



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

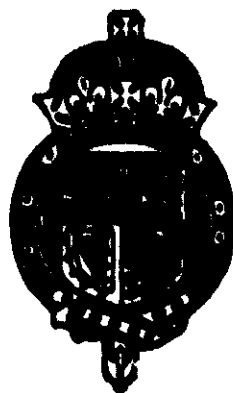
COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1336.

BASUTOLAND.

REPORT FOR 1926.

*(For Report for 1924 see No. 1244 (Price 9d.) and for Report for 1925 see
No. 1294 (Price 9d.).)*



LONDON:
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Astral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120, George Street, Edinburgh;
York Street, Manchester; 1, St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
15, Donegall Square West, Belfast;
or through any Bookseller.

1927.

Price 9d. Net.

58-4-0-26.

No. 1336.

BASUTOLAND.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1926*.

INTRODUCTORY NOTE.

Basutoland, which is a native territory in South Africa, is bounded on the west by the Orange Free State, on the north by the Orange Free State and Natal, on the east by Natal and East Griqualand, and on the south by the Cape Province. Its area is 11,716 square miles. It lies between 28° 35' and 30° 40' south latitude, and between 27° and 29° 30' east longitude.

The altitude varies from 5,000 ft. to 11,000 ft. above sea-level, and the climate is, on the whole, healthy. The Maluti Mountains in former years were used entirely as cattle posts, but owing to the increase in population the Basuto have found it necessary to migrate there and build villages and cultivate the land, so that to-day the more or less inaccessible area is gradually becoming as thickly populated as the low-lying country to the west. In favourable seasons the Territory produces wheat, mealies, and kafir-corn, also horses, cattle, and sheep; the export of wool for this year amounting to 12,131,574 pounds weight.

In 1818 the first Paramount Chief of Basutoland, Moshesh, gathered together the remnants of various tribes which had been scattered about South Africa during the wars waged by Moselekatse, and thus founded what to-day has become the Basuto nation, consisting of upwards of 540,000 souls.

A series of wars took place, from 1856 onwards, between the Basuto and the inhabitants of the Orange Free State, and it was not until 1868, when Moshesh was hard pressed by the Boers, that he appealed to the British Government for help and the recognition of his people as British subjects. This was carried into effect in March, 1868. In 1871 the Territory was annexed to the Cape Colony, and, after various disturbances, the Government of the Cape, in April, 1880, extended the provisions of the Cape Peace Preservation Act of 1878 to Basutoland, which included a clause providing for the general disarmament of the Basuto. The Basuto refused to accept the terms, and, after a war lasting nearly a year, an agreement was arrived at by which the Act was repealed and certain fines inflicted on the tribe.

* The financial information given in this Report is for the year ended the 31st March, 1926. Other details are for the calendar year 1926.

Although outwardly peace had been restored, there still remained several chiefs who would in no way accept the terms, and it was eventually decided by the Government of the Cape Colony to hand over the administration to the Imperial Government. This took effect on the 13th March, 1884. Since that date the Territory has been governed by a Resident Commissioner under the direction of the High Commissioner for South Africa.

In 1903, a native National Council of 100 members was formed for the purpose of discussing internal matters, and with a view to acting in a measure as an advisory body to the Resident Commissioner.

General Events of the Year.

There were no faction fights of a serious nature during the year, but considerable friction continues to exist in the Leribe District, due in a measure to Chief Jonathan's great age and inability to attend to disputes amongst his people.

RETIREMENT OF LIEUT.-COLONEL SIR E. C. F. GARRAWAY, K.C.M.G.

During the year Lieut.-Colonel Sir E. C. F. Garraway, K.C.M.G., Resident Commissioner, retired on pension, and he was succeeded by Mr. J. C. R. Sturrock, M.A.

DROUGHT.

The Territory again suffered from severe drought, which occurred during the latter portion of the year.

NATIONAL COUNCIL.

The twenty-first session of the National Council was held from the 9th to the 22nd of October.

The following were the more important matters discussed :—

- (1) *Eradication of Noxious Weeds.*—This subject was again fully discussed.
- (2) *Administration of Justice in Native Courts.*—Some speakers declared that there was no justice in the Native Courts, while others alleged that there was undue delay in the hearing of cases. The Resident Commissioner informed the Council that he hoped to lay before the members at the next session a draft of Regulations for the better conduct of Native Courts.
- (3) *Introduction of Bastard Sheep and Goats into Basutoland.*—Councillors were agreed that much harm was being caused to the flocks in the Territory through the introduction of bastard sheep and goats. On being

assured that the Government had no intention of interfering with sheep and goats already in the country, the Council agreed that the High Commissioner should be asked to promulgate a law prohibiting the importation of bastard sheep and goats into Basutoland.

- (4) *Equine Mange*.—Draft Regulations for the prevention of equine mange were laid before the Council. After some discussion the Regulations were agreed to by the majority of the Council, the only reservation being that the maximum penalty for breach of the Regulations should be reduced from £10 to £5.
- (5) *Formation of an Education Fund*.—The Council was unanimous in its desire for better education and in its agreement with the scheme for the formation of an Education Fund. It required an assurance, however, that the money would be spent only on education. The proposal that part of the revenue of the Fund should be raised by the imposition of an education levy resulted in a discussion lasting several days. The Council eventually agreed to the principle of the levy, and the question whether it should be per tax paid or per taxpayer was put to the vote with the result that thirty Councillors were in favour of the levy being per tax and forty-seven in favour of its being per taxpayer.

Legislation.

The following Proclamations were promulgated during the year :—

- (1) Motor Vehicle Proclamation, 1926 (No. 7).
- (2) Pensions Amendment Proclamation, 1926 (No. 10).
- (3) Customs Tariff (Amendment) Proclamation, 1926 (No. 14).
- (4) Appropriation Proclamation, 1926 (No. 18).
- (5) Amending Pensions Amendment Proclamation, 1926 (No. 26).
- (6) Income Tax Proclamation, 1926 (No. 31); and
- (7) Auctioneers Licence and Auction Dues Amendment Proclamation, 1926 (No. 32).

Financial.

The revenue for the financial year ended the 31st March, 1926, amounted to £281,572, and the expenditure to £268,076, an excess of revenue over expenditure of £13,496.

The balance of assets in excess of liabilities at the 31st March, 1926, was £92,357

The following statements show the revenue and expenditure during the past three financial years:—

REVENUE.			
	1923-24.	1924-25.	1925-26.
	£	£	£
Native Tax	134,689	127,531	139,776
Customs and Excise ..	71,043	76,765	84,196
Posts and Telegraphs ..	8,038	8,520	8,428
Licences	7,585	7,928	7,766
Fees of Court or Office ..	784	906	1,084
Judicial Fines	2,009	1,991	3,022
Income Tax	6,773	12,997	13,759
Fees for services rendered	1,366	1,484	1,386
Interest	2,341	1,735	1,819
Wool Export Duty ..	14,128	17,189	15,421
Miscellaneous	3,857	3,962	4,915
	<u>£252,613</u>	<u>£281,008</u>	<u>£281,572</u>

EXPENDITURE.			
	1923-24.	1924-25.	1925-26.
	£	£	£
Resident Commissioner ..	13,758	13,692	13,829
District Administration ..	12,670	12,791	13,091
Police	36,189	36,756	37,507
Posts and Telegraphs ..	10,437	10,118	10,458
Administration of Justice	9,806	11,078	11,659
Public Works Department	6,526	5,665	5,616
Public Works Recurrent..	20,990	22,153	23,778
Public Works Extraordinary	3,661	2,383	8,820
Medical	20,575	22,795	21,543
Education	34,813	35,836	40,113
Government Industrial School	2,437	2,429	2,486
Agriculture	21,806	22,927	28,780
Allowances to Chiefs ..	12,448	12,323	11,994
National Council	1,950	2,193	2,037
Leper Settlement	20,036	19,077	19,306
Pensions	6,681	6,812	7,599
Miscellaneous	5,656	6,955	9,455
	<u>240,439</u>	<u>245,983</u>	<u>268,076</u>
Expenditure from Surplus			
Balances	1,230	4,214	—
Total	<u>£241,669</u>	<u>£250,197</u>	<u>£268,076</u>

INCOME TAX.

The rates of normal tax and super-tax on incomes were imposed by Proclamation No. 23 of 1925. Provision was made therein for an increase from 1s. 6d. to 2s. 6d. in normal tax for each pound of the incomes of Companies, and an increase from £50 to £60 in the abatement allowed to persons in respect of each child.

The collection for the year amounted to £13,759 5s. 9d., being an increase of £762 15s. 10d. on the receipts for the year 1924-25 and an excess of £1,759 5s. 9d. on the estimate.

This excess was entirely due to additional revenue derived from Companies.

The total collection was made up as follows:—

<i>Arrear Tax</i> :—				£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Normal	..	..	..	101	0	5			
Super	..	..	..	10	5	7	111	6	0
<i>Current Tax</i> :—									
Normal	..	..	..	12,085	17	0			
Super	..	..	..	1,562	2	9	13,647	19	9
							<u>£13,759</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>9</u>

The following table shows the sources from which the taxable incomes were derived, and the amount of tax obtained from each source:—

			£	s.	d.	per cent.
General Traders	..	..	9,964	19	6	or 72·42
Civil Servants	..	..	1,264	1	2	„ 9·19
Employed Persons	..	..	513	18	3	„ 3·73
Others—including Banks, etc.			1,243	14	9	„ 9·04
Non-residents	..	..	772	12	1	„ 5·62
			<u>£13,759</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>9</u>	„ 100

The number of incomes assessed for current tax in the various categories were:—

No.	Category.	Total of Taxable Incomes.
	£	£
90	500 and under	34,573
51	501— 750	30,620
28	751—1,000	24,379
26	1,001—1,500	30,889
9	1,501—2,000	14,765
7	2,001—4,000	17,609
7	Over 4,000	66,767
<u>218 Total taxable income of persons assessed for current tax</u>		<u>£219,602</u>

Trade.

The following is a return of the imports into, and the exports from, the Territory by general traders during the calendar year 1926, the figures for 1925 being given for purposes of comparison:—

IMPORTS.

	1925.		1926.	
	No.	Value.	No.	Value.
Merchandise	—	£ 733,173	—	£ 593,919
Live stock :—				
Horses, Mules, etc. ..	425	1,021	70	239
Cattle	1,682	5,008	788	2,147
Sheep and Goats	338	364	284	400
Grain :—	<i>Muids.</i>		<i>Muids.</i>	
Wheat and Wheat-meal ..	3,343	6,458	4,741	8,395
Maize and Maize-meal ..	39,423	92,785	55,892	39,607
Kafir Corn	34,739	27,475	25,256	19,766
Other Produce	—	6,263	—	541
Totals	—	812,547	—	665,014

EXPORTS.

	1925.		1926.	
	No.	Value.	No.	Value.
Live stock :—				
Horses, Mules, etc. ..	93	£ 963	37	£ 264
Cattle	877	4,165	2,848	12,396
Sheep and Goats	1,670	1,515	453	390
Grain :—	<i>Muids.</i>		<i>Muids.</i>	
Wheat and Wheat-meal	83,602	105,558	103,402	111,694
Maize and Maize-meal	71,061	34,553	5,561	3,092
Kafir Corn	3,249	2,018	2,325	2,277
Oats	413	135	98	40
Barley	44	25	46	24
Beans and Peas	15,771	6,549	2,031	1,560
Wool and Mohair :—	<i>lb.</i>		<i>lb.</i>	
Wool	11,721,411	469,315	12,131,574	427,047
Mohair	1,958,877	119,285	2,156,603	121,098
Hides and Skins :—				
Hides	204,408	6,067	350,084	10,275
Skins	116,347	2,802	202,786	5,229
Miscellaneous	—	3,156	—	1,564
Totals	—	£756,106	—	£896,950

OTHER STATISTICS.

Government imports during the year amounted to £45,061, as compared with £38,431 in 1925.

The total exports of wool and mohair during the year amounted to 16,655,056 lb. of which 14,288,177 lb. were exported by general traders.

Education.

The average attendance of pupils in schools and institutions is now 33,074, while the number of scholars on the roll is 44,936.

The following table shows the average attendance of pupils during the last ten years:—

Table I.

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Average Attendance.</i>	<i>Increase.</i>	<i>Decrease.</i>
1917	20,760	1,264	—
1918	21,160	391	—
1919	22,556	1,396	—
1920	23,479	932	—
1921	22,586	—	893
1922	23,424	838	—
1923	26,124	2,700	—
1924	29,267	3,143	—
1925	30,005	738	—
1926	33,074	3,069	—

From this table it will be seen that another large increase of 3,069 in the average attendance has taken place. The total increase during the last four years has been nearly 10,000.

Table II.
Grants to Missions for Schools and Institutions for the year ending 31st March, 1926.

	£	s.	d.
Paris Evangelical Mission Society ..	22,690	0	0
Roman Catholic Mission	6,989	0	0
Church of England Mission ..	3,563	10	0
	<hr/>		
	£33,242	10	0
	<hr/>		

Table III.
Elementary Schools according to Size and Denomination.

<i>Mission.</i>	<i>Over 300</i>	<i>150 to 200</i>	<i>100 to 150</i>	<i>70 to 100</i>	<i>60 to 70</i>	<i>45 to 60</i>	<i>35 to 45</i>	<i>20 to 25</i>	<i>Under 20</i>	<i>Total.</i>
P.E.M.S.	9	20	48	79	27	63	81	23	12	360
Roman Catholic	1	8	10	12	19	19	34	8	7	112
Church of England	1	1	8	12	7	11	14	5	4	60
Total	11	29	66	103	47	93	129	36	23	531
	+8	+14	+10	+12	+13	+3	-35	-9	-7	+9

In September, 1926, there were 531 Government-aided schools, as against 522 in September, 1925. Eight more schools have reached an average attendance of over 200, while the total number of schools whose average attendance is under 20 is now reduced to 23, as against 30 for last year.

The increases and decreases as compared with 1925 are given under each column. Practically speaking, all schools have increased in size.

Table IV.
Enrolment of Pupils in Elementary Schools.

Mission.	Number of pupils on Roll, September, 1925.			Number of pupils on Roll, September, 1926.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Paris Evangelical Mission Society.	9,660	19,793	29,453	10,553	20,805	31,358
Roman Catholic ..	1,990	6,008	7,998	2,074	6,329	8,403
Church of England ..	1,458	2,943	4,401	1,494	2,997	4,491
Total	13,108	28,744	41,852	14,121	30,131	44,252

The increase is 2,400. Despite the general belief of the Basuto that it is more important to educate boys than girls, every year the figures show that there are more girls than boys in the schools. From the above figures, two-thirds of the children are girls and only one-third boys.

The percentage of boys to girls for the last three years is as follows :—

Year.	Boys.	Girls.
1924	32 per cent.	68 per cent.
1925	31 "	69 "
1926	32 "	68 "

Table V.
Enrolment of Pupils in Institutions.

Institution.	Mission.	No. of pupils on Roll, September, 1925.			No. of pupils on Roll, September, 1926.		
		Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Morija	Paris Evangelical Mission Society	120	—	120	139	—	139
Th. Morena ..	"	—	27	27	—	38	38
Cana	"	—	15	15	—	25	25
Leloaleng ..	"	51	—	51	53	—	53
Roma	Roman Catholic	136	243	379	113	248	361
Masit	Church of England	23	—	23	26	—	26
Maseru	Church of England	—	38	38	—	37	37
Total	—	330	323	653	331	348	679

The increase is 26. This is chiefly due to the new school at Cana. The number of pupils at the other institutions remains much the same as in previous years.

Many young Basuto go to schools and institutions in the Union, but it is impossible to estimate the number.

Table VI.
Average Attendance of Pupils in Elementary Schools.

Mission.	Year ending September, 1925.			Year ending September, 1926.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Paris Evangelical Mission Society.	6,478	13,985	20,463	7,258	15,477	22,735
Roman Catholic ..	1,412	4,449	5,861	1,496	4,956	6,452
Church of England ..	956	2,072	3,028	1,082	2,220	3,252
Total	8,846	20,506	29,352	9,786	22,653	32,439

This shows an increase of 3,087.

Percentage average attendance in Schools :—

Year.	Boys.	Girls.
1924	31 per cent.	69 per cent.
1925	30 "	70 "
1926	30 "	70 "

The total average attendance in elementary schools is 32,439, and the enrolment is 44,252. This is a slight improvement on last year, being approximately 73 per cent. compared with 70 per cent. in 1925.

GENERAL.

The average attendance has increased from 23,000 in 1922 to 33,000 in 1926. This is phenomenal and means that many schools are now overcrowded, and it will be a question for the near future, if not for the immediate present, to provide more accommodation. Fortunately, in a climate like that of Basutoland, classes can often be held in the open air, and this plan is often resorted to in order to lessen congestion.

On the whole, and in spite of many disadvantages, fair progress is being made in elementary education. The three "Rs" are fairly well taught and pupils who reach Grades IV and V can all write and read Sesuto and do simple sums. But with better material, furniture, and buildings there would be more efficient work done in the schools. Teachers and children are apt to be discouraged when they have to work in such uncongenial surroundings as exist in certain schools.

EUROPEAN SCHOOLS.

In December, 1926, there were 114 pupils in the eight schools for European children, being a decrease of ten pupils as compared with last year's figures.

Veterinary.**ANTHRAX.**

During the year there were forty outbreaks of anthrax, an increase of nineteen.

The year 1926 was a remarkably dry one and the live stock suffered very serious privation, especially in the midlands and southern portion of the Territory, and it is quite possible that the shortage of pasture may be a contributing factor to the ingestion of the anthrax spores in the ground.

During the year, 35,446 animals were inoculated, with very good results.

EQUINE MANGE.

This again assumed serious proportions, and demonstrated how difficult the position was without the support of proper regulations.

At the National Council held in September this disease was fully discussed together with the regulations which have now come into force.

With the advent of the mange law the co-operation of all Assistant Commissioners and Police Officers was invited. This was willingly given. Pitsos were held throughout the Territory, explaining the law to the natives and asking them to assist, and a big effort is now being made to stamp out this widespread disease.

Dressing depots have been organised at all dipping tanks, and in some cases chiefs have offered to assist in the treatment. The offer has been gladly accepted.

There is now every hope of finally eradicating this disease, and the tendency for owners with badly infected horses to abandon them in the mountains is now likely to cease.

The mountain areas without dipping tanks or trading stations present the greatest difficulty now, but every effort is being made to get at the people in these areas, and every facility is being given horse-owners to treat their animals.

During the year, 15,816 equines were treated.

SCAB.

It is gratifying to be able to report that good progress has been made in the campaign against scab, and some very valuable lessons have been learned.

After careful consideration it was decided to cancel simultaneous dipping in 39 protected areas and substitute for it a thorough tank inspection. It is thought that results fully justify this policy.

During the early summer 390,086 sheep and goats were inspected in these areas, and 99 sheep and goats were found infected with scab. This was very satisfactory and clearly demonstrated the great progress which has been made since the scab campaign was inaugurated.

Experience has shown that one of the most difficult matters in the eradication of scab is a correct diagnosis, and this is especially so in this Territory where bi-annual clipping takes place. To cure scab effectually a correct diagnosis must be made, and experience shows that an ordinary optical inspection of a flock in a kraal or in the veldt may be very misleading and badly scab-infected sheep pass undetected.

In addition to those subjected to a tank inspection, 2,017,273 sheep and goats were dipped, and the mortality for which compensation was paid was 121. This death-rate is remarkably low, in view of the fact that an arsenical dip is employed, and reflects great credit on the staff responsible and justifies the trouble which has been taken to study and reduce mortality.

A great effort has been made to complete the tank erection on the south-eastern border. Unfortunately, however, it has not been possible to complete all the tanks necessary to ensure this. The balance, however, are in process of erection.

Despite the absence of these tanks there is every reason to believe that the scab outlook on the eastern border has improved tremendously, and it is hoped in the near future to reduce the scab in this part of the Territory.

The most serious aspect of the scab campaign is the financial one. This, with the extension of the areas of dipping, is inevitable, and it is quite apparent that it will not be possible to give all owners dipping-tank facilities on the revenue received from the $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per lb. wool tax. It would be a calamity to bring the scab work to a standstill now, and unless the badly-infected centres in the mountains, from which sheep are constantly being moved, are cleared up it will be impossible to keep clean the areas in which scab has been eradicated.

Owing to shortage of money the scheme for building twenty new tanks had to be curtailed, and during the year only twelve tanks were erected.

Owing to the extension of tanks to the mountain areas, it was found necessary to appoint another Native Scab Inspector in the Maseru District, and it is quite apparent that more of these will be required in the near future if finances permit of the building of more tanks.

During the year there were many requests and complaints from sheep-owners respecting the absence of dipping facilities, and it is gratifying to observe how most sheep-owners in the Territory to-day recognise what benefit the dipping operations have on the health and welfare of their flocks.

WOOL INDUSTRY.

For some time there has been evidence that the quality of the wool produced in Basutoland is on the decline, and with the slump in prices this matter has been thoroughly investigated both by the Veterinary Department and the trading community.

Investigations showed that the undue presence of "kemp" in the wool was one of the main factors in this deterioration. This is due to the careless methods of breeding by the sheep-owners in allowing bastard or Persian rams to mix with their Merino ewes.

The matter was discussed at the last session of the National Council, and a big campaign has now been launched to try and educate the sheep-owner in this important matter.

STRANGLES.

Strangles has been less prevalent this year; 69 cases were inoculated and treated.

BILIARY FEVER.

Biliary fever has also been less prevalent, 26 cases having been treated.

CONTAGIOUS ABORTION.

This disease was diagnosed in a small herd at Maseru, and treated. It is hoped that there will not be a further spread of this irksome disease.

STUD.

The year 1926 has without doubt been the worst season for stud work experienced over many years. Drought has been the dominating factor throughout the season. This resulted in a serious shortage of green grass, and many mares behaved in quite an unusual manner regarding their oestral cycles.

Some mares after foaling failed to come into oestrus at all. Many mares missed the 9th day of oestrus after foaling, and many, after being served, and refusing the usual trial periods, leading one to believe they were pregnant, returned in oestrus from 40 to 60 days after the last service. The influence of climatic conditions on the oestral cycle in the mare is remarkable and almost incredible.

As the result of last year's season, 74 mares proved in foal out of 169 mares covered. During the season, 126 mares were covered.

GENERAL.

During the year, 2,486 professional visits and attendances were paid by the Principal Veterinary Officer.

Agriculture.

The grant for Agriculture and Tree-planting was £1,200.

LOCUST DESTRUCTION.

There were no fresh outbreaks of *voetgangers* during the year and no flying locusts were observed in Basutoland. There was a fairly serious invasion of "the Elegant Grasshopper" in gardens and lands. This is attributed to the drought and the lack of natural food on the veldt.

AGRICULTURAL SHOWS.

Agricultural Shows were held at Maseru and Quthing.

DONGA PREVENTION.

Owing to the severe drought the trees in many of the dongas died and others had to be planted. In consequence it was not found possible to undertake much fresh work. A number of English elms were planted in dongas as an experiment.

TREE-PLANTING.

At the close of the year there were some 243,500 trees in the various Government Nurseries. During the year, 57,000 trees were issued, and 8,000 were planted on the various Reserves.

AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATIONS.

Agricultural Associations have been started at Roma, Mokema, and Teyateyaneng and appear to be flourishing. The members are keen and progressive. They have been visited on several occasions by the Agricultural Officer, who has given lectures and practical demonstrations.

SEED WHEAT BOUNTY.

With a view to improving the wheat in the country the Government allotted a sum of £2,000 as a bounty on seed wheat. Owing to the dry autumn the whole of this amount was not expended. The sum of £156 was expended on local seed and £537 on imported seed.

There is no doubt that the bounty has done a great deal towards improving the type of wheat grown in the Territory.

AGRICULTURAL DEMONSTRATION.

The severe drought greatly handicapped demonstration work during the year, but, in spite of this, satisfactory progress has been made. The natives throughout the Territory are taking the keenest interest in the demonstrations.

Public Works.**ROADS.**

The condition of the main roads has been kept up and a considerable number of minor culverts have been put in.

The condition of by-roads has shown much improvement.

It has not been possible to make much advance in constructional work on the main roads and by-roads in the Territory.

BUILDINGS.

Leribe.—Additional huts for Native Police have been built, and an addition of two cells has been made to the gaol.

Teyateyaneng.—New Government Offices have been erected and will shortly be ready for occupation.

Maseru.—New married quarters for a European clerk have been completed.

Mafeteng.—An addition of two cells has been made to the gaol, and additional Police hutting is in course of construction.

Mohale's Hoek.—A new Government Store has been built, and certain additions to the Postmaster's house have been made.

Qacha's Nek.—A new Court Room has been built, and a Nurses' Home and new Police Stables are in course of construction.

WATER-WORKS.

Leribe.—Additional springs have been brought in through half a mile of piping, bringing the total supply for the camp up to 20,000 gallons per day.

Mohale's Hoek.—The camp water-supply has been increased by a new bore-hole with a windmill pump.

Gaols and Crime.

There are seven gaols and four lock-ups in the Territory, and during the year, 2,494 prisoners passed through them, as compared with 2,216 during the year 1925.

The number of convictions for contravention of the liquor laws in 1926 was 40, as compared with 48 for the previous year.

Convictions for offences against property numbered 583, as compared with 439 in 1925.

Movement of Inhabitants.

The following figures give the number of passes issued to natives to leave the Territory during the year, as compared with the figures for the year 1925 :—

	<i>Labour.</i>	<i>Visiting and Miscellaneous.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
1925	70,048	29,392	99,440
1926	96,265	38,905	135,170

Post Office.

The net postal, telegraph, and telephone revenue amounted to £8,428, as compared with £8,520 for the year 1924-25.

The expenditure amounted to £10,458, as compared with £10,118 for 1924-25.

The number of deposits in, and withdrawals from, the Post Office Savings Bank for the last two years is shown in the following table :—

<i>Deposits.</i>		<i>Withdrawals.</i>	
1924-25 =	1,122, value £6,229.	503,	value £4,715.
1925-26 =	1,752, value £8,052.	615,	value £7,736.

The following comparative table shows the number and value of money and postal orders issued and paid during the last two years :—

<i>Issued.</i>		<i>Paid.</i>	
1924-25 =	26,373, value £24,131.	33,148,	value £42,457.
1925-26 =	29,154, value £28,971.	34,172,	value £38,513.

Medical.

During the year, 2,287 patients were treated in the hospitals—showing an increase of 66 over the numbers of the previous year. The deaths numbered 123 and the operations performed totalled 2,250.

In the dispensaries 61,802 patients received treatment, being an increase of 2,273 over the figures of 1925.

The number of vaccinations performed was 22,253, and the revenue received from hospital and out-patient fees amounted to £2,335 10s. 8d.

The following table shows the above statistics arranged according to districts :—

<i>District.</i>	<i>In- Patients.</i>	<i>Out- Patients.</i>	<i>Vaccina- tions.</i>	<i>Revenue.</i>		
				£	s.	d.
Maseru ..	937	14,739	2,095	785	5	0
Leribe ..	450	12,571	283	512	15	0
Mafeteng ..	416	11,094	7,131	327	11	3
Mohale's Hoek	256	6,079	5,258	250	17	3
Quthing ..	207	6,545	—	196	12	3
Qacha's Nek ..	21	3,321	39	90	17	11
Teyateyaneng	—	6,927	7,197	171	12	0
Mokhotlong ..	—	526	350	—		
Totals..	2,287	61,802	22,353	£2,335	10	8

There is little noteworthy to report as regards the health of the Territory. It has been very good on the whole. There were no serious outbreaks of epidemic disease. Influenza was more prevalent than in 1925 and was responsible for 985 cases, but with no deaths. There were two sporadic outbreaks of smallpox, 32 cases occurring with 5 deaths, and 5 cases of cerebro-spinal-meningitis were reported with one death. Fevers of the enteric group were few in number; only 70 were reported, and the disease was of a mild type.

The majority of the patients who come to the hospitals do so for surgical aid. For medical treatment they prefer dispensary treatment, after which they return to their homes. The bulk of

the dispensary patients seek treatment for gastro-intestinal, venereal, respiratory, genito-urinary, and skin diseases.

The free treatment of syphilis continues, and more patients are coming every year to avail themselves of this privilege.

The health of the police and prisoners was good, and the condition of the gaols called for only a few slight improvements.

Sanitation to any extent is only possible in the Government Reserves. Maseru is the only proclaimed sanitary area, but it is hoped to bring in Leribe during next year.

Plague being endemic in the neighbouring parts of the Union, three rodent destruction gangs have been constantly employed in the Maseru, Leribe, and Mafeteng Districts. Considerable progress has been made in the destruction of veldt rodents, but in the townships the position is not so satisfactory on account of most buildings not being rat-proof. Every endeavour is being made to cope with the pest and get it under control.

LEPER SETTLEMENT.

No important changes in the administration of the Leper Asylum have taken place during the year 1926.

There has been a slight increase in the population, as will be seen from the following population statistics :—

	<i>At 31st December, 1925.</i>	<i>At 31st December, 1926.</i>	<i>Increase.</i>
Males ..	228	247	19
Females ..	233	247	14
	461	494	33

The following are details of the movements of the population throughout the years 1925 and 1926, the former being given for the purpose of comparison :—

1925.					
	<i>Ad- missions.</i>	<i>Re-ad- missions.</i>	<i>Deaths.</i>	<i>Deser- tions.</i>	<i>Discharge.</i>
Males ..	45	4	31	7	7
Females ..	37	4	21	5	19
Totals ..	82	8	52	12	26
1926.					
	<i>Ad- missions.</i>	<i>Re-ad- missions.</i>	<i>Deaths.</i>	<i>Deser- tions.</i>	<i>Discharge.</i>
Males ..	43	5	18	7	4
Females ..	41	2	24	1	4
Totals ..	84	7	42	8	8

The increase in the population is accounted for almost entirely by diminutions in the numbers of deaths, desertions, and discharges. It is satisfactory to note that, notwithstanding a more serious incidence of scurvy in 1926 than in the previous year, the number of deaths from all causes was ten less than in 1925. There is also a satisfactory diminution in the number of desertions.

Under the heading "re-admissions," are included only those patients re-admitted after desertion. Patients discharged as arrested cases and afterwards admitted are classed as "admitted" simply because they are given new numbers, their old numbers having been assigned to others admitted after the discharge of the former. In the great majority of cases of admissions after discharge it is not on account of a recurrence of leprosy, but on account of permanent disabilities due to the effects of leprosy in the past.

The lining of three huts with bricks, begun before the end of last financial year, has been completed. Thirty thousand bricks are now being made by a contractor, and the lining of three more huts will be begun at an early date. The same contractor is now engaged in rebuilding the School and two huts for the school children on a site to the west of the space between the two Compounds, the material of these buildings having been removed thither from the Compounds. These buildings will be brick-lined.

A large stone and cement platform has been built at the Farm Steading, for the support of eight cylindrical tanks holding 95 bags of grain each.

The borehole at the western boundary of the farm has continued to give a good supply of water since it was repaired in October, 1925; it shows no sign of exhaustion after six hours' pumping.

Owing to drought and the ravages of cut worm the farm and leper lands yielded a very poor crop. The milk supply, however, was a good one, and sufficient fodder was grown to feed the stock and save the expense of buying outside.

R. B. SMITH,

Government Secretary

Basutoland.

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS.

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on British Colonies and Protectorates. These Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the subscription price of 40s. per annum.

ASHANTI, 1924-25, No. 1299 1s. 9d.	JAMAICA, 1925, No. 1327 1s.
BAHAMAS, 1926, No. 1300 9d.	KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE, 1925, No. 1321 1s.
BARBADOS, 1925-26, No. 1301 9d.	LEEWARD ISLANDS, 1925-26, No. 1322 .. 1s.
BASUTOLAND, 1925, No. 1294 9d.	MAURITIUS, 1925, No. 1322 9d.
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE, 1925-26, No. 1317 1s.	NORTHERN RHODESIA, No. 1298 .. 1s.
BERMUDA, 1925, No. 1309 9d.	NEW HEBRIDES, 1925, No. 1324 .. 6d.
BRITISH GUIANA, 1925, No. 1300 .. 1s.	NIGERIA, 1926, No. 1325 1s. 3d.
BRITISH HONDURAS, 1925, No. 1308 .. 1s.	NYASALAND, 1925, No. 1306 6d.
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE, 1925-26, No. 1321 .. 6d.	ST. HELENA, 1925, No. 1297 6d.
BRUNEI, STATE OF, 1925, No. 1299 .. 1s. 2d.	ST. LUCIA, 1925, No. 1326 6d.
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA), 1925, No. 1298 6d.	ST. VINCENT, 1925, No. 1303 6d.
CEYLON, 1925, No. 1242 5s.	SEYCHELLES, 1925, No. 1329 6d.
COLONIAL SURVEY COMMITTEE REPORT, 1926, No. 1325 1s. 2d.	SIERRA LEONE, 1925, No. 1320 .. 1s.
CYPRUS, 1925, No. 1313 1s. 9d.	SOMALILAND, 1925, No. 1316 6d.
FALKLAND ISLANDS, 1925, No. 1323 .. 6d.	STRAITS SETTLEMENTS, 1925, No. 1302 8s.
FEDERATED MALAY STATES, 1925, No. 1295 2s.	SWAZILAND, 1925, No. 1307 9d.
FIJI, 1925, No. 1299 1s.	TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE, 1924-25, No. 1327 6d.
GAMBIA, 1925, No. 1306 9d.	TRINIDAD & TOBAGO, 1925, No. 1311 .. 1s. 6d.
GIBRALTAR, 1925, No. 1314 9d.	TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS, 1925, No. 1304 6d.
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS, 1923-24, No. 1246 6d.	UGANDA, 1925, No. 1318 6d.
GOLD COAST, 1925-26, No. 1323 2s. 6d.	UNFEDERATED MALAY STATES UNDER BRITISH PROTECTION, 1925, No. 1319 6s. 2d.
GOLD COAST, NORTHERN TERRITORIES, 1925-26, No. 1325 1s.	WEI-HAI-WEI, 1925, No. 1295 6d.
GRENADA, 1925, No. 1310 9d.	ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE, 1925, No. 1312 6d.
HONG KONG, 1925, No. 1324 1s. 6d.	

MANDATED TERRITORIES.

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations.

CAMEROONS, 1925 (Colonial No. 22) 4s. 6d.
IRAQ, 1925 (Colonial No. 21) 6s.
PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN, 1925 (Colonial No. 20) .. 8s. 6d.
TANGANYIKA, 1925 (Colonial No. 18) 3s. 2d.
LABOUR IN TANGANYIKA TERRITORY, 1925 (Colonial No. 19) .. 4s.
TOGOLAND, 1925 (Colonial No. 23) 4s.

PALESTINE, REPORT OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF, 1920-25 (Colonial No. 18) .. 8s.
COLONIAL RESEARCH COMMITTEE REPORT, 1924-25 (Colonial No. 24) 9d.

All prices are net.

Postage extra.

For further particulars apply to any of the

SALE OFFICES OF H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE.

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES.

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates and Mandated Territories, can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.