

Maryborough District, MARYBOROUGH STATION.

Relative to:- Flood damage caused in Maryborough Pólice Division by floods in the Mary River in January, 1968, vide attached. Inspector's Office, Maryborough, Ref.No. 112.M.

Sir,

I have to report in reference to the above and attached that flooding in the Mary River which reached a peak height of 30'4" at 10.12p.m. on 10.1.68, resulted in wide spread flooding of the town and district.

The river reached a height of 16'5" on 10.1.68 when the back water commenced to enter Kent Street at Walkers Shipyard.

At 4a.m. on 11.1.68, at a height of 17'9", it crossed Guava Street and commenced to flow through the Pocket from Ajax Street, across Ann Street, Albert Street, Alice Street, Cardigan Street, Tiger Street, Guava Street, and Kent Street and again entered the river at Walkers Shipyards.

At 5a.m. on 11.1.68, the river reached a height of 18'3" when the water commenced to cross the Lamington Bridge on the Bruce Highway, which was closed to traffic at about 5.30a.m. on that date.

At Sa.m. on 11.1.68, the river was 19'11" and approximately two foot across Guava Street, breaking off traffic between Maryborough and Granville.

By this time, a number of small boats were operating ferrying workers between the town area and Granville and these boats continued to operate throughout the day.

At 7p.m. on 11.1.68, at a height of 25'3", the water commenced to enter onto the Granville Bridge at Tiger Street and this bridge was closed to traffic at about 7.30p.m. on that date.

The river continued to rise and reached its peak height of 30'4" at 10p.m. on 12.1.68. It remained at this height until 12midnight when it fell one inch and about 3a.m. on 13.1.68, had again risen to its previous peak of 30'4". It then commenced to fall slowly and by 12midnight on 13.1.68, was down to 28'1". By 12midnight on 14.1.68, it had fallen to 23' and by 9p.m. on 15.1.68, had fallen to 16'1".

On 10.1.68, when a high flood appeared imminent offers of assistance were received from Service Organisations and private individuals and the following rendered valuable assistance during and after the flood:-

CIVIL DEFENCE ORGANISATION- Organiser, John ANDERSON of 128 Cambridge Street, Granville, Maryborough

The Inspector of Police, MARYBOROUGH

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MARYBOROUGH JAYCEES -President, Patrick George BUTLER of 91 Walker Street, Maryborough. MARYBOROUGH LIONS CLUB - President, Daniel O'CONNELL of 41 Aberdeen Avenue, Maryborough. MARYBOROUGH APEX CLUB - President, Peter JACKSON of 66 Cheapside Street, Maryborough. MARYBOROUGH FIRE BRIGADE - Secretary, Keith WILLIAMS of 209 Bazaar Street, Maryborough. MARYBOROUGH SPORTING CAR CLUB- President, Ronald PROVE of 39 Gilbert Street, Maryborough. YELLOW CABS, MARYBOROUGH - Manager, William TURNER of Bells View Private Hotel, 175 Lennox Street, Maryborough. MARYBOROUGH GIRL GUIDES - Divisional Commissioner, Mrs. Dorothy Joan McINTOSH of 59 Cheapside Street, Maryborough. MARYBOROUGH BROADCASTING CO.PTY.LTD., -STATION 4MB-363 Kent Street, Maryborough, Manager, George Wilfred ROBERTSON. AUSTRALIAN BROADCASTING COMMISSION -STATIONS 4QB and 4GM-431-433 Kent Street, Maryborough, Regional Officer, Mr. Hugh Hutchison PEDDIE. WIDE BAY-BURNETT TELEVISION LTD., Hoffman Street, Granville, Manager, Frederick Treaise YATES. QUEENSLAND COUNTRY WOMENS ASSOCIATION, Wharf Street, Maryborough President, Mrs. Una Ivy May ELLIOT. MARYBOROUGH RURAL YOUTH CLUB - President, Terry TIDCOMBE of Nikenbah via Maryborough. ST. JOHNS AMBULANCE BRIGADE - Call Commander, Mrs. A. KELLY of 337 Ann Street, Maryborough. REVEREND Norman Edward WESTON, Baptist Church of 170 Fort Street, Maryborough. REVEREND PAXTON of St. Stephens Presbyterian Church of Queensland, Cnr.John and Sussex Street, Maryborough. MONSIGNOR LYONS of Catholic Presbytery, Adelaide Street, Maryborough. Mr. Malcolm MISFELD, District Superintendent of Railways, Lennox Street, Maryborough. His Worship the Mayor, Ald. STAFFORD and the City Administrator, R.W. LUPTON, City Hall, Maryborough. Major and Mrs. FLETCHER of Salvation Army, 89 Bazaar Street, Maryborough, now of 70 Blackmore Street, Albion, Brisbane. Gordon SLIM of 45 Fort Street, Maryborough George Alexander SEEHARS of 91 Steindl Street, Granville. Cormac Carthage McAULIFFE of Bidwill via Maryborough. David Bernard CORSER. c/- Wide Bay Transport, 209 Bazaar Street, Maryborough. Robert William BALDWIN of 64 North Street, Maryborough. Eric COE of 139 Walker Street, Maryborough.

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Errol Gladstone BRYANT, 3 Smith Street, Aubinville, Maryborough. Tarry DAU, 93 Bazaar Street, Maryborough. Robert John BOWMAN, 96 Bazaar Street, Maryborough. Robert Ernest SCOTT, 13 Wyland Street, Maryborough. George Anderson McCALLUM Jnr., 90 Ment Street, Maryborough. Noel George COGILL, 42 Ferry Street, Maryborough. Kenneth Leonard STUMER, 302 Alice Street, Maryborough. John Francis KUHNEMAN, 129 Queen Street, Maryborough. Mrs. RICHARDSON, 294 Lennox Street, Maryborough. Henry CHarles GAMER, 141 Cambridge Street, Granville. Douglas Sydney CHURCHWARD, 57 Banana Street, Granville. Rodney Douglas CHURCHWARD, 57 Banana Street, Granville. Garry INNIS, 112 Walker Street, Maryborough. Dennis Michael WROE, 7 Meramont Street, Granville. John Anthony CASEY, 296 Lennox Street, Maryborough. Percy AITCHISON, 12 Keith Street, Maryborough. Athol Berdwood COOK, 5 Hunter Street, Maryborough Thomas Mothersdal DeCARTERET, Storekeeper, Gympie Rd., Tinana. Barry Daniel George STAIB, 29 Gympie Road, Tinana. Robert Henry STYLES, 40 Garden Street, Maryborough. Douglas Lloyd POWNALL, 8 High Street, Tinana. James Malcolm KERR, Gympie Road, Tinana. Colin John REEVES, Sorransen Street, Tinana. William George MIDDIS, High Street, Tinana. Eric GAYFORD, Central Road, Tinana. Mervyn Clarence DITCHMEN, 116 Gympie Road, Tinana. Reginald Frederick John VOLKER, 142 Cambridge Street, Granville. Cecily Margaret GEISSLER, 50 Holme Street, Maryborough. Lilian Marian WALKER, 347 Ann Street, Maryborough Norman Love CROCKER, Caravilla Motel, Ferry Street, Maryborough. Lyal BRYANT, 57 Banana Street, Granville. Anthony George STUTZ, 95 March Street, Maryborough. Marshall KREUGER, 64 Creek Road, Maryborough. Eric HILLIARD, 158 Neptune Street, Maryborough. Reverend David Robin COOPER, Church of England, 82 Ferry St., Maryborough. Sidney Landsborough PARKINSTON, Alice Street, Baddow. Neil McCOLL, 398 Alice Street, Maryborough. Mr. TOOTH, Brisbane(a tourist, no further particulars available). Michael WILSON c/- John WILSON, Mail Service, 525, North Aramara (left district) Mr. Frederick Thomas BORCHARDT, Reginal Director of Education, 276 Queen Street, Maryborough. Warrant Officer Frederick KALANDER, 62A Fort Street, Maryborough. Allan James BOTT, 133 Sumsex Street, Maryborough. Neville Victor James COOK, 70 Aldridge Street, Maryborough. Philip CHURCHWARD, 70 Aldridge Street, Maryborough.

James Roen SCHMIDT, 2 Bowen Street, Maryborough.

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Gerard SENGSTOCK, 58 Churchill Street, Maryborough.

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Mr. M. McCOOMBS, 3 Dunn Street, Maryborough.

orian BAKER, 11 Cutler Lane, Maryborough. Vr. Charles LENTHALL anr. & Mr. Charles LENTHALL Jnr., Salt Water Greek, St. Helens, Maryborough.

At the height of the flood, back waters entered many homes and spread into the Basements of business houses on the eastern side of Kent Street, through storm drains.

It covered many cane farms in the Pocket, Tinana, Walkers Point and Island Plantation areas, causing considerable damage to a large area of sugar cane.

Walkers Shipyards suffered the worst damage as the flood waters flowed across this area to a depth of up to 16 feet, washing away buildings and damaging installations and equipment.

An estimate of damage caused by the flood is as hereunder:-

Kevin WILLIAMS, 23 Lennox Street, Maryborough, (Owner, occupier), occupation-Painter. Water entered residence to a depth of approximately 18 inches. Estimated damage - \$200.00 - not insured against flood.

David and Sandra Jill CARPENTER, 194 Ann Street, Maryborough, (Owner.occupier), occupation-fitter. Water entered residence to a depth of about 5 inches. Estimated damage-\$200.00 - not insured against flood.

James SHAW, 191 Ann Street, (owner, occupier), pensioner, water under house to depth of 5ft, Approximate damage - \$40,00. Not insured against flood.

Reginald John DENT, 30 Tiger Street (owner, occupier), pensioner, water entered residence to depth of about 2ft6ins. Estimated damage \$300.00. Not insured against flood.

Ivan Ernest BEHRENDORFF, 178 Albert Street, (owner,occupier), unemployed. Water to depth of about 6ft. under residence. Estimated damage \$100.00, not insured against flood.

Joseph Anthony BEST, 176 Albert Street, (owner,occupier), pensioner, water under esidence to depth of about 5ft. Estimated damage \$200.00, not insured against flood.

Donald Edward WALKER, 15 Wyland Street, (Occupier). Water entered residence to a depth of about 3ft.6ins. Estimated damage:-floor coverings - \$30.00, building \$400.00. Total- \$430.00 - not insured against flood.

John PARKES, 11 Wyland Street(Owner, occupier)(Pensioner). Water entered residence to depth of about 4ft. Estimated damage -\$200.00. Not insured against flood.

Gladys MILZEWSKI, 5 Crimmens Street, (Owner, occupier), widow, water just entered house. Estimated damage, \$200.00. Not insured against flood.

Charles Edward KAPPER, 3 Fort Lane (owner, occupier). Water under house to depth of about 5ft. Estimated damage \$40.00. Not insured against flood.

Betty CRAW, 185 Mary Street (occupier)widowed pensioner. Owner of house, Elsie HUNTER. Water entered residence to depth of about 9ins. Estimated damage to floor coverings #\$60.00. Not insured against flood.

Richard John WYNNE, 180 Mary Street (owner,occupier). Water under residence to depth of about 18ins. Estimated damage to fencing-\$200.00. Not insured against flood.

Jack BOX, 177 Mary Street, (owner, occupier) pensioner, water under residence to depth of about 1ft. Estimated damage, \$60.00. Not insured against flood.

Helena Catherine Isabella SCHAFFER, 174 Mary Street (owner,occupier), widowed pensioner, water just reached under residence. Estimated damage to fences \$50.00. Not insured against flood.

Pearl GUY, 168 Kent Street (occupier), widowed pensioner. Water entered residence to depth of about 2ft. Estimated damage occupier, \$30.00. owner, \$50.00 (Vince HUNTER). Not insured against flood.

Daniel Alexander BUXTON, 176 Kent Street (owner, occuperi) pensioner, water to a depth of 5ft. under house, estimated damage, \$50.00. No insurance against flood.

Harry Michael CONNELLAN, 187 Mary Street, (owner,occuper)unemployed. Water entered residence to depth of about 18inches. Estimated damage \$60.00. Not insured against flood.

Graham GODFREY, 7 Wyland Street (occupier) labourer, water entered residence to depth of about 2ft.6ins. Estimated damage -occupier-\$65.00. Owner -Reg.DOYLE - \$60.00. No insurance against flood.

Winifred LATIMORE, 160 Albert street, widow. Water entered residence to depth of about 1ft. Estimated damage - \$120.00.

Elfrieda Betha MILLWOOD, 9 Wyland Street (owner, occupier) widow pensionar. Water entered residence to depth of about 2ft.6ins. Estimated damage -\$350.00. Not insured against flood.

Edward Josph BARRETT, 29 Zante Street, (owner,occupier) Bus driver. Water just covered floor. Estimated damage \$500.00. Not insured against flood.

Florence Mavis SCHULZ, 186 Kent Street (owner, occupier) invalid pensioner. Water entered residence to depth of about 2ft.6ins. Estimated damage \$500.00. Not insured against flood. John Thomas and Doreen DAWSON, 165 Albert Street (owner). Premises enoccupied. Water entered residence to a depth of about 2ft. Estimated damage - \$200.00. Not insured against flood.

Tilly MUCHOW, 97 Gympic Road, Tinana. Water entered residence to floor level. Estimated damage - \$30.00. Not insured against flood.

John Alexander STEVEN, 192 Alice Street. Water under house to depth of Sft. Estimated damage - \$60,00, Not insured against flood.

Esmae Petersen, No.14 Fort Street, (occupier), Owner-Mrs. Morrison, 112 Banana Street, Granville, Water entered house to depth of 1ft. Estimated damage - \$200.00. Not insured against flood.

Merv. WILLIAMS, No.18 Fort Street (occupier), Owner-Mrs. Beryl HEMSLEY, 6 Smith Street, Aubinville, Maryborough. Water entered house to depth of 4'6" in house. Estimated damage to owners property - \$200.00.

Alfred Victor Frederick EDARDS (owner, occupier). Water under residence. Estimated damage \$30.00.

WALKERS LIMITED, Shipyards, 191-201 Kent Street. Water flowed through the shipyards to a depth of up to 16ft, demolishing buildings and causing considerable damage to stock and installations. Estimated damage - \$85,000.00. Insured against flood damage by a number of companies. The names of the Insurance Companies are not available at present.

HYNE & SON PTY.LTD., 151-153 Kent Street, Maryborough. Water flowed through the Pre-cut factory to a depth of about 12ft., causing an estimated total damage of \$7,600.00. Not insured against flood.

MOBIL OIL AUST. LTD., Oil Depot, Kent Street, Maryborough. Water flowed through the depot to a depth of about 12ft, causing a total estimated damage of \$4,500.00. Insured against flood. No information at present available as to name of Insurance Company concerned.

MARYBOROUGH CITY COUNCIL. Total flood damage an estimated \$8.100.00. Not insured against flood damage.

James Quentin and James Robin BERESFORD, Chemist of 403 Kent Street. Water entered the basement of premises, causing an estimated \$20,000.00 damage to stock and fittings. Insured against flood damage with Atlas Insurance Co.

DEPARTMENT OF WORKS, Maryborough. Damage caused to Harbours and

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Marine Department, \$1,300.00.

TOWN AND SUBURBAN BUILDING SOCIETY LTD., Mary Street. Water flowed over area to a depth of about 11ft., causing damage estimated at \$400.00. No insurance against flood.

MARYBOROUGH SAILING CLUB, Queens Park. Water entered the top floor of building to a depth of about 4ft, causing damage estimated at \$600.00. No insurance against flood.

WIDE BAY ROWING CLUB, Wharf Street. Water entered top floor to a depth of about 2ft and caused damage estimated at \$800.00. Not insured against flood.

WILSON HART & CO.LTD., Sawmill., 5 Walker Street. Estimated flood damage - \$750.00. No insurance.

BYRNE BROS., 4 Frank Street, Carriers and Contractors. Estimated damage \$3,100. No insurance against flood.

BANK OF NEW SOUTH WALES, 344-350 Kent Street. Water entered basement to a depth of about 4ft.6ins., through storm drains, causing damage estimated at \$220.00. Insured against flood. No information available as to name of insurance company.

Robert Joseph RILLIE, Shoe Retail Store, 374 Kent Street. Water entered basement through storm drains to depth of about 6ft., causing damage estimated at \$5.00. No insurance against flood.

Herbert Montrose KINGSTON, Chemist of 372 Kent Street. Water entered basement to a depth of about 6'6", causing damage estimated at \$200.00. No insurance against flood.

Thomas Joseph and Irene COLLINS, retail draper of 368 Kent Street. Water entered basement through storm drain to a depth of about 6'6", causing damage estimated at \$50.00. No insurance against flood.

WOOLWORTHS of QLD.PTY.LTD. Kent Street, Maryborough. Water from storm drains under building to a depth of about Sft.6ins., caused damage estimated at \$250.00. Insured against flood. Name of company unknown.

Shirley Joy JOHNSON, Beauty Salon, 354 Kent Street, Maryborough. Water entered through storm drain to a depth of about 6ft., causing damage estimated at \$20.00.

ELLEN's SALON, 391 Kent Street. Water entered basement to a depth of about 8'6", causing damage estimated at \$40.00. No insurance against flood.

MIMOSA CAFE, 389 Kent Street, Water entered basement to a depth of about 8'6", causing damage estimated at \$50.00. No insurance against flood.

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COSTELLO STORES - 387 Kent Street. Water entered basement to a depth of about 8'6", causing damage estimated at \$600.00. Insured regainst flood. Name of company unknown.

John Wooldridge WITHERS, 401 Kent Street, Optomertrist. Water entered basement to a depth of about 8ft.6ins, causing damage estimated at \$100,00, no insurance against flood.

QUEENS HOTEL, 411 Kent Street, Maryborough. Water entered basement to a depth of about Sft.6ins., causing damage estimated at \$40.00. No insuranceagainst flood.

EARLE PAINTS, 274-276 Adelaide Street, Maryborough. Water through building to a depth of about 4'6" and through workshop to a depth of about 6ft., causing damage estimated at \$800.00. Covered by Insurance with Transport and General Insurance Company.

FARMS:

E.C. FORBES and Mrs. JAMES - Granville.

STotal estimated loss = \$800.00

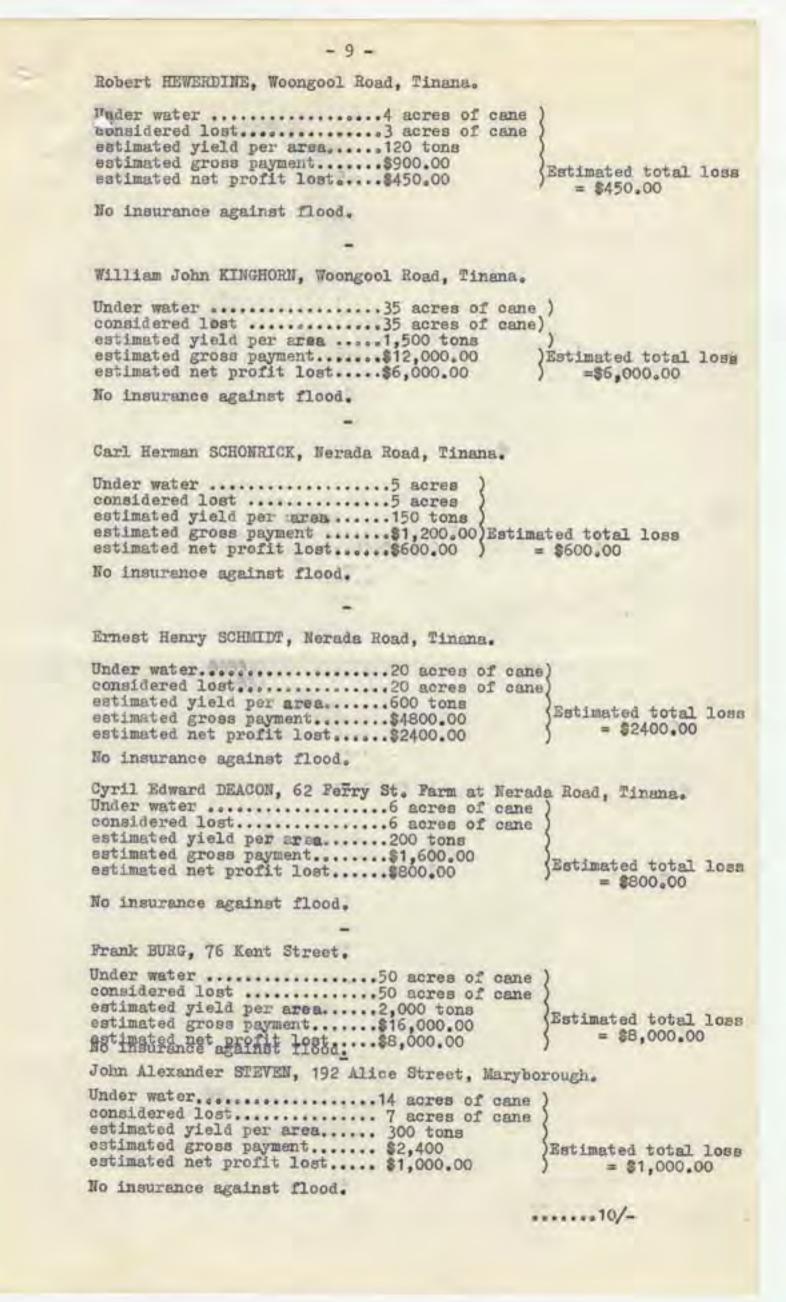
No insurance against flood,

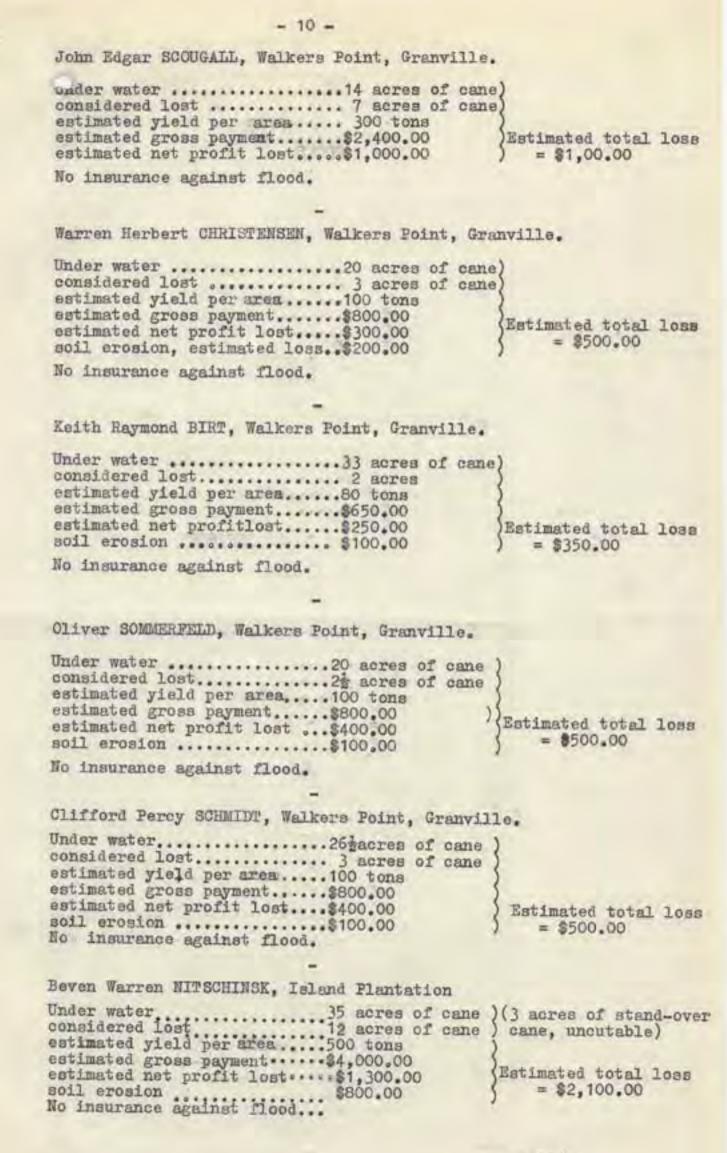
No insurance against flood.

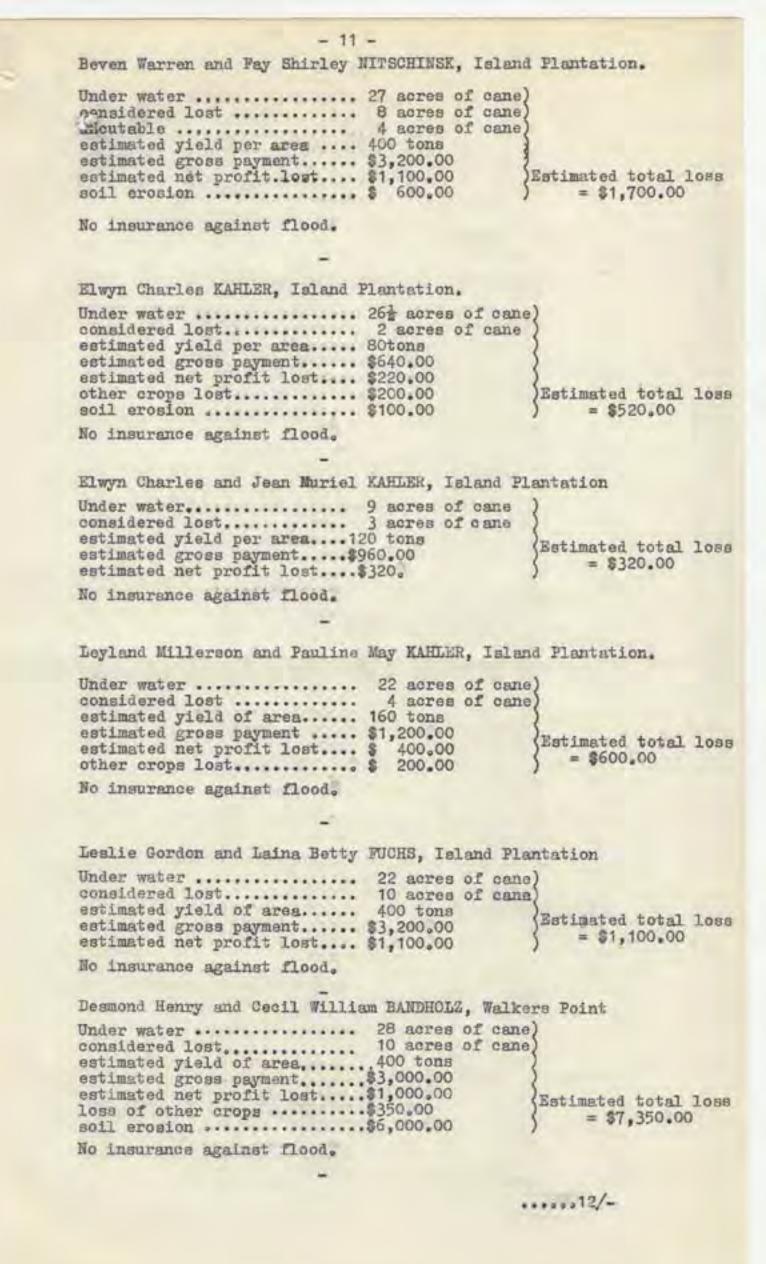
considered lost......80 acres of cane estimated yield per area.....3,000 tons estimated gross payment.....\$22,500.00 estimated net profit lost....\$11,250.00 No insurance against flood. Total estimated loss = \$11,250.00

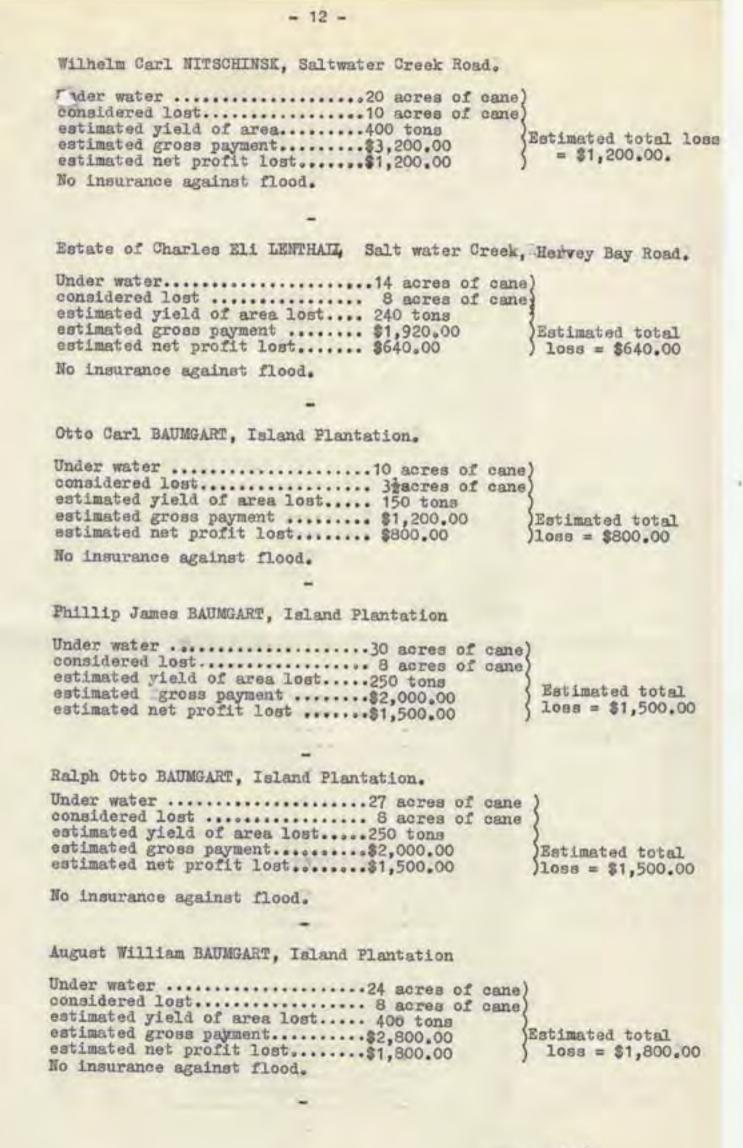
CRAN & SONS, Woongool Road, Tinana.

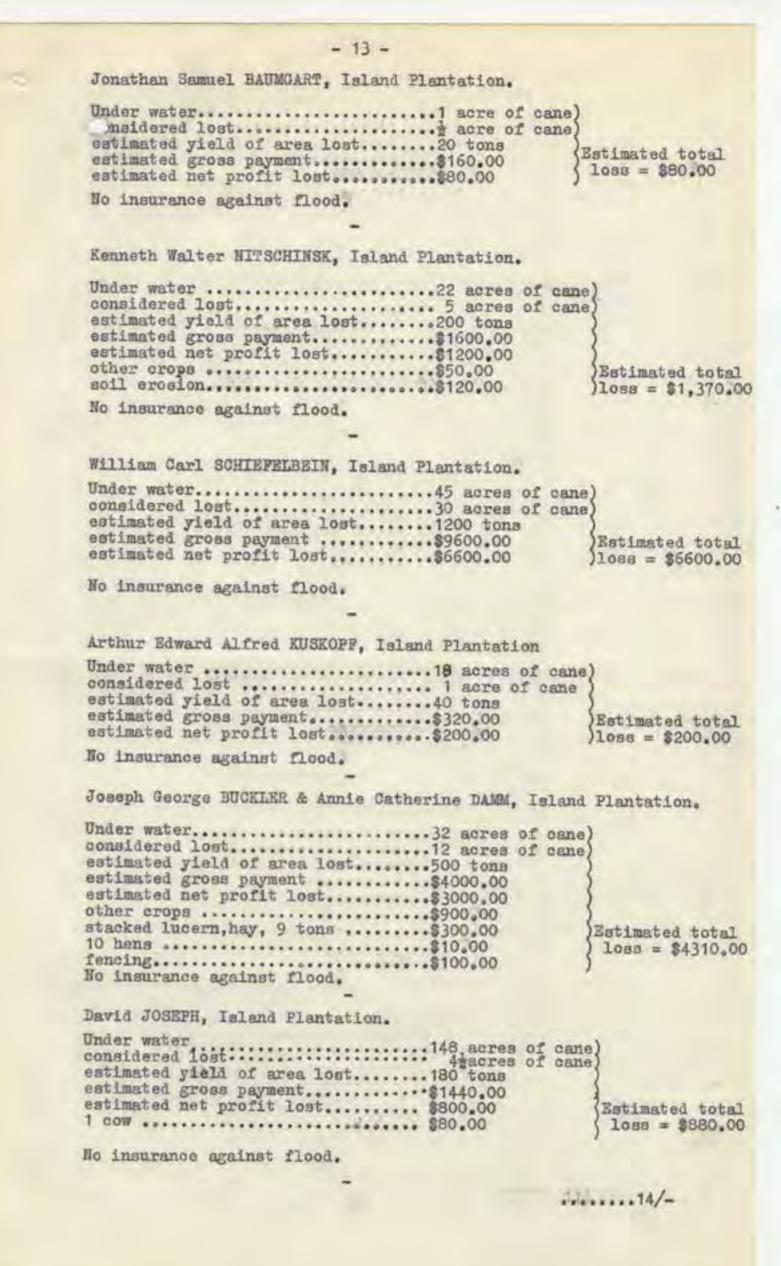
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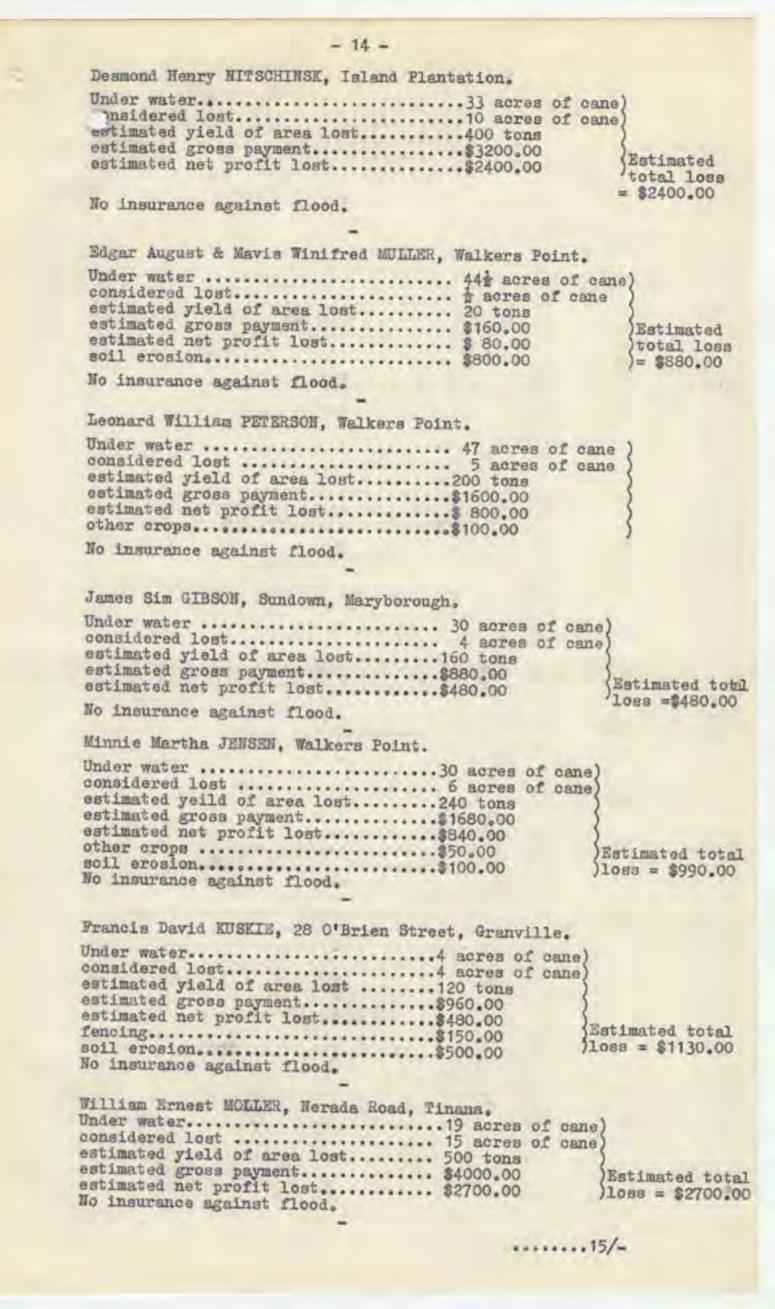


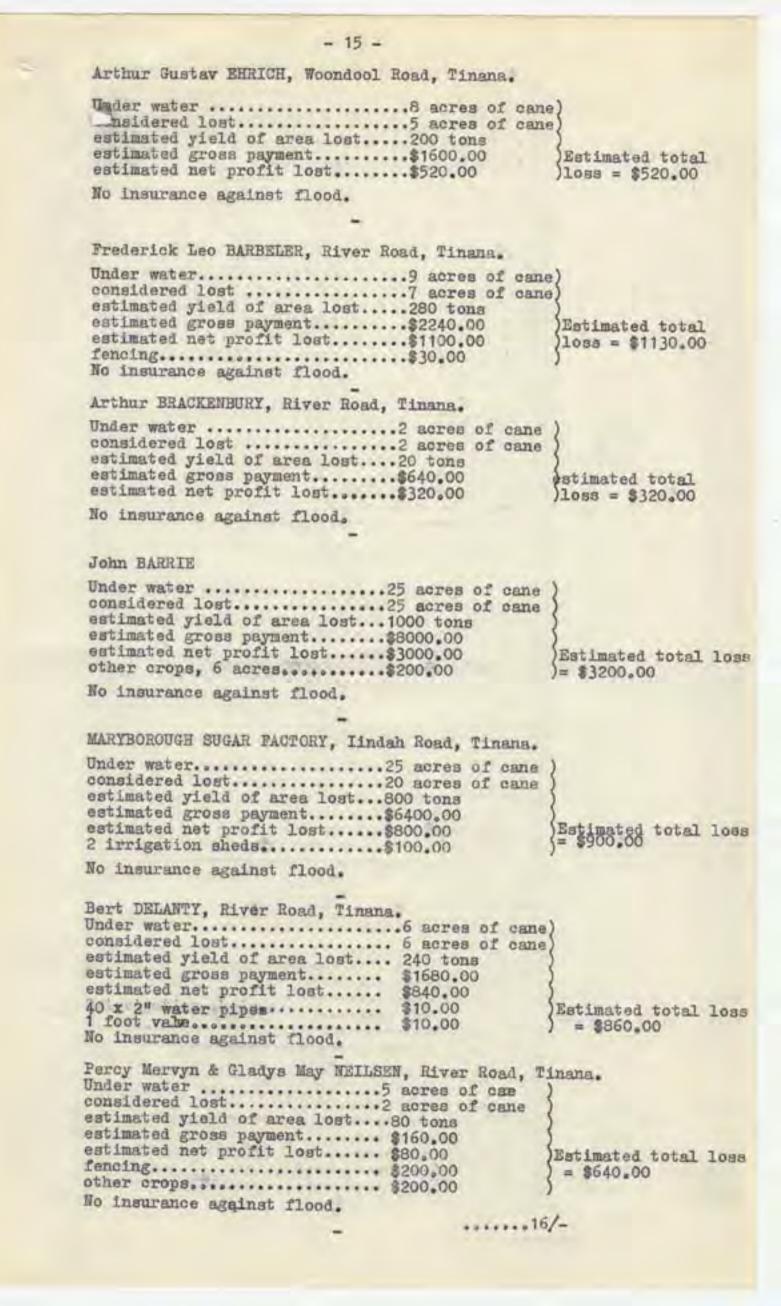












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Colin Carl SCHMIDF, Walkers Point.
Under water
No insurance against flood.
Jacob & Frank John CORDIE, 22 Norway Street, Maryborough.
Under water
No insurance against flood
Mervyn Leslie OTTO, 9 Crimmens Street, Maryborough.
Under water
No insurance against flood.
Kevin Francis WROE, 82 Kent Street, Maryborough.
Under water
No insurance against flood.
Peter Neil FETERSEN
Under water
Trevor Thomas STEINHARDT, 270 Queen Street, Maryborough.
Small crops - lost 3 acres =\$400.00 Total estimated loss = \$400.00 No insurance against flood.
- David Charles TAFT, 60 Steindl Street, Granville.
17 acres of fodder crops\$400.00) fencing\$60.00)Estimated total loss = \$960.00 soil erosion\$500.00)
Peter Neil PETERSEN, 220 Queen Street, Maryborough.
Small crops destroyed\$300.00 Estimated total loss = \$400.00
******17/-

In addition to the amount of damage caused as shown, a large number of residents who had water under their hones . It not sufficient to enter the house proper, together with a large number of residents in areas not reached by the flood waters, moved their furniture and effects and had the unpense of removal. Owing to the scattered nature of such persons, it has not been possible at this stage to obtain their names and addresses. The fact that Maryborough had some warning of the expected flood, enabled these persons to have their belongings moved when they anticipated the flood waters could effect them, and many others outside this area, took measures to have their belongings shifted to safer places.

There were no fatalities, perhaps due to the co-operation of th local T.V. and Radio Station in broadcasting Police warnings to Parents to keep their children away from flood areas unless accompanied by a responsible adult. The Police also utilised this means to broadcast the expected height of the Mary River as 30ft. and to warn those persons who could be effected by the height to take procautionary measures.

The total estimated damage is \$240,112.00. However, this figure is far from accurate as I feel that many claims of damage have been grossly exaggerated, more particularly by farmers who had parts of their sugar came crops covered by water.

When the Bruce Highway was closed to traffic by water over the Lamington Bridge, the tourists began to build up on both sides of the river and when the bridge was opened on 15.1.68, over 4,000 vehicles crossed over on that day. These stranded tourists created a problem as many were short of money and accommodation was very limited. Temporary shelter was provided to many by local residents, whilst others were given shelter in schools and halls. Others slept in their vehicles and caravans in the streets.

A Police rescue boat, owned conjointly by Maryborough Police and The Barrum Shire Council was utilised to considerable advantage. However, as there is no outboard motor supplied for use with the boat, one had to be borrowed for such purpose. I feel that this is an unsatisfactory state of affairs as the question of insurance could arise should the motor be damaged whilst in use by the Police, whereas the boat would be virtually useless without motor power.

All places effected by water are in known flood areas and have been previoualy unindated by flood waters, whilst the areas of sugar cane and other crops effected by flood waters are actaully on river flats which have previously and will continue to be covered by water in all major floods. These areas are actually farmed to obtain the benefit of soil deposited by past floods and are considered to be amongst the best farming land in and around Maryborough, from which some of the best yields of sugar cane are usually obtained.

At the present time, the Maryborough City Council are refusing building permits for flooded areas of Maryborough as there is no doubt that further flooding of these areas will be experienced in the future.

Very valued ansistance was rendered the Police throughout the flood by members of all Service Clubs, more particularly from the Maryborough Lions Club, Maryborough Jaycees and Maryborough Apex Club, who gathered their members and gave combined assistance wherever required.

As the flood waters reached a height to cut Tinana and Granville from the city area, two-way radio communications with the Maryborough Police Station was established and maintained throughout the danger period.

whilst some requests were obtained for food drops, all were investigated and attended to and it was found that no persons in the area suffered any hardship from this cause.

On the morning of 11.1.68, a Sioux Helicopter arrived in this area for flood relief work. This helicopter was utilised to convey Mr. Colin KUNST of Glenbar who was suffering from a heart condition from his place of residence to Maryborough Base Hepital. On 12.1.68, the Sioux was replaced by an Iroquois Helicopter, which is considered more suitable for rescue work, and was utilised to convey Mrs. H. WADE of Gundiah, suffering from a heart complaint, from her residence to St.STEPHENS HOSPITAL, Maryborough, also Mrs. Joy EDMONDS of Netherby, suffering from a blood clot, from her place of residence to the Maryborough Base Heopital.

The Iraqois was also utilised to make food drops and in reconnaissance of the flood area to assure that no persons were in actual distress.

As Maryborough and Gympie have in the past experienced serious flooding and in view of their geographical position, will no doubt experience further floods of a like nature in the future, you may consider that the stationing of a member of the water police and a high powered boat in this area would be of considerable assistance in such emergencies. Such boat and Police Officer could be fully occupied in attending to necessary duties throughout the year at Hervey, Tin Can Bay and Tewantin in this district.

As a result of my inquiries, I am satisfied that although the flood water was wide spread, isolating many areas, no person suffered any hardship and I have found that those most effected have high praise for the assistance rendered them. Any adverse comments have been from persons not effected and such persons have no public backing in their unreasonable and untruthful claims.

The flooding of the Mary River resulted from heavy rains which fell throughout the whole cathment area. The rainfalls for Maryborough were:-

3.1.68 0112 points 6.1.68 0076 points 7.1.68 0243 points 8.1.68 0065 points 9.1.68 0225 points 10.1.68 0512 points 11.1.68 0513 points 12.1.68 0040 points

Attached hereto is a map of the city of Maryborough, showing the area covered by water, together with a record of the river heights from 6a.m. on 9.1.68 to 3p.m. on 16.1.68.

mior Sergeant, No. 3932.