

A N N U A L R E P O R T 1958/59

NORTHERN TERRITORY ADMINISTRATION

WELFARE BRANCH

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NORTHERN TERRITORY ADMINISTRATION

WELFARE BRANCH

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ERRATA :-

Groote Eylandt and Umbakumba Missions
which are shown under Gregory District
should be shown under Leichhardt Dis-
trict.

FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE WELFARE BRANCH

Broadly speaking, the functions of the Welfare Branch are, under the direction of the Administrator, to provide and administer native, child, and community welfare services (including pre-school education) throughout the Northern Territory. This means in effect that the Welfare Branch is responsible in the Northern Territory for those services normally provided and administered by State Departments concerned with child, social, family, and native welfare.

These functions are given legislative expression in a number of ordinances, the chief of which are the Welfare, Wards Employment and Child Welfare Ordinances.

Stated specifically, the responsibilities of the Branch include -

- a) Planning, provision, and administration of native welfare services involving -
 - i) the management of native settlements;
 - ii) the provision of educational services;
 - iii) the provision and conduct of infant welfare and nursing services;
 - iv) the provision of food and catering services;
 - v) the development of training programmes and courses and the supervision of employment conditions throughout the Northern Territory;
 - vi) the co-ordination and, in certain fields, the supervision of the work of missions.

- b) Planning, provision, and administration of child, family, and community welfare services involving -
 - i) the care and maintenance of State children;
 - ii) the provision of assistance under Section 8(f) of the Welfare Ordinance (under this section assistance can be given to such persons as pensioners, unemployed, those seeking homes, mentally ill, ex-prisoners, alcoholics, etc.);
 - iii) the establishment and management of probationary services;
 - iv) the provision of housing for part-coloured families;
 - v) the provision of counselling and family guidance services;
 - vi) the administration of the scheme for the education of part-coloured children in other States;
 - vii) the establishment and management of receiving homes;
 - viii) the co-ordination of the work of missions and other bodies concerned with the care and maintenance of children committed to their charge.

- c) Planning, provision, and administration of pre-school education involving -
 - i) direction, supervision, and inspection of all pre-school staff;
 - ii) organisation and training courses for pre-school assistants;
 - iii) liaison between Welfare Branch, parent committees, and other groups interested in pre-school education;
 - iv) planning of pre-school centres, selection of sites and general layout of equipment.

- d) Administration of the scheme for grants to cultural, sporting, and welfare organisations to improve their facilities and extend their activities.

- e) Administration of the scheme for establishing and operating hostels for school children and young working people in the Northern Territory.

ORGANISATION AND ADMINISTRATION

Although the Director of Welfare (Mr. H.C. Giese) took up duty in the Northern Territory in late October 1954, native affairs continued to be administered under the provisions of the Aboriginals Ordinance and the regulations made thereunder, and for some time thereafter the Branch continued to operate only in the native welfare field.

Mr. H.C. Giese took over his statutory duties as the first Director of Welfare on the 13th May, 1957, with the commencement of the Welfare Ordinance and the promulgation of the Welfare Regulations.

The Branch is divided on a functional basis into four divisions: Native Welfare, Child, Family and Social Welfare, Pre-School Education, and Administration. Within this functional arrangement four District Welfare Officers located in Darwin, Katherine, Tennant Creek, and Alice Springs are responsible for the administration of welfare activities in these centres and the surrounding districts.

The Native Welfare Division

This division is under the direct control of the Assistant Director of Welfare who took up duty in the Northern Territory on the 1st October, 1955, and who has the following sections under his direction, and in the control of senior officers:

(a) Education

This section is responsible for the planning, administration, and supervision of education on settlements, missions, and pastoral properties, and is controlled by the Senior Education Officer.

(b) Employment

This section is responsible for administering the provisions of the Wards Employment Ordinance and Regulations, and the development of training programmes and courses. It is controlled by the Senior Employment Officer.

(c) Social Welfare

This section is responsible for a wide range of activities including -

- (i) the training of field staff;
- (ii) the provision of catering and food services;
- (iii) the administration of health and hygiene services;
- (iv) the furtherance of developmental and training projects on native settlements;
- (v) the maintenance of the Register of Wards;
- (vi) the recording and preparation of statistics not within the province of the Education and Employment sections;
- (vii) the fostering of social attitudes amongst aborigines which will assist them towards assimilation in the local economic and social sphere.

The section is controlled by the Chief Welfare Officer.

The Child, Family, and Community Welfare Division

Full responsibility for child welfare was transferred to the Welfare Branch in February 1959 when the Child Welfare Ordinance came into force. Until this date the child welfare services had been operated by the State Children's Council using field staff attached to District Welfare Offices.

The Administrative Officer (General Welfare) who took up duty on the 11th September, 1958, is responsible directly to the Director of (Child) Welfare for the planning, provision, and administration of child, family, and community welfare services throughout the Northern Territory. He is responsible for the administration of the provisions of the Child Welfare Ordinance and of Section 8(f) of the Welfare Ordinance which provides assistance to persons who are in indigent or necessitous circumstances or who through physical or mental handicap require special care and assistance.

In the main, the Administrative Officer (General Welfare) works through the District Welfare Officers and the field staff (mainly female Welfare Officers) attached to the District Welfare Offices, except in relation to the Receiving Home in Darwin which he directly controls.

The Pre-School Education Division

The administration of pre-school education was transferred to the Welfare Branch from the Education Branch in October 1954 and a Supervisor of Pre-School Education was appointed and took up duty in the Territory on the 1st November, 1955.

This officer is directly responsible to the Director of Welfare for the planning, provision, and administration of pre-school centres for white and part-coloured children throughout the Northern Territory; at the same time, in association with the Senior Education Officer, she plans and directs the work of pre-school teachers and the development of pre-school centres for children on native settlements.

The Administrative Division

This division is controlled by an Administrative Officer who is responsible directly to the Director of Welfare. The division contains a number of sections including Works and Services, Subsidies, Investigations (of financial procedures and controls), Canteens, and Staff. A Senior Clerk maintains direct supervision of these sections.

The Administrative Officer is also responsible for the organisation and administration of the works force which carries out those aspects of the works programmes for which the Branch is responsible as the agent of the Department of Works, and for which the Branch is itself now responsible as part of the minor works programme.

To assist him with the carrying out of this programme, the Administrative Officer has three Works and Services Officers, two of whom are stationed in Darwin and one in Alice Springs.

For the present the Director of Welfare has, as Chairman of the Central Grants Committee, accepted responsibility for the general administration of financial grants to be used for cultural, sporting, and community welfare purposes; however, when the Administrative Officer (General Welfare) is fully staffed this responsibility because of its strong relationship with child, family, and community welfare work will be transferred to that division.

Similarly, in the absence of a properly staffed child, family, and community welfare division, the Director of Welfare has accepted responsibility for the negotiations with church and mission groups interested in proposals for the establishment of hostels for school children and young working persons in the Northern Territory.

This aspect of the work of the Branch will also be transferred to the Administrative Officer (General Welfare) when he is geared to accept the responsibility.

REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES

The year under review has been in some respects a most difficult and frustrating one; it was, nevertheless, marked by steady progress, particularly in the field of native welfare, and there are important developments to report in the field of child welfare also.

The Welfare Branch, as distinct from the Native Affairs Branch, has now been operating for approximately five years. Over that period much experience has been gained in the administration of the programmes entrusted to it and in the most effective methods to be used in carrying out those programmes. At the same time, it is valuable, and indeed necessary, to make a critical review of the organisation to see whether in fact it is adequate for the functions and responsibilities which the Branch is called upon to discharge, and to examine the methods used to see whether these are as effective and as efficient as they should be to enable these functions and responsibilities to be discharged effectively. Such a review is currently in hand.

After some 2½ years of operation, it is evident that certain provisions of the Welfare Ordinance need amendment. Social welfare is a dynamic field and policy must be amended from time to time to take account of the changing needs and requirements of the people for whom the legislation in force is designed. A review along these lines has been proceeding during 1958/59 in respect to the Welfare Ordinance, in the light of the experience gained in its administration.

Perhaps the most important single development during the year was the commencement of the Child Welfare Ordinance to replace the State Children's Council Ordinance and, with this, the acceptance by the Branch of full responsibility for the development of child welfare services in the Northern Territory. The Ordinance itself, modelled as it is on the best of the Australian and overseas legislation in this field, will undoubtedly provide the legislative framework by means of which effective child welfare services to meet the changing needs of the Northern Territory in this regard can be developed.

On the native welfare side the completion of the new settlement at Paganaya, the second such establishment to be completely built by a works force comprising both Europeans and natives under the control of the Branch, has marked another important development and presents still further evidence of the extent to which the native peoples, through their own labour, can assist in the construction of buildings and services which they will themselves use.

The first complete settlement to be established by the Welfare Branch (at Warrabri) has for most of the period been staffed at a level which has enabled the Branch to tackle thoroughly the problems surrounding education, health, training, and employment of natives on that settlement and in the area generally.

Broadly speaking, it may be said that the methods used in the programme laid down to induce social change amongst these (Central Australian) natives have demonstrated their worth in terms of lower infant mortality, improved health of children and young people, improved educational standards and attainments, and the ability of men trained at the settlement to engage successfully in employment outside the confines of the settlement proper. (See Appendix "F")

Further satisfactory development in this field may reasonably be expected as the effects of pre-school education, home management and domestic training, and a wider range of technical training for the young men, begin to show themselves with the passage of time. Granted a wider range of facilities and an increased number of qualified teachers and skilled demonstrators, this settlement will in the future be in a position to tackle effectively many of the problems associated with the assimilation of the aborigine.

At the present time, and as a matter of policy, emphasis is being placed on the education and training of young natives on missions, settlements, and at pastoral property schools, with the stated intention of fitting them to take their place in the economic, social, and political life of the Northern Territory. There could be real dangers in educating and training young natives without there being a clear conception of the place which they will occupy in the Northern Territory's economy upon completion of that training.

In short, there must be the closest relationship between education and training of natives and the economic opportunities available to them in a developing Northern Territory economy.

Further work has been done following discussion with interested organisations in the drafting of the Wards Employment Regulations and at the end of the year under review the regulations were in the hands of the drafting officers and printer. It may now be confidently expected that very early in the new year the Ordinance will come into force and the regulations be promulgated.

These regulations mark a substantial advance on those previously enacted and in fact represent the first real attempt to write an industrial code for the employment of natives in various industries in the Northern Territory. They include compensation provisions for the first time and require employers to provide improved standards of accommodation and other facilities for wards employed in the pastoral and other industries.

One of the important tasks which must face the Employment Advisory Board, which will be established under the Wards Employment Ordinance as soon as that Ordinance becomes effective, will be a critical review of the future economic development of the Northern Territory, with particular attention paid to the actual number of employment opportunities (in all sections of the economy) for natives.

This review must extend to all sections of the economy for it is as false to assume that every male aborigine is potentially a stockman as it is to assume that every Chinese is potentially a laundryman. The fact is that their abilities vary as is so amongst any white population.

An establishment to plan, administer, and operate native education in the Northern Territory was not provided until 1950, when the Commonwealth Office of Education as the agent of the Department of Territories commenced operations. In January 1956, control of the administration of native education passed to the Welfare Branch from the Commonwealth Office of Education and late

in 1957 a Senior Education Officer commenced duty in the Northern Territory.

This section is the only section in the Branch which can be regarded as reasonably staffed to undertake the work to be done; as a result, during the 1958/59 year minimum inspection and advisory services have, for the first time, been provided to mission, settlement, and pastoral property schools throughout the Northern Territory.

There can be no doubt that these services when fully developed will materially influence the standard of instruction in all schools for native children and should bring with it some real progress and development in the field of native education. However, this will remain the case only if the section is geared in terms of staff to meet its full obligations consistent with the increasing enrolment of native children in mission, settlement, and pastoral property schools.

Mission schools are now being equipped by the Government on the same basis as settlement schools and the governing authorities are being encouraged, through capital subsidies, to erect adequate facilities for schooling. In 1958/59, £10,000 of school furniture and equipment was made available to the missions, and new schools have been built at Elcho Island, Oenpelli, Rose River, Santa Teresa, and Yirrkala. Additions were made to the schools at Groote Eylandt and Roper River.

New school buildings were erected at Amoonguna and Papunya Settlements.

The development of pre-schools at Warrabri, Yuchdumu, and Bungalow Settlements has demonstrated conclusively the value of the early approach to the teaching of English, basic hygiene, and health skills, as well as in training in group experiences. With the education of mothers in child care, the pre-school is also providing a valuable follow-on from the infant welfare service.

There is still need, however, for a thorough review of educational facilities and staffing on settlements, missions, and pastoral properties. It is estimated that of a total of 3,900 aboriginal children of school age some 3,092 are now receiving primary education of some sort. Facilities and staffing particularly of mission schools are by no means satisfactory. Means must be found to ensure that within a reasonable period all aboriginal children of school age in the Northern Territory will have access to schools fitted to meet their special needs. A detailed review of this position has just been started.

There have always been grave difficulties in recruiting sufficient experienced teachers to staff the Branch settlement schools throughout the Northern Territory. In an effort to overcome these difficulties an approach was made to State Education Departments to second teachers for short-term appointment — in most cases up to two years — to work with the Branch, with the option at the end of that term of the teachers remaining with Northern Territory Administration in return for the Commonwealth reimbursing the States for the cost of their training. As a result of this approach, nine teachers were provided by the various State Education Departments, in some cases with considerable dislocation to their own staffing requirements.

It is fitting that in this report a tribute should be paid to the co-operation of the various State Directors of Education in assisting the Administration in this way.

An attempt was made during the year under review to commence recruitment of teachers-in-training so that young people could be specially trained for educational work on settlements, but the response was disappointing. It is hoped, however, that following advertisements in the new year sufficient young people will come forward to enable the first group to commence training at the Australian School of Pacific Administration, and that at least some of these young people will come from those completing their secondary education in the Northern Territory.

The major difficulty on the administrative side has been to fill the large number of vacant positions in the Branch with persons having the right qualifications and experience for the work. In a total establishment of 258, including 174 permanent positions, there were still 102 temporary officers and 78 positions not occupied. The work of the Branch cannot be carried out effectively under these conditions, and the problem must be tackled vigorously over the next twelve months if the gains achieved during 1958/59 are to be consolidated.

There are still serious and frustrating delays in clearing staff proposals and in the recruitment and appointment of staff; and until some means can be found to obviate these delays then there must be ineffective administration in some sections.

Coupled with the inability to fill vacant positions and the slowness of recruitment has been the increase in responsibilities which the Branch has been required to accept owing to the growth of the European and part-coloured population and to more of the native people coming under closer control and supervision.

Difficulties are still posed, too, by the general living conditions of a large number of people in the Northern Territory. There are still large migratory groups of single men, centres of population are still widely scattered, and these factors, together with a lack of stability in family relationships, particularly among the part-coloured communities, has further complicated a difficult problem.

Another frustrating factor has been the difficulty of obtaining adequate transport to enable the increasing field responsibilities and inspection work of the Branch to be met. Unless some early remedy to this can be seen a complete breakdown of inspections of pastoral properties and some missions must be expected.

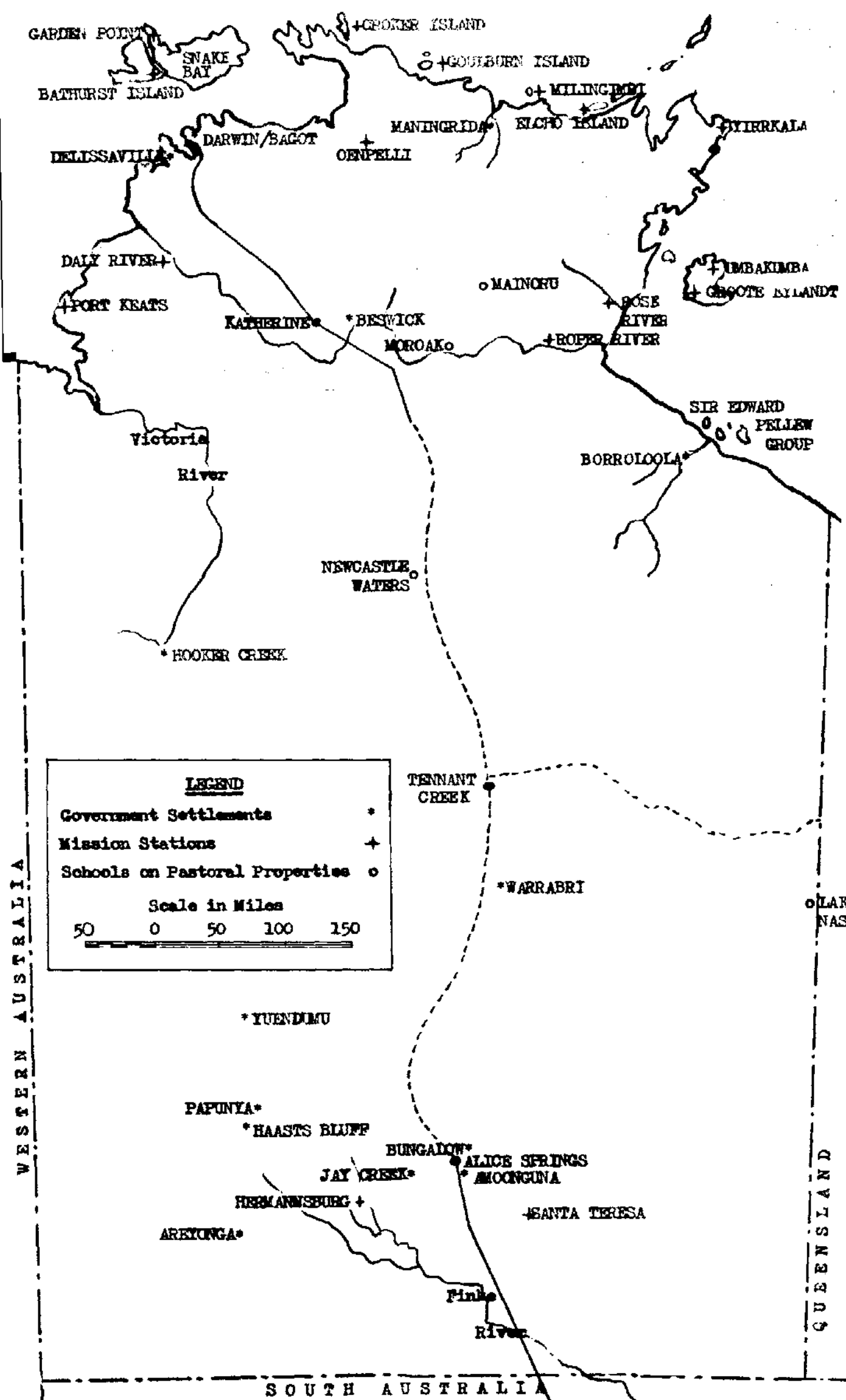
Because of the shortage of staff particularly at the senior administrative level in the Native Welfare division and the concentration of the time of senior officers in inspection and supervision work on missions, institutions, and settlements, it has not been possible to complete a thorough review of the methods being used in the various sections, the final preparation of procedure and training manuals, and the regular conduct of training courses and conferences. Perhaps these have been some of the most frustrating experiences in the Branch over the last twelve months; they are also the ones on which remedial action is most vitally needed.

The year under review has been marked by the most sustained criticism in some quarters of the Welfare Ordinance and its administration by the Branch. However, it is perhaps not fully recognised that the fields in which the Branch operates present many complex problems and this is particularly so in the field of native welfare where there are few precedents and principles on which to base a settled programme of work.

It may even be worth observing at this point that the solutions to complex social problems often seem more apparent to people who have little direct contact with the work rather than to officers charged with the responsibility of grappling with the situation at first hand. The Welfare Officers whose duties require them to be occupied continuously on field work have the advantage of this experience; in addition, most of them have already had special training in one or other field of social science. They can give and have given over a period consecutive thought to the obvious and also the underlying circumstances surrounding any particular case.

In every field of its work the Welfare Branch is dealing with human beings many of whom are living under disadvantageous conditions within a dynamic and changing social order. Steady development of this work will call for sustained patience and understanding on the part of all officers of the Branch and for clear thinking and clear directives on the part of those called upon to direct their work.

There is a very real need to keep people in the Northern Territory and elsewhere better informed on the objectives of the welfare programme particularly in the native welfare field, and on what is being done and being achieved. They must also be kept aware of what remains to be done. This must be regarded as a most important function of the Branch in the years to come and one which must and will be vigorously tackled in the future.



PART I : WELFARE OF ABORIGINESPOLICY

The policy of the Commonwealth Government with respect to aborigines in the Northern Territory is to promote and direct social change amongst them in such a way that, whilst retaining connections with and pride in their aboriginal ancestry, they will become indistinguishable from other members of the Australian community in manner of life, standards of living, occupations, and participation in community affairs. It is important for the success of this process of assimilation that Australian citizens should be ready and willing to accept aborigines in the wider community as fellow citizens in all respects; it is equally important that aborigines should be encouraged to detach themselves from their present position of group separateness and solidarity and become merged as individuals in the general community.

The legislative basis for this policy is contained in the Welfare Ordinance 1953-1957. This Ordinance makes adequate provision for the care and welfare of aborigines, but, in so doing, does not distinguish them on the grounds of either colour or racial origin from other persons or groups in the community standing in need of special care or assistance. Aborigines who are considered capable of managing their own affairs without Government assistance, therefore, are not under any measure of control, under the provisions of the Ordinance, either by the Director of Welfare or by any other Government authority. In other words, they are fully entitled to enjoy equivalent privileges, and to accept the same degree of responsibility, as other citizens.

For aborigines who still stand in need of special care and assistance under the Welfare Ordinance, the provisions of a Wards Employment Ordinance have been designed to provide assistance by way of vocational training and in placement in suitable employment; the Ordinance also aims at ensuring that they receive wage justice in every-day employment.

This Ordinance was finally drafted during the year under review and will be introduced on 1st October, 1959. It will be an important feature of the Commonwealth Government's programme and policy, particularly as most aborigines have to be trained to work regularly and consistently after the European pattern, and must also be conditioned to adopt traditional European incentives to work. Whilst this is taking place they will be assisted to acquire specific occupational skills which, it is expected, will fit them to take their place side by side with other Australian workers in the general run of jobs available, and to enjoy similar working conditions.

Promoting changes in the aborigines' diet and eating habits is a very important factor in achieving their assimilation. A variation in diet is expected to bring about major improvements in health, and the adoption of European eating habits should have the effect of making aboriginal people more acceptable in the community generally. To this end, catering and food services have received much attention in the welfare programme during the past few years. Two Catering Officers have been appointed, one working in the northern division and the other in the southern division of the Territory. On Government Settlements, communal feeding is being introduced to ensure that all residents on a settlement will be adequately fed, as a means of inculcating European tastes in food, as a means of training people in regular eating habits involving the use of European eating utensils, and finally as a means of training cooks some of whom will find employment on pastoral properties, in stock camps, and elsewhere.

Whilst it is not the policy of the Government to isolate aborigines in reserves, it is Government policy to establish settlements - operated either by the Government or by Christian missions - to serve as training centres in social change for aborigines. In these establishments, emphasis is laid in the first place on indicating the advantages, benefits and responsibilities of community living; then on instruction in the skills and techniques necessary for a successful life within such a social pattern.

Consonant with this aim, schools for aboriginal children have been established using special techniques and working to a primary-level curriculum of general subjects (English, arithmetic, social studies, nature study, physical education, arts and crafts, and health and hygiene). The curriculum and syllabi are, however, left sufficiently flexible to allow for variations to be made should such a course of action appear desirable. Canteens have been developed on all settlements and mission stations and these are serving to reinforce some of the work done in schools in oral and written English and in simple arithmetic. In addition, the canteens are serving the very useful purpose of allowing people to use their small amount of cash in such a way as to bring maximum satisfaction to them under conditions in which they receive good value for their money. Furthermore, through this medium they receive training in handling money and in developing some awareness of the value of money.

It is recognised that unless womenfolk are trained to keep house in the European way they are unlikely to be fully acceptable in the European community. Special emphasis has been laid on this, and during the year two Survey Officers commenced an investigation of the needs of aboriginal women, with a view to determining a training programme aimed at motivating them to want the sorts of things a European woman wants and to achieve standards of home life, hygiene and comfort sought after by European housewives.

POPULATION

During 1958, 448 recorded births of aboriginal children and 272 deaths of aboriginal people occurred. Both of these figures include stillborn births. As against the previous year, because of an improvement in initial recording work, there were only a few deaths which it was not possible to identify with complete accuracy. The task of re-checking census data was begun during 1958, and has necessitated a revision of previously published population figures as at 31st December, 1956, and 31st December, 1957. The revised population figures up to, and including, the position at 31st December, 1958, are shown by the following table :

<u>As at</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
31.12.56	7,793	7,482	15,275 (15,445)
31.12.57	7,954	7,644	15,598 ⁵⁷⁷ (15,578)
31.12.58	8,330	8,008	16,338
	8,038	7,736	16,774

(Figures in brackets are population totals published in the 1957/58 Annual Report.)

On 13th May, 1957, those aborigines who were considered to be in need of special care and assistance were declared to be wards under the Welfare Ordinance 1953-1957. The number declared to be wards at that time was 15,276. With the checking work carried out throughout 1958, it was possible to reconcile the number of aborigines declared to be wards with the number of the aboriginal population as at 31st

December, 1956, and as at 31st December, 1957. Taking into account deaths of wards and marriages of wards to non-wards on or since 13th May, 1957, and making a few other necessary adjustments, the number of persons living and on the Register of Wards at 30th June, 1959, was 14,928. Since 13th May, 1957, there have been no additional aborigines declared to be wards because of legislative anomalies which, it is expected will soon be corrected.

In appendices "B", "C", "D" and "E", the distribution of the aboriginal population of the Northern Territory is shown. Appendices "D" and "E" set out the numbers of aborigines regularly resident on Government settlements and Mission stations. Appendix "B" sets out to show the overall distribution of aborigines in terms of the extent and nature of their contact with European society and institutions. Appendix "C" gives details of the population on individual aboriginal reserves.

In addition to the aborigines regularly resident at missions and Government settlements, there are quite a number of people at out-stations operated by missions on the basis of periodical visits, and at Government ration depots, operated in the main by officers of the Police Branch, in outlying places. There is also an appreciable number of aborigines in regular contact with both missions and settlements who could not be regarded as regular residents. Some of these "visitors" contact more than one centre of population, but every effort has been made to count them only once. Thus, the figures of 3,616 at settlements and 5,012 at missions (total 8,628) who are regular residents and the wider (but including the first set) figures of 4,039, settlements and 6,117, missions (total 10,157) who are in contact with centres of aboriginal population, may be regarded as reliable figures, accurate to within 3%.

A few features of the extent and nature of the contact of aborigines with European society and institutions should be noted. A relatively small number, 330, is living in town areas, more or less fending for themselves. All, however, come under the surveillance of Welfare Branch Patrol Officers and District Welfare Officers, who maintain a regular check on their general well-being and particularly on the health of women and children. Of the 4,620 in pastoral, mining and agricultural areas, by far the greatest number is on pastoral properties. Whilst, in many cases, managers of pastoral properties and their staff maintain a watch on the health and welfare of the working members and their immediate dependents on the property, the unemployable and non-working groups in some cases tend to be over-looked. Patrol Officers moving through and on pastoral properties maintain a regular check on the needs of these people.

Population figures for individual aboriginal reserves cover those aborigines who are in contact with missions and settlements on the reserves and also those whose contact is so small as to be disregarded and who may be considered as being nomadic. Appendix "C" shows some reserves as having no resident aborigines. At any time, however, it is likely that there may be a few aborigines on the South-West Reserve, but practically all aborigines who move in that area do so only if the season is propitious, and usually reside at Areyonga, Ernabella, or in Western Australia. For all practical purposes, there were no aborigines resident on the Larrakeyah, Woolwonga, Wagait and Warramunga Reserves during the year 1958/59.

A large section of the aboriginal population in the Northern Territory may now be regarded as settled into communities. Some movement still occurs as between missions and settlements on reserves, but more takes place as between pastoral properties and population centres on missions and settlements. There is not a great amount of movement, on a permanent basis, between "town" aboriginal groups and those at outlying centres.

WORKS PROGRAMMEGeneral

A sum of £192,678 was provided in the 1958/59 approved Capital Works Programme for works projects on Welfare Branch Settlements, and for Pre-School Centres in the Northern Territory. A further sum of £34,945 was provided for low-rental houses for part-coloured families. In addition, a revote of £353,635 was carried forward into 1958/59 for projects in course of construction.

The total funds available for expenditure in 1958/59 under Capital Works therefore totalled £581,258, and against this authorisation an expenditure of £357,132 was recorded.

Major works projects were continued during the year at the new settlement sites, Amoonguna and Papunya, where constructional work is being done by skilled European labour, assisted by selected wards. It is expected that these two units will be completed towards the middle of the 1959/60 financial year.

Amoonguna

Most major works for which funds were provided were completed at Amoonguna, but additional projects to be commenced in 1959 are the school, the infirmary and sisters' quarters, two dormitories, an administrative block, and a materials and agricultural store. These projects have, unlike previous years, been let by contract, and it is expected that the work will be physically completed by early February, 1960, when the change-over from Bungalow to Amoonguna may take place.

In the course of the year, settlement maintenance staff continued with the construction of prefabricated metal houses and cement brick houses for wards, and with the construction of additional latrine, ablution and laundry units.

Papunya

With the exception of the material store and agricultural store, major works at Papunya were completed early in the financial year, and the settlement occupied.

Warrabri

Final costs for the establishment of the new settlement at Warrabri have now been assessed, and the total capital outlay amounted to £183,582. This sum was made up as follows :-

(a) Purchase and delivery of ancillary buildings -	£15,444
(b) Erection of ancillary buildings -	£43,703
(c) Supply and erection of four Riley Newsam residences -	£27,786
(d) Supply and erection of four Ballevue residences and four-classroom school -	£47,993
(e) Provision of water supply and reticulation to buildings -	£10,852

(f) Provision of electricity supply and reticulation to buildings -	£10,587
(g) Supply and delivery of materials for three latrine, ablution and laundry blocks -	8,167
(h) Supply and delivery of materials for thirty Kingstrand native houses -	£15,750
(i) Supply and delivery of materials for six cement brick native houses -	3,300
	<hr/>
	£183,582
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In addition, plant and equipment, consisting of a tractor, a rotary hoe and irrigation spray equipment (but excluding motor vehicles to the value of £4,884) was purchased.

This new settlement caters for a native population averaging 364 adults and children, and on this basis the per capita cost for the construction of Warrabri amounted to approximately £674.

The first year's operational costs have also been assessed and totalled £56,943.17.1., giving a per capita cost figure of approximately £156. Details of the total operating costs are set out below :

Salaries and Wages

European - administrative -	£9,757. 4. 9d.
Teaching -	£3,889.12.10d.
Nursing -	£1,162.16.11d.
Wards -	£4,221. 0. 0d.
	<hr/>
	£19,030.14. 6d.
<u>Transport - two vehicles -</u>	536.14. 2d.
<u>Rations and clothing -</u>	2,358.11.11d.
<u>Training Projects -</u>	1,829.19. 9d.
<u>Lighting -</u>	907. 7. 7d.
<u>Other fuel</u> (tractor, cement mixer, stores, etc.)	28,387. 3. 2d.
<u>Educational Services -</u>	290. 0. 0d.
<u>Operating costs</u> (other than fuel, but including purchase of tools, etc.)	270. 6. 0d.
<u>Hospital and movement of wards -</u>	160. 0. 0d.
<u>Head Office Administrative Oncost -</u>	2,438. 0. 0d.
<u>Miscellaneous -</u>	
Travelling expenses -	725. 0. 0d.
Postage -	10. 0. 0d.
	<hr/>
	735. 0. 0d.
	<hr/>
	£56,943.17. 1d.
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Works Conference : March 1959

During March, 1959, a conference was held between senior officers of the Department of Works, Department of the Treasury, and the Northern Territory Administration, to discuss the level of work which should be undertaken by the Welfare Branch using settlement personnel and works force labour units for construction work on settlements.

As a result of these discussions it was agreed that works, excluding mechanical and other technical services, which came within the limit of Minor Works (i.e. £2,000 or less) should be undertaken by labour attached to the Welfare Branch, and that these projects would be removed from the Capital Works Programme and budgetted for under the domestic votes of the Northern Territory Administration. It was further agreed that the Welfare Branch should undertake its own maintenance works on settlements, and that funds for repairs and maintenance would also in future be provided under the domestic votes of the Northern Territory Administration.

The new procedure is to come into operation as from the 1st July, 1960.

This new procedure did not in any way vary the existing arrangement whereby the Welfare Branch, using small independent labour forces, would undertake major construction works on settlements as agents of the Department of Works. In these cases, however, the labour costs involved in construction are taken up in the total cost of the project and must be budgetted for on the approved Capital Works Programme.

FINANCE.General

The total expenditure by the Government on native welfare, excluding expenditure by the Department of Health, and Capital Works, was £719,695, an increase of £35,387 over the amount expended in 1957/58. Of this sum, £228,861 was provided to Missions, and £57,119 was paid to pastoral managements for maintenance of aged and infirm wards and dependants other than one wife and one child; £423,715 was expended for the care, accommodation, education and welfare of wards on Government Settlements and Ration Depots. This latter amount included expenditure on education services (but not on teachers' salaries), provision of food and clothing, operation of settlement training projects, and wages paid to wards.

The cost of Government assistance to Missions has dropped slightly in 1958/59, as the recorded expenditure for 1957/58 was £244,455. The level of capital assistance to Missions was £27,050, and against this authorisation an expenditure of £25,661 was recorded. This sum was mainly used for the building of schools, hospitals and native houses, and to provide equipment and materials for agricultural and pastoral development.

Subsidies paid to Missions for the care and maintenance of wards were distributed as follows :

	<u>cost per week</u>	<u>cost annually</u>
<u>Aged and Infirm</u> - Wholly maintained	29/2d. per head:	£40,047
<u>Children</u> - " "	6/0½d. " "	£36,474
<u>Hospital Patients, including</u>		
<u>Nursing and Pregnant Women</u> -	29/2d. " "	£10,399
	Total cost	<u>£86,920</u>

Child endowment of 10/- per week could also be claimed in respect of each child wholly maintained.

Pastoral managements were entitled to claim reimbursement on the same scale in appropriate cases, and child endowment of 5/- per week was payable for one child of each ward employed on the property.

Inspection of Settlements and Missions

An Investigation Officer commenced duty with the Branch at the beginning of the financial year, and for the first half of the year was concerned with accounting procedures within the Branch; inspections of canteens, records, and cash advances at Settlements; periodical inspections of Aboriginal Trust Accounts operating in Darwin, Katherine, Tennant Creek, and Alice Springs; and of Canteen Trust Accounts operating in Darwin and Alice Springs. Settlements inspected were: Bagot, Beswick Creek and Station, Bungalow, Delissaville, Hooker Creek, Snake Bay, Warrabri and Yuendumu.

The latter half of the year was spent in a series of review inspections of Missions throughout the Territory, with particular emphasis being shown to Operational Subsidies in relation to expenditure on food, clothing and general care of wards on the Missions; Trade Stores and Developmental Projects, and to Capital Subsidies.

The Missions inspected were :-

Roper River	(Church Missionary Society)
Croker Island	(Methodist Overseas Mission)
Finke River (Hermannsburg)	(United Evangelical Lutheran Church of Australia)
Oenpelli	(Church Missionary Society)

Accounting procedures used by the various Mission Societies were reviewed, and some initial work done with the view to introducing a standard records and accounting procedure for all Missions insofar as the records and accounts affect subsidy payments.

The review inspection programme will continue during the forthcoming year until all missions have been inspected, whereupon it is hoped that the standard records and accounting procedures will be implemented.

At the past two Missions/Administration Conferences the Administration has clearly indicated to Mission authorities that the technical resources attached to the Administration are available to the Missions for professional advice and assistance. In line with this proposal, the Darwin-based Works and Services Officer visited Oenpelli Mission, controlled by the Church Missionary Society, and following this visit, prepared a complete layout plan for the settlement. This layout plan provides a basic document for use in the future development of the Mission Station, and on the occasion of future calls by the Society for capital finance to assist in the development of Oenpelli.

It is proposed that in the future this assistance will be granted to all Missions, and that in common with the Welfare Branch Settlements, the Mission Societies will have properly laid out plans, including contour surveys, of each mission station, thus enabling both the Mission Societies and the Northern Territory Administration to plan effectively for the development of Missions Stations in the Northern Territory.

Beswick Station - Trading Activities

During the year, 486 head of cattle were sold to outside sources, and returned a sum of £10,627.0.7d. The average sale value was £21.17.4. In addition, 148 head of cattle were transferred from Beswick Station to Beswick Creek Settlement, and based on the average sale price of £21.17.4., were valued at £3,236.5.4. The total turnoff from Beswick Station for 1958/59 was therefore valued at £13,863.5.11d.

This reflects the best trading year since the Administration took over Beswick Station, and resulted from the overseas markets which opened up during the year in the Philippines and Hong Kong.

Charges for Meals and Accommodation on Settlements

The policy of charging wards for meals and accommodation on settlements was introduced at the Bagot Settlement on the 16th August, 1958. To the 30th June, 1959, the revenue received from this source totalled £1,208.2.0d.

It is proposed that charges for similar services will be introduced at other settlements during 1959/60, as communal feeding becomes available.

Subsidies

A scheme whereby cultural, sporting, and welfare bodies could make themselves eligible for financial assistance from Commonwealth funds went into operation during the year under review.

An amount of £30,000. was made available for this purpose and by 30th June 1959 an expenditure of £20,787.11.3. had been recorded.

Purchase of Seafoods, Game, Produce, etc. from Wards on Settlements

A scheme to encourage wards on settlements to assist in the economic operations of the settlement was commenced during the year. The scheme introduced a system whereby wards receive payment for seafoods, game or produce which they obtain by their own efforts, and which they sell to the settlement to supplement the local food supply. Most Settlement Superintendents have now been supplied with a cash advance so that the wards can be paid immediately a sale is effected.

This scheme, apart from assisting the economic operations of the settlement by supplementing the food supply, offers a means by which wards can be gainfully employed and in some way assist in maintaining themselves. Full advantage has not yet been taken of the scheme by the wards themselves, but as it has only been in operation for a short period, much better results may be expected during 1959/60.

Some indication of the possible success of the scheme is given from the figures recorded from Delissaville Settlement, which is on the seaboard, and where seafoods are the main catch. Over the period of five months, a sum of £177.3.6. was paid out to wards for seafoods purchased for use at the settlement.

Payment of Wages to Wards on Settlements

Towards the latter part of the year, approval was given by the Department of the Treasury for advances to be made to Settlement Superintendents, so that wards employed on Welfare Branch Settlements could be paid in cash on their normal fortnightly pay day.

In the past it has been necessary for the wages sheets from settlements to come forward to Darwin, where they were processed, and a cheque subsequently forwarded to the settlement, a procedure which often resulted in long delays in the payment of wages, ^{and} the emergence of a feeling of discontent among the native workers.

Under the new scheme payment will be made on the spot by the Superintendents, and the reimbursement of their advances will be claimed in the normal manner.

Canteen Facilities

Canteen facilities are now available to all settlements in the Northern Territory. With the exception of Jay Creek, Areyonga and Isaacs Bluff, these services are controlled by the Welfare Branch; at the three settlements named, the service is provided by the Lutheran Mission Society, but arrangements are in hand for the Welfare Branch to take over the Canteen at the new Settlement, Papunya, on Isaacs Bluff Reserve, during the next financial year.

The turnover for canteens controlled by the Welfare Branch during 1958/59 totalled \$21,557.

At the present time canteen services are operated under a Canteen Trust Account controlled by the Director of Welfare, but in 1959/60 a Head of Trust under the Commonwealth Audit Act will be set up to control this account. The Department of the Treasury have already approved the establishment of a Trust Account, and procedures are now being drawn up for the operation of the Account.

ABORIGINAL EDUCATIONSTAFFINGInspection and Administration

The staff of one Senior Education Officer and two District Education Officers has been maintained throughout the year and this has resulted for the first time in regular inspections of settlement, mission, and pastoral property schools.

The inspections, though regular, are insufficient both in duration and frequency because of the time spent in travelling to schools in remote areas and the volume of administrative work which flows through the District Education Officers.

At least one extra District Education Officer is now required to serve that area which extends from the Kimberleys through to Roper River and Groote Eylandt and which might also extend southwards to Hooker Creek and Newcastle Waters.

Teachers in all these special schools, but more particularly those in mission and subsidised pastoral-property schools, are in need of considerable advice, demonstration, and encouragement and much of the failure to keep subsidised pastoral-property schools in operation results from the fact that the present staff cannot adequately inspect, encourage, and assist teachers and pastoral-property management.

The activities of District Education Officers do not end with inspection, reporting, and day-to-day administration. In addition, educational excursions and school camps must be arranged, and the annual School Sports, which have proved so successful in the past, organised in Alice Springs and Darwin.

Teaching (See Appendix "J")

At the end of 1955 there were 22 Commonwealth and subsidised teachers in the field plus 21 mission teachers, a total of 43; in June 1959 there were 32 Commonwealth and subsidised teachers plus 31 mission teachers, a total of 66 teachers. Teaching personnel had in fact increased by 50% but even this number could not in either quantity or quality be said to completely answer the needs of the native schools.

The teachers, who possess a variety of certificates - English, New Zealand, and Australian States - initially lack special training for work in native schools generally and Australian aboriginal schools in particular. The difficulty of recruiting staff in quantity, and with the special qualities required for this type of service, has been accentuated by the rising salaries of State teachers and the increased opportunities for promotion offered by several State re-classifications. Whereas the salaries originally set for teachers in native schools compared more than favourably with State salaries, they have now in fact, because of the new awards mentioned above and the growth in size of native schools, lost the "attraction" margin that previously existed. Their present position as certificated teachers contrasts unfavourably with South Australian teachers in the Northern Territory white schools to whose salaries a special attraction allowance of £140 per annum is added.

During the year the following types of teachers left the service:

Head Teachers	3
Teacher in Charge	1
Relieving Teachers	2
Assistants (Male)	3
Assistants (Female)	2
	<hr/>
Total	11
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RECRUITMENT

Secondment

Although the normal in-service and outside-the-service advertising was done, the method of recruitment changed when it was known that the State Departments were willing to second teachers to Welfare Branch schools. Most of those who had applied for positions in the schools then applied to their State Departments for secondment and it was on this basis that four teachers came from Victoria, three from New South Wales, one from Western Australia, and one from Queensland. In addition to these, four non-permanent State teachers were recruited.

For the four approved pre-school positions it was possible to recruit two teachers only.

The recruitment of teachers by the missions continued and the number of teachers in the field increased quite significantly. Nevertheless if missions were to fully staff their schools on the basis of one teacher to 25 pupils they would need another 16 teachers.

Teacher Training

The final answer to satisfactorily staffing schools with sufficient teachers qualified for native education may well lie in the training of teachers especially for that field. Notwithstanding the fact that this was approved in principle by the Public Service Board in June 1955 and followed by a submission from the Northern Territory Administration in March 1958, it was found impossible to expedite the scheme so that trainees could be in a teachers' college by the beginning of the 1959 academic year. This delay put the effective training of teachers a further year behind.

Advertising during 1959 indicates that it may be possible to fill the 15 positions approved for teachers-in-training so that the scheme might begin at the beginning of the 1960 academic year with the consequent inflow to the schools of trained teachers at the beginning of 1962.

It cannot be too strongly stressed that teachers for these special schools require not only the normal training of primary school teachers but also a special training which will enable them to meet and cope with the cultural and social environment in which the native still lives. As well as meeting the anthropological challenge they must also be prepared to teach English to people for whom it is truly a foreign language. Not only must the scholars be taught to speak English but they must also be taught in English.

EDUCATION

Statistics

The number of aboriginal schools now open as compared with those open at 30th June, 1958, may be summarised as follows:

Type of School	30/6/1958	30/6/1959
Government Schools	13	14
Subsidised pastoral property schools	2	5
Mission schools	14	14
Total	29	33

Papunya, the additional Government school, was opened during the year but Maningrida although counted as an operational school has been closed for lack of staff.

Three additional pastoral property schools - Coolibah, Elsey, and Kildurk - were opened during the year but Coolibah has been temporarily closed pending the recruitment of a new teacher.

No additional mission schools have been opened, but the Bishop of Darwin proposes to erect at an early date a boarding school for boys on Bathurst Island. To this school will come some of the more intelligent and advanced pupils from the other Catholic missions.

Goulburn Island school (Methodist Overseas Mission) is being carried on by unqualified teachers and the Mission Board is prepared to have it staffed by Government teachers. There is at the moment accommodation for a female assistant but the school itself is cramped and unsuitable. In the long run there must be provision for a new school and teacher's residence.

Enrolments over the year have increased by 155 and of these 97 were in Government schools, 35 in subsidised pastoral property schools, and 23 in mission schools. This enrolment could have been increased still further if sufficient staff had been available particularly on the missions where in some cases large numbers of school-age children could not be enrolled.

A total of 44 white and part-coloured children were in attendance at aboriginal schools (see Appendix "K") and it is becoming apparent that some provision will have to be made on the new and larger settlements for accommodation and staff to educate the white children.

Pre-School Education (See Appendix "H")

There is now approval for four temporary positions of pre-school teachers at Warrabri, Yuendumu, Bungalow, and Papunya. The positions at Warrabri and Yuendumu have been filled and a teacher not pre-school trained is looking after the Bungalow group. Because of the number of pre-school children at Yuendumu, morning and afternoon sessions must be held and as soon as the Papunya position is filled the same situation will obtain there also.

There is a pressing demand for the establishment of pre-school groups on all other settlements and particularly at Hooker Creek and Beswick. However, without the provision of pre-school buildings, teacher accommodation, and teachers themselves little can be done.

A special mention must be made of the training of school assistants and this so far has been carried on only in the schools on missions and settlements where the trainees live. Five native assistants have reached such a standard that subsidy is now being paid to the missions for their work and it is expected that the opening of a training centre in Darwin will enable groups to be brought in from missions and settlements for special training. It is difficult however to see how this can be carried out with complete effectiveness unless additional staff can be appointed to the Education Section.

Extra-Curricula Activities

One successful combined school sports has been held during the year under review. This was held at Alice Springs in the presence of a Parliamentary delegation and was opened by the Minister of State for Territories. As on other occasions, the behaviour of the children was exemplary and not only did they benefit from their activities in the sporting field but also from the educational excursions which they made around the town. The first native school sports in the northern area will be held in Darwin during the second half of 1959.

The annual school holiday camp at Casuarina Beach was held for the Bagot school children and its success was assured by the co-operation of the Aborigines Inland Mission.

Participation by Bungalow school children in the activities of the Alice Springs Youth Centre and of the Warrabri and Beswick school children in activities at Tennant Creek and Katherine offered further proof of the ease with which they now mix with white children.

A group of Bagot schoolboys who, as Scouts, attended the Scout jamboree held at Howard Springs were commended by the Scoutmaster for the way in which they co-operated in all the activities of the camp.

Educational Supplies

Educational supplies, especially those used as aids to assist in teaching, are of a specialised nature and should necessarily be selected by officers well acquainted with the needs of the schools which these aids will serve. It has not been possible to send an education officer to a southern State to examine the wide variety of educational equipment on display and this personal selection must be done in future if the purchase of first-class equipment is to keep pace with the needs of the schools.

Much of the general educational equipment required by mission schools has now been supplied to them and the end of the 1959/60 financial year should see their needs adequately covered except for maintenance and replacement and the provision of expendable stationery, books, chalk, and pencils.

The effectiveness of the education given in the Welfare Branch schools must be judged not only on the academic progress made by the children but also by the extent to which they are accepting social change. Significant advance has been made in the former field and in the latter there is ample evidence, from their attitude to education and in their increasing ability to mix on equal footing with white children, of considerable progress. What has been achieved has been in the face of difficulties and shortages - difficulties in transport and supplies and shortages in staff qualified to carry on all the numerous tasks demanded of them.

EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING

Although the progress achieved in this field has not been as extensive as had been hoped for at the start of the year under review, there have been some significant changes in the employment conditions affecting aborigines.

The greatest single obstacle to general improvement in these conditions has been the lack of any basic industrial code with which employers could be required to comply. The Wards Employment Ordinance 1953 was not made effective during the year and the regulations thereunder were still to be made and brought into operation at the close of the financial year.

Until this legislation does become operative there seems to be little likelihood of any widespread improvement in the field of employment generally.

With the exception of a representative from the Amalgamated Engineering Union, the Employment Advisory Board has been fully constituted and will be convened as a body shortly after the Ordinance comes into operation.

Wages

As a result of the review commenced in June 1958, a schedule of classifications and wage rates has been designed with a view to instituting a degree of comparative wage justice for like work performed by natives living on settlements widely dispersed throughout the Northern Territory.

For various reasons it proved impossible to implement any sort of scheme during the year just passed but it is intended that this will be done in the coming year.

The minimum wage rate observed by Government Departments other than Welfare Branch is £3.10.0. per week, plus clothing, rations and accommodation. Some employees receive cash wages higher than the minimum but the Defence Services, which employ the greatest number, employ natives at the minimum wage only.

Negotiations were conducted with the Department of Works in respect of a ward employed as pumper at Newcastle Waters and with the Postmaster General's Department in respect of men employed as labourers with Line Parties. Negotiations with the latter Department are still proceeding.

There have been some significant increases gained by Patrol Officers in negotiation with employers in outside industry, and in some areas new increased minimum wage rates are generally accepted. The minimum wage paid on properties in the mid and southern Barkly Tableland areas is now £2.15.0. per week, with all found, whilst in the Alice Springs district wages equivalent to this rate and higher are paid. Most properties in the Northern Area, and in the Victoria River District in particular, still pay the minimum wage prescribed in the Pastoral Industry Regulations (now redundant) which is £1.0.0. per week for the employed male, from which the employee is required to purchase his own clothing.

It is significant that these latter employers are finding it difficult to obtain and retain labour.

The minimum rates observed in town employment are £3.10.0. per week with all found, where employment is on a weekly-hire basis and

£1.0.0. per day with midday meal for casual workers. In Alice Springs a higher average wage rate obtains with casuals earning £7.0.0. to £10.0.0. per week on general labouring work.

The highest contract rate paid to wards during the year was £4.0.0. per day for casual employees at the Shoal Bay salt pans near Darwin. These employees returned to their parent settlements with savings of an amount which would have taken considerable time to accrue had they been in normal employment.

Sixteen full-blood aborigines are in receipt of award rates of pay and many others are employed on conditions which, in cash and in kind, approximate the basic wage.

A schedule of occupational gradings in which aborigines are employed appears as Appendix "O".

Workmen's Compensation

(a) Wards Employed in Outside Industry

Natives employed otherwise than in accordance with the terms and conditions of an industrial award are not entitled to the benefits prescribed in the Workmen's Compensation Ordinance and therefore are excluded from participating in this employment benefit.

For the first time in legislation relating to conditions of employment for aborigines in the Northern Territory provision is to be made for the payment of compensation to persons in this category who sustain injury arising out of and in the course of their employment.

(b) Wards Employed on Settlements

A test case for payment of compensation to a ward at Snake Bay Settlement who sustained an injury to his hand whilst employed milling timber was submitted under the provisions of the Commonwealth Employees Compensation Act 1930-1956. The Commissioner for Employees' Compensation admitted liability and proposes to effect payment of the amount specified for the injury in the Third Schedule to the Commonwealth Employees Compensation Act.

It is significant that he did not see fit to award a lesser amount of lump sum compensation than that which would apply to a European workman with a similar injury, notwithstanding that the ward was in receipt of wages which could only be regarded as nominal in nature. Settlement employees it would seem can be regarded as coming within the scope of the Commonwealth Employees Compensation Act and will enjoy higher compensation benefits than those to be prescribed in the Wards Employment Ordinance and the Regulations thereunder for their counterparts in outside industry.

(c) Wards Employed by Other Government Departments

The provisions of the Commonwealth Employees Compensation Act 1930-1956 apply to wards employed by Government Departments.

Disputes

Representations were received from the North Australian Workers Union, the Australian Labour Party (Darwin Branch) and the Darwin Truck Owners Association regarding the employment of native labour at less than award rates of pay.

The representations by the North Australian Workers Union concerned the employment of wards as builder's labourers by a contractor at Katherine, and this matter was adjusted by negotiation between the District Welfare Office, Katherine, and the employer.

The representations by the other parties concerned the employment of wards in the loading and unloading of trucks in the Darwin area. The matter raised by the Darwin Truck Owners Association was not based on fact and was adjusted satisfactorily; however, in respect of another matter it was found upon investigation that an employer was employing wards on duties outside the work for which they were recruited.

Steps have been taken to ensure that in future terms of employment are set down on a firm basis. Follow-up action will be taken after employment commences, in order to avoid a recurrence of this type of evasion.

TRAINING

(a) On-the-Job Training

Training through employment is still the main method adopted on missions and settlements in developing the skills and aptitudes of wards in various callings associated with maintenance of equipment and buildings and on subsistence projects.

Training of young aborigines in pastoral-industry vocations has been continued at the pastoral-training projects at Beswick Station, Haasts Bluff, and at a similar but smaller project being developed at Hooker Creek in the Victoria River District.

(b) Manual Training Centre

The Manual Training Centre at Warrabri has been equipped and practical training has been incorporated in the school syllabus for the elder boys.

Similar centres are to be established at Papunya and Amoon-guna when these settlements come into full operation.

(c) Formal Training Courses

(i) Hygiene Assistants Two courses of training for Hygiene Assistants were held in Darwin and Alice Springs in September/October, 1958, and reports received following return of the trainees to their parent mission or settlement confirmed that the courses had been successful.

During these courses emphasis was placed on visual aids and practical demonstration almost to the complete exclusion of the more formal types of lecture, and the response on the part of the trainees to this change in method was most encouraging. Almost all missions and settlements now have sufficient trained personnel to provide relief during the absence of regular hygiene workers.

(ii) Diving School - Rose River Mission The diving school conducted at Rose River Mission and in the Gulf of Carpentaria during October/November 1958 was successful when viewed in relation to the limited objective of teaching young male wards to dive using shallow underwater equipment and free-swimming methods. However, the long term benefits to be derived from the use of trained personnel and equipment in developing an economic activity for the missions

possessing the necessary trained personnel and gear have largely been lost as nothing appears to have been done by way of follow up in this respect. A similar situation occurred after the Elcho Island school in 1956.

The trainees at the Rose River school were drawn from Rose River (3), Groote Eylandt (3), and Umbakumba (2).

(iii) Hospital and Medical Assistants The proposals for the training of hospital and medical assistants foundered because of the lack of suitable accommodation in Darwin for young female wards and the inability of the Department of Health to accommodate wards within the hospital precincts. A fresh approach to the problem has been made and new training proposals drawn up in consultation with the Department of Health.

An old style tropical residence has been allocated for conversion as a residential training centre for young female hospital and medical assistants and training will commence under the guidance of a Senior Nursing Sister and a Nursing Sister in October 1959.

Groups of six trainees will be catered for at each course and the trainees will also receive basic training in the domestic sciences and personal hygiene during their period of residence in the establishment.

(iv) Teacher's Assistants Formal group training schemes for native teacher's assistants will be conducted at the Central Training Establishment for young female wards interested in this vocation. These courses will be rostered-in with courses for hospital assistants (see above) and during their period of residence the girls will receive domestic-science training and an appreciation of personal hygiene practices from the Senior Nursing Sister and Sister.

(v) Wards in Training No wards have been placed as wards-in-training during the year owing to the non-operation of the Wards Employment Ordinance and Regulations which contain the conditions attaching to allocation of wards-in-training by agreement.

Applications for Financial Assistance

Three applications for financial assistance under Section 51 of the Wards Employment Ordinance 1953 are being held in abeyance pending the operation of the Wards Employment Ordinance.

EMPLOYMENT SURVEY AND STATISTICS (See Appendix "Q")

This survey was nullified to a very large extent by the failure of employers in outside industry to complete and return the forms indicating the number of wards employed by them. The figures shown in the various tables are those which can be regarded as reasonably reliable.

Proper statistics of the employment of natives in the Northern Territory will not be obtained until the Wards Employment Regulations are in operation and employers are required to render regular returns of all wards employed by them during the period covered by the return.

When the Regulations are in operation it should be possible to prepare reliable statistics on a half-yearly basis but until then any statistics obtained must of necessity be regarded as unreliable and not necessarily reflecting a true picture of the employment situation.

STAFFING

The establishment of the Section provides for one position of Administrative Officer (Employment) £1668-1833, one position of Clerk (Employment) £1083-1263, Alice Springs, and one position of Clerk (Employment) £903-1083, Darwin. Proposals are also being considered for the creation of a position of Clerk (Employment) £1083-1263, Darwin (as District Employment Officer) but finality is yet to be reached in the matter.

The position of Clerk (Employment) £1083-1263, Alice Springs, was occupied from November 1958 to March 1959, when the officer appointed to it resigned. The position has been re-advertised but remained vacant at the end of the year. The position of Clerk (Employment) £903-1083, Head Office, Darwin, was filled on 25th August 1958, and the officer appointed is still occupying that position.

The effective staff of the Section during the year under review has consisted of two officers only, viz., Administrative Officer (Employment) £1668-1833, and Clerk (Employment) £903-1083, both located in Darwin.

The duties of District Welfare Officers and field staff under their control have expanded considerably over the past few years and will continue to expand. It is therefore essential that they be given assistance to cope with the more specialised functions for which they are held ultimately responsible within their Districts.

It can be predicted quite safely that the introduction of the Wards Employment Ordinance and Regulations will cause an added work load which on present estimates will be beyond their capacity to cater for within the limits of their present field and office staff complements.

The successful introduction of this new legislation could be seriously retarded because of this factor.

Action is being taken to fill the Alice Springs position at the earliest possible date. The need for an identical position in Darwin is just as great, if not greater when regard is had to the need to provide town employment opportunities for wards temporarily resident at Bagot.

CATERING AND FOOD SERVICES

During the year under review, the Catering Officer, Darwin, conducted three cooking courses at Bagot Settlement, which were attended by selected wards from settlements and missions. At the conclusion of each course reports were furnished upon each participant indicating the degree of skill attained and subsequent checks back to settlements and missions have indicated that the courses proved to be of considerable benefit and have resulted in improved feeding services at the trainees home station.

Pending the appointment of a Catering Officer in the Alice Springs district, the Catering Officer based on Darwin was required to visit and advise settlements and missions throughout the entire Northern Territory.

During the year this officer inspected the settlement kitchens at Areyonga, Bagot, Beswick, Bungalow, Delissaville, Haasts Bluff, Jay Creek, Papunya, Snake Bay, Warrabri and Yuendumu; and those of the mission stations at Bathurst Island, Elcho Island, Garden Point (part-coloured children), Goulburn Island, Hermannsburg, Milingimbi, Santa Teresa and Yirrkala.

A feature of the Catering Officer's activities has been the introduction of bush-type ovens for the baking of bread and the preparation of roasted meals. These ovens have proved highly successful and have considerably increased the cooking capacity of the facilities on the settlements and missions where they have been built.

A list of menus covering a week's catering, and giving alternatives, was prepared by the Catering Officer and distributed. This service was greatly appreciated and has resulted in many cases in an improvement in the general attitude towards the preparation and serving of food.

Following the appointment in October 1958 of a Catering Officer (Southern Division), much more time than had been possible previously was devoted to supervising cooking and catering in Giles District. A decided improvement in these services is already evident at all settlements and particularly so at Papunya where community feeding, under the supervision of a Cook/Supervisor, was in full operation at the close of the year.

HEALTH

Generally speaking the health of the aboriginal population throughout the Northern Territory during 1958/1959 continued to show improvement.

An outbreak of influenza assumed epidemic proportions along the north Arnhem Land coastline and several deaths were recorded. Elsewhere the onset of the infection caused isolated severe cases of illness, the most serious of which were brought in by aerial ambulance for hospital attention.

Infant welfare was given a high degree of priority and clinics organized on settlements and missions throughout the Northern Territory were supervised by trained Nursing Sisters. Another Nursing Sister, skilled in this particular field, maintained a continuous inspection service moving from place to place in accordance with a pre-arranged schedule.

Surveys for hookworm were again performed during the year. Much of the laboratory work was performed by a full-blood aborigine who had previously received training at the Darwin Health Laboratory.

A few more cases of leprosy were detected. Some of the people concerned were brought to East Arm Leprosarium; others remained under treatment at their normal place of residence.

RESERVES

There are 17 aboriginal reserves in the Northern Territory; the area covered is approximately 67,000 square miles in extent.
69,500

No new reserves were added to the existing number during the year under review, but as at the 30th June, 1959, action was in hand to declare as a reserve the area occupied by nomadic groups in the Lake Mackay/Lake MacDonald region on the West Australian border, and extending to the north as far as the 21st parallel.

GOVERNMENT SETTLEMENTS AND CHRISTIAN MISSIONS

There are 13 Government settlements and 14 mission stations caring for aborigines in different parts of the Northern Territory; of these, 11 settlements and 11 missions are on proclaimed aboriginal reserves. Those not so located are at Delissaville, on the western shore of Darwin Harbour (this settlement occupies land specially set aside for aborigines by Government action), and at Borroloola (the ration and control depot on the Gulf of Carpentaria, which occupies a temporary site on Crown Land); also the mission stations at Hemannsburg, Santa Teresa, and Daly River, all three of which occupy land held on lease in the name of the religious body concerned.

The Government settlement at Papunya on the Haasts Bluff Reserve, reported last year as being under construction, was completed during the year and is now occupied by natives transferred from the former Haasts Bluff Settlement site. The old site, with its few buildings, is being used as a pastoral property under Government control, where aboriginal stockmen may receive training in the proper methods of handling cattle.

Amoonguna, also reported last year as being under construction, is expected to be ready for occupation early in 1960, at which time the Bungalow Settlement on the outskirts of Alice Springs will be closed down.

The main purposes of these establishments are -

- (i) to bring natives together into a community and to teach them the habits and skills of living in such a community;
- (ii) to provide welfare services fitted to their needs and to their stage of social development;
- (iii) to provide the means whereby training may be given, particularly to children and adolescents;
- (iv) to introduce the general concept of "work" as a worthwhile aim in life;
- (v) to develop in the younger and middle age-groups an attitude that the settlements and mission stations are there to provide health and educational services for their children, so that the latter may be prepared for a future life as adults living in a wider community than the tribe;
- (vi) to provide a temporary home wherever necessary for wards in transit.

There are 6 Christian missions working amongst the aboriginal people of the Northern Territory. Four denominations, viz :- Anglicans, Catholics, Lutherans, and Methodists, operate full-scale mission stations.

The Church of England Missionary Society has established settlements at Oenpelli, in the north-western corner of the Arnhem Land Aboriginal Reserve, and at Groote Eylandt (two separate settlements), Rose River and Roper River in the Gulf of Carpentaria.

The Roman Catholic Mission of the Sacred Heart serves the inhabitants of Bathurst Island and the areas adjacent to Port Keats and Daly River Mission Stations in Northern Australia, and at Santa Teresa Mission Station about 56 miles south-east of Alice Springs in Central Australia.

The Finke River Mission operates a Lutheran mission station at Hermannsburg in Central Australia.

The Methodist Overseas Mission works among the people of the Arnhem Land coastal areas and maintains settlements at Goulburn, Elcho, and Milingimbi Islands, and at Yirrkala (on the north-eastern tip of Arnhem Land).

The other two main bodies in the field are the Baptist Church Home Mission Board and the Aborigines Inland Mission, both of which have appointed resident missionaries to established centres; the former at Yuendumu and Warrabri in Central Australia, and the latter at Bagot, Borroloola, and Newcastle Waters in Northern Australia.

The Finke River Mission retains an interest in its former outposts at Areyonga and Papunya/Haasts Bluff through the appointment to each of these settlements of a resident missionary. From the Mission Centre in Alice Springs, missionaries visit Jay Creek and Bungalow Settlements regularly and also perform itinerant missionary work amongst aborigines resident on pastoral properties. In this work, the Mission Board uses specially selected aborigines who, having proved their worth in the general field of employment, have been trained by the Mission as evangelists.

There are also other organisations and individuals engaged in work of a spiritual nature (Salvation Army, Australian Inland Mission, Bush Brotherhood), whose efforts are effective although their activities are conducted on a smaller scale.

At all mission stations except Daly River, and at all settlements except Borroloola, tribal groups of resident aborigines and a number of itinerant natives are cared for, through special welfare services available covering a substantial proportion of life's needs.

Daly River Mission has aboriginal children as residents and looks after the needs generally of the local aboriginal population working and living in the vicinity.

Borroloola, for most of the year, cares for aged and infirm natives and children, but between the months of December and March has a much increased population including able-bodied men and women who, except for these months of the wet season, find their employment on cattle properties on the Barkly Tableland.

In addition to Government settlements and mission stations, six ration depots are strategically placed at remote locations, their main function being to meet the needs of aged and infirm natives in out-of-the-way districts.

Schools operating on pastoral properties constitute other minor centres of Government control.

Bi-annual conferences are held between Central Mission Authorities and officers of the Northern Territory Administration in order that work in this field may be co-ordinated. The Director of Welfare presides over these meetings, the next of which is set down for July 1959.

STAFFING

There are certain regular categories of staff which may be carried on Government settlements, though all categories are not necessarily carried on any particular settlement.

Superintendents are required to have some anthropological and sociological training, as well as a capacity to direct and co-ordinate the activities of specialist, professional, and technical staff.

School Teachers and Pre-School Teachers carry out all the duties of their counterparts in a European community, but they are required to go further in that they must first begin by inculcating habits of personal hygiene and acceptable social behaviour amongst children to whom English must be taught as a foreign language.

Patrol Officers are required to take a personal interest in aborigines in the district around the settlement, whether resident on pastoral properties, normally resident on the settlement but employed away from the settlement, or still following nomadic ways of life.

Nursing Sisters perform similar duties to their counterparts in a European community with the emphasis again on teaching from first principles infant and child care, care of simple cuts, wounds and ailments, methods of following out simple treatments, and personal and family hygiene.

A Settlement Manager leads and supervises the work of the manual-training staff in the physical development and maintenance of the settlement.

The team of specialists coming under the Manager may include a Carpenter, Farm Manager, Ganger, Kitchen Supervisor and Mechanic. The duties of Farm Manager, Mechanic and Carpenter are self-evident, though it must be realised that in all their work the emphasis is on training aborigines.

Kitchen Supervisors are carried at settlements where full communal feeding has been introduced as a means of ensuring that all aborigines on settlements may be adequately fed, and of training aborigines in cooking.

The Ganger leads, directs and trains parties of natives in particular operations in the skilled fields of other tradesmen, and in general work such as roadmaking, settlement beautification, drainage, fence building, etc.

Part-time Matrons are carried as home-management instructresses, and to train women and older girls in homecraft and child-craft.

For smaller settlements, an attempt is made to find officers capable of combining in themselves more than one of the above functions and who can undertake training in more than one field of work. Specialist assistance is provided by such skilled persons as the Branch Catering Officers, Works and Services Officers, Education Officers, etc., and experts drawn from other Branches of the Northern Territory Administration (for example, Water Use, Plant Industry, Animal Industry).

Missions are encouraged to develop their training facilities, and training specialists who themselves are qualified and experienced in their particular field, and who are given facilities on the Mission for carrying out a full-time training programme within that field, may attract a subsidy of £870. per annum. This amount is paid to the Mission for each approved specialist employed.

Specialists who have already been approved for subsidy include pastoral and agricultural supervisors, boat builders, fishermen, diesel and motor mechanics, carpenters, builders, teachers, nursing sisters, pre-school teachers and kitchen supervisors.

GILES DISTRICTPatrol Staff

Patrol work in the Giles District was severely curtailed during the year under review owing to the lack of experienced patrol officers.

Patrols

At no stage was it possible to lay out a settled programme of inspectional work but visits were paid to most of the pastoral properties in the district, as opportunity presented itself.

During the period July - December 1958 a Patrol Officer inspected properties in the north-eastern and north-western sectors of the district. These inspections were concerned with all aspects of employment and native welfare.

A special patrol was conducted in the Anningie/Willowra area for the purpose of obtaining information concerning the movement of the nomadic Eastern Wailbri people who inhabit this area, moving from station to station, and sometimes penetrating as far east as the Stuart Highway, in the vicinity of Ti-Tree. This group has affiliations with the Wailbris living at Warrabri and there is evidence that they will eventually move to that settlement. Following a congregation at Warrabri last wet season for ceremonial purposes, some with children remained after the majority had returned to the Willowra area.

A flying patrol of the district was made in February 1959, when most of the pastoral properties in the area were again visited briefly. This patrol was undertaken mainly for the purpose of checking maintenance claims and to ascertain the effect of the prolonged drought on employment and the welfare of the natives resident on the properties.

It was possible during the greater part of the year to have a Patrol Officer available for town and court duties, although there was a period when these responsibilities fell to the lot of the District Welfare Officer.

Employment

Generally speaking there was little change in the employment field. No new avenues opened up, and as far as the pastoral industry was concerned the extremely dry weather which prevailed throughout most of the year restricted opportunities for obtaining work. In areas west of Alice Springs, where drought conditions were quite severe, little to no work was available at all.

Some station owners were forced to reduce the number of people employed, but they nevertheless maintained them in order to retain their labour force. Pastoral properties to the east received considerable relief from late rains, but these did not extend to western areas where conditions remained grave at the close of the year.

Town employment has been maintained at a reasonable level and it was pleasing to note a slight increase in the rates payable for casual labour. Experienced labourers in the building industry commanded from £12.0.0. to £14.0.0. per week while casual work such as gardening, and sand and aggregate carting, carried rates of wage varying between £7.0.0. and £10.0.0. per week.

Two men sent to employment in Queensland from Yuendumu were engaged at award rates as stockmen.

Offences

During the year under review, a total of two hundred and forty-seven charges were preferred against wards in the Alice Springs Police Court. Of these, two hundred and twenty one were offences involving liquor, including ten cases of persons charged with drinking methylated spirits; three were for use of indecent language, three for resisting arrest, four for assault, one for assault of a police officer, four for use of obscene language, five for fighting on a Reserve, two for disorderly behaviour, and one for fighting in a public place. Two charges of murder were laid and the persons concerned committed for trial in the Supreme Court.

Court actions in respect of wards drinking liquor or being found drunk have increased and, owing to the continued ease with which liquor may now be obtained by natives, it is not expected that there will be any appreciable decrease in these offences. Action was taken wherever possible to remove persistent offenders from the town area for varying periods, but this has had no real salutary effect.

It is hoped that, with increased staff both in the Welfare Branch and the Police Branch, more control may be possible in the future.

The behaviour of the people at the Bungalow and in other areas adjacent to the town has, on the whole, been satisfactory; the only upsets of any consequence which have occurred have been occasioned by the consumption of intoxicating liquor.

Social Change

An average of eighteen boys and girls from the Bungalow School are attending the Alice Springs Youth Centre, together with some adolescents who are being taught boxing.

School children received instruction in dancing, singing and physical education and now that arrangements have been made to facilitate their transport, it is expected that the numbers attending will increase.

Three of the older school girls from Bungalow rendered vocal numbers at the Youth Centre and their items were very well received by a large and appreciative audience.

The youths learning boxing were doing well; one lad has already won a number of trophies.

Footballers drawn from the native population appeared regularly with teams in the local Football Association, and other men were given a trial at basketball and other sporting activities.

Public Relations

A considerable contribution to the success of the "Bang Tail Muster" celebrations held at Alice Springs in March 1959 was made by the native population.

The street procession was headed by twelve Aranda tribesmen carrying spears and woomeras and bearing body decorations. They represented the original inhabitants of the Alice Springs area, as they were before white settlement. Other natives depicted the coming of the Overland Telegraph Line party, the first stockmen and the latter-day stockmen; yet others contributed by driving floats or by demonstrating other avenues of their progress towards assimilation into the local community.

A number of natives also took part in the sports programme.

Aboriginal Artists

The aboriginal artists (who are mostly resident at Hermannsburg) continued as in former years to produce a considerable number of paintings, which have been readily disposed of to visiting tourists and to others interested in their work.

Itinerant Missionaries

Throughout the year Pastors F.W. and Paul Albrecht have been visiting stations to the north and south of Alice Springs at regular six-weekly intervals.

Pastor Paul Albrecht patrolled to the north of Alice Springs and, in the course of his patrol, visited eleven station properties with the permission of the owners. Pastor F.W. Albrecht was similarly occupied to the south of Alice Springs and in this area he visited six station properties regularly and two others as the occasion warranted.

The Pastors conveyed Christian instruction to resident aborigines and they also carried on their vehicle a variety of goods for sale at Alice Springs prices, which were much sought after by the people. However, these goods were not sold except with the approval of the station management and upon request from the natives themselves that the van be opened.

This service also provided transport whenever necessary for aborigines in need of hospital treatment.

The Pastors, also in consultation with the station management, did all they possibly could to settle any disputes brought to their notice.

During the period over which these Lutheran missionaries have visited pastoral properties they have established evangelists at Napperby, Ti-Tree and Aileron Stations to the north of Alice Springs and at Mary Vale to the south; these men work on a full-time basis. A part-time evangelist visits Henbury at irregular intervals.

Enquiries concerning the activities of the evangelists revealed that they were doing good work in maintaining peace and contentment amongst the aboriginal population, and especially was this so at Napperby, where the native camp was maintained in excellent condition, a vegetable garden was started and some schooling in simple English was given.

It is considered that the work being accomplished is of value and should be encouraged. The procedure adopted is that the visiting pastor times his arrival for the afternoon, when a short service is held in the evening and a general talk given. In the morning film strips are shown and a discussion takes place, after which the store is opened for trading if required.

This system has worked very well and no complaints have been received from pastoralists that it interferes with the work of their native staff or in any other way disturbs the smooth running of the properties visited.

SETTLEMENT ACTIVITIES

AMONGUNA

Constructional

Developmental work at the new settlement site, seven miles south-east of Alice Springs, progressed satisfactorily during the year despite delays occasioned by difficulty in engaging suitable workmen.

At 30th June, 1959, 11 Kingstrand huts had been erected and were complete except for fireplaces. One concrete cottage was finished except for windows, doors, and the floor in the living room; the brick-work of the second cottage was 30% complete.

The construction of other buildings by private contract was commenced but it is not anticipated that this work will be completed before February 1960.

The boundary fence was erected and the marking out of permanent roads was well advanced.

Both bores supplying water to the settlement were equipped; one with an automatic submersible electric pump and the other with a standard unit. The water supply proved to be adequate for all current requirements.

Horticulture and Agriculture

The citrus trees planted during the year grew remarkably well and it is confidently expected that some fruit will be obtained from these trees next season. Another 24 trees were planted. A considerable number of ornamental trees were planted in conformity with the beautification scheme and indications were that the majority will survive.

The overhead spraying system supplied was erected in the orchard but was found to be unsatisfactory as during the hot weather the citrus trees became scorched and their growth was seriously retarded. It was therefore decided to remove the spray equipment to another site and to apply it to the growing of a lucerne plot.

The Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation was approached for advice generally and some of their officers undertook to advise on the introduction of natural and introduced grasses. Their suggestions will be followed in an endeavour to cover the bare patches of ground existing within the boundaries of the reserve.

Produce from the garden area was sent to Bungalow for consumption during the last six months of the year under review.

AREYONGA

Areynonga lies near the south-eastern corner of the Haasts Bluff Aboriginal Reserve occupying 8,000 square miles of country midway between Alice Springs and the Western Australian border. The settlement is 180 miles from Alice Springs, to which it is linked by

the road passing through Hermannsburg Mission. There is an airstrip located one mile from the settlement which is used fortnightly by Connellan's Air Service, and radio communication is maintained with Alice Springs. Papunya Settlement lies approximately 90 miles to the north-west.

Population

Most of the people served by the settlement belong to the Pitjantjara tribe, and their habits still lean towards those of their nomadic ancestors. Consequently, the number of people in contact with Areyonga at any one time fluctuates between a maximum of about 450 and a minimum of 250.

On 30th June, 1959, the resident population comprised :

Adult males	85	
Adult females	86	
Boys	43	
Girls	55	
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Total	269	persons
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Employment

Resident natives were employed on subsistence and other projects in the vicinity of the settlement. Opportunity was given for those interested to gain experience in market gardening, leather working, poultry and stock raising, post cutting, and repair and maintenance work.

The settlement is adjacent to spinifex-grass desert areas where desert oaks grow in profusion. This timber is in great demand not only at Areyonga but at settlements elsewhere, and during the year 1150 posts were cut.

Fences were erected in the main valley of the James Range to enclose a substantial paddock which will prove valuable as a cattle-retaining area. It will also serve the useful purpose of providing a convenient run for horses used in working cattle on the Areyonga Reserve.

The job of putting a road through from Areyonga to Tempe Downs was undertaken using settlement labour, thus establishing communications with the cattle stations to the south of the James Range and the area whence the greater proportion of the population at Areyonga came originally.

Training

In addition to the men receiving regular training in carpentry under the supervision of the settlement carpenter, a young woman and two young men were given specialised training at the settlement during the year as medical orderly, saddler, and butcher respectively.

The needlework class continued and many garments were made for use on one settlement.

Production

Garden

Radish	1092 lbs.
Water Melon	800 lbs.

Production contd.

Spinach	542 lbs.
Cabbage	438 lbs.
Corn	400 lbs.
Carrots	390 lbs.
Kohl Rabi	303 lbs.
Turnip	40 lbs.
Onions	25 lbs.

Other

Eggs	568 dozen
Fencing Posts	1150 units

Needlework

Frocks - Women's	36 units
Girls'	8 units
Towels	29 units
Screen Curtains	6 units
Table Covers	2 units

Construction

Following the appointment of a carpenter, the construction of the first stage of the native-housing programme proceeded rapidly and at the close of the year five Kingstrand houses and five concrete cottages were completed. In addition to this work, the carpenter and his trainees spent some time at Haasts Bluff where they erected two Kingstrand huts as a nucleus of the dwellings to be built at that site.

A killing pen with a blood trap and a disposal drain was also built during the year, and a new building erected to house the electric generator.

Recreation

Despite their nomadic tendencies, the Pitjantjara peoples have a natural inclination to sporting and recreational activities. The younger ones have been consistently outstanding at the inter-school sports at Alice Springs, and football is also popular at the settlement.

BUNGALOW

Bungalow Settlement, which is located on a small aboriginal reserve two miles north of Alice Springs, served the same purpose in relation to that town as Bagot did for Darwin.

Population

Serving as it does as a transit depot there is no settled population pattern at the settlement. At 30th June, 1959, the population numbered :

Adult males	89	
Adult females	80	
Boys	56	
Girls	59	
	<hr/>	
Total	284	persons
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Needlework Class

A wide range of articles was produced by the women trained at sewing classes conducted at the settlement. Garments made included :

Towels	375 units
Matinee Jackets	74 units
Babies' Nightgowns	59 units
Ration Bags	52 units
Panties	36 units
Napkins	28 units
Bed Jackets	20 units
Frocks - Women's	9 units
Skirts	2 units
Blouse	1 unit

General

Bungalow is due to close in the near future when the settlement at present under construction at Amoonguna begins operating. Consequently, no major constructional or developmental projects were set in motion during the year just completed. However a subsidiary function of great practical value has been the use of facilities currently available at the settlement as the site of a bulk store and distributing centre for the Giles District.

JAY CREEK

Jay Creek is a small settlement, about 28 miles west of Alice Springs, which was established to serve as a buffer between the semi-nomadic people living in far western reserves and the more sophisticated natives inhabiting Alice Springs and the immediate vicinity of the town.

Jay Creek is in Aranda country but among the 150 or more persons usually in residence at the settlement there are many semi-civilised members of such tribes as the Pitjantjara and Luridja whose tribal lands lie further to the west and who still prefer a semi-nomadic existence.

Population

On 30th June, 1959, the resident population comprised :

Adult males	55	
Adult females	61	
Boys	24	
Girls	32	
	<hr/>	
Total	172	persons
	<hr/>	

Employment

Owing to the unsatisfactory water supply, the future of Jay Creek as a settlement is being reviewed. During 1958/59 however the small cattle project provided employment for a few adults residing at the settlement and enabled boys leaving school to gain some experience in pastoral work before seeking permanent jobs on the surrounding properties.

The boundary fence between Simpson's Gap and Jay Creek was repaired or re-erected using fencing posts cut from the desert oaks near Areyonga. Still outstanding was the installation of a grid on the main road. All fences in the near-settlement area were repaired, renewed, or modified.

Production

Meat

Beef	13833 lbs.
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Garden

Chinese Cabbage	500 lbs.
Tomatoes	215 lbs.
Water Melon	200 lbs.
Turnips	120 lbs.
Rock Melon	60 lbs.
Parsnips	20 lbs.

Other

Milk	700 gallons
Eggs	175 dozen

Needlework

Infants Dresses	68 units
Towels	66 units
Children's overalls	56 units
Children's pinafores	20 units
Aprons	20 units
Frocks - Women's	12 units
Tea Towels	24 units
Bed Covers	3 units
Face Washers	18 units

Natural Stock Increase

Goats	39
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Details of the cattle herd for the year 1958/59 were:

On hand 1.7.1958	206 head	(value £2,884)
Branded during 1958/59	100 head	
Slaughtered	37 head	(value £1,110)
On hand 30.6.1959	269 head	(value £3,766)

Livestock held on the property pending transfer when seasonal conditions allow were:

a/c Haasts Bluff	4 stud bulls
a/c Yuendumu	18 horses

PAPUNYA

Papunya is a new settlement, located 35 miles by road north of Haasts Bluff. It is approximately 180 miles west of Alice Springs on a fair to good road; Yuendumu lies about 90 miles away to the north-west.

A cattle project at Haasts Bluff is run in conjunction with the settlement at Papunya in the same way as is done with the settlement and station on Beswick Reserve near Katherine. The cattle station is run by a Manager appointed by Welfare Branch. The manager is immediately responsible to the Settlement Superintendent who in turn conducts activities throughout the Reserve in accordance with policy laid down by the Director.

The original settlement at Haasts Bluff was established by missionaries from Hermannsburg as an out-station and ration depot, but was taken over in 1954 by Welfare Branch and until March 1959 functioned as a full-scale aboriginal settlement. When the new settlement at Papunya was opened the native population at Haasts Bluff Settlement, with the exception of a few men skilled in stockwork, was transferred to the new site and Haasts Bluff has since been in operation as a Government-owned pastoral property where some 3,000 head of cattle are run and where training is given to selected aborigines in a wide range of activities connected with stockwork.

Population

The natives in this vicinity are still strongly influenced by tribal law and regard the area occupied by the new settlement and the adjacent pastoral property as part of their ancestral tribal lands. They are all nomadic or semi-nomadic in habit, and included amongst them are representatives from the Pitjantjara, Ngalia, and Pintubi tribes all of whom periodically move throughout the district on walkabout.

The population in the immediate vicinity of Papunya/Haasts Bluff at 30th June 1959 comprised :

Adult males	115	
Adult females	138	
Boys	109	
Girls	152	
	<hr/>	
Total	514	persons
	<hr/>	

Construction

A great deal of constructional work still remained to be done in February when a Manager was appointed and the settlement began to function. At the close of the year large-scale fencing operations were under way, a native village was under construction, and the airstrips had been lengthened and broadened to comply with the standards laid down by the Department of Civil Aviation for the extension of aerial mail services.

Training

Training other than that available to the children through the school was not given. The primitive habits of most of the people in contact with the settlement will make necessary a preliminary training period during which only basic training in a European type of life will be feasible.

A communal dining room was opened and a start made in educating both adults and children in acceptable eating habits. Efforts are also being made to select suitable men and women to be taught kitchen and hygiene duties.

Agriculture

A start was made in preparing a suitable area for use as a settlement garden; 70 citrus trees were planted and showed promise of satisfactory growth.

Production

Vegetables

Silver Beet	1142 lbs.
Carrots	1106 lbs.
Broccoli	880 lbs.
Swedes	646 lbs.
Beetroot	638 lbs.
Turnips	627 lbs.
Parsnips	508 lbs.
Kohl Rabi	437 lbs.
Onions	356 lbs.
Cauliflower	259 lbs.
Cabbage	150 lbs.
Radish	134 lbs.
Peas	98 lbs.
Lettuce	49 lbs.
Beans	28 lbs.

General

A succession of disturbances amongst residents marked the first three months of the settlement's existence. The incidents seem to have been connected with transgression of native tribal laws; they were in no way demonstrations against European authority as such.

Cattle Project : Haasts Bluff

During the year, eight men trained at the station were employed as drovers on the stock routes as far afield as Queensland, and, although only two of them persevered to the end of the season, their action nevertheless constituted a significant change in the local pattern of social behaviour hitherto dominated by "walkabout" and similar tribal activities. At the close of the year five new boys had completed initial training.

The 1958/59 season was marked by a severe drought which brought prominently to notice the urgent need for more bores at strategic locations throughout the reserve, and by June 1959 two new successful drillings had been made at points 9 and 17 miles from the main homestead. Several other holes were put down but failed to strike water; however, the search for other suitable sites will continue under the supervision of geologists.

A lot of work on fencing was done during the year, particularly in the close neighbourhood of regular stock-watering points, and at the settlement where trap and branding yards were constructed.

Two new Kingstrand houses were erected by the carpenter and his team of trainees from Areyonga Settlement.

Livestock

Livestock in the numbers as shown below were held on the property in December 1958 :

Cattle	3,040
Horses	198
Goats	49
Fowls	11

During the year some 50,000 lbs. of beef were provided to Arnyonga Settlement and for most of the year supplies were kept up to the new settlement at Papunya also. However the adverse seasonal conditions caused the herds to scatter to more remote areas of the reserve where feed was available and the station was compelled to cease this service.

The cattle manager inspected areas in the Mt. Liebig district where parakelia is known to exist with the object of ascertaining the extent of these grazing areas. Cattle are able to exist in time of drought on this feed and, if fairly extensive tracts are in fact available, some difficulty may be experienced in returning the cattle to grazing sites nearer home.

ProductionMeat

Beef	49560 lbs.
Goat Mutton	530 lbs.

Other

Eggs	159 dozen
Milk	70 gallons

General

Now that the cattle project is an independent unit with headquarters at Haasts Bluff no further difficulty should be experienced in developing this project to the fullest extent possible.

YUENDUMU

Yuendumu, about 185 miles north-west of Alice Springs on the main road to Mt. Doreen and The Granites, has been the site of an aboriginal settlement for many years. Until the opening of Papunya in March 1959 it was the largest Government Settlement in the Northern Territory.

Population

The resident population includes representatives from the Wallbri, Pitjantjara, and Ngalia tribes, all of whom are still strongly affected by the traditional aboriginal way of life.

At 30th June, 1959, the resident population comprised;

Adult males	95	
Adult females	144	
Boys	87	
Girls	91	
	<hr/>	
Total	417	persons

However, owing to the extreme drought conditions which prevailed during 1958/59 the population in contact with the settlement remained in the vicinity of 700 persons and no reduction in this figure is likely until worthwhile rains have fallen.

Agriculture

An experiment which proved to be an outstanding success was the settling of a selected family on a plot of good farming land at Penhall's Bore, about 5 miles from the main settlement area. The produce from this farm was purchased for use at the settlement and quite a wide variety of vegetables were grown.

The financial success of this venture has prompted other natives to enquire whether they too can take up land in other suitable locations.

A kiln was built during the year in which small quantities of lime have already been burnt. There appears to be a ready market in Alice Springs for good quality lime and production over and above that required on the settlement will be sold there if possible.

A citrus orchard was planted and all trees appeared to be in good condition at the close of the year.

Considerable progress was made in the beautification programme at the main settlement site, especially in the central area where a fountain was erected and an ornamental garden laid out.

Construction

A start was made on the native-housing project and at 30th June, 1959, the brickwork of one house was completed and two other houses were in course of erection.

Extensive fencing operations were undertaken over a period of some months and as a result the boundary fence between Mt. Doreen Station and the settlement area was completed as far as the north-eastern corner. Work also began on fencing the horse paddock and preparations were made in the southern cattle-grazing area which, when fully fenced, will enable the Superintendent to run a small herd of cattle.

Water Supply

Both the quantity and quality of the drinking water in the immediate vicinity of the settlement site caused concern during the year. At one stage the mineral content was such as to render the water almost unfit for human consumption. This situation righted itself but the location of fresh water supplies in quantity is a matter of great urgency if large-scale developmental projects are to be undertaken.

Four bores were put down during 1958/59 but none was successful and a survey of the area was undertaken by officers from the Bureau of Mineral Resources whose report was being examined by the Water Use Branch, N.T.A., at the close of the year.

Production

Garden

Turnips	600 lbs.
Beetroot	400 lbs.
Cabbage	250 lbs.

Production contd.

Water Melon	205 lbs.
Maize	160 lbs.
Cucumber	111 lbs.
Onions	100 lbs.
Rock Melon	42 lbs.
Radish	40 lbs.
Pumpkin	30 lbs.
Triamble	30 lbs.
Silver Beet	25 lbs.
Tomatoes	25 lbs.

Other

Eggs	351 dozen
Milk	205 gallons
Fencing Posts	700 units (value £210)

Needlework

Towels	115 units
Infants' Nightgowns	100 units
Panties	68 units
Frocks - School	62 units
Women's	37 units
Ration Bags	50 units
Children's Overalls	49 units
Children's Pinafores	42 units
Pillow Cases	37 units
Shirts	22 units
Toilet Bags	18 units
Napkins	15 units
Boys' Shorts	14 units
Clothing Bags	12 units
Women's Nightgowns	8 units
Screen Curtains	4 units
Mattresses	2 units
Mosquito Net	1 unit

Total value of needlework : £378.10.0.

MISSION ACTIVITIES(i) LUTHERANHERMANSBURG

Hermannsburg Mission, established in 1877, was the first in the Northern Territory. It is located on the Finke River some 80 miles west-south-west of Alice Springs and operates as a pastoral property carrying about 3000 head of cattle.

Population

The mission lies in the tribal country of the Western Arandas, and most of the natives resident there belong to this tribe. However, the influence of the mission extends beyond these people to those served by the Government settlements at Haasts Bluff and Areyonga, both of which were out-stations of Hermannsburg until 1954.

At 30th June, 1959, the population comprised :

Adult males	130
Adult females	117
Boys	100
Girls	118
	<hr/>
Total	465
	<hr/>

Training

The women at the mission were encouraged to take up fancy-work and to this end a large number of traced tea-towels, aprons and cushion covers were bought. Ten women have taken quite a serious interest in this type of work.

Another avenue of employment was provided by the classes teaching leather and fur work. Since August 1958, 20 large rugs, 12 hearth rugs, 65 mats, and 100 pairs of moccasins were made.

The tannery continued operating during the year but, unfortunately, not to full capacity. This state of affairs must continue until the mission is able to obtain the services of a tanner prepared to spend all his time on the station.

Pastoral Project

As was the case elsewhere in central Australia, the mission's cattle-raising project was seriously affected by the drought conditions which prevailed throughout the year. The reduction in income which resulted brought in its train a slowing down in the native-housing programme, funds for which were seriously curtailed.

Water Supply

The search for a good water supply continued during 1958/59, but unsuccessfully. A bore close to the main buildings yielded a flow of 1800 gallons per hour but when tested was found to be unsuitable for any purpose at all. In all a total of 30 unsuccessful bores have been sunk to date.

Agriculture

A new garden covering approximately one acre was graded and prepared for planting. Difficulty is generally experienced in maintaining a sufficient supply of water during the summer months as the plants approach maturity; however, the following were already planted at the close of the year :

1100	Kohl Rabi
800	Silver Beet
540	Cabbages
114	Cauliflowers
14	Carrot beds
6	Red Beet beds
2	Lettuce seed beds
2	Cauliflower seed beds
1	Onion seed bed

Construction

A new meat-house was erected and plans made for the erection of a new kindergarten school. A missionary's residence was also completed in Alice Springs during the year.

(ii) ROMAN CATHOLICSANTA TERESA

Santa Teresa Mission is located about 56 miles south-east of Alice Springs and operates chiefly as a pastoral property where local natives are instructed in a wide range of stock-raising activities.

Population

Many of the people attached to the mission work on surrounding pastoral properties; however, its influence extends to approximately 400 people mainly from the East Aranda tribe.

At 30th June, 1959, the population comprised :

Adult males	45	
Adult females	55	
Boys	75	
Girls	85	
	<hr/>	
Total	260	persons
	<hr/>	

Pastoral Project

The pastoral project continued satisfactorily during the year. Trainees were given practical instruction in cattle handling and in the manufacture of gear necessary for such work.

Beasts slaughtered for local consumption numbered 450 goats and 90 cattle; 26 cattle were sold on the open market.

The mission was fortunate in receiving both early and late rains which restored the country to such a degree that the anxiety common elsewhere in central Australia during the 1958/59 season was not acutely felt at Santa Teresa.

The leather work produced at the mission continued to be of a very high standard and was much in demand locally. The sale of this work brought in £190. during 1958/59.

Agriculture

The utilisation of soil in the vicinity of the mission was seriously retarded by lack of good water. Most of the water located up to the present has proved too salt for use on a garden and until such time as better quality water is located little progress in agricultural development will be possible.

General

The facilities in the residential area at this mission are very good. Everybody is housed in well-constructed stone buildings and electric street lighting extends right throughout the area.

The school and hospital both functioned efficiently throughout the year under review.

More than 320 garments, including dresses for children and babies, were made by women attending the needlework classes held during the year.

GREGORY DISTRICTPatrol Staff

A Patrol Officer-in-Training was stationed in the District for a short period late in 1958, and a Patrol Officer was attached permanently to the district in March 1959. However, this latter officer spent most of his time on special duties concerned with Missions and on other non-routine activities with the result that, by and large, the bulk of inspection work was of necessity undertaken by the District Welfare Officer.

Patrols

Most pastoral properties in the district were inspected before the onset of the wet season in 1958. As a result of these inspections, which followed up those of 1957/58, the relationship between pastoralists in the area and the District Welfare Office was set on a better footing.

The value of combined patrols with the Police Department was shown by the excellent work performed by a Constable and a Patrol Officer who made an intensive drive against unsatisfactory living conditions at the Pine Creek township and in the adjacent buffalo country. Unemployed natives were found employment and families with children of school age were taken to Beswick Creek.

The efforts of these two officers restored order to an area which was becoming a problem centre owing to the congregation of natives in and around the mines and the resultant development of drinking and prostitution.

A follow-up inspection will be made before the next wet season commences.

The border of the Northern Territory and Western Australia requires more attention from Patrol Officers than it is possible to give at the present moment with the limited staff available.

One of the chief difficulties to be overcome is that posed by lack of uniformity in the regulations pertaining to natives in the two States. For example, in some cases natives, who move from one station to a neighbouring station in the other state, work and live under a different set of conditions regarding pay and housing, even though both properties are under the same ownership. There is also the problem posed by the movement of West Australian natives into the Northern Territory with drovers and other contractors. In many such cases the Branch has no knowledge of their presence and many unsatisfactory situations have arisen as a result.

This issue was being discussed with the Western Australian Authorities as the year closed.

Inspections were made during the year of Missions at Roper River and Groote Island.

Employment

Development of the beef export trade through Darwin created a strong demand for labour in the pastoral industry over the closing months of the year. There was also a strong demand for labour for town employment. It was found possible to meet the latter demand but not all of the former.

The number of men seeking positions carrying award rates of pay was greater than the number of positions available; however, it was pleasing to observe that the persons seeking these positions were imbued with a sense of thrift and a desire to improve their economic station in life. This attitude, unfortunately, was not so apparent amongst those who are still employed at the lower wage rates.

In many cases where wards were sufficiently skilled to demand award rates, it was not in their own or their family's interests that they should leave the lower-paid job where all facilities were available. This comment applies particularly to natives residing on settlements, where they are accommodated, fed and clothed and able to enjoy the excellent facilities available. It therefore follows that, unless accommodation facilities are expanded in towns such as Katherine, employment opportunities cannot be fully developed and exploited, and the very real problem of settlements becoming an end in themselves, rather than a means to an end, will be accentuated.

Two full-blood aborigines were employed by the Municipal Section during the year at award rates of pay. Prior to the engagement of these men, the Municipal Officer at Katherine had experienced difficulty in retaining the services of suitable and reliable persons for the work involved, but since appointing the two natives no such difficulty has occurred and both are giving satisfactory service.

Offences

In the Katherine Police Court during the year fifty four men and ten women were convicted on drinking charges; of these eight were charged with drinking rethylated spirits. Three Europeans and six part-coloured men were found guilty of supplying liquor to wards. Six men and four women were convicted on charges of fighting, assault or disorderly behaviour; three men were convicted of larceny, and one man was committed for trial on a charge of manslaughter. Two Europeans were found guilty of co-habitation with female wards.

Not all of the above offences occurred in Katherine township itself; many arose from incidents at Pine Creek, Mataranka, and Larrimah, and in the Roper River district.

There was an increase in the number of charges involving drinking as compared with the previous year; there was also an increase of four in the number of persons charged with supplying liquor. Despite these figures, however, it is the opinion of the District Welfare Officer at Katherine that in fact less drinking was done by the native population over the twelve months reviewed.

A part-coloured girl was found to be a neglected child and was committed to the care of the Director of Child Welfare.

Social Change

One of the two men employed by the Municipal Council arranged for his wife to proceed to Beswick Settlement with their child so that the latter could receive education. It is of importance to note that this action was taken voluntarily, without any prompting or suggestion from the District Welfare Officer; it is in line with the enlightened attitude towards education which has developed in Katherine over the last year amongst many of the native residents.

There has been a trend of late, among natives on award rates of pay and those receiving higher than the average rates paid to natives, to sit with the European audience when attending the picture theatre. This practice has not met with any opposition from either the public generally or the proprietor of the theatre.

There has been a marked improvement in the cleanliness and appearance of the natives generally in the town area.

SETTLEMENT ACTIVITIESBESWICK CREEK

Beswick Creek Settlement lies 250 miles south-east of Darwin via Katherine; the area is readily accessible by all-weather roads or by air.

A pastoral property at Beswick Station, lies another 20 miles on in an easterly direction from the settlement.

Population

The settlement is located in what was Jauan tribal country, which is now occupied mainly by Mbalkins and Rembarrngas.

At 30th June, 1959, the population comprised :

<u>At the Settlement</u>		<u>At the Station</u>		
Adult males	66	Adult males	28	
Adult females	91	Adult females	11	
Boys	71			
Girls	47			
	<hr/>	Total	39	persons
Total	275			persons
	<hr/>			

Employment and Training

Employment is available at the settlement on agricultural and building projects, routine repair and maintenance work, and at the station, on stockwork. Regular employment outside the immediate vicinity of the settlement was found for 15 men and 11 women.

A steady stream of requests for stockmen was received during the year, not all of which could be met.

Construction

One new staff residence was almost ready for occupation at the end of the financial year and erection of another had begun. The superintendent's house was repainted by two aboriginal painters during the year.

A septic toilet system was installed at the nursing sister's quarters and work on a water reticulation system was pushed forward as long as materials were available.

Five packaged Kingstrand houses arrived at the settlement late in the year and work on erecting them will start immediately, on sites already chosen and approved.

Agriculture and Horticulture

The spray lines at the garden have been extended thus bringing a larger area of land under cultivation.

Two plantings of citrus trees were made during the year. The second batch have not as yet made much progress owing to attacks by pests (including white ants); however, those planted earlier were flourishing and some were already carrying fruit.

The banana grove suffered severe damage caused, on the first occasion, by a wild pig and on the second by field mice. The pig was eventually destroyed but a satisfactory means of combatting the mice is still being sought.

A square mile of country to be sown with pasture grasses was selected and work had begun on clearing the area as the year drew to a close. Ploughing should start about December 1959.

Pastoral

Very good progress was made in developing the station during the twelve months under review, the culminating point being reached during the fourth quarter of the year when 319 bullocks were sold on the open market and 38 transferred to the settlement for local consumption. About 4,000 head of cattle were on the reserve at 30th June, 1959.

Fencing materials were delivered to the reserve in quantity and work proceeded on the making of paddocks for both stock and horses.

A new stallion was purchased during the year.

An excellent herd of pigs has been developed and efforts were made during the year to find a regular market for them in Darwin.

Pigs and goats on the settlement at the close of the year numbered 92 and 50 respectively.

Production

<u>Meat</u>	(Sales)	486 head (value £10,627)
	(Consumption)	56594 lbs.
<u>Fruit and Vegetables</u>		4400 lbs.
<u>Sorghum</u>		4000 lbs.
<u>Pigs</u>	(live)	39 (to other settlements)

Recreation

A cricket pitch has been put down at the settlement and an attempt will now be made to introduce this game during the coming year.

General

Generally speaking, the behaviour of all residents both at the settlement and the station has been good. No major incidents requiring police intervention were recorded.

HOOKER CREEK

Hooker Creek Reserve lies on the southern extremity of the Victoria River District immediately south of Wave Hill Station. It is approximately 400 air miles south-west of Darwin. It has a two-way airstrip and a weekly mail service is provided by Connellan Airways from Alice Springs. It may also be reached by a diversion of the weekly mail run made between Darwin and Derby by MacRobertson Miller Airlines. Radio contact is maintained with the Flying Doctor base, Wyndham, and the transceiver is also fitted with the Department of Civil Aviation frequency.

Population

The people served by this settlement are mainly northern Wailbris who have tribal affiliations with the wards at both Warra-bri and Yuendumu.

During the year under review 70 people were transferred from the two latter settlements to take up permanent residence at Hooker Creek. Despite this, however, migration out of the settlement and an excess of deaths over births resulted in an increase of only 26 in the total population compared with that recorded on 30th June 1958.

At 30th June 1959 the population comprised :

Adult males	52	
Adult females	86	
Boys	27	
Girls	31	
	<hr/>	
Total	196	persons
	<hr/>	

Amongst the children a break-down by age-group revealed :

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
over 14 years	-	4	4
7 yrs - 13 yrs	9	12	21
1 yr - 6 yrs	16	12	28
less than 1 yr	2	3	5
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	27	31	58
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Employment and Training

All adult males were kept in employment on the settlement proper or on neighbouring pastoral properties. The latter group included 15 stockmen, 10 station hands, and 5 drovers; 6 women were employed as domestics.

Three cadet stockmen who finished their training during the year were found regular employment off the settlement and three new lads were sent out to the stock camp in their place.

Two men reached a fair standard of competency in bricklaying and a native trained in plant maintenance took over responsibility for the daily maintenance of all stationary engines (except mill machinery) on the settlement.

Other training given during the year was in vehicle maintenance, care and handling of livestock, butchering, cooking, gardening, hygiene, and mill maintenance.

A fencing crew trained by the settlement ganger reached the stage where they could be left to carry out all types of work in this field without supervision.

Remuneration for work done is now sought by everyone employed at the settlement and the old system of equal pay for all workers has been abolished. Rates of pay vary from 5/- to £4. per week and all employees now realise that they are paid in accordance with what they actually do, not with what they are employed as.

Construction

A road to Nongra Lake was well on the way to completion at the close of the year.

A meathouse, a cowyard, a piggery, and a slaughter yard were constructed during the year and work on two concrete-brick staff residences was started. Foundations for one of two ablution blocks were laid.

A new stockyard was built at Walumali Rockhole in the south-west corner of the Reserve.

Agriculture

Absence of equipment has prevented the development of training schemes in this field. The garden spray equipment was installed only in June and production for the year was less than that grown during 1957/58.

Work is proceeding in preparing a suitable site for an orchard. Twenty-four holes for trees were dug but will be left for some time to consolidate before any trees are planted. This area has been partly fenced.

An experimental plot of sorghum was grown and the yield proved that this crop will grow under seasonal conditions without supplementary watering. An area of 80 acres was being ploughed at the close of the year in readiness for a wet-season planting during 1959/60.

A buffel grass nursery was established to discover the most suitable buffel seed for the area. It now appears likely that Birdwood grass will give the best results but lack of suitable equipment made impossible any large-scale pasture restoration and improvement programme.

Lucerne was grown but not very successfully.

Livestock

An experienced stockman was appointed in February 1959 and immediately set about mustering. As a result, 297 beasts were branded, comprising 81 bullocks, 66 steers, 3 bulls, 75 cows, and 72 heifers.

The pastoral project envisaged last year could not be put into operation owing to the non-arrival of the 200 breeders promised and the loss of 30 stock horses which were transferred to Beswick Station.

Five stud bulls were introduced to the herd during the year.

The pig project is progressing well. There were 21 pigs on hand at the end of the year, after 37 had been reared and consumed at the settlement during the year.

The poultry flock numbered 63 birds.

ProductionMeat

Beef	32000 lbs.
Goat mutton	1365 lbs.
Poultry	230 lbs.
Dripping	208 gallons

Production contd.Vegetables

Tomatoes	3906 lbs.
Pumpkin	1464 lbs.
Cabbage	980 lbs.
Melon: Water	821 lbs.
Rock	194 lbs.
Beans	230 lbs.
Cucumber	200 lbs.
Beetroot	73 lbs.
Lettuce	64 lbs.
Carrots	64 lbs.
Peas	41 lbs.

Other

Milk - Goat	730 gallons
Eggs	609 dozen
Fish	112 lbs.
Buffel Seed	20 lbs.
Sorghum	6 bushels
Hobble Straps	200 units
Hide Ropes	50 units

Recreation

The showing of films was most popular but the lack of a separate recreational hut was keenly felt. The isolation of the settlement restricts opportunities to engage in competitive events and for that reason no organized European-type sports have been introduced.

The social event of the year was provided by a visit to Wyndham for the race meeting held in August/September 1958. This trip undoubtedly broadened the horizon of many natives who undertook it, and has already shown benefit in that there is a new approach to the acceptance of employment on stations lying to the north of Hooker Creek Reserve.

A highlight of the visit was an organized inspection tour of the meat boat m.v. "PORT TOWNSVILLE"; many of the visitors in the party had never before seen a ship.

The canteen was very popular and has proved of value in giving local natives practice in handling money and some understanding of its significance and value in a European society.

MISSION ACTIVITIESCHURCH MISSIONARY SOCIETYGROOTE EYLANDT

Groote Eylandt lies off the east coast of Arnhem Land. It is a large island, 937 square miles in area, and on it are located two mission stations. The settlement bearing the same name as the island is located on the central-west coast five miles from the mouth of the Anurngu River. The second mission station, named Umbakumba, is on the north-eastern tip of the island.

Provisioning of these stations is accomplished by means of two vessels based on the mission station at Roper River; a small boat, built at the mission during the year, is also on hand to assist with unloading operations.

Population

Tribal influences are still important on Groote Eylandt although many of the traditional social patterns are breaking down. There were some localised disturbances during the year under review which had their origin in opposition by some of the native population to official policy in respect of marriages.

At 30th June, 1959, the resident population comprised :

Adult males	81	
Adult females	83	
Boys	92	
Girls	122	
	<hr/>	
Total	378	persons
	<hr/>	

Training

Good progress was made with the sewing classes. Senior girls were taught to use sewing machines and some to knit.

Boys were kept employed making paper knives from tortoise shell and on other handicraft work.

Money received from the sale of these items was applied to buying extras for use in the school.

Small agricultural projects have been started to introduce the young men living in the dormitories to agricultural work. The yield from the small garden maintained by them has been quite encouraging and included pawpaws, pineapples, custard apples, bananas, trombones, and water melons.

A similar project is planned for the girls and preliminary work has already been put in hand.

Outstanding work has been done by the officer responsible for mechanical training. All machinery installed at the mission is in first-class condition and a class for young men has been organised. Tasks performed locally have included welding, repair and maintenance to existing buildings, and the erection of a steel-frame workshop. Repairs were made to the tractor and some spare parts manufactured. A gulletting machine has been made for use in the maintenance of circular saws and at the close of the year a trailer for use at Umbakumba was under construction.

Agriculture and Horticulture

The material development at the mission is now quite extensive. A vast amount of work was undertaken in clearing new areas for agricultural and horticultural projects and more than 500 pawpaw and mango trees were planted during the year. Banana suckers received from Yirrkala Mission are also well established.

The water supply has been augmented following the purchase of new pumping equipment which is capable of delivering 8,640 gallons per day to the storage tank.

Losses to market-garden produce caused by insect infestations during the growing season were severe on many crops, particularly the tomato plants, the yield from which during 1958/59 was practically nil.

Towards the close of the year new irrigation equipment arrived at the mission and it is anticipated that good crops will be grown during the coming season.

Dry conditions caused a falling-off in the mission's annual milk production, but the goat herd was maintained and consisted of 75 animals at the close of the year.

The poultry farm had a successful season during which chickens were supplied to neighbouring C.M.S. missions and prizes won with the birds exhibited at the Darwin Show. Some losses have occurred which have been attributed to attacks made by native cats.

Some pigs are still kept but the cost of feeding them has become excessive and they will be disposed of as opportunity offers.

Saw-milling

Timber cut while preparing the new garden area was used in the newly-built sawmill. The erection of this mill was a major task included in which was involved the building of a welded steel frame.

A diesel engine to supply power was installed and the mill is now in full operation.

Production

Seafood

Fish	16595 lbs.
Turtle and Dugong	1641 lbs.

Garden

Fruit	4747 lbs.
Greens	102 lbs.
Beans, Peas, etc.	103 lbs.
Potatoes	100 lbs.
Other vegetables	228 lbs.

Meat

Beef	6636 lbs.
Pork	880 lbs.
Poultry	280 lbs.
Goat	60 lbs.

Other

Eggs - Hen	1670 dozen
Turtle	90 dozen
Fodder Seed	32 lbs.
Milk	300 gallons
Timber	24,300 super feet

General

Religious instruction is given at the meetings and services which form an integral part of mission activities.

The Bishop of Carpentaria called at the settlement during the year. Groote Eylandt was the location chosen for a conference attended by clergy from all Church Missionary Society establishments.

ROPER RIVER

The Roper River Mission is situated in the south-eastern corner of Arnhem Land about 30 miles from the river mouth and 20 miles from the Roper River Bar where a police station has been established. It is the depot from which other Church Missionary Society mission stations in the area are provisioned.

Population

The mission lease covers approximately 230 square miles and lies in country occupied by Nungubuyu, Mara, and Ridarrungu tribesmen. Most of the people in contact with this mission station have become detribalised and since the opening of Rose River Mission in 1952 the number of natives influenced by Roper River Mission has declined considerably.

At 30th June, 1959, the resident population comprised :

Adult males	49	
Adult females	52	
Boys	94	
Girls	65	
	<hr/>	
Total	260	persons
	<hr/>	

Training

Senior boys from the school attend instruction courses in carpentry and mechanics. During the latter course a grader was made from odds and ends which were lying idle in the mission area.

Agriculture

A reasonably successful year can be reported in this field. A buffel-grass nursery was begun and became well established; several collections of seed were made and other nurseries elsewhere on the station were flourishing at the close of the year.

A stock and pasture survey was conducted by officers from the Agricultural Branch and a visit was also paid to the mission by an expert in soil-erosion control.

Shipbuilding

A barge under construction at the beginning of the financial year was completed and put into service. It was equipped with both inboard and outboard engines as well as a mast and sail.

Pastoral Project

A cattle manager has been appointed to direct work on the cattle project in the Roper River area. A Land Rover was purchased to enable him to move about the district, and the recent arrival of a good bull should enable this particular project to make significant progress in the coming year.

ProductionMeat

Beef	69920 lbs.
Goat	1620 lbs.
Poultry	76 lbs.
Pork	40 lbs.

Garden

Fruit	11444 lbs.
Greens	973 lbs.
Beans, Peas, etc.	288 lbs.
Potatoes	2248 lbs.
Other vegetables	1243 lbs.
Sorghum	1970 lbs.

Seafood:

Fish	640 lbs.
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Other

Eggs - Hen	3247 dozen
Milk	340 gallons

General

The year 1958/59 was marked by celebrations connected with the mission's 50th Anniversary of service to the native population in the Roper River district.

A special convention was held at the site of the original mission buildings, a re-enactment of the landing 50 years ago took place, and special film evenings were organised. Many visitors were received during this festive period.

Normal missionary activities included the introduction at Christmas of a series of tableaux depicting the Christmas story.

Difficulty is still being experienced in having the people accept Christian concepts of marriage and a considerable amount of work remains to be done in this field.

Plans have been made to erect a new church and repairs and maintenance were carried out on the existing building as opportunity offered during the year.

ROSE RIVER

This mission station is located at the mouth of the Rose River which flows into the Gulf of Carpentaria between Caledon Bay and the Roper River estuary. The surrounding country is occupied by the Nungubuyu tribe, members of which comprise the entire population served by the station. An airstrip capable of handling planes up to the size of Dakotas has been prepared about two miles north-west of the mission buildings, and the mission provision-ships which operate from the Church Missionary Society headquarters on the Roper River provide another means of gaining access.

Population

During 1958/59 there was a marked increase in the number of people in residence at the mission. After five months of settling

in it now appears that they will settle in well and assist materially in forwarding the local works programme.

At 30th June, 1959, the resident population comprised :

Adult males	59	
Adult females	63	
Boys	53	
Girls	49	
	<hr/>	
Total	224	persons

Training and Employment

Considerable quantities of baskets and mats have been exported for sale and native craftsmen have been encouraged to work on artifacts such as carved spearheads, bullroarers, model spears, etc.

Logging

A bush fire destroyed some timber in the vicinity of the mission station thus reducing output compared with 1957/58; this project provided work and training for many men. The present practice is to employ the married men on cutting and logging operations whilst the single men are employed on actual milling.

Construction

A new 5,000-gallon tank was erected for use as the native-camp water supply and additional work is in hand to provide improved facilities for washing and showering. New toilet facilities were installed and instruction in their correct use given.

Five new native dwellings were completed and others repainted; work began on quarters for single men, and washing facilities were installed at the hospital and nursing sister's residence.

Whilst timber was still in plentiful supply work continued on a large staff residence and linings were put into existing houses. Many natives assisting the carpenter showed aptitude for this type of work.

Agriculture

The return from the garden during the year was not as high as expected despite the immense amount of hard work which was put into preparing the area. When the prolonged dry spell gave way to rain large-scale plantings were made of tomatoes, bananas, pineapples, and sweet potatoes.

Livestock

There was an increase in the number of goats on the station during the year and goat mutton was used as a supplementary food.

Production

Seafood

Turtle and Dugong	38323 lbs.
Fish	4804 lbs.

Production contd.Garden

Fruit and Nuts	5691 lbs.
Beans, Peas, etc.	62 lbs.
Potatoes	257 lbs.
Other Vegetables	94 lbs.
Sorghum	80 lbs.
Maize	29 lbs.
Fodder Seeds	200 lbs.

Meat

Goat	318 lbs.
Poultry	66 lbs.

Other

Eggs - Hen	179 dozen
Turtle	65 dozen
Milk	1040 gallons
Timber	15626 super feet

General

The chaplain has spent much time on translating the Scriptures and some choruses into the local tongue. Bible classes are attended by both the staff and native population and the attendance at these meetings is regularly good.

An event of major advantage to the mission's existence has been the ability of the master of the provisions ship to bring supplies right to the mission where they can be unloaded without having recourse to double handling and the extra travelling which had been necessary previously.

UMBAKUMBA

Umbakumba is the youngest of the Church Missionary Society missions in North Australia, the site of the mission having been taken over from a private individual only 18 months ago. The settlement lies on the north-eastern tip of Groote Eylandt.

As with other Church Missionary Society missions on the Gulf of Carpentaria the station is provisioned by stores ships operating out from Roper River Mission.

Population

At 30th June, 1959, the resident population comprised :

Adult males	42	
Adult females	38	
Boys	43	
Girls	52	
	<hr/>	
Total	175	persons
	<hr/>	

Employment

The arrival in October of equipment for the sawmill opened up a new field of employment and once milling operations began material was made available for constructional work on a dining room and kitchen under the school, a bedroom, and a room where handicrafts can be taught.

Bark paintings, carved objects, spear heads and shells have been prepared and despatched to Sydney for ultimate sale.

Agriculture

An area considered suitable for development as a garden was located four miles from the settlement, and after an inspection by an agricultural expert confirmed the choice of site, clearing operations began. Dry leaves were collected and dug in, superphosphate added, and crops of peanuts, sorghum, and tomatoes planted. Some difficulty was experienced owing to insect infestations but generally speaking the plantings have justified the labour involved.

Livestock

A herd of goats supplied milk, and poultry sent from Groote Eylandt Mission ensured a steady supply of eggs. Enquiries are being made regarding a market in Darwin (or elsewhere) for turkeys. There are also many cattle roaming on the island and a cattle yard was built to retain 13 beasts recently rounded up.

At the 30th June, 1959, a count of other livestock on and around the station revealed : 88 goats; 14 pigs; 32 fowls (20 hens); 7 turkeys (1 gobbler); 4 cows (with calves); 2 bulls.

Production

Seafoods

Fish	7970 lbs.
Turtle and Dugong	1740 lbs.

Garden

Fruit	1742 lbs.
Greens	111 lbs.
Beans, Peas, etc.	16 lbs.
Potatoes	143 lbs.
Other vegetables	50 lbs.

Meat

Pork	720 lbs.
Goat	840 lbs.
Poultry	4 lbs.
Game	480 lbs.

Other

Eggs - Hen	282 dozen
Turtle	67 dozen
Milk	630 gallons
Timber	11118 super feet

General

In spite of difficulties inseparable from the task of developing a new area, progress made over the year was satisfactory.

As yet, the local population have not fully settled into the mission routine and it has been necessary to supervise all work being done at all times.

In August 1958 an official party visited the area in search of water and suitable sites for the raising of dams.

An outboard motor which arrived towards the end of the financial year facilitated movement and has made possible regular contact with people living elsewhere on the bay.

LEICHHARDT DISTRICTPatrol Staff

Three Patrol Officers-in-Training were appointed late in 1958 and, following a short induction course in Darwin, were posted to field centres.

Following the resignation of the Manager of Beswick Station, one Patrol Officer-in-Training took over these duties for several weeks, pending the appointment of the new full-time Manager. The others remained on patrol duties in and around Darwin, where later they were joined by a Cadet Patrol Officer.

The three new Patrol Officers-in-Training proceeded to the Australian School of Pacific Administration, Sydney, in January 1959.

Following the successful completion of their course at A.S.O.P.A., three other Patrol Officers and one Cadet Patrol Officer returned to duty in Darwin for a period before being re-posted. During his term of duty in Leichhardt District one of these Patrol Officers relieved the Settlement Superintendent at Maningrida Settlement, thus enabling the officer concerned to proceed on recreation leave. During this same period the newly-appointed Cadet Patrol Officer who accompanied him received three months training in settlement duties.

Early in 1959 another Patrol Officer-in-Training was appointed to the Leichhardt District. This officer, assisted by a Welfare Officer, has maintained a continuous and close survey of natives living in close proximity to the Stuart Highway between Darwin and Adelaide River.

Patrols

Patrols to the Daly River area were conducted as frequently as possible and contact was maintained in the Adelaide River and Batchelor Districts. The latter area was visited fortnightly to coincide with the local pay day, and considerably assisted the Batchelor Police Officer in maintaining law and order among the native population. The Cape Don and Cobourg Peninsula areas were also patrolled.

Town patrols were maintained throughout the year, particularly on Wednesday evenings, when the natives usually attend the local picture theatre. Night patrols were carried out regularly by two Welfare Officers, one male and one female, who did valuable work in and around the Parap, Stuart Park and Winnellie areas where social problems, and in particular those affecting juveniles and child neglect, were dealt with. Special patrols were organized over the Christmas/New Year period.

For much of the year, the Patrol Officers' activities were limited to areas where it was possible to take a conventional-drive vehicle, although the Central Transport Authority co-operated to the limit of their ability in providing four-wheel-drive vehicles whenever possible.

The District Welfare Officer made regular visits to Delissaville, Snake Bay and Maningrida Settlements, and was also able to make a brief inspection of Croker Island, Goulburn Island, and Oenpelli Missions.

Employment

Demand for labour fluctuated according to the season but generally speaking it exceeded supply. The demand for labour has been accentuated by the development of the beef export trade from the port of Darwin and also by the development of the city itself.

Trained domestic staff are in critically short supply, and many more women could be placed if they were available; however, supply is limited by such factors as unsuitability of accommodation as well as by the transitory habits of many of the natives themselves.

Considerable difficulty was experienced in filling labour demands received from the pastoral industry in late 1958 and early 1959. In fact, vacancies still existed at the close of the year, although an airlift of employees and families from Port Keats Mission to adjacent properties was organized to help alleviate the position.

This is the first occasion on which a large-scale movement of this nature has occurred, and judging from reports received, it has proved successful.

Employment on settlements continued to increase, principally as the result of increased operations at the milling project at Snake Bay and to developmental work being put in hand at Maningrida. One effect of this has been a lowering in the supply of labour for other areas and this year, for the first time, the Defence Services, who employ relatively large groups of wards, could not obtain their full labour requirements.

There is still a constant demand for aboriginal men in town areas as permanent or casual employees. Natives awaiting repatriation after medical treatment have no difficulty in obtaining short-term employment at rates of pay which enable them to return home with some funds in hand.

Offences

During the period under review, a total of two hundred and thirty two wards were charged before the Court, compared with two hundred and two in the previous year and one hundred and eighty in 1956/57. Of these, one hundred and thirty four were fined and ninety eight received gaol sentences.

One hundred and seventy one of these charges were for drinking liquor (compared with one hundred and fifteen for the previous year) and twelve were for drinking methylated spirits (compared with twenty three for the previous year).

Four men appeared on charges of resisting arrest and two for hindering the police which may suggest a trend of behaviour amongst natives resident in the Darwin district which will need careful handling. All six of these cases arose out of incidents at the Bagot Settlement where a Police Officer was obstructed while endeavouring to arrest a person under the influence of liquor.

This is not the first time that natives have been arrested for resisting arrests; however, it is the first time that charges of hindering the police have been made. The persons hindering were not under the influence of liquor, but out of sympathy for their colleagues they did everything possible to make the arresting constable's task difficult.

Social Change

Unfortunately, the natives who were admitted to the Citizens Military Force in Darwin failed to show continued interest and because of absences from parades and other omissions, the Army decided to discharge them. Their failure to measure up to the required stan-

dards of efficiency may have been due in part to lack of application and concentration by the men themselves, and also to the fact that it was not possible for Welfare Officers to devote sufficient personal interest, and to give sufficient encouragement or to instruct them more fully regarding their responsibilities to the Military Forces.

Twenty-four school children from Delissaville Settlement visited Darwin just before Christmas as the guests of children attending the United Church Sunday School. In past years the children from the Sunday School have visited Delissaville; this was the first occasion on which the children from the settlement have come to Darwin for the Christmas party.

On the weekend of the 23rd/24th August 1953, the Delissaville natives invited Dr. G. Tinnett of the Department of Health to attend an initiation ceremony at the settlement. The natives were impressed with the interest and advice given by Dr. Tinnett, and have requested that a representative of the Department of Health be present on future occasions.

Public Relations

The Welfare Branch again staged an exhibit in the 1953 Darwin Show and gained second prize for its entry. The stall was completely and attractively built by trainees under the direction of the carpenter from Nagot Settlement.

During February 1953, twenty-five native dancers from Darwin, Snake Bay and Delissaville visited Alice Springs to participate in the local "Bang Tail Muster" celebrations. The dancing ability of these northern natives, together with certain unique features of their corroborees, created a very favourable impression and their performance was one of the highlights of the celebrations.

SETTLEMENT ACTIVITIES

NAGOT

The settlement at Nagot, on the outskirts of Darwin, continues to serve a somewhat different purpose from settlements elsewhere and, in so doing, poses problems peculiar to its location and function. In addition to accommodating wards in transit to outlying districts after receiving medical treatment in Darwin, Nagot provides for a resident population of wards of various tribal affiliations who have come to regard the Darwin area as their home. There is also a transient population comprising both men and women who visit Darwin for personal reasons, on vacation, or for weekends, and seek accommodation close to the town for the duration of their stay.

For the convenience of the first group, Nagot provides temporary accommodation, rations, and a place to convalesce if necessary. For the permanent residents who make up the second group, the settlement provides housing, education and health services, recreational facilities and vocational guidance, and training in cooking, vehicle driving and maintenance, gardening and poultry farming.

The main importance of Nagot in respect of the third group is that it provides suitable transient accommodation and helps to avoid the setting up of small camps lacking adequate supervision or control.

Population

The average number living at Bagot during 1958/59 was 277; the maximum for the year was 296 and the minimum 255. In the period between 1st March 1959 and 30th June, 1959, repatriation was arranged for 195 people.

There were five serious incidents at the settlement which required the attention of the Darwin Police. There were two incidents each of which involved the death of one native; another brought a charge of occasioning grievous bodily harm, and two other persons were charged with resisting arrest.

The practice of drinking has declined within the bounds of the reserve but still constitutes a major problem of control outside it.

Employment

The employment figures at the settlement proper ranged from a maximum of 33 men and 8 women to a minimum of 24 men and 2 women. These persons are engaged on maintenance and essential services for which they receive a weekly wage of £3.10.0. for males and £1.15.0. for females.

Training

Training courses were conducted in cooking, hygiene, medical orderly work and motor-vehicle maintenance.

Production

The nature of the settlement at Bagot and its location precludes development of any large-scale agricultural projects. However, production of vegetables for the kitchen during the year totalled -

<u>Fruit</u>		<u>Vegetables</u>	
Bananas	2037 lbs.	Tomatoes	1127 lbs.
Pawpaw	1507 lbs.	English cabbage	598 lbs.
Pineapples	287 lbs.	Chinese cabbage	455 lbs.
		Pumpkin	220 lbs.

An important development has been the establishment during the year of large pawpaw and banana plantations, the former being equal to any in the near neighbourhood of Darwin.

A new Ferguson tractor has been delivered and has materially assisted the work done in the garden area.

Recreation

A projection box and a permanent screen have been installed in the recreation hall and facilities for indoor sports have been provided in the form of material for bowls, table tennis, darts, quoits, etc.

The football team which finished fourth in the local Australian Rules competition contained many players drawn from Bagot.

The basketball players fielded two sides, the 'A'-grade team finishing the season third and the 'B'-grade team fourth. A member of the former team was second in the goal-throwing table. A side was also fielded in the women's basketball competition and although not particularly successful the appearance of this full-blood women's team constitutes an important step forward in the assimilation programme.

There are 13 boys enrolled as Wolf Cubs or Boy Scouts; all of the latter have passed their tenderfoot badge.

General

The practice of charging for meals supplied to residents using the settlement kitchen was instituted in August 1958. This system is now working satisfactorily and by the close of the year a total of £1,208.2.0. had been collected from the sale of meal tickets.

DELISSAVILLE

Delissaville lies on the western side of Darwin Harbour. It is not within a proclaimed reserve and a detour road has been constructed around the settlement to obviate the need for people travelling to West Point to pass through the area. There is no regular air service but an airstrip suitable for light planes is kept in usable condition.

Population

At 30th June 1959 the resident population comprised :

Adult males	66	
Adult females	39	
Boys	34	
Girls	23	
	<hr/>	
Total	162	persons

Employment

During the year under review a party of 16 men were employed for some months at the salt pans near Darwin at a wage of £4. a day. Otherwise employment was largely confined to settlement maintenance and essential services.

Training

The present training programme for young men centres chiefly on agricultural work and the care of livestock; for young women there are courses in home management, home nursing, and child welfare.

The following articles of clothing were made by female wards working under supervision of the part-time Matron:

Towels	150
Boxer Shorts	30 pairs
Petticoats	25
Sun frocks (girls)	20
Pants	24 pairs
Napkins	24
Shirts	30
Hospital nightgowns	20
Frocks (women's)	20
Jackets	12

Production

<u>Garden:</u>	Snake beans	1385 lbs.
	Tomatoes	1206 lbs.
	Water Melons	540 lbs.

Production contd.

	Trombones	343 lbs.
	Cucumbers	120 lbs.
	Pumpkin	73 lbs.
	Peanuts	5 bags
<u>Other</u>	Goats milk	340 pints
	Fish	445 lbs.
	Turtle	130 lbs.
	Wild Pig	395 lbs.

Recreation

A party of dancers drawn from the Waigait tribesmen residing at Delissaville performed at the Bang **Tail Muster** held at Alice Springs during the year.

The social club, which plays a major part in life on this settlement, has continued to function satisfactorily. Men from the settlement regularly play with sides competing in Darwin's football competition.

General

The road linking Delissaville and Darwin has been repaired and new substantial bridge built at Tumbling Waters.

MANINGRIDA

Maningrida lies on the estuary of the Liverpool River in north-central Arnhem Land about 250 air miles from Darwin. It is accessible by sea and air only.

This outpost has been in operation for only two years and to date has functioned as a trading and medical depot rather than a full-scale settlement. However developmental work already completed and currently in hand will, in the foreseeable future, make possible the provision of facilities equal to those available to natives in more developed areas of the Northern Territory.

Population

The population comprises mainly Burera, Nakara, and Gunavidji tribesmen. The average number in contact with the settlement during the year under review was 320.

At 30th June 1959, the resident population comprised :

Adult males	83	
Adult females	109	
Boys	66	
Girls	71	
	<hr/>	
Total	329	persons
	<hr/>	

Construction

A temporary residence for use by the Assistant Manager and a bush building suitable to accommodate up to four single men were erected during the year. Both are very substantial buildings and should be in use for some years.

Airstrip

Work on the airstrip continued and by June 1959 had proceeded to the point that the field could be licensed to take aircraft as large as the Aerial Medical Service's de Havilland Dove.

Further extensions of the strip to make it suitable for aircraft as large as D.C.3's will be difficult owing to the nature of the soil which would require a great deal of consolidation.

Employment

The practice of crediting workers with wages was discontinued during 1958/59 and a system of cash payment put into regular operation. In contrast to settlements elsewhere, however, the natives at Maningrida are engaged primarily in hunting, fishing, and other like pursuits rather than on tasks within the confines of the settlement.

Production

An agricultural area has been prepared and many types of plants and trees are being grown as part of an experimental project. Of current interest is the growth of tropical apple trees, navel and Valencia orange trees, limes, giant loquats, Queensland nuts, avocados, coffee plants, and grenadillas.

A coconut grove has been established along the foreshore and, despite a setback caused by flooding during the last wet season, good progress is being made in establishing the grove.

Eggfruit from the settlement took first, second, and third prizes at the 1958 Darwin Show.

Production details are as under :

<u>Garden</u>	Beans	1530 lbs.
	Pawpaw	1009 lbs.
	Pumpkin	780 lbs.
	Tomatoes	535 lbs.
	Cucumber	448 lbs.
	Rock Melon	393 lbs.
	Eggfruit	370 lbs.
	Sweetcorn	50 lbs.
	Bananas	30 dozen
	<u>Seafoods</u>	Turtle
Fish		758 lbs.
Crab		365 lbs.
Dugong		295 lbs.

A riverfront area which appears well-suited to market gardening has been found about three miles from the settlement and will be exploited at the first opportunity.

General

The radio transceiver at the settlement broke down in November and in order that communications could be restored it was necessary to send a party by canoe to Goulburn Island. This journey took two days of arduous travel.

Visits were made to the settlement during the year by officers of the C. S. I. R. O. Soil Research Branch, Water Use Branch Northern Territory Administration, and the Commonwealth Department of Works. A research scholar from the National University, Canberra, completed his

initial twelve months of field work and returned south; a dental research scientist spent some weeks at the settlement and in the surrounding area.

SNAKE BAY

Snake Bay, on the north coast of Melville Island, is approximately 70 air miles from Darwin. The settlement, located on the western shore of the bay, provides housing, health and education services, and training facilities in agriculture, forestry, fishing, mechanics and carpentry.

The number of people at the settlement fluctuates owing partly to population movement between Snake Bay Settlement and the mission station on nearby Bathurst Island, and partly to the relative proximity of Darwin where outside employment is available.

The Melville and Bathurst Islanders have an identical culture, language, and social pattern, and are known collectively as Tiwds.

Population

The total population at the settlement approximated 170 during the year, and as at the 30th June, 1959, comprised :

Adult males	61	
Adult females	60	
Boys	25	
Girls	19	
	<hr/>	
Total	165	persons

The above figures excluded 12 persons merely visiting Snake Bay, and 7 who had been committed to the settlement for disciplinary purposes.

Employment

The maximum number of people employed at the settlement during the year was 44 men and 15 women; the minimum was 41 men and 11 women. In addition, there were 13 men and 2 women regularly employed in Darwin.

The average wage paid to people working on the settlement was £1.1.6. for men and 12s 3d. for women.

The distribution of workers by age group was as follows :

Under 20 years of age	10	
20 - 30 years of age	12	
30 - 40 years of age	14	
Over 40, excluding hunters	23	
	<hr/>	
Total	59	persons

Of these people four men and two women could read and write, and five others could write their own name.

There were six fishermen whose total earnings amounted to £158.19.6. and a group of women employed collecting oysters, crabs and similar seafoods earned £80.10.6.

The regular teacher's assistant on Snake Bay, herself an ex-pupil of the school, is now receiving £3.10.0. per week, and another lad was undergoing on-the-job training in this field at the close of the year.

Training

The following courses were held; attendances were as shown:

Carpentry course	3 men
Mechanic's course	1 man
Cooking course	1 man
Hospital Assistant's course	1 man

Production - Garden

<u>Fruit</u>		<u>Vegetables</u>	
Melon; Water	4088 lbs.	Cabbage	325 lbs.
Rock	704 lbs.	Radish	297 lbs.
Pineapples	99 lbs.	Pumpkin	230 lbs.
		Tomatoes	213 lbs.
		Beans	131 lbs.
		Cucumbers	28 lbs.

Wet-season crops of water melon, rock melon, peanuts and sorghum were planted but all except the water-melon crop failed.

Dry-season crops have been planted but the shortage of water for irrigation purposes curtailed production.

Plantings made at the 30th June, 1959, were -

Cashew-nut	300 trees
Mangoes	200 "
Pawpaw	150 "
Jackfruit	50 "
Coconut	36 palms
Citrus	16 trees

The area in the vicinity of the settlement was surveyed by Water Use Branch during the year.

Livestock

There are 11 pigs and 28 goats on the settlement.

Logging

The saw-mill has been completely overhauled and rebuilt for which purpose 7,000 super feet of cypress pine was cut. Logs cut for use on other projects totalled 480 from which 9,000 super feet of timber were milled.

Sufficient hardwood is standing within 8 miles of the mill to satisfy settlement demands over many years to come.

Cypress stands have been largely cut out from the vicinity of the settlement and journeys of up to 23 sea miles or 40 land miles (by dry-weather road only) are necessary to reach suitable trees. Plantings of seedlings from this year's crop will be made from young trees already collected.

Scrub capable of producing up to 50,000 super feet of timber suitable for joinery work has been sighted close to the settlement.

Water Supply

A cement wall has been built to prevent the sea water from contaminating the fresh-water supply and has proved quite effective except when an occasional very high tide occurs.

The present fresh-water supply is sufficient for domestic and settlement purposes except that agriculture is restricted to a $\frac{1}{4}$ -acre area of garden.

Construction

A new kitchen was completed in September and three meals per day are now provided to all residents. Two cooks received training at Bagot and two bush ovens are now regularly in use.

A coolroom was also completed and came into operation during the year.

Other new constructions included a welded-frame garage, one staff residence, an office and a canteen building.

Airstrip

The airstrip was closed for three months whilst improvements were being made to the runway which was widened by 250 ft. and lengthened by 1,000 ft. in order that D.C.3 aircraft could safely use it.

This work involved the removal of some 10,000 trees and employed 14 men full time for ten weeks.

The strip reopened in February 1959.

Recreation

The natives in this area prefer fishing and hunting. Fourteen canoes are kept at the settlement and are regularly used at weekends. Transport for hunting trips to suitable locations is also arranged.

An athletic meeting was held on New Year's Day but generally speaking European-type team sports cannot be readily organised at the settlement owing to the difficulty of finding sufficient players to make up two sides. Nevertheless, one football match was played during the year between teams from Snake Bay and Garden Point Mission. The match resulted in a win for the mission side but the fixture was a success socially and as a sports day, and more such meetings will be arranged whenever circumstances allow.

Sales at the canteen during the year averaged over £50. per week; the annual total was £2,575.8.4.

MISSION ACTIVITIES

(i) CHURCH MISSIONARY SOCIETY

OENPELLI

Oenpelli is situated in remote country 317 miles by road from Darwin, via Pine Creek; it is 7 miles from the East Alligator River and may also be approached by sea or air.

During the year under review many changes of staff occurred and a settled programme became possible only during the months of 1959.

Oenpelli has been chosen as the site for a large-scale pastoral project.

Population

The mission offers accommodation, medical services, spiritual guidance and training to the natives of the area. It serves another useful purpose by acting as a frontier station and buffer between the Arnhem Land people and the crocodile-shooting camps found in this neighbourhood.

At 30th June, 1959, the resident population comprised :

Adult males	84	
Adult females	84	
Boys	64	
Girls	56	
	<hr/>	
Total	288	persons
	<hr/>	

Training and Employment

The construction of a new church kept many men in employment both at the building site and on logging and milling work.

Senior girls attended homecraft training classes run by the Nursing Sister and instructional classes in hygiene, given during the year, also proved to be beneficial.

A start was made on the construction of a native village and work continued at the hospital where new floors and partitions are being put in.

Excavating for the sewerage system to be connected to all staff residences was begun.

Livestock

Cattle were widely scattered on the property at the beginning of the year but a muster in October brought the herd together and over 450 beasts including 90 calves were ultimately branded. A market for beef has been found in Darwin and it is hoped that this side of the mission's work will now develop considerably.

A horse muster realised 148 head in August 1958.

Periodic round-ups of buffalo for hides and meat were undertaken by the native stockmen during the year.

Agriculture

The amount of produce from the garden was severely reduced by the depredations of birds. In spite of this setback fairly satisfactory supplies of fruit and vegetables have been harvested. At the close of the year promising crops of melon and pumpkin were growing in plots specially treated with manure.

Eggs and milk supplies were maintained throughout the year.

ProductionCrops

Sugar Cane	5600 lbs.
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Production contd.Garden

Fruit	3585 lbs.
Beans and Peas	226 lbs.
Potatoes	118 lbs.
Other Vegetables	949 lbs.

Meat

Beef and Buffalo	115600 lbs.
Goat	370 lbs.
Poultry	100 lbs.

Other

Eggs: Hen	444 dozen
Milk	2157 gallons

General

Surveying of the new airstrip was done by a team of experts from the Department of Civil Aviation.

Oenpelli was chosen as the site for an experiment carried out on fowls delivered to the mission. The eggs were collected and despatched to a southern research laboratory where they were inspected for the presence of encephalitis.

Church services on the mission continue to be well attended and special adult Bible classes are held at least twice per week.

A wedding between two members of the staff was celebrated at the mission during the year.

(ii) METHODIST OVERSEAS MISSIONELCHO ISLAND

Elcho Island lies to the north of Buckingham Bay off the coast of northern Arnhem Land and between Howard and Wessel Islands. The mission itself is 330 air miles from Darwin, but can also be reached by ship to an excellent harbour in the nearby Cadell Straits.

Population

The area influenced by this mission station includes Elcho, Howard, Wessel and English Company Islands and, on the mainland, the country extending from the Woolen River east to Arnhem Bay and inland to the headwaters of the Woolen and Buckingham Rivers.

As at 30th June, 1959, the population comprised :

Adult males	96	
Adult females	140	
Boys	110	
Girls	99	
	<hr/>	
Total	445	persons
	<hr/>	

Logging

The sawmill was redesigned and its location moved during the year under review. As a result a larger output of sawn timber has been achieved. The mill operated with only a few interruptions during the year thus providing steady, useful employment for many men engaged on cutting, hauling, milling and stacking.

Fishing

There was an increase in the quantity of fish caught but additional equipment must be obtained before plans to export fish to markets outside the Northern Territory can be furthered.

Agriculture

Fairly good returns were obtained in the agricultural field despite the late onset of the wet season. Work continued on irrigation projects aimed at lifting the output from those sections of the garden to be specially served.

Handicrafts

In addition to native handicrafts work which constitutes a major economic section of work at the mission, classes were held in sewing, singing, and hygiene as part of the school curriculum.

ProductionCrops

Cassava	5532 lbs.
Peanuts	1100 lbs.
Rice	7 bags
Sorghum	815 lbs.
Cashew Nuts	165 dozen

Vegetables

Potatoes - Sweet	12 tons
Water Melon	5567 lbs.
Pumpkin	4463 lbs.
Tomatoes	1636 lbs.
Snake Beans	150 lbs.
Cucumbers	90 lbs.
Carrots	77 lbs.

Fruit

Bananas	7986 lbs.
Pineapples	7197 lbs.
Pawpaws	6749 lbs.
Limes	443 dozen
Guavas	100 dozen
Mangoes	100 dozen
Custard Apples	13 dozen

Fish

25536 lbs.

Timber

36289 super feet

Craft Sales

£734. 0. 0.

Grocodile Skins

£115.12. 0.

The Sunday School services were well attended but some falling off in attendance at the church services held was noticed amongst the adults. Meetings held during the week are popular, particularly choir practice.

A youth club was formed during the year and filled a long-felt need amongst the young men and boys.

The aircraft based at Elcho Island and piloted by the superintendent is proving increasingly valuable to the efficient functioning of the mission.

GOULBURN ISLAND

Goulburn Island lies off the central Arnhem Land coast opposite Arnhem Bay and east of the King River; it is approximately 30 square miles in area. The Mission Station itself is 200 air miles north-east of Darwin.

Population

The area influenced by this mission extends beyond the island proper to the coastal strip extending eastwards towards the Liverpool River and inland to a distance of about 20 miles. This area is occupied by the Maung, Iwaidja, Wailang, and Gunwinggu tribes.

As at 30th June, 1959, the population comprised:

Adult males	72	
Adult females	66	
Boys	46	
Girls	31	
	<hr/>	
Total	215	persons
	<hr/>	

Agriculture

Agricultural development was hindered by the necessity to divert all available labour to the construction of a new airfield. However, some new areas were cleared and approximately ten acres of ground were prepared for plantings of sweet potatoes and peanuts during the next wet season.

Another garden site was located which will first need to be pumped dry. An engine has been ordered for this purpose and the area should be brought into operation during the coming year.

The pawpaw, coconut, and banana plantations were extended.

Water Supply

A windmill was set up close to the well serving the 3,000 gallon tank erected during the year thus obviating the need for continuous use of the pumping engine.

Construction

Generally speaking the property is in a good state of repair throughout.

A new staff residence was completed during the year, as were two houses in the native village and a new ablution block. The installation of electric lighting in all administrative buildings, the natives' recreation area, and one of the native camps was an important achievement and did much to improve conditions at the mission generally.

Airstrip

The new airfield was completed and planes up to the size of D.C.3s can now use it.

ProductionCrops

Peanuts	560 lbs.
Cassava	323 lbs.

Vegetables

Potatoes - Sweet	797 lbs.
Pumpkin	195 lbs.
Beans	80 lbs.
Cucumbers	60 lbs.
Radish	40 lbs.
Yams	30 lbs.
Chinese Cabbage	15 lbs.
Turnips	12 lbs.

Fruit

Bananas	4226 lbs.
Pawpaws	2499 lbs.
Mangoes	1426 lbs.
Coconuts	1280 only
Limes	622 dozen
Custard Apples	80 lbs.

Seafood

Fish	2766 lbs.
Turtle and Dugong	1183 lbs.

Meat

Buffalo	766 lbs.
Goat	227 lbs.
Pork	173 lbs.

Milk

Goat	200 gallons
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General

Two church services are conducted each Sunday, the evening meeting being supplemented by a religious film strip. Sunday School classes are also given.

During the week Fellowship meetings attracted 40 to 50 persons on Wednesdays and a choir of 24 practised each Friday. This latter group assists regularly on Sundays and during feast periods such as Christmas and Easter.

MILINGIMBI

The Mission Station is located on the small island of Milingimbi, a member of the Crocodile group, lying midway along the north coast of Arnhem Land between the Blyth and Goyder Rivers. It is about 350 sea miles from Darwin.

Population

The sphere of influence of the Mission extends along the mainland as far east and west as the Blyth and Woolen Rivers and as far inland as the headwaters of the Goyder River. All the aborigines in this area have common social and religious habits and speak variants of the same language; consequently, it has been possible to develop one dialect, Gobaboinga, into a lingua franca for the area.

The number of natives in regular contact with the Mission varies between 400 and 450; another 150 live on nearby islands or the mainland.

As at 30th June, 1959, the population comprised :

Adult males	92	
Adult females	112	
Boys	124	
Girls	136	
	<hr/>	
Total	464	persons
	<hr/>	

Employment and Training

Night classes were held where instruction was given in sewing, mechanics, carpentry, and nursing. As soon as trained staff arrive it is planned to extend the field and include training in agricultural work.

In due course it is hoped that the trainees showing the greatest aptitude for their work will be transferred to Darwin for more advanced and intensive instruction.

Construction

Work on the erection of the new church continued throughout the year and the opening ceremony was performed on 27th June, 1959. A memorial window commemorating the work of a pioneer missionary is an attractive feature of this building.

Other buildings completed included two native cottages, a rest room and store at the aerodrome, a milking shed with washroom for utensils attached, and a small jetty. One staff residence was approaching completion at the end of the year; routine repair and maintenance work continued as usual.

Water Supply

A bore with a capacity of some 2,850 gallons per hour was sunk and a 5,000-gallon tank was erected to store the water.

Agriculture

The unusual nature of the 1958/59 wet season proved disastrous to some of the crops and generally speaking the yields for the year were somewhat disappointing. The increased acreage available did not return produce comparable with the labour expended and of all the harvest perhaps the best was that from the lucerne paddocks. As elsewhere along the coast the peanut crops failed.

ProductionCrops

Peanuts	10994 lbs.
Maize	2444 lbs.
Cassava	2203 lbs.
Sugar Cane	190 lbs.

Hay

Townsville lucerne	45 tons
Townsville seed	196 lbs.

Vegetables

Potatoes - Sweet	10871 lbs.
Tomatoes	2655 lbs.
Melons: Water	1253 lbs.
Rock	482 lbs.
Jam	401 lbs.
Pumpkin	1106 lbs.
Carrots	574 lbs.
Cabbage	555 lbs.
Radish and Silver Beet	351 lbs.
Rosella	343 lbs.
Beans and Beetroot	249 lbs.
Marrow and Turnip	245 lbs.

Fruit

Coconuts	3265 only
Mangoes	7935 lbs.
Custard Apples	2008 lbs.
Pawpaw	1006 lbs.
Limes and Lemons	395 lbs.
Pineapples	56 lbs.

Seafood

10742 lbs.

Meat

Beef	11588 lbs.
Goat	318 lbs.
Pork	72 lbs.

Milk

Cow	428 gallons
Goat	108 gallons

Other

Craft Sales	£1,833.12.2.
Crocodile Skins	105. 6.3.

YIRRKALA

Yirrkala is about 400 air miles east of Darwin on the north tip of Arnhem Land; the Mission Station is located on a small headland between Melville Bay and Port Bradshaw. Groote Eylandt lies 140 miles away to the south and Milingimbi 150 miles to the west.

Population

The population of the area served by the Mission is ethnically akin to the natives in the neighbourhood of Milingimbi and Elcho Island.

At 30th June, 1959, the population comprised :

Adult males	71	
Adult females	97	
Boys	86	
Girls	101	
	<hr/>	
Total	355	persons
	<hr/>	

Employment and Training

Craftwork continued as the major field of employment during 1958/59. The quality of the work produced is rising and at the same time the quantity coming forward is increasing.

Appointment to the staff of a pastoral manager has given impetus to the work already in hand on pasture improvement and stock management; both of these activities provided employment and training for selected natives during the year.

Adult education was an important feature of the school curriculum. An evening class attended by up to 40 persons was held once per week where instruction was given in English (oral and written), writing, spelling, word building, arithmetic and social studies. Short periods for adults were also held at the close of the normal school day for children.

Agriculture

Owing to the extended drought no worthwhile plantings of sweet potatoes and cassava were possible and such as was planted after rain fell was not ready for harvesting at the end of the financial year. In February, conditions were still so dry that two tons of hay were cut and stacked.

A large sowing of peanuts was made but the late rains brought with them conditions favourable to mildew and the bulk of this crop was ruined.

Six additional acres of land were cleared, fallowed, and fenced.

Native gardens covered four acres but their peanut crops were also a failure owing to the prevalence of mildew.

Livestock

At 30th June, 1959, there were 38 head of cattle, 47 pigs, and 4 horses at the Mission.

ProductionCrops

Peanuts	7455 lbs.
Sorghum	6480 lbs.
Sugar Cane	2044 lbs.
Cassava	920 lbs.
Rice	182 lbs.
Maize	62 lbs.

<u>Hay</u>	12 tons
<u>Vegetables</u>	
Water Melon	3451 lbs.
Beans	1993 lbs.
Potatoes - Sweet	1657 lbs.
English	1300 lbs.
Tomatoes	1141 lbs.
Carrots	1004 lbs.
Turnips	843 lbs.
Cabbage	811 lbs.
Eggfruit	474 lbs.
Cucumbers	306 lbs.
<u>Fruit</u>	
Bananas	11471 lbs.
Pawpaws	822 lbs.
Pineapples	343 lbs.
Gustard Apples	272 lbs.
Limes	292 dozen
Coconuts	468 only
Mangoes	32 dozen
<u>Seafood</u>	2567 lbs.
<u>Meat</u>	
Beef	858 lbs.
Pork	606 lbs.
<u>Milk</u>	154 gallons
<u>Other</u>	
Craft Sales	£1565 16. 9.
Crocodile Skins	50 18. 0.
Seed Pearls	5 10. 0.
Scalps	5 0. 0.

The extent of spiritual work which could be done amongst the native population continued to be restricted by lack of staff. Nevertheless the morning and evening church services, the Bible classes and other functions connected with mission life were generally well attended throughout the year.

(iii) ROMAN CATHOLIC

BATHURST ISLAND

Bathurst Island is the largest Mission in the Northern Territory and is situated on the sheltered south coast of the island of that name; its sphere of influence extends over the whole of the 600 square miles of the island (which is an aboriginal reserve). The people of Bathurst Island are Tiwis and are related closely with those living on nearby Melville Island.

Population

At the 30th June, 1959, the resident population comprised :

Adult males	309	
Adult females	388	
Boys	81	
Girls	147	
	<hr/>	
Total	925	persons
	<hr/>	

Employment

In addition to employment in and around the Mission Station, regular work was found for 50 men with the Air Force and Navy stations in Darwin.

Training

Evening classes, which have aroused great interest amongst both men and women at the Mission, are given in English, geography and social studies.

Production

<u>Fruit and Vegetables</u>	23 tons
<u>Meat</u>	
Native game	11200 lbs.
Beef	7850 lbs.
<u>Stock Food</u>	4500 lbs.
<u>Seafoods</u>	2750 lbs.
<u>Milk</u>	
Goat	2600 gallons
<u>Eggs</u>	
Hen	1300 dozen
<u>Other</u>	
Timber	45000 super feet
Clothing	6500 articles
Handicrafts valued at	£1200.

Construction

A new hospital building is approaching completion. It contains a male ward, a female ward, a public clinic, and an office for the matron. Electricity and water are reticulated throughout the building.

In the native village 35 new houses were constructed during the year. The walls of these units are of sawn timber, the floors are of concrete, and the roofs of corrugated iron. Electric light has been connected to each unit and water is obtained from wells sunk in the area. The houses are all painted externally.

Each occupant is encouraged to keep the precincts of his house clean and tidy and also to cultivate a vegetable garden in his own allotment.

Airstrip

During the year under review work was continued on the building of a new aerodrome.

General

A movie projector is kept on hand and two film evenings per week are a regular feature of Mission life.

DALY RIVER

Daly River Mission is located 30 miles from the mouth of the river of that name, which flows into the Timor Sea about 100 miles south of Darwin. It was founded only a few years ago, but already it has had a profound impact upon the native peoples of the area.

It is the aim of the Mission to provide for the educational, medical and spiritual needs of the native peoples of the district, but to avoid disturbing the economic set-up of the agricultural areas adjacent to the Mission. To this end, dormitories have been provided where parents are encouraged to leave their children whilst they themselves seek employment on farms in the surrounding district.

Population

At the 30th June 1959 the population comprised :

Adult males	14	
Adult females	10	
Boys	44	
Girls	40	
	108	persons

Employment

As noted above, the Mission caters mainly for the children of wards employed on properties in the surrounding district.

Training

Evening classes for adult males are given in joinery, English and social studies; for women needlework classes are provided.

Production

<u>Fruit and Vegetables</u>	5 tons
<u>Meat</u> - Native game	6500 lbs.
<u>Seafoods</u>	2200 lbs.
<u>Stock food</u>	1000 lbs.
<u>Eggs</u>	300 dozen
<u>Other</u>	
Clothing	2150 articles
Handicrafts valued at	£84.0.

Construction

A church is being constructed with the assistance of a few wards who are engaged in making cement bricks. This project should be completed by December 1959.

PORT KEATS

Port Keats Mission is located 150 miles south-west of Darwin on the Daly River Aboriginal Reserve. Its sphere of influence extends from the Daly River to the Fitzmaurice River, and there is also some itinerant movement between the Mission and Auvergne Station to the south and Leguna Station to the south-west.

Population

At 30th June 1959 the population comprised :

Adult males	158	
Adult females	138	
Boys	81	
Girls	73	
	<hr/>	
Total	450	persons
	<hr/>	

Training

Evening classes for adults are given in English, geography and social studies.

Production

<u>Fruit and Vegetables</u>	18 tons
<u>Meat</u>	30000 lbs.
<u>Stock food</u>	3500 lbs.
<u>Seafoods</u>	1700 lbs.
<u>Milk</u> - Goat	1500 gallons
<u>Eggs</u> - Hen	790 dozen
<u>Other</u>	
Timber	36000 super feet
Clothing	3400 articles
Handicrafts valued at	£930.

Construction

A new dining room is approaching completion for use by the staff and visitors to the Mission Station.

Experiments are continuing using local timbers and bricks made from ant bed in constructing houses suitable for the native residents.

Logging

A new sawmill was constructed during the year. Timber for use at the mill was felled by wards working under contract, but the carting operations were handled by using Mission equipment. The milling and stacking was performed by wards working under strict European supervision.

Much of the timber sent forward to Darwin has been praised by builders there as being equal in quality to any other available on the local market.

General

A movie projector is kept on hand and two film evenings per week are a regular feature of Mission life.

LINDSAY DISTRICTPatrol Staff

During 1958/59 field work for the entire district was in the hands of only one Patrol Officer; in consequence the District Welfare Officer was also required to undertake certain patrol work and was therefore unable to deal as he would have wished with the considerable volume of work arising in Tennant Creek and its immediate environs.

Patrols

During the first half of 1959, all stations were again visited at least once, with the exception of three in the north-east corner of the district, where the onset of late rains at the time of the scheduled visit forced postponement of the trip.

The purposes of this year's visits were mainly to check on the census, to check on routine matters, and to pave the way for the introduction of the new Employment Regulations.

Employment

The latter half of 1958 saw very restricted activity in the droving industry on the Barkly Tableland. Movements of cattle were brought to a halt early in the season because of the widespread drought conditions prevailing and only seventeen aboriginal stockmen were employed in the droving industry during this time.

Early in 1959, the situation changed and some large-scale movements of cattle occurred as stations endeavoured to secure first use of the Barkly stock route before the sparse feed was exhausted. Later rains improved the position further, and the employment level in the droving industry and on stations generally improved considerably.

Employment opportunities other than in the pastoral and droving industries are very limited in Lindsay District and this lack of opportunity in employment could well have an adverse effect on the training projects at Warrabri Settlement. No great improvement in this regard can be foreseen unless completely new industries are introduced to the district.

During 1958 reports were made on all stations in the district. The purpose of these reports was to obtain a basis for planning new development under the Wards Employment Regulations, and it was considered that a full appreciation of existing conditions was necessary before attempting an assessment of future needs. A comparison with previous reports showed little or no improvement over a period of six years; if anything, conditions on many places had deteriorated.

Wages

Some rather unexpected results were achieved on the wages question, in which field an effort was made to obtain increased payments at key points so that the natives themselves would become aware of the market value of their labour.

In one instance an employer refused to raise wages above the existing £1. per week, but a neighbouring station lifted the level to £3. per week after some assistance from Branch officers in obtaining good stockmen. The first station immediately found difficulty in obtaining suitable men, whereupon an appeal was made to Branch officers. The employer was told that he would receive more co-operation if he raised his wage level, and subsequently the figure was raised to £2. per week; recently a further increase to £3. per week was made.

Many employers proved very ready to co-operate on this issue. There has always been some trouble in getting labour to return to Alexandria Station after walkabout which circumstance is not a reflection on the station but arises from the fact that most employees are from the Borroloola area and would prefer employment closer to home. Since the lifting of wages to £3.10.0. per week and the issue of cooked meals three times daily this problem has disappeared. On a recent visit the manager stated that he now had the best labour force in the station's history.

Wages of £2.10.0. to £3.0.0. per week are now the rule rather than the exception in most parts of the district and those amounts are often supplemented by issues in excess of those envisaged in the new regulations.

Offences

On September 3rd, 1958, a native was charged with assault on a relative at Creswell Downs. This assault arose from a domestic argument and the man concerned was placed on a bond of £10. to be of good behaviour for 12 months. He was sent to Warrabri for an initial period of three months and, upon receipt of a satisfactory report from the Superintendent, was allowed to seek outside employment. He has given no further trouble.

On December 3rd, 1958, an aborigine was charged in the Tennant Creek Police Court with vagrancy. This particular man's name does not appear on the Register of Wards and he is aware of the omission. He refused any assistance from the Branch and conducted his own case. He was found guilty and sentenced to two months imprisonment.

This is the first time that a full-blood aborigine in this district has been charged with vagrancy.

On March 12th, 1959, two natives were charged with breaking, entering, and stealing from the Warrabri canteen. They were remanded to the Supreme Court and one of them was later sentenced to twelve months detention on a Government Settlement other than Warrabri. This man, who is only eighteen years of age, has already served one committal period of twelve months, but his subsequent behaviour has shown no improvement and it would appear that he is either incorrigible or that such committals have no remedial value under present arrangements. The second man charged has been suffering from a spinal infection for some months and has not yet been brought before the court.

On March 13th, 1959, five juvenile wards were also charged with breaking, entering, and stealing from the Warrabri canteen. These cases were dealt with summarily by the magistrate after the parents and guardians had agreed to this procedure. The defendants were all found guilty and were placed under bonds of £1. to be of good behaviour for twelve months. Cash bonds were provided by the parents and guardians and the latter were made responsible for the conduct of the children.

On June 5th, 1959, a native employed at Brunette Downs Station was charged with assault causing bodily harm to two native women. The case was referred to the Supreme Court and the man was released on bail. He is being held at Warrabri pending the hearing of his case.

On June 15th, 1959, a part-coloured man was detected supplying liquor to natives at the Wauchope races. Prompt action by Welfare Officers prevented liquor from coming into their hands and the man has been charged and remanded to the next sitting of the Supreme Court.

General

The movement of wards in and around the Tennant Creek area is strictly controlled as contact with the large number of single, and sometimes irresponsible, mine employees is bound to lead to drinking and co-habitation. Such attempts have already occurred in the smaller centres and a congregation of natives in the town would make supervision very difficult. As a result of the control exercised, there have been no court cases during the year involving natives who reside in the immediate vicinity of Tennant Creek.

At the last complete census of the Elliott camp, conducted on the 24th March 1959, there were 34 persons, including women and children, resident on the small reserve. These figures are reasonably stable and little alteration is likely to occur in the foreseeable future. The population at the time of the last Annual Report was 31. There have been no problems in respect of the conduct of this community in the year under review.

Nevertheless, the group did pose a problem in that the men are almost all receiving high wages and, as the Patrol Officer stationed in the area is absent on other duties for the greater part of his time, they have been wasting their money on frivolous purchases or gambling. This has the inevitable result of malnutrition appearing from time to time amongst themselves and their children and, coupled with the poor housing situation, the result has been the development of a high sickness rate.

No serious disciplinary problems have arisen amongst the natives living at Newcastle Waters or on the nearby cattle stations. There was one detected case of co-habitation but the female concerned had come with a droving plant from Western Australia.

At Wauchope the only permanent natives resident there are those employed at the hotel. A long-standing practice of other wards to establish holiday camps in this area has been strongly discouraged, but constant supervision is required during the Christmas period.

Generally speaking, no problems arose among wards at Frewena, except during the walkabout period when employees from surrounding stations tend to congregate in the area. It was unfortunate that during the last walkabout period both the District Welfare Officer and the regular Patrol Officer were on leave; however, in normal circumstances, this area is easy to supervise.

No health or disciplinary problems occurred at Renner Springs.

Summing up, the behaviour of natives in the town areas has been good and no serious problems have arisen through consumption of liquor or other undesirable practices so often associated with native life in town areas.

Case work in the field has been spasmodic and limited. The handling of personal-welfare problems, child welfare, hygiene and the promotion of social change has been hardly touched. This work is impossible without adequate field staff.

The Patrol Officer attached to the district spent approximately two-thirds of his time in the field but the multiplicity of duties, e.g., station employment problems, droving, medical emergencies, to name only three, made it difficult for him to follow an ordered programme. This is true also in respect of the District Welfare Officer who, owing to the time taken up with town duties, supervision and administration of settlements, and supervision of outlying villages is unable to handle field operations other than cursorily.

The best that can be said is that the coming year could see completion of the basic fact finding thus paving the way for real welfare work. However, to put the programme into operation satisfactorily will be impossible without additional staff.

SETTLEMENT ACTIVITIES

BORROLOOLA

Borroloola is situated on the MacArthur River which flows into the Gulf of Carpentaria opposite the Sir Edward Pellew Islands. Access by road is often difficult even in the dry season and during the wet season it is necessary to use the regular air service out of Alice Springs when visiting the area. Periodic trips to land supplies are also made by ship from the eastern States.

The present function of Borroloola is that of a ration station rather than of a settlement. However, changes taking place in the tribal pattern of the natives living in the vicinity make it desirable that a full-scale settlement be established somewhere in the neighbourhood as soon as possible.

Population

The number of natives in contact with Borroloola varies considerably and is governed by the season and availability of employment on the surrounding stations.

At 30th June, 1959, the resident population comprised :

Adult males	34	
Adult females	47	
Boys	25	
Girls	20	
	<hr/>	
Total	126	Persons
	<hr/>	

Training

Owing to lack of staff no organised training of a specialised nature could be given; however, men engaged on daily tasks such as cooking, gardening, butchering, and vehicle maintenance have done good work and required only a minimum of supervision.

A pleasing development has been the keenness of residents to imitate European styles of dress and some improvised European-style basic furniture for use in their homes. Purchases through the canteen have included such items as braces, bits, saws, and articles of clothing.

Construction

A building and renovation programme in progress at the beginning of the year was carried through and as a result a much more convenient use of the floor space available at the depot was made possible.

A paint prepared from local materials was successfully used on out-buildings during the year. Made from a local stone which is soluble in water, the preparation provides a finish similar to that obtained with Kalsomine.

Production

Food and Vegetables	3000 lbs.
Meat	1000 lbs.
Milk	200 gallons

WARRABRI

Warrabri Settlement is located in pastoral country near Wauchope in central Australia; its immediate neighbours are the cattle stations of Murray Downs and Singleton. Alice Springs lies 240 miles to the south, and Tennant Creek 100 miles to the north. An all-weather road connects the settlement to the Stuart Highway 14 miles to the west.

Population

The population comprises members of the Warramunga, Wailbri, and Kaiditj tribes and at 30th June, 1959, numbered :

Adult males	95	
Adult females	114	
Boys	89	
Girls	103	
	<hr/>	
Total	401	persons
	<hr/>	

Training

Training facilities at Warrabri remained very good and instruction in a wide range of occupations was regularly given.

Men trained at Warrabri were employed full time on important and skilled maintenance work on the settlement and some were detailed elsewhere to settlements seeking men for specific jobs. One painter from Warrabri spent many weeks on work in Darwin, Katherine, and Beswick during 1958/59.

A school for female medical assistants was conducted during the year and was attended by trainee nurses and wardsmajds.

The extent of the interest shown in acquiring training may be judged by the fact that evening classes attended by both men and women were regularly conducted during the year. The adults generally are well aware of the importance of school training as preparation for adult life, and school attendance figures are very high.

The maintenance carpenter has trained a gang of men to erect the Kingstrand houses used in the native village and these men have now reached a high level of proficiency. Except for squaring and levelling the forming for foundations and inserting studs into the concrete, for which purpose a Ramsett gun must be used, these men can now be left to work unsupervised.

Employment

Employment opportunities in central Australia were not numerous during 1958/59; nevertheless, at the close of the year no less than 48 persons from Warrabri were gainfully employed outside the settlement proper. Their occupations were as shown below:

Droivers:	28 men at £10. per week	Stockmen:	2 men at £4.10.0 per week
	2 men at £7.10.0 " "		
		Cook:	1 man at £3. per week
Labourers:	6 men at £6. per week	Domestics:	2 women at £1. per week
	3 men at £5. p" "		
	4 men at £3.10.0. " "		

Bricklaying work of a good standard was done around the settlement by a team of wards supervised by a full-blood aborigine who was

himself trained at the settlement. During the year two fowl houses were built by this team and balustrades erected to make semi-enclosed rooms of the verandah areas of Kingstrand houses occupied in the native village.

Construction

Work continued at the native village where 32 Kingstrand houses have been erected. All have since been occupied. A third ablution block was practically completed there also. Light and power reticulation to this area is under construction.

Four staff residences were flywired during the year and material is on hand for the sisters' quarters and the infirmary.

Two pens for housing the poultry were erected using concrete bricks made at the settlement.

Agriculture

An experimental planting of potatoes was made in the settlement garden during the year. Unfortunately the seed supplied was of poor quality and another planting will be necessary before deciding whether or not these plants may be grown with success.

It has been found that certain crops do not progress under spray irrigation and trench flooding has been substituted.

Otherwise produce grown locally has been very satisfactory.

Production

Vegetables	10532 lbs.
Pork	1910 lbs.
Goat Mutton	153 lbs.
Green feed (for stock)	630 lbs.
Eggs	69 dozen
Lucerne (green weight)	12 tons

Livestock

Pigs were introduced to the settlement in June 1958. The herd has grown from 28 to 54 and a piggery is being built of mud bricks made from antbed available in abundance in the surrounding countryside.

In August 39 hens and 4 roosters arrived and have ensured a continuous supply of eggs.

General

The settlement was officially opened by the Honourable the Minister for Territories, Mr. Paul Hasluck, on 23rd September, 1958, in the presence of a parliamentary delegation from Canberra and distinguished citizens from all parts of the Northern Territory.

PART II : CHILD, FAMILY AND SOCIAL WELFAREPOLICY

Under Section 8f of the Welfare Ordinance the Welfare Branch has responsibilities not only for Wards but also for other persons who are in need of special care and assistance. These aspects of welfare are regarded as general welfare and call for the provision of a particular service to the community.

The Child Welfare Ordinance lays legislative responsibility on the Branch for the administration of all child-welfare activities under that Ordinance.

In February 1956 negotiations began to fill a position to be known as that of Administrative Officer, General Welfare. The development of a small division which would be responsible for the planning, consolidation, and development of child, family and social welfare services, was envisaged and it was expected that it should develop along the lines of the State Child Welfare and Relief Departments. It was planned that this division should already be functioning when the new Child Welfare Ordinance came into force so that the work would flow through an organised division.

This basic position of Administrative Officer, General Welfare, was eventually filled in September 1958; special field and office staff were provided by allocation of officers already engaged on social welfare work in the District Welfare Offices at Darwin and Alice Springs.

CHILD WELFARE

On February 2nd 1959, the Child Welfare Ordinance 1958 commenced to function and executive responsibility for all matters relating to child welfare was assumed by the Welfare Branch. The Director of Welfare was appointed the first Director of Child Welfare, and assumed responsibility for the duties previously performed by the Chairman of the State Children's Council.

Child Welfare Ordinance

The introduction of the new Ordinance marked an important occasion in the functioning of child-welfare services in the Northern Territory.

This Ordinance is designed to cover the aspects of Child Welfare similar to those provided for in the various Child Welfare Acts in the States. Thus, it makes provision for dealing with complaints concerning destitute, neglected, incorrigible and uncontrollable children; there are Sections dealing with affiliation proceedings which make it possible for the Director of Child Welfare or a person authorised by him to lay a complaint against the putative father who has left an illegitimate child without means of support, and provision is also made in it for the care of State Children.

Children's Courts have been established under the Ordinance. These Courts will aim at conforming to the accepted practices followed in and by Children's Courts in other States.

A Child Welfare Council was appointed under Section 9 of the Child Welfare Ordinance and comprised :-

- Mr. H.C. Giese - Director of Child Welfare.
- Mr. R. Vincent - Welfare Officer.

Rev. G. Symons and Archdeacon Bott - representing
Christian Missions in the Northern Territory.

Rev. N.C. Pearce
Bishop J.P. O'Loughlin } representing the Churches.

Mr. Dickinson - Legal Officer.

Sergeant Davies - representing the Police.

Dr. H. Phillipps.

Mr. C.C. Pearce.

Mrs. G.N. Scott.

Mr. J. Ford.

His Lordship, the Most Reverend J.P. O'Loughlin, D.D., M.S.C., Bishop of Darwin, was appointed Chairman of the Council, and the Reverend N.C. Pearce, Vice-Chairman.

The Council, which is an advisory body, has the responsibility of advising the Director of Child Welfare on matters relevant to its function within the Northern Territory and of reporting on any matter referred to the Council by the Director. It may draw attention to the need for investigating the degree of control exercised in respect of children and may recommend the grant of assistance to them; it may also recommend to the Director that appropriate proceedings be taken to bring a case before a Children's Court.

The Council is required to report to the Administrator on or before the first day of August in each year on the working of the Ordinance and any other matter relating to Child Welfare in the Northern Territory. It may also report to the Administrator on any occasion which seems fitting to the Council on matters relating to child welfare generally. Members of the Council may also be appointed to sit with the Magistrate in the Children's Court.

Children Charged in Court

During the year, 36 children were charged and 30 were committed to the care of the Director of Child Welfare; 6 were released on probation. However, these figures in no way indicate the total number of investigations made by Welfare Officers.

Each Welfare Officer in Alice Springs was made responsible for certain defined areas in the district, and her function was to work with the unsatisfactory families and to try to bring them to a stage where the children were receiving adequate care.

In Darwin there was only one female Welfare Officer; she too worked in a similar way with unsatisfactory families.

During the year under review only a small proportion of the children with whom these officers were concerned appeared before the Court.

Accommodation presented a major problem right throughout the Northern Territory and as some of the part-coloured families are in need of training in regard to home economics, personal habits, and family care, many difficult and complex cases arose. During the year, Welfare Officers encouraged mothers to send their children to pre-school centres, escorted them to hospital, and gave oversight in carrying out medical care; they also worked in close co-operation with Infant Welfare Clinics.

Complaints of neglect were referred to the Branch from schools, Ministers of Religion, and various other sources, and in the course of subsequent investigations attempts were made to assist the family to give better care to the children so that action through the Courts could be avoided.

State Children

There were 126 State Children to be cared for during the year; 45 were placed in foster homes and institutions in the southern states, and during 1958/59 at least three visits were made to these children by Welfare Officers.

Correspondence with institutions and foster parents made it possible for information to be collated regarding the children, some of whom were making most satisfactory progress.

One particular child who had been considered uncontrollable and who had been placed in an institution requested that she be permitted to remain there for a further period in order that she could complete a course of study. This child had accepted the discipline of the institution and had made good progress in her school work.

The greater percentage of State Children were neglected children; that is to say, it was necessary to work with the families for their better care or else remove them to foster homes or institutions.

During 1958/59 there was an increase of ten in the total number of children charged in the Court. Twelve were charged with offences, whereas in 1957/58 there were only five, and of these twelve, eleven were in the 13 - 18 years age group. Three of them were girls.

While the total number of offences remained relatively small, it is considered that it is indicative of a trend and indicates the need for adequate staff to develop a service to cope with the situation and to co-operate with other departments in this matter. There was an increasing number of unescorted girls on the streets and groups of unoccupied boys frequented public places.

RECEIVING HOME

The Receiving Home, located in Mitchell Street, Darwin, near the Hospital, is in the centre of the local community and is readily accessible to vital services.

It caters for the reception of children taken into care and custody before being charged in Court, but it also served a wider purpose by providing a refuge for young pregnant girls pending the birth of their babies. Destitute women were also accommodated at the Home as a temporary measure.

During 1958/59 there were 64 persons admitted, 39 girls and 25 boys; the average weekly figure was 14 with a maximum of 19 and a minimum of 8. Ages of the inmates ranged from adolescents to babies.

The attitude of the inmates to the Home has been well illustrated during several Court proceedings when children asked the Magistrate for permission to remain at the Receiving Home in preference to returning to their own home.

Physical facilities at the Home are most inadequate and the need for a new building is urgent. The present building is no longer considered to be of sufficient value to warrant expenditure on any major repairs and the fact that members of both sexes are sometimes accommodated in this one building gives rise to difficult problems in providing satisfactory sleeping quarters.

It is recognised that it is undesirable to bring uncontrollable children into contact with neglected and destitute children, but this has been necessary up to date because no alternative accommodation exists.

Plans have been drawn of a new Receiving Home in Darwin designed to accommodate 20 children, and it is anticipated that the first stage of this Home, offering accommodation for 10 children, will commence in the financial year 1959/60.

Late in the year a Receiving Home was opened at Alice Springs. This is a small unit, an Arid "A" type house having been taken over for the purpose. It catered for about nine children only, but met the immediate need in that town.

INSTITUTIONS FOR PART-COLOURED CHILDREN

Special accommodation was provided for deprived part-coloured children in four institutions conducted by Church Missions in the Northern Territory and at St. Francis House, Semaphore, South Australia. These Homes are evidence of the close co-operation which exists between Administration and the Church Missions.

The Missions received financial assistance from official funds, as is customary, and the following institutions were in full operation throughout the year under review :

(i) Retta Dixon Home

The Retta Dixon Home for part-coloured children is situated on Bagot Aboriginal Reserve, four miles from Darwin. It is managed by the Aborigines Inland Mission and was established in 1946 when children under the care of the Mission were repatriated from homes in the southern States where they had been living during the war years.

Population:

The average number accommodated during the year under review was 83, this number being made up of :

Pre-school children	10
School children	63
Post-school children	6
Kindergarten children	4
Total	83

The children lived in dormitories and were divided into seven age-groups :

- Nursery
- Boys and girls up to 5
- Boys from 5 to 7

Girls from 5 to 7
 Boys from 8 to 10
 Girls from 8 to 15
 Senior boys of 11 and over

Each of these groups was looked after by its own supervisor.

Education:

The children attended schools in Darwin and were given special preparatory evening classes during two school terms. At the commencement of the school year for 1959, approximately 75% of the pupils were promoted to a higher grade, two boys and one girl entered Darwin High School, and others left school to take up employment in Darwin and elsewhere.

Recreation:

Participation in young people's organisations was encouraged and children from the home were active in Scouting circles, as Cubs and Brownies, in Young People's Fellowship and in other similar bodies.

Teams were fielded in Darwin's regular basketball competition, the junior girls' team taking off the premiership in 1959. Other children from the home were playing members of local football clubs.

During the school vacations, camps were held at nearby beaches and outings were generally organised on public holidays. During the basketball season children over 11 years of age were permitted to attend one night fixture in addition to matches in which their own team was engaged.

Film evenings were arranged at the home and the children regularly attended the fortnightly programme screened at the Darwin Town Hall.

Transfers:

Seven children transferred from the home during the year; of these, three went to foster parents, three to training institutions in southern States, and one was admitted to the School for the Blind at Wahroonga, N.S.W.

Two girls previously transferred to N.S.W. passed their Intermediate Certificate and have gone on to higher studies.

In March 1959, every child transferred from the home was paid a follow-up visit by the Home Superintendent. All were found to be happy in their new homes and environment.

(ii) Croker Island

Croker Island Mission was founded in 1940 on the island of that name which lies off the coast of North-Western Arnhem Land. The Mission is conducted by the Methodist Overseas Mission.

Population:

Of the 50 children in residence at the end of June 1959, 17 were girls. A statistical breakdown reveals that the population comprised :

Pre-school children	5
School children	34
Post-school	11
Total	<u>50</u>

There were five cottages with 8 or 9 children to each cottage. Two of these cottages were occupied by girls and the other three by the boys; each cottage was under the supervision of a cottage mother.

There were 21 State Children accommodated at this institution during the year.

Education:

The children attended a school staffed by the Education Department of South Australia. The school building contains three class rooms and also a domestic-science and woodwork room. The school was staffed by the Headmaster and an Assistant.

Recreation:

There was an adequate recreation programme which sought to develop the physical and mental aspects of individual personality as well as the spiritual side.

Programme.

Monday	7 to 9 p.m. - Children 10 years and over Recreation Club, Indoor games.
Tuesday	Family night. Each cottage plans the evening for activity at home.
Wednesday	Junior and Senior choir.
Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday	6.30 p.m. to 7.30 p.m. - children of fifth grade and over study preparation - this is done at the school under the supervision of the teachers.
Thursday evening	Christian Endeavour Society
Friday evening	Pictures.

On alternative Saturday evenings, social activities were organised at the school under the supervision of the teachers. Opportunity was also given for the children to play cricket, softball, basketball and baseball; many showed interest in swimming and horse riding.

Religious Education:

Church services were conducted and the children encouraged to join in the social activities as part of their training.

(iii) St. Mary's Hostel

St. Mary's Hostel is conducted by the Northern Territory Diocese of the Church of England, assisted by the Australian Board of Missions. The Hostel is situated three miles from Alice Springs.

Population:

There were 21 boys and 41 girls resident at the Hostel during the year under review, all of them of school age. These children had been brought mainly from remote areas to give them an opportunity of attending school and receiving training.

St. Mary's is at present conducted on a dormitory system, but an attempt will be made to modify this system in favour of a cottage-type institution.

Education:

The children attended the local schools in Alice Springs, however, some needed special coaching and training owing to the difficulties with which they had been faced in their home environment.

Recreation:

Children were encouraged to participate in school activities. Adequate playing space is available at the Mission and they were encouraged to engage in a variety of recreational activities.

Religious Education:

Facilities were available for children to attend church services at the Mission.

(iv) Garden Point

The Mission at Garden Point on Melville Island is operated by the Roman Catholic Church. The site was taken over as a Mission in September 1940 and the first children arrived at the Mission from the mainland in 1941.

Population:

There were 106 children, 49 boys and 57 girls resident at the Mission during 1958/59, all of whom were housed in dormitory-type buildings.

There were 32 State Children accommodated at this institution during the year.

Education:

The school was conducted by the Church. In addition to the normal curriculum there was opportunity for the girls to learn domestic science, and training in carpentry, blacksmithing and saw-milling was available to the boys.

Recreation:

Recreation facilities enabled a varied programme to be planned for both sexes. Cricket, football, basketball and athletics were included. Films were shown and dances conducted.

Religious Education:

Religious education constituted an important aspect of the children's training.

(v) St. Francis House - Semaphore, South Australia

St. Francis House is conducted by the Australian Board of Missions. It was established to accommodate part-coloured boys from the Northern Territory who were attending school, were apprenticed or employed in Adelaide.

During the year under review, 24 boys were resident at St. Francis House, but plans are in hand to close the Home by the end of 1959 and to arrange alternative accommodation for those at present residing there.

Special Schemes for Education of Part-Coloured Children

In association with the Churches and Missions, a special scheme continued to operate during 1958/59 whereby the education of part-coloured children in the southern States was effected. At the close of the year, there were 34 children studying in the southern States under this scheme, all of whom had been placed in foster homes or institutions in order that they might spend their period of study in congenial surroundings.

The greater number of the children under the education scheme have been placed in South Australia mainly because foster homes have been readily available in that State and the Central Methodist Mission Children's Homes have been able to receive the selected children in some instances prior to their being placed in foster homes.

It has been a function of Welfare Branch to arrange for the evaluation of the foster homes, but as no trained local staff have been engaged for this work, arrangements were made with the Department of Social Services to make available some trained Social Workers who could undertake the initial evaluation of the home and also make follow-up visits and submit reports on the welfare of the children.

A critical situation has now arisen because the Department of Social Services have found it necessary to withdraw their assistance in this field owing to a lack of trained staff, and the Branch must now depend on correspondence with the foster parents and institutions for follow-up information, and the periodic visits which can be made by officers from this Department, to keep abreast with the child's progress.

With the number of children who are at present in the southern states, that is, those under the Education Scheme and those who have been placed there as State Children, there has been more than enough work for one person. However, visits were made by the Secretary of the State Children's Council when that Council was in existence, and two visits have since been made by other Welfare Officers.

There is considerable need for an advisory service to the foster parents, and for greater contact to be retained with these children; under the procedure at present in operation the service provided must be regarded as inadequate.

FAMILY WELFARE

Under Section 8f of the Welfare Ordinance it is possible to give relief to such persons as are eligible. Operations under this head have involved the Branch in arranging accommodation in special institutions, in supplying food and clothing, in arranging transport to places both inside and outside the Territory, and in taking other steps necessary for the promotion of the welfare of persons eligible for assistance.

Relief was also given to single men who have been in the Territory and have been awaiting unemployment relief.

Lack of accommodation presented acute difficulties for a number of families and it was necessary for officers to work in close contact with these families, some of whom were living in sub-standard accommodation.

People arriving in the Territory without previous arrangements for accommodation and employment were faced with extreme difficulty. On two occasions families arrived overland from Western Australia without adequate provision for employment or accommodation. They had no savings, and needed immediate assistance in obtaining accommodation and food.

A young deserted wife of about 18 years of age was transferred to a southern State with her child where she could be assisted by her relatives. Prior to her transfer she had been given assistance to maintain the child and to take action against her husband.

On one occasion the parents of a teen-age child were referred by the Police for counselling.

While the volume of assistance has not been great, there is growing evidence that without the assistance granted there would have been considerable suffering in some families.

The supervision of unsatisfactory families is a major aspect of the family-welfare service. Many such groups are living at varying stages of social development and their supervision is made more complex because some of them constitute only pseudo-family relationships. Each case needs careful evaluation when the welfare of the child is being considered and in all cases attempts must be made to create the sense of security and support which enables harmonious relationships to develop.

The Welfare Officers found it necessary to give considerable time to working with any families where it appeared necessary to render assistance in the training of the children and in the supervision of their medical care.

Part-Coloured Families Housing Scheme

In an attempt to help in the assimilation and social development of part-coloured families, a special housing scheme has been developed. In the financial year just ended, 14 such families were placed in new houses located at random in the Darwin area.

These families resettled were selected according to their social development and they are assisted as considered necessary by the Welfare Officers. It is a notable point that there has been little cause for complaint regarding the care of these houses; on the contrary, in a number of instances the development of the site generally has been a credit to the tenants.

Voluntary Agencies

There are few voluntary family-welfare agencies in the Northern Territory, but the changing character of the population with its growing Church facilities and special interest groups may give rise to more voluntary welfare service groups being developed.

The need for a housekeeping service, which will provide care for children while mothers are in hospital, became apparent during the year. Of importance also was the large number of employed mothers in Darwin, from which circumstance arose a need beyond that met by pre-school centres for the care of children during the mother's absence at work.

Some private persons set up child-minding centres during the year and were charging fees for their services.

COMMUNITY SERVICEGrants for Cultural, Sporting, and Welfare Organisations

During 1956/57 Northern Territory Administration provided funds to assist cultural, sporting, and welfare organisations in developing their facilities and activities in the community.

In 1957/58 a new system was put into effect for assisting such organisations by the setting up of Regional Grants Committees in Darwin, Katherine, Tennant Creek, and Alice Springs and a Central Grants Committee was formed under the chairmanship of the Director of Welfare. This committee advises the Administrator on the disbursement of monies made available under the scheme.

During 1958/59 approval was granted to assist the following organisations to the amounts specified -

Darwin Musical Comedy Society - General Assistance	£1,000
Darwin Society of Music - General Assistance	100
N.T. Eisteddfod Council - To bring adjudicators to the Northern Territory and to purchase a piano	550
Nightliff Lessees Association - Erection of tennis courts and basketball courts	900
Darwin Tennis Association - Building of tennis courts	2,000
Darwin Art Society - General Assistance	100
Darwin Police and Citizens Youth Club - General Assistance	500
Northern Territory Road Safety Council	500
Northern Territory Basketball Association - Erection of fence	177.10.0
City Brass Band - Purchase of instruments	847
Katherine Recreation Reserve - Continuation of work on reserve and civic hall	1,700
- Improvements to tennis courts	96.10.0
Tennant Creek Board of Trustees - Erection of grandstand	2,000
Alice Springs Youth Centre - Building	3,500
Alice Springs Recreation Reserve - Purchase of tractor, basketball court, caretaker's wages	3,073
Alice Springs Ideal Homes Exhibition	360.4.10

In all, including amounts carried over from the previous financial year, £20,787.11.3 was paid out in these grants for work completed during the year.

The value of this assistance should be seen against the background of the rapid change in community life in the Northern Territory. The financial assistance supplements a tremendous amount of community effort and service being undertaken by ordinary citizens working unassisted. The work of such voluntary organisations is indicative of a growing community spirit throughout the Northern Territory and emphasises the need for rapid development of community facilities.

Aged People's Welfare

There is a growing concern for the welfare of aged persons in the Northern Territory, and a few voluntary organisations have already opened homes for aged persons. However, the Old Timers Home in Alice Springs and the Red Cross Aged Persons Home at Katherine will not be adequate for future needs, and during the year under review there were at least four persons in the Darwin Hospital who should have been accommodated in a suitable aged persons' home but had to remain in the Hospital because no other institution was open to them.

In order to encourage the development of homes for pensioners, an amendment was made to the Crown Lands Ordinance to make it possible for voluntary organisations to obtain grants of land to establish homes for aged persons in association with the assistance given under the Old Persons Act.

The needs of the aged persons have been frequently reviewed and it is considered that the time has now come to call together members of the community and organisations interested in the welfare of the aged so that some settled programme can be developed.

Hostels for Children

A scheme was developed to make available loans to churches and church missions anxious to develop hostels for children and young working persons. Enquiries concerning the scheme were received from the Bush Church Aid Society, the United Church, the Methodist Inland Mission, and the Catholic Church.

At the close of the financial year proposals by the United and Catholic Churches were held up because of difficulties which have arisen in securing leases of land; however, £200,000 has been made available for loan, and it is hoped that with the development of these hostels it will be possible to provide adequate accommodation for children living away from home whilst they attend primary or secondary school, or serve an apprenticeship. Provision will also be made to accommodate young working persons.

PART III : PRE-SCHOOL EDUCATIONDEVELOPMENT

The work at pre-school centres throughout the Northern Territory has continued to make a valuable contribution to the welfare and education of children from all sections of the community.

There are now nine fully subsidised centres. In addition, one church group in Alice Springs is receiving a subsidy equal to the teacher's salary, and one group is operating independently of any Government financial aid (Peko Mine, Tennant Creek). These two latter groups are visited in an advisory capacity by the Pre-School Supervisor. Total enrolments as at 30th June, 1959, at the eleven centres was 426 children.

Four new buildings erected at a total cost of £53,561 were opened during the year. The Tennant Creek Pre-School was opened in September 1958, and those at Nightcliff (Darwin), Katherine, and the Ida Standley Centre, Alice Springs, were officially opened in February 1959. The buildings are all of similar design with some variations to suit climatic conditions in the different areas of the Northern Territory; functionally they have proved to be very satisfactory.

Two committees, at Parap/Fannie Bay and Batchelor, are working for the establishment of pre-school centres in those areas.

The Stuart Park Centre, where there is a large part-coloured population, has become the nucleus of a community centre. This was a most useful and encouraging development which has introduced a community spirit to the area. At Alice Springs, the Ida Standley Centre is giving some indication of making a similar contribution.

EMPLOYMENT OF STAFF

In the past all members of the pre-school staff, with the exception of Stuart Park, were recruited and employed by the local voluntary committees; however, at the commencement of this school year all staff members, with the exception of those at the Nathalie Gorey Centre, Alice Springs, who preferred to continue under the previous arrangement, became officers of the Northern Territory Administration.

There has been some variation in the basic principle guiding the appointment of staff to the centres; viz:- where previously the total enrolment was in excess of 50 children, two trained teachers were employed; following the new procedure this has now been altered to one trained teacher and one untrained assistant. This has resulted in pegging the total enrolment to 50 children whereas up to 65 children could be enrolled in most centres with two trained teachers.

In respect of the Nathalie Gorey kindergarten, Ministerial approval has been given for two trained teachers to be employed provided the total enrolment is in excess of 50 children.

This change of policy has resulted in restricting the number of enrolments at some centres so that the teacher/child ratio is within the limits recommended by the Australian Pre-School Association.

It is estimated that 50% - 60% of children eligible to attend are in fact attending pre-school centres throughout the Northern Territory.

PRE-SCHOOL EDUCATION ON NATIVE SETTLEMENTS

In addition to the group at the Bungalow which has been operating since 1954, pre-school groups commenced at the Yuendumu and Warrabri Settlements in February and March respectively. When suitable trained staff is available a group will also commence at Papunya.

At Bungalow and Warrabri the children attend for a full day from 9 a.m. to 3.30 p.m., but at Yuendumu, an experimental programme has been operating with the older group of 25 children attending from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and a group of 20 3-year olds from 2 p.m. to 3.30 p.m. The results of the group which received early training at the Bungalow are now becoming evident. Children of 8 years who passed through the pre-school are now doing work of a standard being done by children of 12-14 years who did not have this pre-school experience.

Where the physical circumstances permit and where it fits in with the degree of progress of the natives themselves, the mothers are being brought into the programme and are being encouraged to bath the children before bringing them to the group. They will in time be made responsible for the laundering of the children's school and camp clothes.

Up to the present time, native assistants, who are working under the supervision of the teachers and assisting with the group, have proved satisfactory.

Particularly at Warrabri, the area occupied by the group is inadequate and some activities have had to be curtailed because of lack of space and facilities for both children and staff. When improved facilities can be provided the programme will be extended and further progress may be expected. From this point on the groups will play an even greater part in the development of the educational programme on Government settlements.

AFTER-SCHOOL GROUP, STUART PARK

The children attending this group are beyond the pre-school age; however, social and craft activities were carried on in the pre-school building supervised by the pre-school staff.

The group was originally started in an effort to combat the vandalism being done to the centre by the school-age children living in the area. It was felt that if they were brought into the centre and allowed to use the equipment legitimately they would develop a feeling of belonging and pride in the centre. It has, in fact, worked out this way and is providing a means of giving the older children in the district an opportunity to spend their leisure time in an enjoyable and creative way.

There was an enrolment of 70 children and an average attendance of between 60 and 70 during the year. Some of the art work being done by the children shows promise of real talent if it can be encouraged and developed.

There is a need for the appointment of a play leader who can develop this service both there and in other areas as the pre-school staff cannot give more of their out-of-hours time than they are already doing.

The real value of this group is evidenced in the incipient growth of a community spirit among these part-coloured people. The parents have joined with the staff in arranging some successful picture evenings which were well attended and the children themselves organised a social evening.

NORTHERN TERRITORY PRE-SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP

Miss Janet Weir of Alice Springs, who was awarded a Scholarship in 1956, completed her training at the Adelaide Kindergarten Training College and was appointed Assistant Teacher at the Ida Standley Pre-School in February 1959.

Miss Annabelle Hilder, of Darwin, was awarded a Scholarship in 1959 and has commenced training at the Sydney Kindergarten Training College.

NORTHERN TERRITORY PRE-SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Welfare Branch is represented on this Association by the Director of Welfare and the Pre-School Supervisor who are ex-officio members.

The Association's function is to act in an advisory capacity when forming policy affecting pre-school centres and to act as the co-ordinating body for all pre-school groups in the Northern Territory.

GENERAL

All centres contributed to the display of children's art and craft work at the 1958 Darwin Show.

In October, Open Days were held at all centres to enable the parents to see a normal programme and to gain an insight into the principles of pre-school education. The session held on the Saturday morning was particularly well attended by the fathers.

The financial appropriation for pre-school activities during 1958/59 amounted to £16,847. It was fully spent.

WELFARE BRANCH

WORKS PROGRAMME - 1958/59

(a) INDIVIDUAL SETTLEMENTS

<u>Settlement</u>	<u>Description of Project</u>	<u>Progress as at 30th June, 1959</u>	<u>Capital Value</u>
Amoonguna	(a) Erection of Infirmary and Sisters' Quarters	Let to private contract - 10% complete.	£16,400
	(b) Canteen and Recreation Hut	Nil. Project transferred to 1959/60 Works Programme.	4,300
	(c) Administrative Block and Single Men's Quarters	Let to private contract. Work not yet commenced.	7,700
	(d) Material Store	Let to private contract. Work not yet commenced.	1,560
	(e) Agricultural Store	Let to private contract. Work not yet commenced.	1,100
	(f) Two Dormitories	Let to private contract. 1% progress.	5,240
	(g) Two latrine, ablution and laundry blocks	Let to private contract. Not yet commenced.	5,000
	(h) One residence	Let to private contract. Physically complete.	5,500
	(i) Erection of four-classroom school	Erection by private contract. 92% complete.	16,000
Bagot	Latrine, ablution and laundry block	Materials delivered to site. Construction not yet commenced.	2,100
Beswick Creek	Latrine, ablution and laundry block	Materials assembled, and delivered to site. Construction not yet commenced.	2,250

Settlement	Description of Project	Progress as at 30th June, 1959.	Capital Value.
Hooker Creek	Latrine, ablution and laundry block	Materials delivered to site. Construction not yet commenced.	2,500
	Infirmery and Sisters' Quarters	Contract let for supply of prefabricated units and delivery effected. Construction work not yet commenced.	19,500
Maningrida	(a) Two latrine, ablution and laundry blocks	Materials on site. Construction not yet commenced.	8,500
	(b) Residence	Order placed for prefabricated unit. Delivery not yet effected.	9,000
	(c) Coolroom and pre-cutting room	Contract let for supply of prefabricated coolroom unit. Delivery expected early July.	4,000
Papunya	(a) Two latrine, ablution and laundry blocks	Work to be undertaken by Welfare Branch Works Force. Materials supplied by Department of Works. One unit 50% complete - one unit 25% complete.	5,000
	(b) Material Store	Construction by Welfare Branch Works Force. 50% complete.	1,600
	(c) Agricultural Store	Construction by Welfare Branch Works Force. 50% complete.	1,100
Snake Bay	Latrine, ablution and laundry block	Materials delivered to site. Construction not yet commenced.	2,500
	Electricity Supply	Generator ordered. Contracts let for internal and external wiring. Power house 90% complete.	7,750

Settlement	Description of Project	Progress as at 30th June, 1959	Capital Value.
Yuendumu	Latrine, ablution and laundry block	Materials assembled. Not yet delivered to site.	2,250
TOTAL			£130,850

(b) SETTLEMENTS GENERALLY.

<u>Settlement</u>	<u>Description of Project</u>	<u>Progress as at 30th June, 1959</u>	<u>Capital Value.</u>
Settlements Generally.	Supply and delivery of 36 houses for wards	Contract let and delivery effected to Settlements. Contracts not yet commenced. Erection will be undertaken by Settlement Maintenance Carpenter, employing wards selected as trainees	20,000
	Housing for part-coloured families	Transferred to 1959/60 Programme.	27,000
	Water Supplies on Settlements -		
	Warrabri Settlement - Supply and installation of one booster pump	Order placed. Delivery not yet effected.	
	Papunya Settlement - supply and installation of one booster pump	Unit ordered. Delivery not yet effected.	
	Hooker Creek Settlement - sink and equip one bore with engine, pump jack, 10,000 gallon storage tank and 30' stand	Boring commenced.	
	Beswick Station - Bishop Plain area - sink and equip one pastoral bore	Bore sunk and successful. Now being equipped.	
	Areyonga Settlement - sink and equip one bore with engine, pump jack, and connect to existing reticulation	Bore sunk to a depth of 500 ft. with no significant water. Boring abandoned at this site on recommendation Director of Water Use. Test boring will be carried out during 1959/60.	
TOTAL			£65,200

(c) REPORT ON WORKS PROJECTS UNDER CONSTRUCTION AS AT 30th JUNE, 1958
(Refer Appendix "F", 1957/58 Annual Report)

Amoonguna	Supply of electricity to Settlement area	Low tension reticulation has now been extended to all buildings erected, and to new residences.
	Erection of Coolroom	100% complete.
	Erection of Latrine, ablution and laundry unit	100% complete.
	Erection of Manual Training and Home Management Centre	100% complete.
	Erection of Garage and Workshop	100% complete.
	Erection of Kitchen and Dining Room	100% complete.
Beswick Creek	Reticulation of water supply	New reticulation 99% complete.
	Erection of two staff residences	One residence physically complete and occupied. Construction on second residence approximately 10% complete.
Delissaville	Erection of staff residence	100% complete.
Hooker Creek	Erection of two staff residences	25% complete.
Maningrida	Installation of 10,000-gallon overhead tank and associated pumping equipment and reticulation to two buildings	Nil. Work will be commenced early in 1959/60.
Papunya	Erection of three pre-cut staff residences	100% complete.
	Erection of latrine, ablution and laundry units	100% complete.

(c) REPORT ON WORKS PROJECTS UNDER CONSTRUCTION AS AT 30th JUNE, 1959 (Contd)
(Refer Appendix "F", 1957/58 Annual Report)

Papunya (contd)	Erection of Manual Training and Home Management Centre	100% complete
	Erection of four-classroom school	100% complete.
	Erection of Garage and Workshop	100% complete.
	Erection of Kitchen and Dining Room	100% complete.
	Erection of Infirmary	100% complete.
	Erection of Sisters' Quarters	100% complete
	Erection of Administrative Building and Single Quarters for Europeans	100% complete.
	Supply of electricity to Settlement area	100% complete.
Snake Bay	Installation of 300 cu. ft. Coolroom	100% complete.
	Erection of staff residence	100% complete.
Yuendumu	Sinking and equipping two bores	Boring, which continued throughout 1958/59, has been unsuccessful. The area has been subjected to extensive research, including a geophysical survey, and further experimental work is to be carried out by the Director of Water Use. These experiments will be continued throughout 1959/60.
	Erection of latrine, ablution and laundry facilities on Settlements	Most units have now been erected.
	Fifty native houses for wards on Settlements	Erection has been completed, except at Yuendumu and Amoonguna.
	Fencing	Erection work is still going on, and is expected to be completed early in 1959/60.

(o) REPORT ON WORKS PROJECTS UNDER CONSTRUCTION AS AT 30th JUNE, 1959 (Contd)
(Refer Appendix "F", 1957/58 Annual Report.)

Supply of electricity to Areyonga and Yuendumu

Yuendumu - 100% complete.

Areyonga - Work has ceased on this project because of the need for additional funds, which it is expected will be provided in 1959/60.

Erection of houses for allocation
to part-coloured families

100% complete.

Erection of Pre-School Centres to cater for European
and part-coloured children at Katherine, Nightcliff,
Tennant Creek and Alice Springs

100% complete

GRAND TOTAL (a) and (b) - £196,050

ABORIGINAL POPULATION
NORTHERN TERRITORY

	*Census figures published as at 31 December 1956	*As at 30 December, 1957	*As at 31 December, 1958
In contact with Government Settlements and Depots	3,777	3,898	4,039
In contact with Missions	5,038	6,338	6,117
In Pastoral, Mining, and Agricultural Areas	5,416	4,428	4,610 4,820
In Towns and Environs (not resident at Government Settlements)	486	326	330 667 7
At East Arm Leprosarium and Institutions in other States	198	157	198
Nomadic, not in contact with Missions or Settlements	530	430	480
Recorded Total Population	15,445 /(15,275)	15,577 /(15,598)	15,774 16,318
Estimated number not yet included in Census of Aborigines	720	720	650 550
	16,165 /(15,995)	16,297 /(16,318)	16,424 16,868

* Because of problems experienced in adjusting the population for the half-year beyond 31st December each year, figures as at that date are quoted instead of 30th June figures.

† Totals in brackets represent revised figures taking account of information received subsequent to 31st December, 1957.

‡ ~~It is almost certain that some aborigines, who should have been included in this group in the previous year, were incorrectly included in either Pastoral Areas or Government Settlements.~~

A BORIGINAL POPULATION ON ABORIGINAL RESERVES

APPENDIX "C"

as at 30th June, 1959

RESERVE	POPULATION				Total	A REA	WELFARE CENTRES ON RESERVES	
	Part		Aborigines				Mission Stations	Government Settlements
	Aborigines		M	F				
M	F	M	F					
Arnhem Land	34	22	1693	1768	3517	36,580 s.m.	See Footnote	Maningrida
Groote Eylandt			258	295	553	830 s.m.	Groote Eylandt and Umbakumba Mission	
Daly River			262	240	502	5,450 s.m.	Port Keats Mission	
Bathurst Island			441	564	1005	786 s.m.	Bathurst Island Mission	
Melville Island	46	65	86	79	276	2,100 s.m.	Garden Point Mission	Snake Bay
Hooker Creek			79	117	196	845 s.m.		Hooker Creek
Beswick			165	149	314	1,315 s.m.		Beswick Station
Darwin (Bagot)	37	50	141	126	354	1 s.m.	Retta Dixon Home, Aborigines	Beswick Creek
Haasts Bluff			466	559	1025	7,636 s.m.	Inland Mission	Areyonga Haasts Bluff Papunya
Yuendumu			222	275	497	850 s.m.		Yuendumu
Jay Creek			79	93	172	116 s.m.		Jay Creek
Alice Springs (Bungalow)			145	139	284	2 s.m.		Bungalow
TOTAL	117	137	4037	4404	8695	56,518 s.m.	<u>FOOTNOTE.</u>	
Larrakeyah						14 s.m.	Mission Stations in Arnhem Land Reserve:	
Woolwonga						162 s.m.	Church Missionary Society - Roper River Mission, Rose River Mission, Oenpelli Mission.	
Wagait						388 s.m.	Methodist Overseas Mission - Goulburn Island Mission.	
Warramunga						270 s.m.	Millingimbi Mission, Elcho Island	
South-West						12,108 s.m.	Mission, Yirrkala Mission, Croker Island	
Total area of Aboriginal Reserves in N.T.						<u>69,458</u> s.m. <u>69,453</u>	Mission (part-aborigines)	

ABORIGINAL POPULATION
ON GOVERNMENT SETTLEMENTS.

Settlement	<u>as at 30th June, 1958</u>			<u>as at 30th June, 1959</u>						TOTAL
	Adults	Children	Total	Adults			Children			
				Male	Fe- male	Total	Male	Fe- male	Total	
Areyonga	135	100	235	85	86	171	43	55	98	269
Bagot	174	97	271	95	62	157	46	64	110	267
Beswick Creek	} 158	90	248	93	101	194	72	48	120	314
Beswick Station										
Borrooloola	65	37	102	34	47	81	25	20	45	126
Bungalow	161	91	252	89	80	169	56	59	115	284
Delisseville	84	46	130	66	39	105	34	23	57	162
Haasts Bluff	232	175	407	115	138	253	109	152	261	514
Hooker Creek	110	60	170	52	86	138	27	31	58	196
Jay Creek	123	65	188	55	61	116	24	32	56	172
Maningrida	168	60	228	83	109	192	66	71	137	329
Snake Bay	101	35	136	61	60	121	25	19	44	165
Warrabri	186	128	314	95	114	209	89	103	192	401
Yuendumu	241	191	432	95	114	239	87	91	178	417
	1938	1175	3113	1018	127	2145	703	768	1471	3616

ABORIGINAL POPULATION RESIDENT ON MISSION STATIONS.

	As at 30th June, 1958.			As at 30th June, 1959.						TOTAL.
	Adults Total	Children Total	Total	Adults			Children			
				Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	
<u>CHURCH MISSIONARY SOCIETY</u>										
Oenpelli	157	105	262	84	84	168	64	56	120	288
Rose River	75	80	155	59	63	122	53	49	102	224
Roper River	89	141	230	49	52	101	94	65	159	260
Groote Eylandt	170	218	388	81	83	164	92	122	214	378
Umbakumba	68	83	151	42	38	80	43	52	95	175
<u>LUTHERAN MISSION</u>										
Hermannsburg	223	164	387	130	117	247	100	118	218	465
<u>METHODIST OVERSEAS MISSIONS</u>										
Goulburn Island	140	76	216	72	66	138	46	31	77	215
Milingimbi	252	246	498	92	112	204	124	136	260	464
Elcho Island	224	299	523	96	140	236	110	99	209	445
Yirrkala	113	156	269	71	97	168	86	101	187	355
<u>ROMAN CATHOLIC MISSIONS</u>										
Bathurst Island	472	330	802	309	388	697	81	147	228	925
Port Keats	215	165	380	158	138	296	81	73	154	450
Santa Teresa	80	125	205	45	55	100	75	85	160	260
Daly River	160	120	280	14	10	24	44	40	84	108
GRAND TOTALS	2438	2308	4746	1302	1443	2745	1093	1174	2267	5012

PRE-SCHOOL EDUCATIONAPPENDIX "F"ENROLMENT AND ATTENDANCES AT PRE-SCHOOL CENTRES DURING 1958/59

	No. of Individual Children enrolled during 1958/59	Enrolments at 30th June, 1959	Average Daily Attendance
Nathalie Gorey, Alice Springs	113	61	42
Ida Standley, Alice Springs (Feb. to June)	33	30	18
* Church of the Ascension, Alice Springs	75	35	27
Darwin	100	51	46
Maranga	86	49	32
Melville	90	47	39
Nightcliff	41	27	21
Stuart Park	85	52	41
+Peko Mine	23	18	15
Tennant Creek (Oct. to June)	39	31	22
Katherine (March to June)	33	25	21
	<u>718</u>	<u>426</u>	<u>324</u>

* Receives subsidy up to £750 per annum

+ No Government financial aid sought

APPENDIX "G"PRE-SCHOOL CENTRES: STAFF EMPLOYED AT 30th JUNE, 1959

	<u>Number</u>
Directors	10
Assistant Teachers	3
Part-trained Teacher	1
Untrained Assistants	6
	<u>20</u>
Total	<u>20</u>

APPENDIX "H"CHILDREN ATTENDING PRE-SCHOOL CENTRES ON SETTLEMENTS

	<u>Boys</u>	<u>Girls</u>	<u>Total</u>
Bungalow	12	9	21
Warrabri	17	17	34
Yuendumu			44
			<u>99</u>
Total			<u>99</u>

SCHOOLS FOR ABORIGINAL CHILDREN

ENROLMENT AND ATTENDANCES 1st JULY, 1958, TO 30th JUNE, 1959

SCHOOLS	ENROLMENTS						ATTENDANCES			Average Monthly Attendance as a Percentage of Average Monthly Enrolment		
	Average Monthly			Actual as at 30/6/1959			Average Monthly			M	F	T
	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T			
<u>GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS:</u>												
<u>(a) On Settlements</u>												
AREYONGA	30.2	34.6	64.8	33	33	66	27.6	30.9	58.5	91.4	89.3	90.3
BAGOT	23.8	24.9	48.7	26	27	53	22.8	23.9	46.7	95.7	96.0	95.9
BESWICK	38.4	24.4	62.8	44	30	74	36.4	23.5	59.9	94.8	96.3	95.4
BUNGALOW	35.8	33.7	69.5	30	24	54	31.9	30.2	62.1	89.1	89.6	89.4
DELISSAVILLE	25.5	10.2	35.7	25	9	34	24.3	9.7	34.	95.3	95.1	95.2
HOOKEE CREEK	14.7	19.3	34.	16	21	37	14.	18.1	32.1	95.2	93.8	94.4
JAY CREEK	18.1	17.3	35.4	14	19	33	15.8	16.	31.8	87.3	92.5	89.8
MANINGRIDA	13.6	13.4	27.	Temporarily Closed			13.	13.	26.	95.6	97.0	96.3
PAFUNYA	64.4	51.7	116.1	61	51	112	50.8	41.3	92.1	78.8	79.9	79.3
SNAKE BAY	12.8	13.	25.8	14	15	29	12.3	12.7	25.	96.1	97.7	96.9
WARRABRI	42.9	49.6	92.5	55	63	118	41.5	48.2	89.7	96.7	97.2	97.0
YUENDUMU	48.6	54.5	103.1	50	56	106	40.6	44.6	85.2	83.5	81.8	82.6
	368.8	346.6	715.4	368	348	716	331.0	312.1	643.1	89.7	90.1	89.9
<u>(b) On Pastoral Properties</u>												
LAKE NASH	10.7	21.3	32.	12	25	37	10.7	21.3	32.	100.	100.	100.
NEWCASTLE WATERS	10.7	17.3	28.	12	15	27	9.	15.1	24.1	84.1	87.3	68.9
	21.4	38.6	60	24	40	64	19.7	36.4	56.1	92.1	94.3	93.5

115

	ENROLMENTS						ATTENDANCES			Average Monthly Attendance as a Percentage of Average Monthly Enrolment		
	Average Monthly			Actual as at 30/6/1959			Average Monthly					
<u>SUBSIDISED SCHOOLS ON PASTORAL PROPERTIES:</u>												
COOLIBAH	7.7	12.8	20.5	Temporarily Closed			6.7	11.6	18.3	87.0	90.6	89.3
ELSEY	8.3	13.2	21.5	9	16	25	6.	10.8	16.8	72.3	81.8	78.1
KILDURK	5.	6.	11.	5	6	11	5.	6.	11.	100.	100	100.
MAINORU	13.4	15.6	29.	13	15	28	13.3	15.5	28.8	99.2	99.3	99.3
MOROAK	6.7	5.	11.7	7	4	11	6.1	4.7	10.8	91.0	94.0	92.3
	<u>41.1</u>	<u>52.6</u>	<u>93.7</u>	<u>34</u>	<u>41</u>	<u>75</u>	<u>37.1</u>	<u>48.6</u>	<u>85.7</u>	<u>90.4</u>	<u>92.4</u>	<u>91.5</u>
<u>MISSION SCHOOLS:</u>												
BATHURST ISLAND	65.3	85.4	150.7	65	86	151	63.2	83.8	147.	96.8	98.1	97.5
DALY RIVER	33.6	34.1	67.7	31	32	63	29.7	32.8	62.5	88.4	96.2	92.3
ELCHO ISLAND	26.3	35.4	61.7	20	28	48	23.9	33.5	57.4	90.9	94.6	93.0
GOULBURN ISLAND	24.6	11.5	36.1	22	10	32	23.8	11.4	35.2	96.7	99.1	97.5
GROOTE EYLANDT	55.6	80.6	136.2	56	86	142	53.9	79.	132.9	96.9	98.0	97.6
HERMANNSBURG	60.	74.	134.	64	78	142	56.6	71.3	127.9	94.3	96.3	95.4
MILINGIMBI	52.2	43.2	95.4	47	44	91	45.8	39.4	85.2	87.7	91.2	89.3
OENPELLI	40.9	34.2	75.1	42	36	78	33.4	28.	61.4	81.7	81.9	81.7
FORT KEATS	39.9	55.2	95.1	45	58	103	37.7	54.7	92.4	94.5	99.1	97.2
ROPER RIVER	54.9	39.3	94.2	54	42	96	52.	38.	90.	94.7	96.7	95.5
ROSE RIVER	31.3	26.4	57.7	33	27	60	30.	25.8	55.8	95.8	97.7	96.7
SANTA TERESA	39.1	47.5	86.6	41	53	94	38.3	46.1	84.4	97.9	97.0	97.5
UMBAKUMBA	24.7	31.8	56.5	28	35	63	23.8	30.4	54.2	96.3	95.6	95.9
YIRRAKALA	34.3	41.8	76.1	36	38	74	30.8	38.2	69.	89.8	91.4	90.7
	<u>582.7</u>	<u>640.4</u>	<u>1223.1</u>	<u>584</u>	<u>653</u>	<u>1237</u>	<u>542.9</u>	<u>612.4</u>	<u>1155.3</u>	<u>93.2</u>	<u>95.6</u>	<u>94.4</u>
TOTAL	1014	1078.2	2092.2	1010	1082	2092	930.7	1009.5	1940.2	91.8	93.6	92.7

APPENDIX "J"STAFFING OF SCHOOLS FOR ABORIGINAL CHILDREN

	<u>30/6/1957</u>	<u>30/6/1958</u>	<u>30/6/1959</u>
<u>GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS</u>			
(a) <u>Settlements</u>			
Head Teachers	4	7	7
Teachers in Charge	7	3	4
Assistants (Male)	2	3	4
Assistants (Female)	10	6	8
Relieving Teachers	1	2	2
Pre-School Teachers	-	-	2
(b) <u>Pastoral Properties</u>			
Teachers in Charge	2	2	1
	—	—	—
Total	26	23	28
<u>PASTORAL PROPERTY SCHOOLS (SUBSIDISED)</u>			
Teachers in Charge	3	2	4
<u>MISSION SCHOOLS</u>			
Teachers	24	26	34
	—	—	—
Total	53	51	66
	—	—	—

APPENDIX "K"WHITE OR PART-COLOURED CHILDREN
ATTENDING SCHOOLS FOR ABORIGINES

	<u>Boys</u>	<u>Girls</u>	<u>Total</u>
Settlements	9	9	18
Subsidised Schools on Pastoral Properties	3	3	6
Missions	4	16	20
	—	—	—
Total	16	28	44
	—	—	—

PART-COLOURED CHILDREN IN CARE OF MISSIONS (EXCLUDING CHILDREN ON MISSION STATIONS.)

MISSIONS	Number of Children.					
	30th June 1958			30th June, 1959		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
<u>AUSTRALIAN BOARD OF MISSIONS.</u> (Church of England.)						
St. Francis House (S.A.)	23	-	23	24	-	24
St. Mary's Hostel (Alice Springs)	23	33	56	21	41	62
<u>ABORIGINES INLAND MISSION.</u>						
RettaDixon Home (Darwin)	37	47	84	39	34	73
<u>METHODIST OVERSEAS MISSION.</u>						
Croker Island	34	24	58	33	17	50
<u>ROMAN CATHOLIC MISSION.</u>						
GardenPoint (MelvilleIsland.)	59	57	116	49	57	106
TOTALS	176	161	337	166	149	315

TOTAL NUMBER OF STATE CHILDREN AS AT 30th JUNE 1959.

AGE IN YEARS	TYPE OF CHARGE								
	Offence		Neglected and Destitute		Certificate		Totals.		
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	
0 - 5	-	-	13	13	2	2	15	15	
6 - 12	1	1	30	23	4	2	35	26	
13 - 18	5	6	4	14	2	4	11	24	
							61	65	126

CHILDREN CHARGED IN CHILDREN'S COURT DURING 1958/59

AGE IN YEARS	TYPE OF CHARGE LAID.						
	Offence		Neglected and Destitute		Totals		
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls.	
0 - 5	-	-	2	5	2	5	
6 - 12	-	1	5	4	5	5	
13 - 18	8	3	1	7	9	10	= 36

(1)	Children brought before the court in year under review	36
(2)	Children charged and committed	30
(3)	Children released on probation	6

OCCUPATIONAL GRADINGS OF ABORIGINAL (WARD) LABOURMALES

Bore Maintenance Hand
 Butcher
 Butcher's Assistant
 Cleaner
 Cook - Homestead
 Cook - Stock Camp
 Deck Hand
 Dogger
 Driller's Assistant
 Drover
 Electrician's Assistant
 Engineer's Assistant
 Farm Labourer
 Fencing Hand
 Fisherman
 Ganger
 Gardener
 Head Stockman
 Horse Breaker
 Horse Tailer
 Hunter
 Kitchen Hand
 Labourer
 Mechanic's Assistant
 Patrol Assistant
 Police Tracker
 Plumber's Assistant
 Pumper
 Slaughterman's Assistant

Stock Inspector's Assistant
 Stockman
 Tractor Driver
 Truck Driver
 Wood Cutter
 Wood and Water Joey

FEMALES

Cook
 Cook's Assistant
 Cook Housekeeper
 Domestic
 Fisherwoman
 Filleter
 Gardener
 Goatherd
 Laundress
 Nursing Assistant
 Pantry Maid
 Teacher's Assistant
 Waitress

ABORIGINES PASSED TO OUTSIDE EMPLOYMENT FROMWARRABRI SETTLEMENT - PERIOD 1.3.1959 - 3.5.1959.

<u>Classification</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Conditions</u>
<u>Males</u>		
Drovers	28	£10. 0. 0 p.w. plant and stock 5. 0. 0 p.w. plant only
Drovers	2	7. 10. 0 p.w. plant and stock 3. 15. 0 p.w. plant only
Labourers (Contract)	6	6. 0. 0 p.w. with keep and clothing
Labourers (General)	3	5. 0. 0 p.w. with keep and clothing
Labourers (General)	4	3. 10. 0 p.w. with keep and clothing
Cook	1	3. 0. 0 p.w. with keep and clothing
Stockmen	2	4. 10. 0 p.w. with keep and clothing
<u>Females</u>		
Domestics	2	£1. 0. 0 p.w. with keep and clothing

TOTAL: Males 46 Females 2

ABORIGINES (WARDS) IN FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT AS AT 1st JULY, 1958

<u>Industry</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
1. <u>Pastoral Industry</u> (by District)			
Barkly Tableland	304	92	396
Alice Springs	356	71	427
Victoria River	325	147	472
Darwin and Gulf	259	106	365
2. <u>Government Settlements</u>	426	178	604
3. <u>Missions</u>			
Church Missionary Society	196	187	383
Roman Catholic	169	123	292
Methodist	233	117	350
Lutheran	45	26	71
4. <u>Agriculture</u>	11	7	18
5. <u>Domestic</u>	59	31	90
6. <u>Fishing</u>	17	5	22
7. <u>Government Departments</u>			
8. <u>(including Municipal Councils</u>			
9. <u>and Airlines)</u>	166	3	169
10. <u>Mining</u>	26	-	26
11. <u>Slaughtering</u>	1	-	1
12. <u>Timber</u>	6	1	7
13. <u>Tourist Resorts</u>	1	2	3
14. <u>Transport</u>	3	1	4
	<u>2,603</u>	<u>1,097</u>	<u>3,700</u>
Totals			

(a) The figures for Items 4 to 14 inclusive are incomplete.

(b) The survey covered wards on regular weekly hire. Casual employees were excluded from the scope of the survey.