

South



Australia.

REPORT

OF THE

CHIEF PROTECTOR OF ABORIGINALS

FOR THE

YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 1921.



Adelaide:

R. E. E. ROGERS, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, NORTH TERRACE.

1921.

REPORT.



Aboriginals Department,

Adelaide, October 15th, 1921.

Sir—I have the honor to submit this my report on the working of the Aboriginals Department for the year ended June 30th, 1921

POINT PEARCE STATION.

The operations for the year again show a loss, which amounts to £2,233 1s. 8d. This is not to be wondered at, as there is such a large number of aborigines depending on the station for a living, the number varying between 240 and 260, only 27 of whom are full-blooded aborigines. The fall in the value of livestock, wool, and skins is largely responsible for the loss shown.

The livestock on the station on the 30th June, 1921, consisted of 91 cattle, 4,138 sheep, 77 horses, and 37 pigs.

For the coming harvest we have under crop 3,396 acres which promises to yield well. Most of the farming is now done by the natives on the share system, and if this proves satisfactory the system will be extended.

POINT MCLEAY STATION.

The operations for the year show a loss of £5,911 6s. 8d., which could only be expected as there are over 400 aborigines depending on the station for a living. The only paying industries that can be carried on are grazing and dairying.

Mr. A. P. Bowman, of Campbell Park Station, recently presented the station with a valuable Shorthorn bull which will greatly improve the Point McLeay herd, and he is heartily thanked for his kindness.

The livestock on the station on the 30th June, 1921, consisted of 240 cattle, 71 sheep, 32 horses, and 79 pigs.

The expenditure and revenue of these stations for the year are as under:—

	Expenditure.	Revenue.
Point Pearce.....	£11,911 16 0	.. £9,858 6 0
Point McLeay	£9,996 10 2	.. £5,106 10 7

The aboriginal population of the State, according to last year's estimate, is—

Full-bloods	3,787
Half-castes	957
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Total	4,744
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The census figures will shortly be published and the actual numbers will then be available.

CRIME REPORT FOR THE YEAR.

The number of aborigines convicted during the year was—

Drunkenness	26
Riotous and indecent language	6
Unlawful possession of liquor	5
Cruelty to animals	1
Breach of Police Act	2
Larceny	1
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Total convictions	41
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The number of persons convicted of supplying liquor to aborigines was eight.

The health of the aborigines throughout the State during the year has been fairly good, and their requirements have been well attended to by the depot-keepers, who have cheerfully given their services free of charge. The numerous medical officers and hospital authorities and attendants have all given the native patients every care within their power.

Blankets, clothing, and medical comforts have been liberally supplied to those entitled to same in all parts of the State, but care has been exercised to keep down expenditure as far as possible. The enormous increase in prices of all commodities has made it most difficult to make the departmental vote cover the necessary expenditure.

EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30TH, 1921.

<i>Head Office—</i>	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Salaries	870	15	4			
Provisions, blankets, clothing, medical expenses, &c., in con- nection with depots other than Point Pearce and Point McLeay..	3,705	2	5			
Advisory Council of Aborigines, Printing, stationery and allowance to secretary	52	0	6			
	<hr/>			4,627	18	3

EXPENDITURE—continued.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
<i>Point Pearce Station—</i>						
Salaries and wages	5,438	18	1			
Implements, stock, stores, &c	6,472	17	11			
				11,911	16	0
<i>Point McLeay Station—</i>						
Salaries and wages	3,456	10	8			
Implements, stock, and stores	6,498	3	9			
Rent of sections.....	41	15	0			
				9,996	10	2
Total	£26,536	4	5			

REVENUE FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30TH, 1921.

	£	s.	d.
From sales of produce, &c., Point Pearce Station..	9,858	6	0
From sales of produce, &c., Point McLeay Station	5,106	10	7
Refund of advances to aborigines for rail fares, &c.	84	2	10
Total revenue	£15,048	19	5

I have, &c.,

W. G. SOUTH, Chief Protector of Aborigines.

The Honorable Commissioner of Public Works, Adelaide.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT OF THE POINT PEARCE
STATION FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30TH, 1921.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To Salaries of superintendent and storekeeper	444	0	0			
Wages of aborigines and white laborers	5,129	11	5			
				5,573	11	5
Sheep	—			1,589	2	0
Rations for aborigines	880	5	10			
School books, &c., for aboriginal children.....	21	3	8			
				901	9	6
Interest	—			450	15	4
Head office salaries and expenses..	—			100	11	11
Depreciation—						
Furniture	6	4	11			
Implements, tools, &c.	155	3	3			
Harness.....	10	3	6			
				180	11	8
Net profit brought forward	—			6,736	11	2
				£15,532	13	0

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT, ETC.—*continued.*

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
By Store	—	—	—	174	1	8
Rent of cottages, &c.	—	—	—	122	6	0
Farm account, wheat and other produce	—	—	—	5,877	1	7
Stock accounts—						
Horses	25	0	0			
Cattle	166	10	0			
Pigs	82	10	0			
				274	0	0
Meat	—	—	—	110	7	7
Sundry debtors—Amount collected in excess of anticipation.....	—	—	—	5	3	4
Net profit brought forward.....	—	—	—	6,736	11	2
Balance net loss for year	—	—	—	2,233	1	8
				<u>£15,532</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>0</u>

BALANCE-SHEET OF THE POINT PEARCE STATION AS AT
JUNE 30TH, 1921.

	LIABILITIES.			£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
H.M. Government				11,120	6	11			
H.M. Government interest account ..				450	15	4			
							11,571	2	3
Capital account				—	—	—	11,362	9	5
Sundry creditors				—	—	—	356	13	1
Net profit brought forward	6,736	11	2						
Less net loss for year	2,233	1	8						
							4,503	9	6
							<u>£27,793</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>3</u>
	ASSETS.			£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Station buildings				8,630	0	0			
Improvements, fencing, &c.				4,600	0	0			
							13,230	0	0
Implements, vehicles, &c.				1,306	9	0			
Furniture				118	13	9			
Harness				172	15	1			
							1,687	17	10
Stocks on hand—									
Store				715	12	7			
Wheat				20	5	0			
Barley				19	1	4			
Oats				11	5	0			
Hay				1,575	0	0			
Cornsacks and woolpacks.....				97	0	0			
Pigs feed, barley				27	10	0			
Binder twine				3	5	0			
Super				87	10	0			
Bricks				3	0	0			
Lime				2	8	0			
Share farmers' seed and super ...				936	0	0			
Wool				696	0	0			

BALANCE-SHEET, ETC.—*continued.*ASSETS—*continued.*

Livestock—	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Horses	1,145	0	0			
Cattle	868	0	0			
Sheep	4,231	18	0			
Pigs	87	0	0			
				10,525	14	11
Wheat certificates—						
1915-16, expected to realise	25	6	2			
1916-17, expected to realise	538	17	8			
1917-18, expected to realise	52	3	11			
1918-19, expected to realise	85	16	0			
1919-20, expected to realise	95	12	11			
1920-21, expected to realise	1,552	4	10			
				2,350	1	6
				£27,793	14	3

W. G. SOUTH, Chief Protector of Aborigines.

August 24th, 1921.

Examined and passed,

EDGAR WM. GILES, Commissioner of Audit.

September 7th, 1921.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT OF THE POINT McLEAY
STATION FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30TH, 1921.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To Store	—			282	7	2
Farm	—			615	19	10
Stock accounts—						
Horses	8	0	0			
Sheep	25	13	5			
Cattle	18	4	10			
				51	18	3
Meat	—			66	10	8
Mats and baskets	—			1	3	0
Rations for aborigines	692	17	2			
School books for aboriginal children	10	1	5			
				702	18	7
Boots shop, boots and materials ..	—			2	0	0
Salaries of superintendent and storekeeper	504	0	0			
Wages of aborigines and white labor	3,030	8	2			
				3,534	8	2
Depreciation—						
Furniture	6	12	8			
Implements, &c.	52	15	9			
Harness	8	19	1			
				68	7	6

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT, ETC.—*continued.*

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To Rent	—	—	—	41	15	9
Head office, salaries and expenses..	—	—	—	100	11	11
Interest	—	—	—	821	12	8
Net loss brought forward	—	—	—	11,419	17	3
				<hr/>		
				£17,709	10	9
				<hr/>		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
By Pigs	—	—	—	378	6	10
Net loss for year	5,911	6	8			
Add net loss brought forward	11,419	17	3			
				<hr/>		
				17,331	3	11
				<hr/>		
				£17,709	10	9
				<hr/>		

BALANCE SHEET OF THE POINT McLEAY STATION AS
AT JUNE 30TH, 1921.

LIABILITIES.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
H.M. Government account	21,020	7	0				
H.M. Government interest account ..	821	12	8				
				<hr/>			
				21,841	19	8	
Sundry creditors	—	—	—	706	2	5	
Capital account	—	—	—	5,550	6	4	
				<hr/>			
				£28,098	8	5	
				<hr/>			
ASSETS.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Buildings	4,419	1	3				
Improvements	1,679	1	11				
				<hr/>			
				6,098	3	2	
Furniture	126	1	1				
Implements, vehicles, &c.	475	19	7				
Harness	80	11	7				
				<hr/>			
				682	12	3	
Stocks on hand—							
Store	1,001	15	5				
Mats and baskets	2	12	3				
Boot shop, boots and materials ..	8	0	0				
Farm account—							
Barley	0	18	0				
Chaff	6	0	0				
Hay	510	0	0				
Pollard	15	8	10				
Lime	0	16	6				
Super	1	8	9				
Field peas	3	7	8				
Motor spirit	9	0	0				
Wool	36	0	0				
				<hr/>			
				1,595	7	5	

BALANCE-SHEET, ETC.—*continued.*

<i>ASSETS—continued.</i>						
Livestock on hand—	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Horses	312	0	0			
Cattle	1,706	0	0			
Sheep	81	0	0			
Pigs	271	0	0			
Fowls	2	0	0			
				2,372	0	0
Sundry debtors	—				19	1
Net loss for year	5,911	6	8			
Add net loss brought forward	11,419	17	3			
				17,331	3	11
				£28,098	8	5

W. G. SOUTH, Chief Protetor of Aboriginals.

August 24th, 1921.

Examined and passed,

EDGAR WM. GILES, Commissioner of Audit.

September 7th, 1921.

POINT PEARCE ABORIGINAL STATION.

Port Victoria, July 1st, 1921.

Sir—I have the honor to forward you the following report for the year ending June 30th, 1921:—

Harvest results were very good. Our returns are—Wheat, 15,160bush. ; barley, 8,741bush. ; oats, 411bush. ; total station share of grain grown, 23,070bush. ; hay, 615 tons. Hay now on hand, 450 tons. All our farming is now done on shares. Allowing for adjustments, because of taking hay for station instead of grain, the total amount of grain grown on the station is about double these figures. The wheat averaged 15bush. to the acre. Barley averaged 20bush. per acre.

The wool clip totalled 125 bales and 7 bags from 3,512 sheep and 520 lambs shorn—total 4,032.

We have had a satisfactory lambing this year, 878 lambs, giving an average of 70 per cent. The total number of sheep and lambs now is 4,138 ; horses, 77 ; cattle, 91 ; pigs, 37.

This year we have in crop 3,396 acres. We have had splendid rains, and the crop has had a better start than for some years.

Notwithstanding the good harvest, the fall in the prices of barley, wool, and sheep will adversely affect our financial results for the year, especially as we have had to pay high prices for all material, implements, store, &c.

We are continuing to have all farm work done by aborigines on the third-share system, as this method of employing approved men promises success.

We have further improved our water supply. The tank in South paddock on Wardang Island has been completed and supplied with windmill, &c., and a tank has been excavated and is now being built, with a capacity of 50,000galls., which will give two of our paddocks on mainland a good supply of water, especially as this tank will be connected by pipes with our wells. Owing to the splendid rains which have fallen nearly all our dams and tanks are full.

The new school built last year was opened for use in January. It is a great success, being built on modern lines to plans approved by the Director of Education, well-lighted and ventilated. The number of children now in the school is 50.

Several of our very old full-blooded aborigines have died during the past year. The health of the people generally has been good.

Our men have been employed as share farmers, builders, for rabbiting, fencing, stone-raising, wood-cutting, stone-picking, carting firewood, stores, grain, super, &c., milking, boundary riding, butchering, care of pigs, sanitary work, crossing sheep to and from Wardang Island, shearing, breeching, and dagging sheep. As usual the Port of Balgowan has given work to several of our men as wheat lumpers, &c.

Religious services have been conducted on the station weekly, as usual, by visiting ministers and laymen from the churches in our neighborhood, whose unselfish work we again gratefully acknowledge. Sunday evening services are also regularly conducted by Mr. D. Roper and myself. Sunday school is conducted by Mr. D. Roper, assisted by Miss Roper and others, with encouraging results.

All the officers of the station continue to prove efficient workers in their several departments.

I have, &c.,

FRANCIS GARNETT, Superintendent.

The Chief Protector of Aborigines, Adelaide.

POINT McLEAY ABORIGINAL STATION.

July 11th, 1921.

Sir—I have the honor to submit the following report for the year ending June 30th, 1921 :—

We have had a very successful year with our dairy, the cows milking well, both at Glenora and the head station ; the cows at the station being milked to supply the natives and officers with milk. Butter has been a good price right through the year. The year on the whole has been a splendid dairying year. We had heavy falls of rain in the months of February and March, which gave the lucerne paddocks a wonderful growth, which helped us to bring the milking cows through with very little hand-feeding.

We have had a splendid season with our pigs, the bacon pigs selling at high prices and the sows have been having good litters of young ones, keeping our fattening styes well filled.

Our hay crops have been a very great success. Never before have we had so much hay on hand, the hay being of splendid quality ; this is oaten hay. The lucerne hay which is mixed with barley was of sufficient length to allow us to cut it with the twine binder, and so saved a great deal of waste in carting.

The lucerne sown last year has grown well, but the lucerne seed sown this year had a very bad time. The grubs came in thousands and cleaned the young lucerne off as they went. These grubs were also bad on the oat crops, climbing up the stem and eating off the head.

The present crops are looking well, but not so well as they were this time last year ; but they may improve as the year advances.

In my report of last year I spoke of our sowing and planting the big sand-drift with the grass purchased from the Minda Home. A great deal of this grass has grown and is now looking well. We have had a splendid crop of rye on this drift, which was a splendid sight, the rye standing well up to 6ft. high. This has gone a long way to stop the drift. I am also pleased to be able to say that the drift has been almost stopped, and with a little careful planting this year we should do it. We have also sown in various places seeds of the sheaoak and wattle, but up to date very few have come up, this being a disappointment to us.

Our sheep have been doing well this year. We have a nice lot of young lambs coming, the ewes being late. We have had trouble with the fly pest ; up to this year we have

never been troubled with them. The wool from these sheep will be nice and bright, but being crossbred it will not sell like Merino. We have had some trouble with dogs again this year

We have been able to find employment for a large number of natives on the station, but I am sorry to say that it is of no profit to us. Our natives could obtain a great deal of employment on the banks at Wellington, but drink is so easily obtained there that the contractors will not employ the natives.

We have built two very fine rooms on to the present school building, and these will be a very great help indeed to the schoolmaster when they are finished. We have also finished the construction of the 34 chains of metal road leading to the Narrung Landing. This road is of great value to us, and we would be very pleased to see the district council add another 30 chains to that already finished.

The conduct of our natives has been fair, the trouble with the drink being the drawback; they always manage to obtain drink when they go across to Milang and elsewhere. I shall be glad when the present football season is over.

The health of the natives has been fair. We have had the usual colds, but thanks to our Chief Protector, who was able to secure the services of Dr. Linn from Tailern Bend. This gentleman, I am pleased to say, takes a great interest in the natives, and under his treatment the people soon recover. We also thank the Chief Protector for all the assistance he has given us in getting our people admitted to the Adelaide Hospital. We have had several deaths of the pure aboriginals, both male and female. The old people are fast dying out, and it will not be many years before they are all gone.

The religious needs of the natives have been well cared for by the A.F.A., who send a minister from Adelaide every three or four months; and they have had the services of Mr. Johnstone, of Meningie, and Mr. Sanders, of the Milang Church, both taking a deep interest in our natives, and we thank the A.F.A. and the two gentlemen mentioned for deep interest and good work they are doing for our natives.

Mr. Read still continues to carry out his duties as store and book keeper with efficiency. Mr. Wyatt, as dairyman and farm overseer, still takes the deepest interest in his work.

I have, &c.,

J. B. STEER.

To W. G. South, Esq.,

Chief Protector of Aborigines, Adelaide.

Police Inspector's Office, Port Augusta,

July 28th, 1921.

Sir—I have the honor respectfully to submit my annual report on the condition and general conduct of the natives in the Far Northern Division for the year ended June 30th, 1921.

The constable at Mungeranie reports that there are about 150 male and 151 female aboriginals in that district. The closing of the Killappaninna Mission Station has caused a lot of aboriginals to seek assistance at Mungeranie. The high cost of living has made it almost impossible for the lessees of the smaller stations to feed them; no aboriginal with a family can secure employment unless he buys food for his family. There are about 50 aboriginals camped near the station, including 20 very old natives, besides 14 children under the age of 14 years.

The old and infirm natives find it difficult to get enough to eat, consequently there is a big demand for Government rations. A very much larger supply of blankets, clothing, and rations is required for the coming year. The young and able-bodied aboriginals are going out after wild dog scalps, but I do not think they will get enough to keep themselves, as dogs are getting very scarce. There are three old male and three female aboriginals at Cowarie who are feeble and blind with age; it is my intention, provided I can spare the rations, to send out a supply to these by the mailman.

There are about 20 old natives receiving rations at the Innamineka depot, and 12 able-bodied aboriginals employed on stations. At Cordillo Downs there are about 14 natives, comprising five old and infirm natives who receive rations, and nine young aboriginals who are at present engaged by the station owners trapping dogs.

There are about 27 aboriginals at Mount Serie, the majority of whom are old and incapable of earning their own living. At Beltana there are three old male and four female aboriginals; these have been turned away from the Nilpena Station, where they had been working for a number of years.

The condition of the natives in the Oodnadatta district is good, owing chiefly to the exceptionally good season. Game is plentiful, but not sufficient to stop the supplies of rations, &c., to the old natives, and the same remarks apply to the aboriginals at Indulkinna.

From the report received from the constable at Fowler's Bay, it appears that there are 90 aboriginals in that district, and those capable of working can obtain employment from the farmers and graziers, who are glad of their services. The old and infirm natives are supplied with rations, &c., from the depot at the station.

The aboriginals in the Iron Knob district are practically all employed on the stations, and the more energetic of them earn good money at times. The general condition of the natives in the Tarcoola district has been fairly good. There are approximately 120 natives in the district, the majority of whom find employment on the different stations.

About nine months ago a large number of natives arrived at Ooldea from the Everard and Musgrave Ranges and camped near the railway line, and by their persistent appeals for rations, &c., became a source of annoyance to the railway employees, and those who have once tasted the sweets of idleness, and have been assisted by the white people, make no genuine effort to keep themselves, and eventually become a burden to the State.

About two years ago Mrs. Daisy Bates established a camp at Ooldea and worked among the natives presumably with the object of raising them to a higher standard of living and to eventually bring about their complete civilization. After about 18 months' stay amongst them she realised that all her efforts in that direction were in vain, and she returned to Western Australia, thoroughly convinced that any violation of their human instincts, and intrusion upon their native habits and customs, would be detrimental to them both from a moral and physical aspect.

I firmly believe that the full-blooded natives, if allowed to live their primitive manner of life, and protected from the vices of others, would be happy and contented. The general condition of the full-blooded native is good. In most cases they are healthy and apparently contented, and it is only where they are constantly coming in contact with the whites that any diseases of a serious nature are prevalent. I find that syphilis and influenza have been responsible for most of the deaths recorded.

There has been an absence of serious crime amongst the natives during the past 12 months. Fifteen aboriginals were convicted of drunkenness during the period under review.

During the year nine aboriginals have been treated at the Port Augusta Hospital, eight of those were discharged as cured, and one died at the institution. Permit me to add that every credit is due to Dr. Gorrie and the nursing staff for their untiring care and attention to the natives while under their charge.

During the year eight persons were convicted for supplying liquor to aboriginals.

Births.—Full-bloods—Males, 10 ; females, 6. Half-bloods—Males, 6 ; females, 4.

Deaths.—Full-bloods—Males, 8 ; females, 4. Half-bloods—Males, 3 ; females, —.

I have, &c.,

T. B. McCARTHY, Sub-Inspector.

Chief Protector of Aboriginals, Adelaide.