rock wall has been erected against the cliff at this point and the cavities filled in. A drain has been laid to divert further excessive flows from the critical area and 4-foot deep gullies in the road have been filled in.

Two further village cottages have been erected and occupied. Twelve concrete bases were laid for more permanent sanitary installations in the village.

*Conduct.*—On the whole, good. The differences of opinion inevitable in any small community have been amicably resolved.

A patrol visit by Constable Stevenson, of Coen police, was made in October to conduct routine inquiries into the unusual circumstances of two deaths. He found all facts in order.

*Social.*—The service store on a non-profit making basis is maintained as usual. Difficulty in obtaining supplies was experienced during the early months while m.v. "Reliance" was laid up for engine repairs. Supplies are now coming through regularly. A wide variety of lines are stocked—drapery, hardware, tools, groceries.

The traditional Christmas and New Year festivities were observed and, fortunately, not marred by the heavy rains at that time.

Native and Island-type dancing has occupied many evenings in the village. There were also several gramophones purchased, which have provided a good deal of entertainment.

*Visitors.*—The list of visitors to the Mission includes Mission staff, a number of tourists, a Dental Survey Party, an officer from the Department of Native Affairs (Mr. Draffin) and the radio operator to maintenance equipment.

*Appreciation.*—Appreciation is due to the many friends in church organisations who contribute materially to the financial, physical and social needs of the people; to the staff of the Church Offices; to the Government Medical Officer at Thursday Island for helpful replies to urgent medical queries and for the care and attention given by him and the staff of the District and Waiben Hospitals to our patients; to the Cairns Aerial Ambulance, to the wireless operators and to the Director of Native Affairs and his staff.

A. H. TUCKER, Government Printer, Brisbane.

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