



This document was created by the
Digital Content Creation Unit
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
2010

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 513.

BASUTOLAND.

REPORT FOR 1905-6.

(For Report for 1904-5, see No. 480.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
December, 1906.



LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LTD., FETTER LANE, E.C.,
and 32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W. ;
or OLIVER & BOYD, EDINBURGH ;
or E. PONSONBY, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1906.

[Cd. 3285.] *Price 4d.*

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
REPORT OF THE RESIDENT COMMISSIONER	5
" " " GOVERNMENT SECRETARY	11
" " " ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER, LERIBE	19
" " " " " BEREA	25
" " " " " MASERU... ..	29
" " " " " MAFETENG	35
" " " " " MOHALES HOEK	40
" " " " " QUTHING	44
" " " " " QACHA'S NEK	49
" " " PRINCIPAL MEDICAL OFFICER, MASERU	52
" " " MEDICAL OFFICER, LERIBE	55
" " " " " MAFETENG	57
" " " " " MOHALES HOEK	58
" " " " " QUTHING	60
" " " DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL, MASERU	61
" " " GOVERNMENT VETERINARY OFFICER, MASERU	65

No. 513.

BASUTOLAND.

(For Report for 1904-5, see No. 480.)

THE HIGH COMMISSIONER to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

High Commissioner's Office,

Johannesburg,

29th October, 1906.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you a copy of a despatch from the Resident Commissioner of Basutoland, enclosing the Annual Report on that territory for the financial year 1905-6.

I have, &c.,

SELBORNE,

High Commissioner

The Right Honourable

The Earl of Elgin and Kincardine, K.G., G.C.S.I.

&c., &c., &c.,

Colonial Office.

Resident Commissioner's Office,
Maseru,
18th October, 1906.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward my Annual Report, with the Annual Reports of the Government Secretary and other officers, for the year ended the 30th June, 1906.

I have, &c.,

H. C. SLOLEY,
Resident Commissioner.

His Excellency
The Right Honourable
The Earl of Selborne, P.C., G.C.M.G.,
High Commissioner,
South Africa.

ANNUAL REPORT—BASUTOLAND. FOR THE
YEAR ENDED 30th JUNE, 1906.

The financial returns included in the Government Secretary's report, show that the revenue for the year exceeded that of the previous year by £1,481. The amounts received under all heads of revenue have been practically the same as during the preceding financial year, the most noteworthy exception being the Post Office receipts, which show an increase of £600. The hut-tax has been satisfactorily paid, and shows a slight increase both in the number of huts and in the total amount collected. The collection includes a smaller amount of arrear tax than before. The expenditure for the year under review has been £93,333 13s. 8d., or less than the revenue by £5,181 12s. 7d., which amount has been added to the balance.

The balance in favour of the Basutoland Government now amounts to £158,287 2s. 9d. Of this sum £70,000 is invested as an advance, bearing interest at three per cent., to the Central South African Railways, for the purpose of construction of the railway line to Maseru. The remainder of the balance is invested with the Standard Bank on deposit account, bearing interest. I have suggested the utilization of this balance as an advance for the purpose of further railway extension towards the border of Basutoland, but the Railway Committee of the Inter-Colonial Council has not been able to entertain the proposals in regard to this which have been made by His Excellency the High Commissioner.

The imports for the year show an increase of £41,000, and the exports an increase of £8,000. Owing to bad seasons, the grain exports from Basutoland have been inconsiderable. Wool and horses contribute the largest items to the total value of exports. I have no doubt that the number of ponies actually exported by buyers for the German Government and for other purposes exceeded considerably the number which is shown in the returns.

The purchasing powers of the Basuto are largely augmented by the wages earned by the young men on railway works, mines, &c., but a very large proportion of these earnings is spent outside the country. To such an extent do these outside purchases affect the Customs revenue of Basutoland that it has been found necessary to station a Customs officer at the new railway station in Maseru, to frame returns of dutiable articles brought in by returning labourers and others. The result of this step has been to obtain figures which suggest the conclusion that very much,

if not most, of the Basuto labourers' pay is spent outside Basutoland.

There has been an increase in the number of Trading Licences issued and, as usual, there have been numerous applications for licences to open new shops. In most cases it has not been possible to grant these new licences. The tendency on the part of Indian traders to absorb the retail trade in the north of the territory continues. European traders complain, with good show of reason, that it is impossible to compete with these Indian shopkeepers.

The Agricultural Shows, which have been held at all stations, are reported by district officers to have been well attended, and to afford grounds for hoping that, year by year, an increasing number of the people may be led to take a greater interest in the quality of their produce. Other measures for the betterment of the agricultural conditions of the country are taken as opportunities arise. A scheme for the introduction, with Government aid, of good seed wheat proved almost abortive, owing to the prolonged drought which has this winter almost entirely prevented the sowing of wheat. Two additional Arab stallions and 40 Rambouillet merino rams have been introduced into the country. In view of the possibility that the production of wool may be largely increased, I propose during the year to arrange for the further introduction of well bred sheep. Tanks have been completed for the purpose of dipping sheep and goats, and others are to be constructed as suitable localities can be decided upon.

The following High Commissioner's Proclamations and Notices were promulgated during the year :—

NOTICES AND PROCLAMATIONS.

Notice No. 104 of 1905.—Appointing Mr. Wroughton to act as Resident Commissioner and Mr. Boyes to act as Government Secretary during the absence of the Resident Commissioner on leave.

Proclamation No 18 of 1905.—Amending the tariff of allowances to be paid to witnesses residing in Basutoland whose testimony is required in the courts of neighbouring States and Colonies.

Notice No. 34 of 1905.—Notifying that the High Commissioner has approved, as regards Southern Rhodesia and the Bechuanaland Protectorate, of the reciprocal observance between Cape Colony, the Transvaal, the Orange River Colony, Basutoland, the Bechuanaland Protectorate, and Southern Rhodesia, of a tariff of allowances for witnesses in lieu of the tariff laid down in Notice No. 11 of 1898.

Proclamation No. 8 of 1906.—Amending the Customs law and Customs tariff with regard to goods imported into the territory of Basutoland.

Notice No. 62 of 1906.—Notifying the suspension of the duty imposed on fresh, chilled, or frozen meat, and on animals for slaughter, imported into Basutoland.

Notice No. 64 of 1906.—Allowing the importation into Basutoland, free of Customs duties, of wines and spirits for the use of the Resident Commissioner.

During the year an examination of the educational system, including an inspection of many typical schools, was made by Mr. E. B. Sargant, Educational Adviser to the High Commissioner. Mr. Sargant's report was forwarded with my despatch of the 30th May, 1906. One feature of Mr. Sargant's work in Basutoland (which lasted from December, 1905, to May, 1906) deserving of special notice, was the vacation course for teachers, which proved most interesting and successful. I have arranged for a repetition of this teachers' course for the coming summer vacation under the supervision of the Rev. N. Fogarty, the director of the industrial school at Maseru. A report on the year's work at the industrial school is included with the other reports herewith.

Several Basuto attended a conference held at Lovedale in January, on the subject of a proposed Inter-Colonial Native College. Some of the Basuto appear to take considerable interest in the project, which I understand is under Your Excellency's consideration.

In March, I presided at a small conference assembled to discuss the question of a uniform system of Sesuto orthography. The conference consisted of representatives of the three missions engaged in Basutoland, and a native representative of the local newspaper. The conference agreed in the adoption of a uniform method of spelling, and the system recommended has received official recognition.

The Government Hospital at Maseru, under the control of Dr. Long, continues to do good work and is, without doubt, a great boon to the people. A similar hospital, somewhat smaller, but equally well equipped, is being built in the Leribe District. Steps are being again taken to register all known lepers in the country. The registers, when complete, will be summarised by the Principal Medical Officer, and the result will be useful information as to the extent and progress of the disease. In the Northern districts, arrangements are being made, under the advice of the Medical Officer, for the segregation of a number of known lepers in an isolation camp, on ground set aside for the purpose by the local chiefs. By the consent of the Orange River Colony Government, several lunatics of dangerous and

criminal tendencies, have been received in the asylum at Bloemfontein, where they are supported at the expense of this Administration.

I am afraid there is no reason to suppose that there is any diminution in the quantity of brandy illicitly brought into Basutoland. Drunkenness on spirits is by no means general among the people, although when grain is plentiful the quantity of strong native beer brewed and consumed is deplorable. At such times a village gathering on the occasion of a wedding, or some other feast, often concludes with a drunken orgy, at which broken heads are by no means uncommon. Most cases of culpable homicide arise out of these beer-drinking parties. The vice of brandy drinking is less common, but several of the chiefs show bad examples to their people in this respect, and there are native liquor smugglers (generally working in collusion with a certain class of Europeans on the border), who introduce brandy and sell it at considerable profit to themselves. The police are only partially successful in dealing with this class of offenders. Thirty-five arrests of smugglers have been made during the year, the majority of these having been effected by police in the Mafeteng and Mohales Hoek Districts, where the existence of a border fence with few recognized gates facilitates police control.

Serious crime, as usual, has been rare, most of the cases dealt with in Assistant Commissioner's offices being breaches of the border pass laws or trading regulations. Eighty-five cases of theft have been brought before Government Courts.

The following public works have been completed during the year :—

A railway to Maseru (including bridge over the Caledon River), in connection with the Central South African Railways system.

New Government Offices at Butha Buthe.

New cottages for Government employés at Maseru.

New gaol at Mohales Hoek.

New quarters for police officer at Mohales Hoek.

New gaol and offices at Qacha's Nek.

The following public works have been commenced :—

New hospital at Leribe.

Bridge over the Caledon River at Ficksburg (this is in co-operation with the Orange River Colony Government upon the principle of each Administration paying half the cost).

Additions to the waterworks, Maseru.

New dispensary, Maseru.

New public offices, Mafeteng.

The visit to Maseru of His Excellency the High Commissioner, which took place in February, was the occasion of a great gathering of Chiefs and Basuto. It has been estimated that twenty thousand people were present on this occasion. The High Commissioner, in addition to publicly announcing the recognition of Letsie as Paramount Chief by His Majesty's Government, formally opened the railway to Maseru for purposes of public traffic, and laid the foundation stone of the principal building of the industrial school. Several important and useful interviews between the High Commissioner and missionaries, European re-idents and chiefs, also took place, and I believe His Excellency's visit and address to the Basuto had a most excellent effect at a time when there seemed a possibility that rebellion and political unrest in Natal and Zululand might unsettle the natives in Basutoland.

As a matter of fact the Basuto have remained perfectly quiet, and to all appearances entirely unaffected by the occurrences in Natal. Under instructions from Government, in the early stages of the rebellion, the chiefs placed parties of their men in the passes of the Drakensberg to arrest any fugitives who might have sought to escape from the Natal forces, by flight into Basutoland.

The death of the late Paramount Chief Lerothodi, which took place on August 19th, 1905, was mentioned in the report for the previous year. His successor, Letsie, has so far shown moderation and common-sense in dealing with affairs, and has acted satisfactorily in certain matters in which his co-operation with me has been necessary.

During the collection of hut-tax, the question of payment of the tax by widows and bachelors arose, as it has on more than one previous occasion. The terms of the regulations on the subject are not absolutely explicit in regard to such payments, and during this year's collection a report was current that the Government had imposed a new tax, payable by widows and bachelors. After a meeting, at which my representatives were present, Letsie sent me a letter asking me to specify the classes of widows and bachelors who are liable for taxation in the regulations. I have directed that, for the present, each case is to be decided in accordance with the existing regulations, by the officer in charge of the district, after consultation with the local chief. The question may require decision by legislative proclamation.

A meeting of the Basutoland Council took place in September, 1905, and a report of the proceedings has been forwarded. The principal business was the nomination of Letsie as Paramount Chief, in the place of his father, the late Lerothodi.

Numerous disputes exist as to land questions between different chiefs. The following have been dealt with during the year by myself and the Paramount Chief, or our representatives :—

1. Boundary between Masupha and Koadi.
2. Boundary between Masupha and Theko.
3. Boundary between Leshoboro and Sauer Masupha.
4. Boundary between Mahapela and Seiso.

In the case of the boundary made between Mahapela and Seiso, the settlement made appears to be final and satisfactory as between the original disputants, but a quarrel has since arisen between Mahapela and the sons of his late brother Ramoetsana, as to their respective rights within the boundary made for them. The affair does not, so far, appear to be of much political importance.

I would again call attention to the satisfactory performance of their duties by the Government Secretary, the Assistant Commissioners, and all other officers in the service of the Government. The senior officers have a knowledge of local affairs which enables them to exercise a valuable influence in their respective districts, and I am much indebted to the staff of all ranks for their loyal aid in the preservation of internal peace, the repression of crime, and the collection of revenue, and for their efforts to promote the advancement and prosperity of the people.

H. C. SLOLEY,

Resident Commissioner.

Maseru,
Basutoland,
30th June, 1906.

**THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARY'S ANNUAL
REPORT, 1905-6.**

Government Secretary's Office,
Maseru,

30th June, 1906.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward you herewith the usual Annual Reports for the year ending 30th June, 1906, and also the Statistical Returns for the Territory for the same period compiled from these Reports and from other sources.

The year has been, agriculturally speaking, a bad one, and this in an agricultural country necessarily means depression in trade and general scarcity of money. There was little rain throughout the year, and what rain fell was not well distributed.

Wheat was a failure, and the mealie and mabela crops of the winter of 1905 were not up to the average.

Under these circumstances the natives are distinctly to be congratulated on having paid their hut tax so well.

FINANCIAL.

The revenue for the year ended 30th June, 1906, was:—

			£	s.	d.
Hut tax	...	...	62,808	10	0
Licences	...	...	3,576	14	3
Fees of Court	...	...	237	7	10
Post Office	...	...	3,374	8	6
Miscellaneous	...	...	1,353	18	6
Customs	...	...	21,984	18	10
Interest...	...	...	5,179	8	4
Total	...	...	£98,615	6	3

The expenditure for the same period amounted to £93,333 13s. 8d.

A comparative statement is appended showing the Revenue and Expenditure for the last five years:—

Year ending	Revenue.			Expenditure.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
30th June, 1902	104,284	1	4	64,809	18	1
30th June, 1903	101,399	4	2	76,271	12	11
30th June, 1904	106,794	15	8	72,393	18	4
30th June, 1905	97,034	1	6	78,897	8	2
30th June, 1906	98,615	6	3	93,333	13	8

Hut tax was paid on 61,582 huts, while arrear hut tax collected amounted to £1,811, as against £2,299 10s. last year.

COMMERCIAL.

Return of Imports and Exports for the five years ending the 30th June, 1906 :—

Year ending	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
30th June, 1902, Dutiable Imports ...	230,680	166,894
30th June, 1903 " " ...	191,019	258,927
30th June, 1904, Total Imports ...	298,140	127,057
30th June, 1905 " " ...	149,821	164,817
30th June, 1906 " " ...	191,701	172,496

The exports for the year, as regards money value, are about the same as last year.

Grain and produce of all sorts have naturally gone to pieces through drought and locusts.

Wool and mohair have, however, remained steady in quantity, while rise in price causes them to show an increase in value of £15,000.

There was a strong demand by the German Government for remounts during the greater part of the year, and 2,439 horses, valued at £50,042, are returned as exported.

EXPORTS.

Articles.	Quantity.	Value.
	Lbs.	£
Wheat	911,697	3,224
Mealies	13,081,595	26,083
Kaffir corn	1,710,924	4,503
Barley	3,900	14
Oats	106,582	326
Oat-hay	—	—
Meal (wheaten)... ..	29,557	185
Meal (mealie)	23,209	155
Bran	22,809	66
Potatoes	—	—
Hides and skins	25,233	624
Wool	2,918,637	66,637
Mohair	436,570	14,782
	No.	
Horses	2,439	50,042
Sheep and goats	2,240	1,604
Cattle	128	1,118
Miscellaneous	—	193
„ (Imported goods)	—	2,940
Total	—	£172,496

Imports, on the other hand, show a rise of over £40,000, the increase being almost entirely in clothing and soft goods. No information is available as to what proportion of these goods are of British manufacture, but I am given to understand that the proportion formerly estimated, namely, 87½ per cent. British to 12½ per cent. foreign, is still approximately correct.

IMPORTS.

Articles.	Value.
	£
Agricultural implements	4,317
Apparel, cloths, &c.	10,553
Boots, shoes, leatherware	9,094
Corn, grain, and meal	5,232
Cotton manufactures	26,661
Haberdashery, &c.	16,933
Hardware and rough goods	18,145
Provisions and oilman's stores	18,988
Woollen manufactures... ..	57,234
Other goods	24,544
Total	£191,701

LICENCES.

The following licences were issued during the year :—

General trader	164
Hawkers (paid)	413
„ (free)	204
Mill licences	2
Labour Agents	225

PASSES.

PASSES show a considerable and very gratifying increase of some 10,000 for the year under report. The passes for “visiting” only increased by 1,000, while passes for “work” show an increase of 9,000.

As in former years, the heaviest figures show under the head of “Miscellaneous Work” which accounts for practically half the total labourers who went out to work. The Basuto, many of them, decline to bind themselves to any class of labour or any particular employer before leaving home. They go out to work in large numbers but they like to go as free lances, and so to be at liberty to close with any offer of employment which may

carry with it sufficiently tempting conditions of life and wages. It must therefore be remembered that many of the 46,500 men thus described in reality went to the mines, while still more of them went to work on railway construction.

Summary of Fesses.

—	Visiting.	Labour.
Orange River Colony	39,386	12,699
Cape Colony	11,205	3,016
Natal	298	—
Transvaal	—	14,012
Farm and domestic	—	18,802
Miscellaneous	—	46,480
Total	50,889	95,009

Return of Passes.

District.	Visiting in O. R. C.	Visiting in C. C.	Visiting in N. N.	Johannesburg Miners.	Iron Coal Miners.	O. R. C. Miners.	Jagersfontein Mines.	Railway Construction.	Farm and Domestic.	Miscellaneous Work.	Kimberley Mines.	Johannesburg Municipality.	Other Mines.	Totals.
Leathes ...	11,924	140	140	6,244	2	—	—	4,362	2,888	28,018	132	—	—	53,812
... ..	5,306	—	—	2,195	—	—	—	3,341	2,910	1,182	496	—	—	16,440
Maseru ...	9,001	—	—	3,134	12	—	—	698	927	2,985	921	781	857	20,702
Mafeteng ...	9,927	—	—	504	4	98	2,617	285	7,750	3,494	541	—	7	25,930
Mohale's Hoek ...	1,208	—	—	141	21	282	536	—	2,890	2,371	790	—	—	9,476
Queching ...	3,301	—	—	54	—	351	117	—	403	2,005	35	—	—	8,231
Qutha's Nek ...	30	158	158	95	39	—	—	11	1,024	6,425	14	—	—	11,307
Total ..	39,386	298	298	12,577	87	731	3,270	8,698	18,802	46,480	2,929	781	864	145,896

NATIVE DEPOSIT AND REMITTANCE.

I received through the Native Affairs Department of the Transvaal the sum of £6,408 3s. 10d., being remittances sent by native labourers to their friends and relations here. The Remittance branch will be closed for good in a month or two, but the work will be carried on by the Transvaal Post Office Money Order Branch, and I trust that the natives will not allow what has in the past proved a great boon to them to lapse under the new régime.

POLICE AND JUDICIAL.

I attach police and gaol returns for the Territory:—

European officers	...	...	...	14
„ constables	...	...	...	5
Native officers	...	...	...	3
„ constables	...	...	...	4
„ sergeants	...	..	...	9
„ corporals	...	...	...	10
„ privates	...	...	....	245

Police and Patrol Return.

The police have done much hard work during the year, they are practically up to full strength, and are all armed, mounted, and equipped serviceably for the work they are called upon to perform.

Number of patrols	...	...	...	1,846
„ men on patrol	...	...	...	2,234
„ miles patrolled	...	...	...	47,625
Arrests under liquor laws	...	...	...	35
„ „ pass laws	...	...	...	275
Other offences	...	...	...	118

Gaol Return.

Prisoners received into gaol	...	...	...	325
„ convicted	...	...	...	293
„ discharged unconvicted	...	...	...	39
„ in gaol 30th June, 1906	...	...	...	112
Floggings inflicted	...	...	...	3

Judicial Cases.

The following judicial cases were heard in the courts of the Assistant Commissioners :—

Culpable homicide	...	...	...	9
Theft	...	...	...	85
Pass regulations	...	...	...	262
Liquor regulations	...	...	...	22
Trading regulations	...	...	...	25
Resisting police	...	...	...	5
Assault	...	...	...	27
Other crimes	...	...	...	86
Rape	...	...	...	4
Civil cases	...	...	...	29

LOST STOCK.

I attach a return of all stock reported from the neighbouring territories as lost, showing the result of search made by the police and chiefs in the territory.

Stock.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Re-covered.	Not re-covered.
Horses	92	33	69	32	60
Cattle	130	91	39	91	39
Sheep and goats	462	134	221	134	318

EDUCATION.

In the matter of education there appears a slight falling off of scholars, though the grant has been largely increased. The falling off however is, I think, merely a temporary one. The large figure of the grant is due to a sum being ear-marked and expended for the new Government Industrial School at Maseru. This school was opened at Christmas, and a report* on it by the Director is attached.

—	1904-1905.	1905-1906.
Expenditure	£7,833 9s. 3d.	£11,119 15s. 4d.
Schools	219	246
Scholars	13,228	12,490
Mean average attendance	9,963	9,704

* See page 61.

POST AND TELEGRAPH.

It has, for some time past, appeared necessary to refit and refurnish the post offices in the territory and to inquire into the adequacy and competence of the postal staff throughout the country. The thanks of this Government are due to the Postmaster-General, Cape Colony, for his courteous loan of the services of two able and experienced officers for this purpose, and also for the following statistics which he has kindly supplied.

Correspondence.

Letters posted in Basutoland	343,330
„ received in Basutoland	330,876

Money Orders.

		£	s.	d.
Issued 5,365—Value	16,220	18	11	
Paid 2,548 „	9,669	17	2	

Savings Bank.

		£	s.	d.
Deposits 203—Value	1,207	6	7	
Withdrawals 92 „	1,982	9	10	

Telegraphs.

The Revenue derived from this source was £1,101 14s. 6d.

Postal Notes.

		£	s.	d.
Issued 900—Value	350	16	6	
Paid 1,678 „	815	12	10	

The average rainfall during the year ending the 30th June, 1906, for seven stations was 26·34 inches, being a decrease of 1·32 inches on the previous year.

I have, &c.,

L. WROUGHTON,
Government Secretary.

Maseru,
30th June, 1906.

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONERS' ANNUAL
REPORTS, 1905-1906.

ANNUAL REPORT—LERIBE DISTRICT, 1905-1906.

The past year has been, on the whole, a peaceful one, though the elements of discord may be said to have increased rather than diminished in district politics.

Perhaps the most dangerous of these is the anomalous position of Jonathan's sons, whose dislike of each other was mentioned in my last annual report. The matter has been specially reported upon, so it is not necessary to make more than a passing allusion to it here. It is thought that the uncertainty in which Jonathan has chosen, so far, to keep these young men by refusing to declare which is the senior, is a source of danger, but on the other hand it may just as well be argued that such a declaration might precipitate a disturbance; this is the reason Jonathan gives for his attitude in discussing the question with me, and I think it may be added that a constitutional dislike to part with anything has a good deal to do with it. It has become very noticeable in recent years that the authority of chiefs, and indeed of all parents over their sons, is no longer what it was, owing probably to the milder conditions under which the people live, and also no doubt to the spread of education and the example of democratic institutions in the neighbouring colonies. At the present moment all the heads of the three important clans in the district are being troubled by this, Jonathan perhaps more than any, and it is therefore not surprising that a man of his autocratic temper should delay as long as possible before committing himself to a line of action which can hardly fail to weaken his own position. I do not think therefore that he is likely to do anything to end the present position until he is forced to do so by public opinion or unforeseen circumstances. Public opinion has already begun to press the point.

At Makhoakhoeng, things are very much more peaceful than they were, though here, too, the elements of discord are by no means absent. A good deal was accomplished during the year by regulating the position of Lekopa's orphans, which had been complicated by the placing out of Letsika's son, Tumane.

At Tsaine things are much as they were last year. Joel and Hlasona are still bickering, and I fear may be expected to continue doing so until Joel can bring himself to agree with Jonathau.

The ward of the Chief Seshope is in a very unsatisfactory state. He too is suffering from the revolt of the children mentioned above, and it has gone so far in his case that his son and heir, Hlayoane, is reported to have threatened to kill him and to have grossly insulted him on several occasions. The ward is a small one and not very important, but it is necessary to mention this as a possible source of disturbance and as an indication of the change which is taking place in the family life of the Basuto.

Motsueni's matters are still as they were, and it would not be necessary to mention them here except to say that during the past year he has been behaving very well considering that he is a man with a grievance which it is not probable that it will ever be possible to entirely remove, though possibly something may be done to improve his position, for which, of course, the Government are in no way responsible.

With all these sources of discord it is satisfactory to note that no serious breach of the peace has occurred. This may, I think, be fairly attributed to the good sense and self control of the chiefs, especially the more important of them, and indeed the practice, once almost unknown, of bringing their complaints to the Assistant Commissioner instead of having recourse to arms, may now be said to have become general. It is, of course, a great step in the right direction, but, as noted by the Resident Commissioner in last year's report, it leaves one little time for other and less immediately pressing duties.

A great improvement has been effected in the roads in the district. The main trunk roads may now, I think, be said to be in very fair order, and it is hoped next year, with an increased grant, to devote attention to the by-roads, and so to bring the grain producer into closer touch with the market, thus enhancing the value of produce and the purchasing power of the natives.

Trade continues to be depressed, and though the harvest is better than last year, the quality of the grain is said to be very poor. It is hoped that something may be done to facilitate the supply of better seed, especially of mealies, which is the staple product of this district.

A successful Agricultural Show was held here on the 20th June, at which some excellent exhibits were shown, including grain, which shows that it is not all bad; but of course one cannot judge a season's crop by a few prize parcels. These Shows are much appreciated, and are proving a valuable stimulus to progress in agriculture and stock rearing.

New offices have been supplied to Butha Buthe camp, which were badly needed.

I attach a report from the officer in charge at Butha Buthe, and one* from the medical officer here.

* See page 55.

The following are the usual annual returns :—

REVENUE.				£	s.	d.
Hut tax	...	...	...	14,845	0	0
General traders' licences	...	...	...	500	0	0
Hawkers' licences	...	...	...	47	0	0
Recruiting labour licences	...	...	...	25	0	0
Judicial fines...	...	...	...	454	12	6
Fees of office	...	...	...	2	11	0
Transfer of licences (fees)	...	...	...	1	0	0
Registration of marriages (fees)	...	...	...	2	17	6
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	188	13	6
Total	...	...	...	£16,066	14	6

Tax has been paid on 14,349 huts.

Arrear tax collected amounts to £630 10s.

LICENCES.

The number of licences issued during the year are :—

General traders'	...	...	...	50
Paid hawkers'	...	...	...	47
Free hawkers'	...	...	...	14
Labour agents'	...	...	...	49

PASSES.

Passes were issued for the following purposes :—

Visiting in the Orange River Colony	11,925
" " Cape Colony ...	100
Working in the Kimberley mines	132
" " Johannesburg mines...	6,244
" on Railway construction	4,363
Agricultural labour	2,888
Working in the Indwe mines...	2
Visiting Natal and Zululand	140
Miscellaneous	28,118
Total...	53,812

DEPOSIT AND REMITTANCE.

Natives working in the Transvaal have sent home to their friends, through the Remittance Agency, 423 remittances amounting to £3,137 16s. 4d. altogether.

POLICE.

The police force in the district consists of :—

Inspector	1
Sub-inspectors	2
Sergeants	2
Corporals	3
Lance-corporals	1
1st class privates	20
2nd class privates	36
Native officer	1
European constable	1
Total	67

Gaols.

During the year 59 persons were received into gaol, of these 54 were convicted and sentenced. There were four unconvicted. The number in gaol on the 30th June, 1906, was 33. One prisoner awaits trial.

Patrols.

The following is a return of patrols :—

Number of patrols	221
„ men engaged	278
Estimated distance covered	7,245 miles.
Number of arrests	133
For contravening liquor regulations	1
„ „ pass regulations	78
For other offences	54

Cases Tried.

The following is a list of cases tried in the court :—

Culpable homicide	3
Assault	11
Theft	26
Housebreaking	1
Fraud	1
Breach of the peace	16
Resisting the police	1
Contravening Pass regulations	78
„ trading regulations	2
Contempt of court	3
Wilful damage to property	1
Murder	1
Total	144

There were three civil actions.

LOST STOCK.

The following table shows the result of action taken in the matter of tracing and recovering lost stock.

Description	Traced to Basutoland.	Not traced to Basutoland.	Total Reported.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses ...	7	11	18	6	12
Cattle ...	2	2	4	2	2
Sheep ...	—	7	7	—	7
Goats ...	12	20	32	12	20
Total ...	21	40	61	20	41

PRICES OF STOCK AND PRODUCE.

The following are the average prices paid for stock and produce:—

Wheat (per muid)...	...	...	15s.
Mealies, „	...	...	8s. to 10s.
Kaffir corn „	...	...	8s. to 10s.
Forage, per 100 bundles	...	...	15s. to 20s.
Ponies	...	...	£15 to £20.
Cattle	...	...	£8 to £12.
Sheep and goats	...	...	15s. to 25s.
Wool, per lb.	...	...	2d. to 4d.
Mohair, per lb.	...	...	6d. to 8d.

J. C. MACGREGOR,
Assistant Commissioner.

ANNUAL REPORT—BUTHA BUTHE 1905-1906.

The general state of the ward during the year has been peaceful.

The ill-feeling between Joel and Hlasoa still exists, and I am afraid will continue to do so until something definite is done to separate them.

There were two small disturbances in Letsika's ward, otherwise the Makhoakhoa have been unusually quiet.

In November, Thakabanna, Letsika's eldest son, accompanied by a number of men, proceeded to Diqobong and pulled down the huts of his brother Moorosi as a protest against Moorosi having been placed there without his being consulted.

Thakabanna was tried at Leribe and sentenced to pay a fine of £20, and the men who accompanied him to pay a fine of £1 each.

In April, Ramohapi supported by Dijo attacked his brother Mahase; guns were used but very little damage was done, the only person who was injured being Mahase, who had the top of one of his fingers shot off; the case was tried at Leribe, and Dijo and Ramohapi were each sentenced to 12 months' imprisonment and the men who accompanied them to pay a fine of £1 each.

In October the Assistant Commissioner of Leribe, together with the Chief Jonathan, proceeded to Butha Buthe to settle a land dispute between 'lumane and Lebusetsa; a pitso was called, and after going carefully into the matter, it was decided to make a line between the contending parties; this has been done, and up to date has proved satisfactory.

I regret that the hut tax is short on last year by £155.

There was very little wheat raised owing to the drought; mealies and Kaffir corn are plentiful and would have been more so if it had not been for an early frost in March which destroyed many of the late crops.

There has been very little serious crime in the district, particularly stock thefts.

The police have done their work well.

New Government Offices have been built.

The roads are in good order.

L. GRIFFITH,

Inspector, B.M.P.

Butha Buthe,

30th June, 1906.

ANNUAL REPORT—BEREA DISTRICT, 1905-1906.

There has been very little serious crime in the district during the past year. Nearly all the important questions that arose were connected with boundary lines between various chiefs.

In July, 1905, disputes began afresh between Masupha and Koali about lands and reeds, and as to what villages were under Moeketse. The settlement of these questions was delayed owing to the death of the Paramount Chief Lerothodi. No serious trouble arose, however, and at the end of September the Resident Commissioner and the Paramount Chief Letsie came up and finally determined Koali's rights, which included those of Moeketse.

There was also a dispute as to some lands at Ntlama's about the same time, which I hope has since been settled; but it may crop up again.

The most serious trouble in the district occurred in December, when a fight took place between Nkutu, Peete's son, and Jobo, in which one man was wounded. The ringleaders were arrested and punished.

There had for some time been differences between Masupha and Theko, as to their boundary line, and at one time the position looked serious. However both sides behaved with moderation, and in January Chief Mojela was sent up with Nto to point out the correct line. Against the line then shown Masupha appealed, and in March the Resident Commissioner and Paramount Chief met at Khamolane and settled on a line. Masupha at first complained very much about this line, as beaconed by Mojela, but he finally accepted.

All through the year there have also been complaints from both Leshoboro and Sauer as to their boundary. But a few days ago Mojela was sent up with Abea, and this has, I hope, been finally settled.

In November one of the police horses died from glanders, but there has not been another case since.

On June 6th an Agricultural Show was held here, and considering that Masupha and other chiefs were unable to attend, it was very successful.

I submit the usual returns :—

				REVENUE.		
				£	s	d.
Hut tax	...	...	...	6,693	0	0
Licences	...	...	...	266	0	0
Fines	...	...	...	31	17	0
Fees of court	...	...	...	3	18	0
Miscellaneous...	...	...	...	26	12	0
Total				...	£7,021	7 0

Tax was paid on 6,470 huts. Arrears of tax £352, or 5·25 per cent. The amount of hut tax was £50 short of last year, but the smaller percentage of arrears would account for a good deal of this.

LICENCES.

The following licences were issued :—

General traders'	...	...	...	...	24
Hawkers' (paid)	...	...	...	...	8
Labour agents'	...	...	...	...	8
Mill licences	...	...	...	...	1
Hawkers' (free)	...	...	...	...	10

PASSES.

The following are the numbers who took passes during the year :—

Visiting Orange River Colony	...	...	...	6,106
„ Cape Colony	...	...	...	210
Kimberley mines	...	...	...	496
Railway construction	...	...	...	3,341
Johannesburg mines	...	...	...	2,195
Agriculture	...	...	...	2,910
Miscellaneous work	...	...	...	1,182
				16,440

NATIVE REMITTANCES.

Remittances from natives in Johannesburg to their friends and relatives in Basutoland, £733 16s.

POLICE.

The strength of the police detachment in this district is :—

Sub-inspector	...	...	...	...	1
European constable	...	...	...	...	1
Native sergeant	...	...	...	...	1
„ corporal	...	...	...	...	1
„ lance-corporal	...	...	...	...	1
„ privates	...	...	...	...	25
					—
					30
					—

Patrols.

The following patrols were sent out during the year :—

Number of patrols	...	...	...	310
„ men employed	...	...	603	
„ miles covered	...	...	4,915	
„ arrests under liquor laws	...	1		
„ „ „ pass laws	...	110		
Other offences	...	...	...	1

Cases tried.

The following cases were tried during the year in the Court of the Assistant Commissioner :—

Contravening Pass laws	...	...	...	83
„ liquor laws	...	...	...	1
Assault	...	...	...	8
Theft	..	...	...	4
Riot	...	...	...	10
Other cases	...	...	...	13
Civil cases	...	...	...	1

Gaol Return.

Number of prisoners received into gaol	...	20
„ „ sentenced	...	17
„ „ discharged	...	18
Handed over to Orange River Colony	...	1
In gaol on the 30th June, 1906	...	7

LOST STOCK.

The following is the return of lost and stolen stock reported to this office :—

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered	Not recovered.
Horses	1	1	—	1	—
Cattle	18	18	—	18	—
Sheep and goats	—	—	—	—	—

PRICES OF STOCK AND PRODUCE.

The average prices of stock and produce here are about as follows :—

Oxen	...	...	...	...	£10 to £12
Cows	...	...	...	...	£8 to £10
Horses	...	...	...	...	£15
Sheep	...	...	...	...	20s. to 25s.
Goats	...	...	...	...	10s. to 15s.
Wheat (per bag)	...	...	...	...	15s.
Mealies	„	...	...	...	8s.
Kaffir corn	„	...	...	...	7s.
Fine wool (per lb.)	...	...	...	...	5d.
Coarse „	„	...	...	...	3d.
Mohair	„	...	...	...	7d.

W. BOXWELL,

Assistant Commissioner.

Berea,

Basutoland,

30th June, 1906.

ANNUAL REPORT—MASERU DISTRICT, 1905-1906.

I am glad to have to report that no serious disturbance of the peace has occurred in the district during the past twelve months.

During the months of July and August last, the Paramount Chief Lerothodi was very ill, and on the 19th of the latter month passed quietly away at his village, New Matsieng, and was accorded a national funeral on the top of Thaba Bosigo mountain, His Honour the Resident Commissioner, all available Government officers, missionaries, traders, chiefs, and people being present. The death of the chief cast a great gloom over the country. Letsie, the eldest son of Lerothodi, was nominated at the meeting of the National Council in September to succeed to the Paramountcy, and was subsequently confirmed as Paramount Chief.

In February a dispute arose between the Chief Masupha, of the Berea District, and Chief Theko, as to the boundary line between them. The dispute assuming rather alarming proportions, and to avoid an appeal to arms over it, I was instructed by His Honour the Resident Commissioner to meet the Assistant Commissioner, Berea, and to accompany representatives of the Paramount Chief, who had already been instructed by the Resident Commissioner and Paramount Chief as to the line.

The Chief Masupha at first wished to dispute the beacons which had been erected, but finding that the Assistant Commissioner, Berea, and myself verified them as being correct, and that the decision of the Resident Commissioner and the Paramount Chief was indisputable, he finally agreed to them. As the majority of the beacons are on well-known landmarks, there should be no more trouble over this boundary line.

The railway was completed and thrown open for traffic into Maseru on the 18th December, and has proved a great boon to the country. The bridge over the Caledon River is for road as well as rail traffic, so there is no longer the danger of the swollen river to cross when entering or leaving the territory.

The hospital at Maseru continues to be much appreciated by the natives, and applications for admission are so numerous that the Principal Medical Officer intends approaching the Government with a view to making considerable additions. The general health of the district has been good.

The water supply for the village remains inadequate except for purely domestic purposes.

A great number of young trees have been planted out during the year, and, being protected, are doing excellently. A number have also been issued free of charge to natives on a guarantee being given that they will be looked after.

Religious instruction and educational work are being carried on with satisfactory results by missionaries of the Paris Evangelical Mission Society, the English and Roman Catholic Churches. The English Church for natives, referred to in my last annual report, has been completed, and will shortly be dedicated by the Bishop of Bloemfontein. This church has been built with funds raised by Deaconess Burton, and will stand out as a lasting memorial of her good work.

There has been little disease among stock during the year. An outbreak of anthrax amongst cattle on the Reserve was dealt with by the veterinary officer with satisfactory results. All stock is in good condition. The price of horses is still abnormally high, owing to remounts being bought up for the German Government for service in German South-West Africa. There are two Government Arab stallions at this Station.

A sheep dip has been started in the district and the natives bring in their sheep in large numbers to be dipped.

I have had numerous applications for the erection of further dipping tanks in the district and hope during the ensuing year to be able to establish one or more. The Government imported 40 Rambouillet rams during the year, and has issued them out amongst deserving natives.

During the past two months locusts have visited the district in large swarms and have completely destroyed the wheat and oat crops. I am afraid that in the early spring the eggs which they have been depositing all over the district will be hatching out, and the outlook for the crops in the coming year will be a dismal one unless some means can be devised for destroying them while still in the hopping stage.

An Agricultural Show was held in Maseru on the 25th of May, but I regret to say was not as well patronised as usual—the reason given by several natives being that amongst them were a certain few progressive ones who kept good stock, and it was of no use their competing against them as they always took the prizes.

During the first portion of the year under review, trade was very depressed, the wheat crop again being a failure.

A greater quantity than usual of wool and mohair have been bought, and owing to the price of these articles being high, a good deal of money was put into circulation. The mealie and Kaffir corn crops have been heavy, and though the crop is not yet quite reaped, traders are purchasing large quantities.

The roads in the district are in good order. It has not been possible this year to build the bridge over the Little Caledon River, but I trust the need for it will not be overlooked.

In my last report I referred to the commencement of the Government Industrial School, some of the most necessary buildings of which were then in course of construction. This school has now been opened for the reception of about 30 pupils, some of whom are being taught trades such as carpentry, stone cutting, blacksmith's work, shoeing of horses, &c., while others are learning the management and working of an oil engine and are obtaining a smattering of fitter's work in the workshop and in general supervision of the pipes and reservoir which supply the village with water.

A laundry under the auspices of the English Church Mission, has been started in Maseru in a small way, and if it could only cater for the needs of the whole village, it would fill a long-felt want. It cannot do so at present owing to lack of funds, but the work done by it at present is much appreciated by the few whom it is able to work for.

On the 24th February, His Excellency the High Commissioner, Lord Selborne, arrived in Maseru on an official visit to the Territory; he was met on arrival by His Honour the Resident Commissioner and Staff, representative Missionaries, traders, the Paramount Chief, Chiefs and people of the territory. The sight was rather an imposing one, as the Paramount Chief, Chiefs, and people to the estimated number of twenty thousand, lined the railway line and road about one and a half miles long to the village, and as His Excellency rode up the road, joined in behind him and sang the national war song. His Excellency was accompanied by Lady Selborne, Lady Mabel Palmer, the Hon. Robert Palmer and Staff, and stayed in Maseru until the 27th.

I attach the usual annual returns.

REVENUE.				£	s.	d.
Hut tax ...	...	...	...	11,234	0	0
Licences	...	...	...	436	0	0
Fines ...	...	...	...	130	0	0
Ferry tolls	...	...	...	7	16	6
Fees of court or office...	...	...	...	6	18	0
Miscellaneous receipts...	...	...	...	3	16	6
Total				£11,817	11	0

Tax was paid on 10,988 huts, and arrear tax amounting to £374 was collected.

LICENCES.

The number of licences issued is as under :—

General traders'	29
Hawkers' (paid)	92
„ (free)	7
Labour agents'	108

PASSES.

The following is a return of passes issued :—

Visiting in the O.R.C.	9,851
Working in coal and diamond mines ...	857
Visiting in the Cape Colony	536
Indwe coal mines	12
Kimberley diamond mines	921
Johannesburg (Municipality)	781
Transvaal gold and diamond mines ...	3,134
Agricultural works	927
Railway construction	698
Miscellaneous work	2,985
Total	20,702

REMITTANCES FROM JOHANNESBURG.

Remittances from natives in Johannesburg to their friends and relatives in Basutoland, through the Native Affairs Department Remittance Agency, to the amount of £1,427 11s. 6d. have been received and paid out.

POLICE.

The strength of the police detachment in this district is :—

Sub-inspectors	2
European constables	2
Native „	2
„ sergeants	2
„ corporals	2
„ lance-corporal	1
„ privates	56

Patrols.

Number of patrols	394
„ men employed	406
Estimated distance travelled (miles) ...	5,073

And the following arrests have been made :—

Contravening liquor laws	1
„ pass „	5
Other offences	0

Gaol Return.

Number of prisoners received into gaol	55
„ „ discharged unconvicted	6
„ „ convicted and sentenced	49
„ „ in gaol 30th June, 1906	24
Floggings inflicted	1

Cases Tried.

The following cases have been tried during the year :—

Assault	2
Breach of the peace	1
Contravening liquor regulations	6
„ pass „	1
„ trading „	1
Culpable homicide	1
Fraud	1
Offences under gaol discipline	1
Police Offences Act	4
Theft	9
Forgery	1
Civil cases	4

LOST STOCK.

Description.	Reported Lost.	Traced into Basuto-land.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses	39	18	21	18	21
Cattle	3	3	—	3	—
Sheep	30	—	30	—	30

PRICES OF STOCK AND PRODUCE.

The following are current prices for stock and produce :—

Cattle	...	...	...	...	£8 to £12 each.
Horses	...	...	...	...	£20 to £30 „
Sheep	...	...	...	...	15s. to 25s. „
Goats	...	...	...	...	10s. to 20s. „
Wheat	...	...	...	...	16s. per bag.
Mealies	...	...	...	...	9s. to 10s. per bag.
Kaffir corn	...	...	...	...	9s. to 10s. „
Wool	...	...	...	...	3d. to 6d. per lb.
Mohair	...	...	...	...	6d. to 9d. „

CHAS. E. BOYES,

Assis'ant Commissioner.

June 30th, 1906.

ANNUAL REPORT—MAFETENG DISTRICT,
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1906.

My predecessor, Mr. T. P. Kennan, left Mafeteng in June, 1905, and I took over the charge of the district in July.

The regretted death of the late Paramount Chief Lerothodi took place in August, 1905, necessitating the removal of his son Letsie from Mafeteng district to Matsieng. He left his chief wife Mahadi in charge of his followers here, with Councillors Lepolesa and Kholokholo as deputies. This arrangement has hitherto worked only moderately well, and there are indications that a stronger central control is desirable. Among other indications I may point to the fact that needless delay has taken place in the collection of hut tax, which instead of being promptly paid as usual, during the first few months of collection, has only barely been completed during the present month.

Another indication of unsatisfactory control is shown by the fact of liquor smuggling being apparently rather on the increase than otherwise, notwithstanding the number of convictions obtained for this offence during the past twelve months. With reference to the increasing traffic in intoxicating liquors, there is reason to believe that the existing penalties, as laid down in the Basutoland Regulations, are not sufficiently deterrent, and that the law might be amended with advantage. The native liquor-runners are often in the employ of persons living in the adjacent territories, who make large profits by the sale of drink, and are thus well able to pay the fines inflicted on the comparatively rare occasions of their runners being caught, and so the runner is speedily released, and the traffic goes on unchecked.

A land dispute between Chiefs Seiso and Mahapela was settled in April last by the Resident Commissioner, who, with the Paramount Chief, visited the place in question, and gave a decision on the spot, involving removal of certain villages of the followers of both disputants, which were hopelessly intermixed. Complaints have since been received of action on the part of the chiefs calculated to prevent Mahapela from deriving any benefit from this judgment.

There is also a chronic dispute between Mojela and Azariel, in respect of ground near Tsitas Nek which appears to require that steps be taken for its adjustment.

On the 28th February His Excellency the High Commissioner visited Mafeteng. He was met at the border by the representatives of the Paramount Chief, together with Chiefs Seiso,

Mojela and others, and a large number of mounted men. His Excellency was escorted by them to Mafeteng and returned the same afternoon to Wepener, Orange River Colony.

Arrangements had been made by the Government during the year for the supply of a considerable quantity of seed wheat to the Basuto at a low price. Unfortunately the ploughing season has again proved too dry for the people to take advantage of this arrangement. Four consecutive years of drought is a severe strain on the agricultural resources of a small territory, and until regular rains return, it is improbable that any large quantity of wheat will be grown in Basutoland. There has, however, been a fair crop of maize and Kaffir corn in the district.

The year has been healthy for all kinds of livestock, and good prices have prevailed for wool and mohair.

Horses have been purchased largely for the German Government, and the supply shows little sign of depletion.

Considerable attention appears to be paid to horse-breeding by many of the people of this district, and results appear to be satisfactory, judging from the superior class of ponies exhibited at the recent Agricultural Show. Some good half-bred Arab foals were shown, the progeny of the Government stud horse, "Aladdin," a bay Gulf Arab, imported from India. This horse has lately been removed to Maseru, and has been replaced by "Nuhajjar," a recent importation from the Crabbet Park stud.

The exhibits of foals by the Arab stud horses have become noticeable features at the annual Shows, and many of them show the Arab type distinctly. It would be well if a system were introduced by the Government of branding these foals with some distinguishing mark as a certificate of breeding. This would undoubtedly enhance their market value, and would be useful in tracing subsequent results of breeding from the fillies of this cross.

Owing to continuous drought, most of the vleis or lakes round Mafeteng are drying up, some being now absolutely dry. It has been suggested that the present is a favourable time for deepening the beds of some of these vleis, in order to provide for greater storage of water when the ordinary wet seasons return, as presumably they may do, in time. It is becoming a matter of increasing difficulty to find water for the large numbers of cattle owned in this district.

A dipping tank for sheep has lately been started at Mr. F. A. Collier's trading station, and about 3,000 sheep have been dipped there during the past six weeks.

The dipping tank at Mafeteng is still extensively used, 8,700 sheep having passed through it during the year.

REVENUE.

				£	s.	d.
Hut tax	...	...	...	9,860	0	0
Licences	...	...	...	354	0	0
Fines...	...	...	...	300	4	6
Fees of court	...	...	...	9	13	6
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	331	19	3
				<hr/>		
				£10,855	17	3
				<hr/>		

Number of huts upon which tax was paid, 9,794. Amount of arrear tax paid was £169.

LICENCES.

General traders' licences	...	...	...	25
Hawkers' (paid)	...	...	...	65
„ (free)	...	...	...	22
Labour licences	...	...	...	38

PRICES OF STOCK AND PRODUCE.

Wheat, per bag	...	...	...	16s.
Mealies „	...	...	...	8s.
Kaffir corn „	...	...	...	9s.
Barley „	...	...	...	8s.
Oats „	...	...	...	9s.
Oat hay, per 100 bundles	...	...	...	15s. to 25s.
Slaughter oxen	...	...	...	£9 to £13.
Cows...	...	...	...	£5 to £10.
Basuto ponies	...	...	...	£18 to £25.
Sheep (breeding)	...	...	...	15s. to 20s.
„ (slaughter)	...	...	...	18s. to 25s.
Goats	...	...	...	12s. to 15s.
Wool, per lb.	...	...	...	6d.
Mohair „	...	...	...	9d.
Hides „	...	...	...	6d.
Sheepskins, per lb.	...	...	...	6d.

PASSES ISSUED.

Visiting Orange River Colony	9,027
„ Cape Colony	703
Domestic service, Orange River Colony	7,235
„ „ Cape Colony	405
Kimberley mines	541
Jagersfontein „	2,617
Koffyfontein „	98
Johannesburg „	504
Railway construction	285
Agricultural labour	110
Indwe coal mines	4
Viljoen's Drift coal mine	7
Miscellaneous work	3,494
Total	<u>25,930</u>

The Deposit and Remittance Agency at Johannesburg forwarded £731 3s. 6d. for distribution.

POLICE.

Inspector	1
Native officer	1
„ constables	2
„ sergeant	1
„ corporal	1
„ privates	36

Patrols.

Number of patrols	518
„ men employed	334
„ miles patrolled	7,562
„ arrests for miscellaneous offences	25
„ arrests for contravening liquor regulations	14
„ arrests for contravening pass regulations	12

Cases tried in Assistant Commissioner's Court :—

Civil actions	...	...	...	...	10
Theft	...	...	...	...	10
Contravening liquor regulations	...	...	...	...	11
" Pass	...	...	...	...	4
Gun running	...	...	...	...	1
Assault and resisting police	...	...	...	...	4
Wilfully damaging Government property	...	...	...	...	2
Concealment of birth	...	...	...	...	1
Culpable homicide	...	...	...	...	2
Contravening Reserve regulations	...	...	...	...	2
Forgery	...	...	...	...	1

RETURN OF LOST AND STOLEN STOCK.

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered in Basuto-land.	Recovered in Orange River Colony.	Not recovered.
Horses ...	13	5	8	3	2	8
Cattle ...	81	61	20	7	54	20
Sheep ...	132	122	10	113	9	10

GAOL RETURN.

Number of prisoners received in gaol	...	...	51
" " discharged unconvicted	...	...	4
" " convicted and sentenced	...	...	47
" " in gaol on 30th June, 1906	...	...	11

One flogging was inflicted during the year on a prisoner in gaol convicted of assault with intent.

S. BARRETT,
Assistant Commissioner.

**ANNUAL REPORT—MOHALES HOEK DISTRICT,
1905-6.**

The political situation of this district remains in a most satisfactory condition. Tribal disputes are becoming a thing of the past, and I have practically none to report for the year under review.

The inclination on the part of a certain portion of the Baphuti clan to disregard the supremacy of the Chief Griffith in this district appears to be dying out. This is obviously due to the decided action on the part of His Excellency the High Commissioner in the interview with the deposed Chief Mocheko in February last, at Maseru.

Relations with adjoining territories remain most satisfactory, and in consequence crimes of all classes are greatly on the decrease.

Stock thefts reported from adjacent States are of rare occurrence, and those traced are invariably recovered and the thieves punished.

Stock of all descriptions are in good and healthy condition.

The wheat crop in the district may be described as an entire failure, owing to the want of rain during the season. The mealie and Kaffir corn crops are, however, fairly good, and I do not anticipate any scarcity of food.

It is most regrettable that the absence of rain since February has rendered wheat sowing out of the question, and the outlook in this respect for the coming season is gloomy.

The police outpost at Phatlalla continues to be of much service in the prevention of the running of contraband goods.

The roads in the district are much improved, good and substantial work having been put in.

The want of a water supply continues to entail very considerable inconvenience and expense to the inhabitants of the camp. The only available water for domestic purposes is in the Magistracy grounds, which it is needless to say is most inconvenient for all concerned.

In July last the Chief Monare of the Bataung clan died at an advanced age and has been succeeded by his son Tiheli.

The death of the Paramount Chief Lerothodi in August last was felt as a great shock to the chiefs and the natives of this district, and with his decease an influential and important factor passes away in the every day life of his subjects.

In October the Government Arab stallion "Munir" died suddenly. This is much to be regretted as he was one of the best in the country, and the exhibition of his foals at the Agricultural Show went far to show his worth, being the best I have hitherto seen. He has been replaced by an excellent stallion "Durbar."

In December four headmen of the Baphuti were tried and sentenced to various terms of imprisonment for reiterated contumacy and contempt of Chief Griffith's court. In February two of these men appeared to have discovered the error of their conduct, and after a promise to forgo Mocheko and acknowledge Griffith as their chief, were by consent of the Resident Commissioner released from confinement.

Much excitement and interest was manifested during February by the visit of the High Commissioner to Maseru, and this district was well represented at the gathering.

Hut tax shows a very considerable increase, which I trust will be considered satisfactory.

The following are the usual annual returns :—

				REVENUE.		
				£	s.	d.
Hut tax	...	...	...	10,191	0	0
Licences	...	...	...	212	10	0
Fines	...	...	...	131	7	6
Fees of court	...	...	...	5	17	0
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	140	17	9
Total				£10,681	12	3

Number of huts on which tax was paid, 10,104.

Amount of arrear tax paid was £107.

				LICENCES.		
General traders' licences	18
Hawkers' (paid)	22
„ (free)	87
Labour agents	20
Dam licence	1

PASSES.

Johannesburg mines	...	...	...	141
Kimberley	„	...	...	790
Jagersfontein	„	...	...	586
Indwe	„	...	...	21
Orange River Colony mines	...	...	...	282
Visiting Cape Colony	...	...	...	1,237
„ Orange River Colony	...	...	...	1,208
Agriculture	...	...	...	2,890
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	2,371
Total	...	...	...	<u>9,476</u>

DEPOSIT AND REMITTANCE.

Remittances received from Johannesburg, £237 9s.

POLICE.

Sub-inspector	...	...	...	1
European constable	...	...	...	1
Native officer	...	...	...	1
„ sergeant	...	...	...	1
„ corporal	...	...	...	1
„ lance-corporals	...	...	...	2
„ privates	...	...	...	21
Special police	...	...	...	6
Total	...	...	...	<u>33</u>

Patrols.

Number of patrols	...	...	...	152
„ men employed	...	...	...	256
„ miles patrolled	...	...	...	9,080
„ arrests for contravening pass laws.				23
„ arrests for contravening liquor regulations.				12
„ arrests for miscellaneous offences.				13

Civil and Criminal Cases.

Number of cases tried in the Assistant Commissioner's Court :—

Theft	13
Resisting police	1
Contempt of court	2
Cruelty to dumb animals	1
Pass regulations	17
Trading regulations	7
Civil cases	7

No floggings were inflicted.

Gaol Return.

Number of prisoners received into gaol	65
" " " sentenced	64
" " " discharged unconvicted	1
" " " in gaol on 30th June, 1906	8

LOST STOCK.

Description.	Reported.	Traced into Basuto-land.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses	8	1	7	1	7
Cattle	7	7	—	7	—
Sheep and goats	84	—	84	—	84

PRICES OF STOCK AND PRODUCE.

Horses	£15 to £25
Cattle	£8 to £14
Sheep	10s. to 30s.
Mealies (per bag)	8s. to 16s.
Kaffir corn ,,	30s.
Wheat ,,	25s.

There has been no outbreak of infectious disease in the district during the twelve months under report.

J. W. BOWKER,
Assistant Commissioner.

Mohales Hoek,
30th June, 1906.

ANNUAL REPORT—QUTHING DISTRICT, 1905-6.

I took charge of this district on the 1st October, 1905. I found the political situation here somewhat different to that of other districts in which I have been stationed in Basutoland. This is due to the fact that shortly after the Gun War of 1880 numbers of natives who had fought on the Government side were located in this district. They came from all parts of Basutoland. Under the circumstances they were, for obvious reasons, comparatively independent of the control generally exercised by the Paramount Chief of the Territory, and their cases, which under ordinary conditions would have been settled in the native courts, were generally dealt with by the Assistant Commissioner of the district.

Some years afterwards when the natural feeling caused by the war had subsided, the late Chief Nquebi Letsie was sent here to represent the then Paramount Chief. This was much resented by the majority of the natives already in the district.

Nquebi was succeeded by his son Simpe, who is now the native chief of the district.

Owing to the great increase in the population, it has been found necessary from time to time, as in other parts of Basutoland, to find gardens and places of habitation for the rising generation. This invariably causes some friction, but in this district the original settlers raise the cry that they are being crowded out because they were loyal to the Government during the Gun War. Personally I do not believe that now, when all are loyal, there is any real feeling against these persons because they elected to fight on the side of the Government some twenty-six years ago. On the other hand, I think that this cry is often used as a weapon to resist the legitimate rule by chieftainship which is exercised with justice and success in other districts in Basutoland.

Generally speaking, I think the proper policy to adopt is, while carefully seeing that there is no oppression and that lawful rights are not being infringed upon, not to interfere in purely native cases unless they have first been through the native courts, that is to say, in the first instance through the court of the local Chief Simpe, and then through the court of the Paramount Chief.

In the year 1904 the late Paramount Chief Lerethodi personally settled a number of important disputes here. Under the circumstances these settlements were in the interests of justice quite satisfactory. Many of them, however, were not liked by Chief Simpe, and just before Lerethodi's death and when he was very infirm, Simpe by means of messages and personal representations induced, or is said to have induced, him to reverse them. The result is that

there is now considerable confusion and uncertainty. I made a special report of this matter to the Resident Commissioner, and I understand that the present Paramount Chief is coming here shortly to inquire into it. These settlements were made here by the late Paramount Chief in person, and if—which I think would be unfortunate—they are to be reversed, they should be reversed by the present Paramount Chief, also in person, and in the presence of all parties concerned. Until this is done, or until the original settlements are confirmed, the present confusion will certainly continue and even increase.

There have been few cases of serious crime in the district. For a few months there was an epidemic of horse stealing. This was caused by the demand for horses in German South-West Africa. Numbers of speculators came into the district and the thieves consequently found a ready way of disposing of the stolen horses. The police, however, made some important arrests and the traffic was checked.

In spite of four consecutive bad grain seasons, the natives continue to pay their hut tax cheerfully. The total collection exceeds that of the previous year by £40. There are only about 30 native householders in the district who did not pay, they being unable to do so owing to poverty. As the population exceeds 30,000 persons I think this may be considered satisfactory.

The main roads in the district are now in good order. There are several well-equipped gangs working on them.

It is contemplated erecting several sheep dips in the district. The first one is now in process of construction.

An excellent Agricultural Show was held here lately, the different exhibits showing a marked improvement on those of previous years. There is no doubt that these Shows are a great encouragement and inducement to the natives to improve their stock and grain.

Natives in the district largely avail themselves of the services of the valuable Government stud horse standing at this station. Its services are granted free of charge.

I regret to say that this district is greatly overgrown with burr-weed, particularly *xanthium spinosium*. There are numerous sheep and goats in the district, and the amount of harm this weed causes to the wool and mohair is very considerable. At my suggestion, Chief Simpe has undertaken to call out all the able-bodied men in the district on certain days in the coming spring, with a view of fighting against this pest. If this is done thoroughly and systematically a great step will have been made towards the extermination of the weed.

The absence of a hospital in this district is very keenly felt. When adequate hospital treatment is required all that can be said to the patient is that he or she should proceed to Maseru.

Considering that Maseru is about 120 miles from here, it is not surprising that few, if any, natives follow this advice.

The following statistics are appended :—

REVENUE.				£	s.	d.
Hut tax	...	...	...	6,338	10	0
Licences	...	...	...	186	10	0
Fines	...	...	...	145	2	6
Ferry tolls	...	...	...	111	8	3
Fees of court	...	...	...	8	6	0
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	102	2	6
Total ..				£6,886	19	3

Number of huts on which tax was paid, 6,286.

Amount of arrear tax paid, £85 10s.

LICENCES.			
General traders' licences	...	...	14
Hawkers' licences (paid)	...	...	46
" " " (free)	...	...	64
Labour agent's licence	...	...	1

NATIVE REMITTANCES.

Remittances from natives in Johannesburg to their friends and relatives in Basutoland, £193 12s. 6d.

PASSES.

The following are the numbers who took passes during the year :—

Visiting Cape Colony	...	...	4,918
" Orange River Colony	...	...	339
Agriculture	...	...	403
Miscellaneous	...	...	469
Working in Cape Colony	..	...	1,536
" Orange River Colony	...	...	351
" Johannesburg	...	...	64
" Kimberley	...	...	35
" Jagersfontein	...	...	117
" Indwe	...	...	9
Total			8,231

POLICE.

The strength of the police detachment in this district is :—

Sub-inspector	1
Native sergeant... ..	1
„ corporal... ..	1
„ privates... ..	23

Patrols.

The following patrols were sent out during the year :—

Number of patrols	114
„ men employed	171
„ miles travelled	7,280
„ arrests under Pass laws	41
„ „ „ liquor laws	6
Other offences	21

Cases Tried.

The following cases were tried in the Court of the Assistant Commissioner :—

Civil actions	2
Culpable homicide	2
Concealment of birth	1
Rape	4
Theft	14
Escape from custody	1
Resisting police	3
Contempt of Court	1
Contravening trading regulations	6
Liquor smuggling	4
Gun „	4
Assault with intent	1
Fraud	6
Masters and Servants' Act	2
Wilful damage to Government property	7
Contravening Pass regulations	72

Gaol Return.

Number of prisoners received into gaol	49
„ „ convicted and sentenced	41
„ „ discharged unconvicted	2
„ „ turned King's evidence	3
„ „ transferred to other gaols	2
„ „ in gaol on 30th J 1906	21

One flogging was inflicted—ten lashes for rape. This was a very bad case of rape on a child. The prisoner was also sentenced to a term of imprisonment and fine.

LOST STOCK.

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses	6	1	5	1	5
Cattle	8	—	8	—	8
Sheep	177	7	170	10	167

PRICES OF STOCK AND PRODUCE.

Horses	...	...	...	£8 to £25.
Oxen	...	...	...	£8 to £12.
Cows	...	...	...	£6 to £10.
Sheep	...	...	...	10s. to 20s.
Goats	...	...	...	10s. to 20s.
Wool	...	...	...	3d. to 6d. per lb.
Mohair	...	...	...	8d. to 9d. „
Wheat	...	...	...	£1 per bag.
Mealies	...	...	...	8s. „
Kaffir corn	...	...	...	10s. „

W. D. P. MANSEL,
Assistant Commissioner.

Quthing, Basutoland,
30th June, 1906.

ANNUAL REPORT—QACHA'S NEK DISTRICT,
1905-6.

The peace of the district has not been disturbed during the past year.

There has been a good deal of friction between Ntaote, who was placed in Hlakanelo's ward by the late Paramount Chief Lerothodi in the year 1897, and Chief Makhaola; this is entirely due to Ntaote ignoring Makhaola, and taking all matters to Chief Sekhonyane, Bereng's son, residing in Maseru district.

When the native rebellion broke out in Natal, it was considered advisable to call on the chiefs to station men at the passes; my instructions were promptly obeyed. The Basuto here show no sympathy with the Natal rebels or excitement at the rebellion. The death of the late Paramount Chief Lerothodi in August came as a great surprise to the inhabitants; trouble was feared in some quarters as to his successor, but everything passed off satisfactorily.

Great disappointment was expressed by every one when the news arrived of His Excellency the High Commissioner's visit through the mountains to this station being postponed indefinitely.

The new gaol alluded to in my last report was completed in January. Government Offices, which were much needed, have been constructed and will shortly be taken over from the contractor.

The small house built here for the Sub-Inspector in 1893, and which is now "The Residency," is in a very dilapidated and unsafe condition.

Crops have been fairly plentiful this season, which is a great improvement on the last seven years.

Reports on six Government-aided schools have already been sent in.

The following are the usual annual returns :—

	REVENUE.			£	s.	d.
Hut tax	3,647	0	0
Licences	178	10	0
Fines	48	15	0
Fees	0	5	0
Miscellaneous	7	7	0
				<hr/>		
			Total	...	£3,881	17 0
				<hr/> <hr/>		

Number of huts on which tax was paid, 3,591.

Amount of arrear tax paid was £93.

LICENCES.

General traders'	4
Paid hawkers'	133
Labour agents'	1

PASSES.

Visiting in the Orange River Colony	30
" " Cape Colony ...	3,501
" Natal	158
Kimberley mines	14
Railway construction... ..	11
Johannesburg mines	95
Agricultural work	1,034
Indwe coal mines	89
Miscellaneous work	6,425
	<u>11,807</u>

REMITTANCES.

Four remittances amounting to £27 15s. were received from Johannesburg through the Deposit and Remittance Agency.

POLICE STATE.

Sub-Inspectors	2
Native sergeant	1
" corporal	1
" privates	18
Total	<u>22</u>

Patrols.

Number of patrols	137
" men employed... ..	186
" miles patrolled... ..	6,470
Number of arrests—	
Contravening Pass regulations ...	6
" other regulations ...	4

Cases Tried.

Theft	...	...	...	...	9
Pass regulations	...	...	...	...	7
Trading regulations	...	...	...	...	5
Assault	...	...	...	...	1
Other offences	...	...	...	...	5
Civil cases	...	...	...	...	2

Gaol Return.

Number of prisoners received into gaol	...	...	26
" " sentenced	..	...	21
" " discharged unconvicted	...	...	1
" " in gaol on 30th June, 1906	...	...	8
Floggings inflicted	...	...	Nil

RETURN OF LOST STOCK.

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Re-covered.	Not re-covered.
Horses	7	—	7	—	7
Cattle	9	—	9	—	9
Sheep	—	—	—	—	—
Goats	—	—	—	—	—

PRICES OF STOCK AND PRODUCE.

Cattle	...	...	...	£5 to £15.
Horses	...	...	...	£5 to £30.
Sheep	...	...	...	10s. to 20s.
Goats	...	...	...	10s. to 20s.
Wheat	...	...	...	15s. to 20s. per bag.
Mealies	...	...	...	6s. to 10s. "
Kaffir corn	...	...	...	10s. to 15s. "
Wool	...	...	...	6d. to 7d. per lb.
Mohair	...	...	...	8d. to 10d. "

E. D'U. BLYTH,
Assistant Commissioner.

**REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL MEDICAL OFFICER
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30th JUNE, 1906.**

Table showing the attendances at the various stations :—

District.	New out-patients.	Subsequent attendances.	In-patients.	Vaccinations.
Leribe	4,820	686	142	2,032
Maseru	7,172	1,413	364	—
Mafeteng	5,527	1,084	98	—
Mohales Hoek	2,109	339	46	2,658
Quthing	1,011	225	—	—
Total	20,189	3,747	650	—

The continued increase in the number of in-patients shows how much the improved hospital building is appreciated. We have often pointed out there is a great scope for increase in this direction. It is to be regretted that this branch of the medical work, which undoubtedly has the most civilizing effect on the natives, should be checked for want of accommodation.

Partly to meet this want, the erection of a small hospital at Leribe has been sanctioned, but it will not be completed for nearly eighteen months.

All the medical officers are unanimous in their desire for better hospitals at their respective stations.

Before any further buildings are sanctioned, it would perhaps be better to perfect those we have, and make some provision for meeting emergencies by the appointment of an assistant surgeon at Maseru.

In my last annual report I pointed out the advisability of extending the Maseru Hospital. I wish again to call attention to what I consider is now a pressing necessity.

The hospital is practically always full, and patients are constantly being refused admission for lack of beds.

From an experience during two years' work, several defects both in its structure and organization have become evident.

The structural faults are—an insufficient hot-water supply, the absence of any isolation ward, and various minor defects which could, however, be easily remedied if the building were enlarged

The defects in organisation are as follows :—

First comes the question of the nursing staff which, while just sufficient when the beds are full of ordinary cases, is quite insufficient when there are several serious cases, or when a nurse is ill or absent on leave. On such occasions it has been found necessary to curtail the admission to save the staff. Again, where there are only three nurses, it is difficult to fill vacancies. Nurses dislike the quiet of a small hospital, and resent an unfair amount of work which is often asked of them. Were the institution larger and the staff more numerous these difficulties would disappear, as a press of work would be more evenly distributed and serious cases would receive more individual attention.

Next comes the question of night nursing, which is most urgent. A native night porter, and he is practically nothing else, is not a proper provision for the care of a hospital full of patients.

Reference was made under the heading of structural defects to the absence of any isolation ward.

The need of this has been keenly felt on various occasions, when in the interest of the other patients cases have had to be handed back to the care of friends, for lack of suitable accommodation and attendance.

I have already spoken of the advisability of having an Assistant Surgeon stationed at Maseru. He should be unmarried, reside in the hospital, and be available to relieve any medical officer in the event of illness or other emergency. I consider that at present with only one medical officer at each station, we are running the medical work of the territory on too narrow a margin, and are constantly in danger of a breakdown. This danger will be increased when the Leribe Hospital is opened.

As the defects I have endeavoured to point out above could be remedied at a comparatively small cost, both initial and annual, I would earnestly urge that there should be no further delay in sanctioning a scheme for enlarging the Maseru Hospital, and appointing an Assistant Surgeon. It must not be forgotten that even if sanctioned at once, such a scheme would not be completed under a year.

An initial outlay not exceeding £6,000, spread over a period of one year, for buildings and furniture, would provide 24 additional beds as well as the necessary accommodation for an increased nursing staff and quarters for an Assistant Surgeon. The subsequent annual expenditure would not exceed £1,000.

The total expenditure under Hospitals last year (including all salaries) was only £5,335, while the hospitals themselves contributed £717 towards the Revenue.

This expenditure represents a comparatively small sum when one considers that in return for it 23,826 out-patients and 679 in-patients received treatment. Medical attendance and medicine were provided for all the officials and their families, the gaols attended, and the public health and sanitary services supervised.

The general health of the Territory has been good, and there have been no epidemics of importance.

The extent to which leprosy, syphilis, and tuberculosis prevail are receiving great consideration, and the prevalence of these diseases in native territories will form one of the subjects for discussion at the forthcoming Congress of Medical Officers, to be held in November at Cape Town. I would again call attention to the need for legislative control of medical and pharmacy practice. The possibility of some mutual arrangement on this subject between the various South African Governments might, I think, be profitably discussed at the above-mentioned Congress.

The question of an improved water supply for Maseru ought to be taken in hand as soon as possible.

There are several very insanitary areas on the Reserve which ought to be dealt with. They are a source of danger and could be easily remedied.

Malarial fever is non-existent in Basutoland.

E. C. LONG,

Maseru,

30th June, 1906.

Principal Medical Officer.

LERIBE MEDICAL REPORT, 1905-6.

The following table shows the number of attendances at the hospital and dispensary during the year ending June 30th, 1906 :—

Out-patients ...	...	...	...	4,320
Subsequent attendances	...	...	...	686
Hospital in-patients	...	...	...	142
Vaccinations...	...	...	...	2,032
				<hr/>
Total ...	...	...	...	7,180
				<hr/> <hr/>

The first three show a considerable increase over last year, and notwithstanding that the general health of the district was good and that there were no widespread or severe epidemics, measles and whooping-cough were prevalent during the summer, but were exceptionally mild.

The greater number of patients seeking advice and medicine at the dispensary suffer from gastric complaints and syphilis; the former is largely due to the unvaried diet and the habit the natives have of gorging themselves during times of plenty. A fermented drink made from Kaffir corn, which they largely use, is responsible for much of this, and I have noticed that it is exceptionally deleterious to women, in whom after prolonged indulgence it produces a nervous condition simulating peripheral neuritis. The latter (syphilis) is becoming less common and is of an exceedingly mild type, and in many of the cases the disease does not run beyond the secondary stage.

Phthisis is becoming more common in the district, so much so that the natives who are otherwise indifferent to disease are beginning to be alarmed at its spread. Hitherto it has not been indigenous to this part, and the cases seen were boys who had been working on the mines and in Johannesburg; but now it is attacking others who have never left the country. Measures will have to be taken to impress upon them the infectiousness of this disease, and the danger of overcrowding in the huts at night.

The health of the police and prisoners has been good and calls for no comment.

It is gratifying to note that the Basuto are availing themselves more and more every year of the in-patient department. By means of tents, the number of beds has been increased to ten, and during the year they were generally fully occupied. The new hospital which is going to be erected this year will go far to meet the want which has been felt of a fully equipped building on modern lines.

The sanitary condition of this village and camp calls for prompt attention. I have reported on this question elsewhere, and until there are properly made roads and drains and a provision made for removing filth and garbage, there will always be the risk of an outbreak of infectious disease especially in the summer.

The vaccinations have decreased during the year, but this was to be expected as nearly everyone has been vaccinated during the last decade.

N. M. MACFARLANE,
Medical Officer.

Leribe,
June 30th, 1906.

ANNUAL MEDICAL REPORT—MAFETENG
DISTRICT, 1905-6.

During the year ending June 30th, 1906, 5,527 out-patients were admitted and treated for the first time, and 1,084 on subsequent occasions, making a total of 6,611, which shows an increase of 1,348 patients on last year.

98 cases were treated as in-patients, of these 54 underwent operation, six were discharged unrelieved, six died, the cases of death being severe burn, pneumonia, acute tuberculosis, acute rheumatism and endocarditis, compound fracture of the skull, perforated gastric ulcer.

The treatment of in-patients is carried on under very unsatisfactory conditions owing to the very dilapidated and miserable accommodation provided for them, and the friends themselves act as nurses, which in many cases tend to hinder the patients' progress.

The number of vaccination certificates issued was 4,834.

There was a rather severe epidemic of varicella at Leduma's and Moyela's in October and November, and during the last two months there has been a large number of cases of gastro-enteritis due most probably to the continual absence of rain.

The health of the camp itself has been good.

On inspection the gaol has always been clean and well kept, and the inmates' health has been good.

H. R. NATTLER,
Medical Officer.

Mafeteng,
30th June, 1906.

**MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT, MOHALES
HOEK DISTRICT, 1905-6.**

The following table shows the comparative attendances at the hospital and dispensary for the past and present years:—

Attendances.	1904-5.	1905-6.	Increase.	Decrease.
Out-patients, first ...	1,852	2,109	257	—
Subsequent ...	186	339	203	—
In-patients ...	25	46	21	—
Paid vaccinations ...	2,642	2,405	—	237
Free ..	—	253	253	—
Totals ...	4,655	5,152	784	237

Of the 46 cases admitted to the hospital, five died, 35 were cured, three relieved, one not improved, and two still remain under treatment.

On 30 cases operations of varying magnitude were performed, and three of those which died refused operative treatment which alone could have saved their lives.

There were 13 medical cases, mostly of acute disease.

The hospital work is handicapped by the want of accommodation and a nursing staff. Cases cannot be admitted because there is insufficient room, and others requiring skilled post-operative treatment because there is no nursing staff to administer to their needs.

Seeing that the hospital at Maseru, worked on modern lines, has been such a success, I have no hesitation in recommending the erection of a similar institution here.

It is unnecessary for me to point out the far-reaching benefit which would be conferred on the native population in this and adjoining districts.

Mohales Hoek is the centre of South Basutoland geographically, and a hospital built here would, for the time, serve for the accommodation of serious cases from the districts north and south of this station, as well as for cases from this district. As soon therefore as the hospital at Leribe is completed, which will serve North Basutoland, I trust that preparation will be commenced for the carrying through of a similar work here for South Basutoland.

The district has been free of epidemic disease of a serious nature for the past year; there were a few cases of varicella, influenza, mild dysentery, and small-pox; of the latter there were six cases in all, none of which proved fatal.

The health of the police, police families, and prisoners has been good.

I understand that a new gaol and an efficient water supply are practically granted and assured; both will be a great boon to the community.

W. R. NATTLE,

Medical Officer.

Mohale's Hoek,

30th June, 1906.

**MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT—QUTHING
DISTRICT, 1905-6.**

The following return shows the number of patients who attended the dispensary, and the number of vaccinations performed during the past year :—

Out-patients	...	...	..	...	1,011
Subsequent attendances			...	...	225
Vaccinations	...	...	...	...	1,608

In accordance with instructions from the Principal Medical Officer, received in January, to push vaccination work in this district, between that month and the end of June 11,719 people were either vaccinated or proved to have been previously vaccinated in their own villages.

An epidemic of diphtheria occurred in the district during April and May. I saw 11 cases, of which three died.

I again beg to urge the necessity for a hospital at this station.

There has been no small-pox in the district during the past year.

The health of the police detachment and of the white population has been uniformly good.

Twenty-two operations requiring the use of an anaesthetic have been performed. Under more favourable circumstances the number might have been greater.

HAROLD M. CORY,

Medical Officer.

Quthing,
Basutoland,
30th June, 1906.

**ANNUAL REPORT—GOVERNMENT INDUSTRIAL
SCHOOL, MASERU, FOR THE YEAR ENDED
30TH JUNE, 1906.**

In this first annual report it will perhaps be well to review the history of the school from its inception up to the present time. In the year 1898, the late Paramount Chief, Lerothodi, seeing the necessity of industrial training for his people, collected a sum of money from the Basuto and handed the same to the Government for the establishment of an industrial school. Owing to the outbreak of the late Boer war in 1899, the idea of starting the school at once had to be abandoned, the money contributed by the Basuto being placed on fixed deposit in the Standard Bank, and allowed to accumulate.

In July, 1904, a start was made, and the present Director was appointed.

A very suitable site was chosen by His Honour the Resident Commissioner on the outskirts of Maseru, on the bank of the Caledon River. This site was chosen after a great deal of consideration, as it was felt most desirable to have the school as near a market as possible so that there would be an outlet for any goods made in the school, and near the river, so that a good supply of water could be obtained for the use of the school, and, with the view of starting in the future a small model farm for the instruction of natives, to have a sufficiency of water for irrigation purposes.

A scheme for the buildings and appliances necessary was drawn up, costing when completed, £9,500.

To meet this expenditure there was a sum of £4,559 in the Standard Bank, being the contribution from the Basuto.

The expenditure of a sum of £5,000 from the Government funds was authorised by His Excellency the High Commissioner, Viscount Milner, the expenditure to be spread over a period of three years—1905-6, £1,500; 1906-7, £2,500; 1907-8, £1,000.

The plan provided for the following :—

Main school building, consisting of school room and two dormitories, dining hall, Director's house, four cottages for European teachers, four cottages for native teachers, oil engine and pumping plant, workshops for blacksmith, wagon maker and carpenter, main store, tool house, tools, and necessary plant.

A start was made at once with the work of erecting some temporary wood and iron houses for the use of the instructors who were to superintend the erection of the permanent buildings.

Instructors were appointed in carpentry and building, and the permanent buildings were begun.

As far as possible only native workmen were employed on the work, under the guidance of the instructors, and the class of building erected shows how well the work can be done by native workmen.

The majority of native artizans employed were trained at the industrial school, Leloaleng, in connection with the Paris Evangelical Mission Society at Leloaleng, and the work which they accomplished shows what excellent training they have received at that institution under the late Rev. J. Kruger and the Rev. J. T. Bertachy.

It was thought at first that it would be possible to take pupils and board them in Maseru, but after due consideration it was deemed advisable not to take any pupils until accommodation could be provided which would enable discipline to be maintained.

The buildings were pushed ahead as quickly as possible, and towards the end of 1905 the following were finished:—Dining hall and kitchen, Director's house, three houses for European teachers, carpenter's shop, and engine house, and it was felt that, at the beginning of 1906, the time had arrived for receiving a certain number of pupils, who could be housed in the wood and iron buildings which the instructors had vacated. It was notified through the Assistant Commissioners of the various districts that the school would be opened in January, and that applications for admission should be made at once.

Applications came in very quickly, over 70 being received before the school was opened. The school, when completed, will accommodate 80 pupils, but it is not desirable to have so many pupils in their first year. The school course will be one of three years, and it was decided that 30 new pupils should be received every year, and this, owing to boys leaving without completing the course or being expelled, would give, on an average 80 pupils in the school, and would ensure a certain number of them being always in advance of the others. In January, 1906, the following instructors were appointed:—Wagon builder, blacksmith, engineer, and schoolmaster. The school buildings and the carpenter's shop were used during the first three weeks in January for the native teachers' vacation course arranged by Mr. E. B. Sargent, educational adviser to the High Commissioner, and the school instructor in carpentry was employed as assistant in giving a course of woodwork to the native teachers. It is hoped that the industrial school may always be a centre for the teachers' vacation course.

The school opened on January 26th, 1906, with 29 pupils, distributed as follows:—

Carpenter	...	...	...	...	6 pupils.
Blacksmith	...	...	...	...	4 „
Engineer	...	...	...	...	5 „
Wagon builder	...	...	...	...	5 „
Builder	...	...	...	...	9 „

During the six months the pupils have been employed on various works.

The builders have completed their work on two native teachers' cottages, and are now employed in erecting the main school building.

The carpenters have been employed on making school furniture, jobbing work for the residents of Maseru, and are now completing the carpenter's work in the two native teachers' cottages. These cottages will be ready for occupation by the native teachers in July.

The wagon builders and blacksmiths have been employed in building a Scotch cart for the Paramount Chief, Letsie, and doing general jobbing work.

The engineers have been employed in looking after the Maseru waterworks, working with the hand-jumper drill, and in pumping water for the school and the railway station, Maseru. A contract has been entered into with the Central South African Railways to supply all water for domestic and locomotive purposes at Maseru station.

The following is the value of the work done in each department during the last six months :—

			£	s.	d.
Building Department	...	...	292	13	6
Blacksmith's Department	...	...	111	8	2
Carpenter's Department	...	...	508	7	6
Wagon Department	...	...	84	2	3
Engineer's Department	...	...	262	9	1
Total	...	...	£1,259	0	6

In February the High Commissioner, His Excellency the Earl of Selborne, during his visit to Maseru, kindly consented to lay the foundation stone of the main school building. The ceremony took place on Tuesday, February 27th. The Paramount Chief, Letsie, and the other chiefs who were in Maseru to welcome His Excellency, were present at the ceremony, and listened with great attention to the address which His Excellency gave on the necessity of every one learning to do some manual work. With the kind permission of His Excellency the school-room will be called "Selborne Hall." The dormitory on the right, by kind permission of His Honour the Resident Commissioner, "Sloley Hall," and that on the left, by permission of the Paramount Chief, "Letsie Hall." To commemorate the efforts of the late Paramount Chief, and the great interest which he took in the establishment of the school for the welfare of his people, the Paramount Chief requested that the dining hall might be called "Lerothodi Hall." This was done, and a marble

slab built into the wall bears the inscription "Lerothodi Hall, 1905."

The staff at present consists of the Director, five European Trade Instructors, European Matron, one Native Instructor, and one Native Schoolmaster.

The hours of work are as follows :—

Winter	...	...	...	7 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Summer	...	...	...	6.30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Night school every Evening				from 7 to 8.30.

Religious Instruction.—Arrangements have been made for the missionaries of the various bodies working in Basutoland to come and give religious instruction to their own people, and the pupils have to attend the services of their own church every Sunday. A Mission Service is held every Sunday evening in the dining hall by the Director.

During the coming year a sum of £2,500 is to be spent in buildings. The main school building is now two feet above foundation level and will be finished by Christmas, so that there will be accommodation for another thirty pupils. As soon as the main school building is finished the remaining workshops will be built.

The conduct of the pupils generally during the past six months has been good, and I have to thank the staff, European and Native, for the loyal support they have given me, and for the discretion they have exercised in maintaining discipline.

NELSON FOGARTY,

Director of the Government Industrial School.

Maseru,

30th June 1906.

ANNUAL REPORT—GOVERNMENT VETERINARY OFFICER.

I have the honour to submit herewith a report dealing with the observations made by me since the commencement of my duties in January, 1905. As I have previously been in the service of this Administration, viz. 1901-2, this may be said to be my second annual report handed to the Government.

I.—GENERAL REMARKS.

1. The past 18 months were, from the stockbreeder's standpoint, on a whole, prosperous, inasmuch as no plagues deserving of the name "epidemics" have invaded the country. Rinderpest seems to have died out all over British South Africa, and the much dreaded East Coast fever, owing to the stamping-out policy adopted in the Transvaal and in Natal, has not been able to make much headway within the countries mentioned. But unfortunately it still exists, decimating stock, swallowing large sums of money, and leaving an uneasy feeling in the minds of cattle owners not too far removed from the infected area. It is quite probable that as a result of the native rebellion, East Coast fever will spread through Zululand causing, as in Swaziland, untold misery and loss to the native population.

2. Owing to the war in German South-West Africa, a brisk trade in horses was carried on all over Basutoland, and large numbers of cattle were brought into the country in exchange for these solipedes. The wants of the Basuto being few and their love of stock great, cash is rarely accepted, but I have no doubt that in the not too far distant future, when stockbreeding will be found less profitable than to-day and the removal of stock from place to place more difficult, this ancient form of bartering live-stock will gradually disappear.

At the present time anybody may introduce any animal into Basutoland without producing a health certificate or causing an examination, a system which offers no protection whatever to our native stock-owners, and which for this reason will sooner or later show its deleterious influence upon our breeding industries.

3. My observations have convinced me that Basutoland is already by no means in the happy position of being free from the majority of our South African stock diseases. This idea could only hold good as long as there was nobody in the country who possessed sufficient interest and experience in such matters. But even now, on account of the non-existence of a suitable Contagious Diseases Act and the absence of a reliable executive

staff, our knowledge of the outbreaks of disease is very incomplete and our dealings in this connection imperfect.

4. Our livestock, horses, cattle, sheep and goats represent probably a value of about four millions sterling. They form by far the most important and the most valuable asset of our national wealth, and thus are bound to be objects worthy of our strenuous protection and constant improvement. I hope that when the next return of stock is being taken, our sheep and goats will be included in the census. It may be difficult to guess the number, but I do not think we have less than one million small stock in Basutoland.

5. The annual expenditure in the veterinary and stock departments is gradually increasing, and amounts at the present time to about £2,500. Of course this sum appears somewhat insignificant when compared with the considerable value represented by our domestic animals or when placed side by side with the great efforts made in the same direction by the adjoining colonies, but then it must be remembered that conditions in a native Protectorate differ much from those obtaining in more civilized countries, and that the departments above mentioned are only in their initial, I may say embryonic, stage.

II.—SPECIAL REMARKS.

With reference to those infective stock diseases which, during the past eighteen months have more frequently come to my notice or which from their very nature command our special attention, I beg to submit to you the following remarks, viz. :—

1. *Glanders*.—It is a most regrettable fact that this insidious and pernicious plague has of late years found its way into Basutoland, and that it has come to stay unless most vigorously dealt with. The spread of this disease is slow, but sure, and the process of suppression, particularly in a native territory, by no means easy and inexpensive, yet on it depends undoubtedly the future prosperity of our horse-breeding industry. We have no special form of glanders in South Africa requiring less care or doing less damage, but it is everywhere the same old fiend, ready to infect, to destroy, to stay, and thus to ruin a most important industry, if unchecked, almost beyond repair.

The disease, as far as I am aware, seems confined to the northern half of Basutoland, most outbreaks having occurred in Maseru and Teyateyaneng, town and district. The details of these cases formed subjects of exhaustive reports.

In order to deal effectively with glanders, it is incumbent to place the matter in all its aspects before the "National Council," and to draft regulations which are up to date and which should be enforced without fear or favour. They should embrace early notification of suspicious symptoms, immediate destruction of

actually diseased animals, and some sort of compensation, in money or cattle, for the losses sustained. In-contact animals should be tested with mallein, or by the agglutination method, the latter preferably where the horses of natives are under supervision. If the disease is to be eradicated it must be dealt with by means of hard and fast rules, and any contraventions must be made punishable under the law.

Of other contagious diseases in horses I have seen cases of strangles, scab, biliary fever, ulcerous lymphangitis, maladies which, when compared with the one above mentioned, are but of small importance. But it should not be forgotten that some of the last named are put under Government control in the adjoining colonies, and therefore must command our continued interest lest they may prove a serious hindrance to the sale and export of our Basuto ponies.

2. *Quarter Evil* or "*Serotsoana*."—This is a plague well known throughout Basutoland, and much dreaded by the natives on account of its rapid fatal course. Its originating cause is a specific microbe called "*Clostridium sarcophysomatos*," which finds exceedingly favourable biological conditions in the grassy slopes of our mountains. Unfortunately we do not yet possess any statistics as to our losses from various diseases, but I am certain that "*Serotsoana*" carries off thousands of cattle every year. The native habit of cutting up in the veld for home consumption anything that dies is bound to soil and to infect the pasturage, a process which tends to make the evil a permanent one, as the spores formed are able to resist sunshine or frost for a very considerable time.

I have endeavoured to teach the native and European cattle breeders the Blacklegine method of protective inoculation, which is both simple and useful, and therefore best adapted to Basutoland under the present circumstances. This mode of combating Quarter Evil leaves hardly anything to be desired, and will, I am sure, be found invaluable in many parts of Basutoland which at present are veritable death-traps to young cattle.

The kind offer to make the treatment of this plague a matter of private business, a proposal made probably with the view of bringing my emoluments more in line with those received during previous appointments, I did not see fit to accept. Virulent diseases of this description should be incorporated in an "*Animal Diseases Act*," and all dealings with them should, as the best interests of the country demand, be official and free of any charge. I am only following the good example set by other Governments in South Africa and elsewhere.

3. *Anthrax* or "*Kwatsi*."—I have reason to believe that this dangerous malady is a frequent though unwelcome guest in many native kraals of this land. One of the most serious outbreaks unfortunately occurred in the township of Maseru, necessitating

the immunisation, by means of Pasteur's double injections, of a large number of cattle. The method is not expensive and as a rule very efficient. As the handling of diseased carcasses, the use of the meat and hide not only badly and often permanently infects the veld, but is also dangerous to man, the necessity of burying the victims of this plague becomes apparent, wherever it is of importance to quickly rid the community of this malady. Infected townships, such as Maseru for instance, can do no better than to set aside and to fence in a small piece of ground, making the burial of diseased stock compulsory. This plan involves little expenditure and would go a long way to prevent the constant re-infection of the pasture in different places, and many other nuisances dangerous to life and property.

4. Of other cattle plagues, notably *ordinary redwater* and contagious pleuro-pneumonia, only the former has twice been reported to me, the animal in each case coming from Griqualand East, where this tick disease is known to be indigenous. In the past, intercourse between our country and the one mentioned being very rare and the frosts in the open mountain veld being more or less incompatible with the comfort of ticks, we have so far escaped serious inroads.

I do, however, by no means think that Basutoland possesses an absolutely unassailable immunity against redwater, and every careful student will agree with me that care and foresight are required to keep our cattle free from this scourge for an indefinite period. Supervision of all traffic in cattle across our eastern border, and the erection of cattle dipping baths at suitable places, are means worth considering, and better than closing a boundary altogether, a measure which, being inconveniently rigorous, is simply disregarded if not backed up by a large police force.

Cases of pleuro-pneumonia or contagious lung sickness, called "sterefe" by the natives, have not come to my knowledge, although I have dealt with pneumonia of a non-infectious type. It is impossible to decide whether we are actually free from this plague or not, as the information from native villages in our various districts, referring to the health of all live stock, is generally scant and unsatisfactory.

It would be very gratifying if the Assistant Commissioners could induce the natives within their jurisdiction to report regularly any deaths due to contagious or any other diseases of a virulent nature, even if it is not contemplated to take, at the beginning, any other steps but to record such outbreaks, and to give free advice and assistance.

Such compulsory notification, which is the indispensable foundation of the work entrusted to any veterinary department, would and could not be a tax upon the Treasury of the country, and the reports submitted from time to time would form most

interesting and important documents, giving a true picture of the state of affairs.

(5.) *Small stock.*—The most important troubles amongst our sheep and goats are the parasitic skin diseases commonly called “scab, brandsickte or lekhuekhue.” Its presence in Basutoland is almost ubiquitous, though it is certainly less striking than anywhere else in South Africa, where farming and climatic conditions are more favourable to a rapid development and propagation of the malady. Small flocks able, as in the case here, to obtain plenty of nourishing food and pure running water withstand, as a rule, the ravages of the acari to a very considerable degree, although any changes to conditions more suitable to the life of these insects at once bring out the real nature and troublesomeness of this plague. It is due to this fact that our neighbours in the Orange River Colony and in the Cape have lately begun to look upon our small stock with misgivings and to ask for protection. In this manner the thorny subject of scab legislation has at last, even in Basutoland, become somewhat acute, and I have no doubt, unless handled carefully and intelligently, that the adjoining Governments will enforce regulations which would naturally be severe. It is the desire of all those desirous of taking small stock across our borders into their country. Of course, the fact cannot be contradicted that scab exists to a more or less considerable extent within their own territory, but as they are spending yearly large sums of money on schemes intended to minimize the ravages of this plague and, if possible, even to completely eradicate it, they are in duty bound to see that no re-infection from outside is possible. Without such regulations their measures would only be half measures, unfit to command success.

Our policy is to establish public dipping stations throughout the country, where the natives can be taught that scab is a curable disease. To increase their attention and energy I have issued a pamphlet which, written in popular language, explains the malady and its treatment and at the same time deals with all other points which, bearing upon the subject, should be of interest to owners and breeders of stock.

So far the districts of Mafeteng, Maseru, and Teyateyancng possess each a dipping tank with water laid on in pipes, and I have no doubt they have done good work. As a result of the small charge, viz., one penny per animal for two dippings, thousands of small stock have passed through the tanks, which are in charge of a native.

Naturally these Government dipping stations, few and far between as they are, are no more than object lessons to the Basuto who themselves should club together and build, if thought fit, assisted by their paternal administration, in each district and close to some stream of water, simple dipping arrangements,

consisting, indeed, of nothing else but a small stone kraal with a small tank, round, square, or long, in the centre, and a dry well outside to receive the dirty water. Such a station, whilst as serviceable as a more elaborate one, would cost very little, no more than £40 or £50 fully equipped, and would be a factor in minimizing the damage done to wool, skins and mutton. Scab, like glanders, is a subject well worthy of the deliberations of the "National Council" and will, I trust, receive due attention at their next meeting.

With fair means at its disposal, any country will find it easy enough to cure the majority of sheep or goats and to put a severe check upon the ravages of scab, but the complete and permanent eradication may truly be described a Sisyphean task. The Australian Colonies have accomplished it, but then South Africa is not Australia, where the conditions were less intricate than in this sub-continent. A big native territory like Basutoland, inhabited by vast numbers of semi-civilized people, offers undoubtedly the greatest possible obstacles besides the political aspect which it involves and which can only be overcome by an increased amount of tact and a more liberal supply of cash.

If ever scab is to be exterminated from within our own borders, a scheme much to be desired and quite feasible in theory and practice, although by no means an easy task, let me hope it will be performed in accordance with the proverbial "surgical operation," *i.e.*, slowly conceived, well planned, and energetically carried out, removing the evil root and branch to return no more. South African Governments so far have preferred to adopt the "slow but sure"—so called—process, forgetting completely the true nature of scab and thus courting defeat by the little acari from the very beginning.

III.—STOCK DEPARTMENT.

6. *Agricultural Shows*.—During the past 18 months, Shows were held in various districts of Basutoland. In Maseru they took place on May 23rd, 1905, and also 1906, and on the whole they were fairly well patronised by the natives of the district. I have no hesitation in saying that exhibitions of farm stock and of agricultural produce can be made important factors in advancing these industries, and I am glad to acknowledge that they are encouraged all over Basutoland. In a native country this appears to me particularly important, because its inhabitants rarely improve their knowledge on these subjects by means of travel or reading.

In order to make our local Show the premier exhibition of Basutoland and to do justice to animals, exhibitors, visitors, and judges, the establishment of a permanent Show ground, suitably fitted up, is a *conditio sine qua non*. The present complete

absence of suitable fixtures, which renders it necessary to prepare the show ground afresh year after year, entails much waste of time, energy and material, which means money, makes the inspection of the animals not what it ought to be, a movement which is specially felt by those who so kindly consent to act as judges. Granted the necessary facilities are forthcoming, the scope of the Maseru Show could be increased by holding shoeing and shearing competitions, by demonstrating dipping, and exhibiting good fleeces of wool and mohair and showing the interested public good specimens of stud animals, stallions and rams, the property of the Government.

7. *Stallions.*- For the purpose of improving our breed of horses the Administration has during the past year imported two more English Arabs, bred by Mr. W. S. Blunt, Crabbet Park, Sussex. Unfortunately the stallion "Munir," imported some time ago from the same stock, died in October last somewhat suddenly—it is stated from acute peritonitis—at the station Mohales Hoek. The Government possesses at present nine stud stallions of which some are of English and some of Indian origin, all Arabs, and I have no doubt that they have done some good work in the past, begetting a number of superior foals. However, the question arises, can means and ways be found which would bring their good services more in proportion to the expenditure incurred.

The number of mares served by these stallions is far below the usual average, and the percentage of foals born of these mares is apparently small, although for want of proper statistics the latter cannot be determined. I would suggest that in future the date of birth and the description of the foals be entered in the Magisterial registration books, and that in addition all stock bred from our Arabs be branded with a distinguishing mark.

The solution of the question, how to obtain a more satisfactory birth-rate is as difficult as it is important, and the only way, in my opinion, is the establishment of small stud farms. Approved mares which are about to foal are by their owners taken to these places, kept for a few weeks and served by one of the stallions within 10 days after the foaling, which is the best time. The mare then returns to her own pastures and the mongrel stallion in the neighbourhood will rarely find a chance of competing with the Arab and having his own offspring shown and sold as a Government foal.

Under these conditions the Administration could, with the greatest advantage to both itself and the country, keep a number of good mares for breeding purposes, using the best of the progeny for stud purposes and selling the rest to private individuals. Time would soon show which of our Arab stallions are really worth keeping for stud purposes and which are useless, and the latter should be sold and replaced by better ones.

8. *Sheep*.—In April last the Government purchased 40 rams of the Rambouillet type, bred by the Hon. W. Rogers of Glencairn, Cathcart, Cape Colony. The animals were distributed amongst a number of chiefs and it is to be hoped they will, with the additions to follow during the coming financial year, benefit the wool growers of Basutoland which, owing to its excellent pasturage and its bracing climate, is particularly well suited to the production of the robust strain of the Merino. As the land enjoys freedom from those pests which have spelled complete ruination to the sheep-farming industry in many parts of South Africa, it could be made one of the finest sheep and wool producing countries in the world. Scab and burweed are the only factors which have to be taken into serious consideration, and both being due to tangible and visible agents, can be overcome and stripped of all danger by a wise expenditure of money and energy.

Owing to a fair amount of rain falling every year and an air which is rarely pregnant with dust, our wool is very light, and, therefore, paid for by traders at a comparatively high figure. But I venture to say that provided the quality of the fibre of the wool is duly improved, there is no reason why Basutoland should not produce first-class fleeces, commanding the same values as the best Eastern province grass veld wools. Capital, energy and intelligent breeding combined could achieve this end before many years have passed, and we have in our small stock an asset the importance of which cannot be estimated too highly and which it is quite possible and probable will outlast every other farming industry in Basutoland.

9. *Locusts*.—These destructive creatures do not seem to have done very much damage to the natives' crops during the past seasons, and wherever they did put in their appearance the Basuto were not idle in seizing their opportunity of taking back a fair equivalent of the damage done by catching and drying large numbers of the insects. It meant exchanging bread for meat—in my opinion a most suitable and effective way of dealing with the locust plague and well worth copying elsewhere. It is even practicable where the people themselves do not look upon locusts as fit articles for food, for the domestic animals from the fowl upwards and including the horse are by no means fastidious in this respect. They can not only live but even thrive and fatten on them in times of scarcity of food. Ground up and mixed with bran they would form a most nourishing substance of considerable market value.

IV.—CONCLUDING REMARKS.

In addition to the contagious diseases work which I have been called upon to do, I have embraced every opportunity of assisting owners of stock in cases of ordinary ailments, and I am glad to think that in this manner I have been of service to the public of

Basutoland, its white and black inhabitants. My advice and help to them has throughout been given free of charge, thus following the example of the Cape Colonial Veterinary Department and other South African Colonies, and no doubt this *modus operandi* has acted as a stimulus, for I have treated 1,073 cases of illness amongst horses, cattle, sheep, pigs, dogs, cats, and fowls. During the same period I have also despatched 423 official reports, letters, memos, and telegrams.

I have been 63 days absent from headquarters on duty, travelling in the districts of Maseru, Berea, Leribe, and Mafeteng. I also visited Cathcart, Cape Colony, in connection with the purchase of rams.

My subsistence and travelling allowance has during this period been raised to £50 per annum, an amount which, with due economy on my part, has been sufficient to cover the expenses incurred; but I venture to say, in the interest of the country and the work to be done, that a veterinary officer should not be tied down to a certain fixed allowance which on the face of it might at any time prove insufficient. For if the funds are exhausted before the termination of the financial year, the officer in charge of the department finds himself on the horns of a dilemma; he must either pay for the contagious diseases work out of his own pocket when visiting the reported outbreaks, or he must try to eradicate the pests by letter, which is an impossibility.

For the same period and purpose a subordinate veterinary officer in the Orange River Colony receives £250 and in the other Colonies a daily subsistence allowance with a refund of all travelling expenses is being paid out, a procedure which is but fair and reasonable. When diseases had to be investigated, attended to, and speedily eradicated, I have myself in previous appointments often been obliged to spend in one month a sum equal to what I now must consider a twelve-months' allowance.

I have, &c.,

OTTO HENNING,

Government Veterinary Officer.

Maseru,

June 30th, 1906.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

—

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
485	Hong Kor	1905
486	St. Helena	"
487	Weihaiwei	"
488	Gold Coast	"
489	Seychelles	"
490	Falkland Islands	"
491	Gambia	"
492	Jamaica	1904-1905
493	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1905
494	Ceylon	"
495	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
496	Bahamas	1905-1906
497	Barbados	"
498	Malta	1905
499	British Central Africa Protectorate	1905-1906
500	Colonial Survey Committee	"
501	Grenada	1905
502	Straits Settlements	"
503	Gibraltar	"
504	Trinidad and Tobago	1905-1906
505	St. Lucia	1905
506	Mauritius	"
507	Southern Nigeria (Lagos)	"
508	Somaliland	1905-1906
509	Fiji	1905
510	St. Vincent	1905-1906
511	Sierra Leone	1905
512	Southern Nigeria	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
28	Gold Coast and Sierra Leone	Rubber.
29	Ceylon	Geological Survey.
30	Pitcairn Island	Report by Mr. R. T. Simon.
31	Northern Nigeria	Cotton, &c.
32	Do. do.	Mineral Survey.
33	Southern Nigeria	Do.
34	Montserrat	Agricultural Industry.
35	Antigua and St. Kitts-Nevis	Sugar.
36	West Indies	Work of Imperial Department of Agriculture.
37	Ceylon	Mineral Survey, 1904-5.