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COLONIAL REPORTS--ANNUAL

No. 1760

Annual Report on the Social and Economic  
Progress of the People of

# BASUTOLAND, 1935

*(For Reports for 1933 and 1934 see No. 1666 and No. 1723  
respectively (Price 1s. 6d. each).)*

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LONDON

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

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**ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC  
PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF BASUTOLAND FOR  
THE YEAR 1935**

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**I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.**

Basutoland 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. The Maluti Mountains, which occupy most of the territory to the east, were in former years reserved for grazing purposes but, owing to the pressure in the lowlands where the bulk of the population is concentrated, this more or less inaccessible area has become comparatively thickly populated. One result of this occupation of the mountain area is the disappearance of big game, such as eland and hartebeest, which used to abound, and the gradual elimination of small game and birds.

The climate is dry and bracing with extremes of heat and cold both seasonal and diurnal. High altitude, electric tension and long periods of strong sunshine without clouds or rain necessitate for European residents periodic changes to the coast level where the air is more humid.

The temperature varies from a maximum of 93° F. to a minimum of 11° F. The rainfall is capricious, the average being approximately 30 inches per annum, but it fluctuates much above and below this figure. The rainfall in 1935 recorded at the different stations in the territory varied between 29.98 and 15.27 inches.

The Basuto as a nation did not come into prominence until 1818 when Moshesh, a minor chief of the Bakwena tribe in North Basutoland, gathered together the remnants of the various clans that had been scattered by the raids of the Zulu and Matabele.

The new nation went through many vicissitudes of fortune, first with the emigrant Boers of the Great Trek, and then with the British under General Cathcart in 1852. From 1856 until 1868 there was a series of wars with the Orange Free State burghers and, being hard pressed and having lost a large portion of his country (now known as the "Conquered Territory"), Moshesh sought the protection of the British Government. This was granted and carried into effect by Sir Philip Wodehouse, the Governor of the Cape, by a Proclamation dated 12th March 1868.

It is interesting to note that, although Moshesh asked for British protection, the Basuto were received as British subjects and not as protected subjects by the Proclamation of 1868, part of which reads:—

"Now therefore, I do hereby proclaim and declare that from and after publication hereof the said tribe of Basuto shall be taken to be British subjects, and the territory of the said tribe shall be taken to be British territory."

The country remained in a very unsettled condition until it was annexed to the Cape Colony by an Act of the Cape Legislature, No. 12 of 1871. The Act expressly declared that the territory was not to be subject to the general laws of the Colony, and gave the Governor power to legislate for it by proclamation and to extend to it by proclamation any Cape Act not otherwise in force therein.

The people never took kindly to the Cape Colonial rule, and after various disturbances the Government of the Cape, in 1880, extended to Basutoland the provisions of the Cape Peace Preservation Act of 1878, which included a clause for the general disarmament of the Basuto. They refused to accept the terms and, after a war lasting nearly a year, an agreement was arrived at under which the Act was repealed and certain fines paid by the tribe.

Although outwardly peace was restored, there still remained several chiefs who would not submit, and it was eventually decided by the Government of the Cape Colony to hand over the administration to the Imperial Government. This was effected by Order in Council of 2nd February 1884, which was proclaimed and brought

into force by Proclamation No. 75A of 18th March 1884. This proclamation defined the boundaries of the territory and restored it to the direct control of the Queen through Her Majesty's High Commissioner for South Africa.

## II.—GOVERNMENT.

The territory is governed by a Resident Commissioner under the direction of the High Commissioner for Basutoland, the Bechuanaland Protectorate and Swaziland, the latter possessing legislative authority, which is exercised by proclamation promulgated in the official *Gazette*. The Financial Secretary, who is also Treasurer, prepares the Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure and the Annual Accounts. Until 1931 the office of the High Commissioner was held by the Governor-General of the Union of South Africa, but with the close of the Earl of Athlone's period of office the two posts were separated.

For administrative purposes the country is divided into seven districts under District Commissioners: Maseru, Leribe (including the sub-district of Butha Buthe), Teyateyaneng, Mafeteng, Mofales Hoek, Quthing and Qachas Nek (with the sub-district of Mokhotlong). These districts are divided into chiefdoms and sub-chiefdoms presided over by the hereditary chiefs and sub-chiefs allied to the Moshesh family who are responsible to the Paramount Chief in all matters relating to native law and custom.

In 1903 there was established a Basutoland Council in place of the National Pitso which was previously held once every year. Its constitution and functions are defined by Proclamation No. 7 of 31st March 1910. The Council consists of 100 members, including the Paramount Chief as Chief Councillor, with the Resident Commissioner as President. The Resident Commissioner nominates five members, and the remaining 94 are nominated by the Paramount Chief and confirmed in their appointments by the Resident Commissioner. The Council exists for the discussion of the domestic affairs of the territory.

## III.—POPULATION.

No census has been taken since 1921. The following figures indicate the racial distribution of the population at that time:—

<i>District.</i>	<i>Europeans.</i>	<i>Bantu.</i>	<i>Coloured other than Bantu.</i>
Leribe ... ..	260	107,794	211
Berea ... ..	132	56,074	136
Maseru ... ..	612	99,378	266
Mafeteng ... ..	262	67,279	221
Mofales Hoek ... ..	159	60,568	281
Quthing ... ..	115	38,051	96
Qachas Nek ... ..	63	66,193	30
<b>Totals ... ..</b>	<b>1,603</b>	<b>405,937</b>	<b>1,241</b>

Besides the population as enumerated above 47,141 Basuto were stated to be absent at various labour centres outside the territory when the census was taken. The present population is estimated at 580,000.

The following is a comparative statement of the density of the population (other than European) at the censuses of 1904, 1911 and 1921 :—

	1904.	1911.	1921.
Number of persons per square mile ...	33·78	38·97	48·30
Number of acres per head of population ...	18·94	16·42	13·25
Number of occupied huts per square mile...	8·42	10·86	16·90
Number of persons to each occupied hut...	4·01	3·61	2·84

There is no compulsory registration of births, deaths, or marriages according to native custom. Marriages according to Christian rites numbered 1,052 during the year under review.

#### IV.—HEALTH.

The medical service of the territory consists of a Principal Medical Officer, eight Medical Officers and two District Surgeons. A Medical Officer is stationed at each district headquarters and the District Surgeons at sub-district headquarters. There are five Government hospitals staffed by qualified European nurses with native attendants, and two cottage hospitals staffed by native nurses. The total number of hospital beds available for the territory is 148 for natives and 12 for Europeans. At each of the district headquarters a daily dispensary clinic is conducted by the Medical Officer. Trained native men dispense the medicines prescribed by the Medical Officer.

There were 67,316 attendances at the Government dispensaries during the year. Of these 45,454 were first attendances and 21,862 subsequent attendances. The number of attendances showed an increase of 2,328 as compared with the year 1934.

The total number of in-patients treated in the Government hospitals in 1935 was 3,251 as compared with 3,117 in 1934. The following table shows the details of work carried out at the hospital and dispensary of each district :—

<i>District.</i>	<i>Hospital.</i>	<i>Dispensary.</i>	
	<i>In-Patients.</i>	<i>First Attendances.</i>	<i>Total Attendances.</i>
Maseru... ..	1,017	9,904	17,417
Leribe ... ..	713	8,903	12,010
Mafeteng ... ..	472	7,490	11,830
Mohale's Hoek ... ..	444	4,827	6,827
Qachas Nek ... ..	283	4,297	5,840
Quthing ... ..	247	4,087	6,039
Teyateyaneng ... ..	75	6,056	7,353
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>3,251</b>	<b>45,454</b>	<b>67,316</b>

The following table indicates the prevalence of the more common infectious diseases in 1935 as compared with the year 1934.

<i>Disease.</i>	1934.	1935.
Influenza ... ..	969	1,550
Typhoid Fever ... ..	607	127
Dysentery ... ..	73	53
Typhus Fever ... ..	1,491	192
Whooping Cough ... ..	312	257
Measles ... ..	54	476
Smallpox ... ..	—	—
Scarlet Fever ... ..	2	11
Diphtheria ... ..	2	11
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ... ..	254	549

From this table it will be observed that influenza and measles assumed epidemic proportions, while typhoid fever and typhus fever show a very marked decline. The diminution in the number of typhus fever cases is attributed to an immunity acquired from the epidemics that occurred in 1933 and 1934, and to the energetic measures taken to deal with outbreaks by means of portable degerminising plants.

Tropical diseases such as malaria do not occur in the territory.

Though no cases of human plague were observed in the territory, mortality occurred amongst the field rodent population from rodent plague in localized areas on the south-western borders adjacent to areas in neighbouring territories where human plague cases have occurred. An organization of trained personnel, European and native, has been created to destroy domestic and other rodents in and around the Government stations and to deal with outbreaks of human plague should such occur.

Pellagra, a disease which occurs among people whose staple diet is maize, has been more prevalent during 1935 than in any previous year. Cases have from time to time occurred in the territory since 1907 when it was first diagnosed in the Leribe district. In 1933 only three cases were reported. In 1934 there were 76 cases and in 1935 the number of cases increased to 147.

Venereal diseases, syphilis and gonorrhoea, are still very widespread throughout the territory notwithstanding the efforts made by the Government to reduce their incidence and the crippling effects they produce.

#### **Leprosy and Leper Settlement.**

The population of the Leper Settlement on 31st December 1935, was 707 as compared with 728 in 1934 and 736 in 1933. One hundred and sixteen new cases of leprosy were admitted as compared with 138 cases in 1933 and 102 cases in 1934. The six native Leprosy Inspectors appointed in 1929 are stationed in different parts of the territory and tour from village to village for the purpose



of examining all persons showing any signs of leprosy. The value of this organization is shown by the fact that cases are now brought to the asylum while the disease is at an early stage and therefore much more likely to be cured by appropriate treatment. The following comparative table supports this statement.

Year.	Duration of the disease in months on admission to the Settlement.		
	1-12 Months.	13-24 Months.	Over 2 Years.
1924 ... ..	31 per cent.	37 per cent.	32 per cent.
1929 ... ..	41 "	24.5 "	34.5 "
1935 ... ..	59.8 "	22.4 "	17.8 "

An encouraging feature is that suspected cases are readily presented to the Inspectors for examination and if certified as lepers they willingly go to the Settlement because there is now a widespread feeling among the tribe that the institution is a place where their disease is cured and they no longer regard it as a form of imprisonment as they did for several years after compulsory segregation was first established in 1914. This confidence is due to the number of cases which, having been admitted at an early stage, are discharged with the disease cured or arrested after a comparatively short period of residence. Fifty-eight patients were discharged in 1935 with the disease cured or arrested as compared with 34 in 1934.

**V.—HOUSING.**

There are no factories or industrial undertakings in Basutoland and the problem of the proper accommodation of workers has not arisen.

The Basuto live in villages under tribal authority and their huts are, on the whole, healthy, if primitive. These huts are built of sods or stone, with a mud floor and thatched roof; and the average number of persons to each hut occupied is 2.84.

The small European population consists of civil servants, missionaries and traders, and is, as a rule, well housed in buildings of cut stone or brick.

**VI.—PRODUCTION.**

There are no fisheries; and no mining operations are carried out in Basutoland.

Production is dealt with under two heads, Agricultural and Animal Husbandry.

### Agriculture.

No land in Basutoland is cultivated by Europeans with the exception of a few fields in the vicinity of mission stations; these are held under the same system of land tenure as those of the natives. Cultivation is, in the main, carried out by individual native agriculturists who are allotted lands by the chiefs. Until the crop is reaped the land is under the sole management of the individual, after which it falls back to the community for grazing. Generally, three pieces of land are given in this way to every married man—one each for wheat, maize and sorghum. It is estimated that approximately one-fifteenth of the country is under the plough.

The chief agricultural products of the territory are maize, sorghum and wheat. Peas, beans, barley, oats, pumpkins, potatoes, and other vegetables are also grown but not to any appreciable extent. Maize and sorghum form the staple diet of the people, and consequently only a very small percentage of these commodities is exported.

The approximate acreages planted under the different crops during the year 1935 and the results harvested are tabulated below:—

<i>Crop.</i>	<i>Acreage sown.</i>	<i>Crop reaped. Bags of 200 lb.</i>	<i>Remarks.</i>
Maize ... ..	249,941	518,663	A larger acreage than usual was ploughed in 1935 owing to good spring rains.
Wheat ... ..	100,000	194,498	
Sorghum ... ..	118,098	259,331	
Peas, beans and other crops including barley	31,242	64,833	

#### *General Agricultural Conditions and Rainfall for 1935.*

The rainfall for 1935 is indicated in Section I. During the early spring and summer months conditions were most favourable for the growth of maize, sorghum and wheat. The wheat crop was good over most of the lowland areas except in the Mafeteng and Molales Hoek districts where it was destroyed by locusts. The crop reaped in the mountain districts was good.

The maize and sorghum crops suffered severely from drought in the middle of the growing season and from early frosts.

During the drought of 1932-3 the small stock-owner lost most of his cattle with the result that he has found difficulty in getting his lands ploughed. This fact is having an adverse effect on the agriculture of the country.

Under-stocking since the drought has resulted in a great improvement in grazing. The grass has had an opportunity of seeding and everywhere bare patches are filling in. "Bitter Karroo" bush, which was becoming a serious menace to grazing owing to grass burning and other causes, is disappearing and large tracts of country, where the grass was partially destroyed by overstocking thus giving the "Bitter Karroo" and other pioneer weeds the opportunity of spreading, are now becoming grassed in again.

*Wheat.*

The policy of introducing strong wheats is being continued and is meeting with considerable success. The Spring and Manitoba varieties are the most promising. Good baking and milling results have been obtained from samples sent to the Stellenbosch University for tests.

Experimental plots have been started for the purpose of carrying out tests on summer cereals and wheat. It is hoped that after a few years much useful information will be gathered about the yielding capacity of the best types of wheat, the best time for sowing, and the varieties showing the best milling and baking properties.

*Barley.*

This cereal is being grown to a much larger extent than before and the Basuto are beginning to use it more for human consumption, making of the grain a bread which is quite palatable.

A test of the suitability of Basuto-grown barley for malt-making will shortly be carried out.

*Peas.*

Peas are also being sown on a much larger scale than in previous years. Propaganda by the Agricultural Department has borne a certain amount of fruit and many of the natives now realize that peas are suitable for growing at the higher altitudes in rotation with wheat.

*Vegetable Growing.*

The Agricultural Department has not relaxed its efforts to induce the people to start small terraced gardens near their homes, and these efforts in many districts are meeting with success. A number of well-filled vegetable gardens were observed during the year. The addition of vegetables to the diet of the Basuto will have a very marked effect in the prevention of scurvy, especially during seasons of the year when milk is scarce.

*Locusts.*

As a result of the entry of swarms of brown locusts and red-wing locusts in the autumn and winter of 1934 and the deposit of eggs by these swarms, a fairly serious infestation of hoppers occurred early in the year. 5,315 major swarms of hoppers, besides many small swarms, were destroyed early in the year. No swarms reached the flying stage in Basutoland.

## AGRICULTURAL DEMONSTRATION WORK.

Twenty-six native agricultural demonstrators and one agricultural foreman are employed. A great deal of useful work continues to be undertaken by these men.

During the year under review the demonstration plots were in most cases outstanding and the average results obtained from 21

acre plots which had received 200 lb. of superphosphate per acre was 6.49 bags per acre, while 21 acre plots unmanured produced 2.9 bags per acre.

It is realized that the low yield per acre of crops in Basutoland is largely due to the soil being depleted of plant food by constant planting over a long period without rotation, and the Government has inaugurated a scheme whereby natives can obtain superphosphate through the Agricultural Department at cost price. It is hoped that more natives will purchase manure for their exhausted lands thereby greatly increasing the production of food in the territory.

#### AGRICULTURAL CO-OPERATION.

Agricultural co-operation, in the form of Farmers Associations, Co-operative Societies and Native Women's Associations, has revived to a great extent during the past year. During the year following the serious drought of 1932-3 and the poverty which resulted, no interest was shown in any form of co-operation. Since then, however, many of the educated Basuto have realized that by co-operation their position can be improved. With the advice of the Department they are doing their best to revive the old societies and start fresh ones. There is a Co-operative Society at Morija with a capital of over £100 which is a successful concern.

There is a great future for the Native Women's Associations of which there are four. Those so far formed show great keenness for agricultural work, especially gardening. A comparatively large number of gardens has been started by members.

There are 20 agricultural associations in the territory. Some of them are doing good work and it is hoped that they will assist in the introduction of improved agricultural methods in the territory.

#### SOIL EROSION.

Up-to-date methods of anti-soil erosion work practiced in other countries are being used in the territory.

Works of this nature have been completed in the Qoaling valley on the Maseru reserve. Dams have been built to conserve the water and contour banks made in order to spread the storm water evenly over the grass land. The results obtained are most encouraging, bare sheet-eroded land having become grassed over and the grass improved so that a large part of the area has been cut for hay.

Similar works have been started at the Paramount Chief's village at Matsieng where over 700 acres have already been completed. The Paramount Chief is taking a great interest in the anti-soil erosion work which is being undertaken and his support is of very great value.

#### FORESTRY.

For economic reasons the tree nurseries have been closed down and exotic trees must now be bought from the Union through the District Commissioners at cost price.

The planting of willows along the banks of the rivers and of trees which spread by runners (e.g. white poplar and robinia pseudacacia) will be encouraged for anti-soil erosion works, fire-wood and hut building.

The natives in the north of the Territory have responded to the propaganda of the Department regarding tree planting and have planted more poplars than have natives in other parts of the country.

### **Livestock.**

The year 1935 was notable for the many progressive measures which were initiated in respect of animal husbandry.

These will be dealt with under the various headings. During the year, owing to favourable climatic conditions and abundance of grazing, all domesticated animals, with the exception of sheep and goats, have enjoyed excellent health.

#### *Sheep and Goats.*

The territory still enjoys freedom from scab and the Veterinary Department's activities have been concentrated on sheep and wool improvement. This campaign has been rendered possible by the successful conclusion of the scab campaign and is aimed at producing more and better wool.

The market for mohair still lacks stability and there has in consequence been little encouragement for either the Government or the producer to do much in the way of developing the industry.

In regard to the production of more and better wool a great deal of work has been undertaken and a number of obstacles have been overcome. The effect of this work will be appreciated in later years, for it was based on the belief that to achieve success it was necessary to improve both the type and the health of the sheep.

For the former purpose the Government introduced 663 selected merino rams from prominent sheep breeders in the Union of South Africa. These rams were depastured on the Maseru Reserve for almost three months for acclimatisation purposes and will be available for distribution in January 1936.

A census taken at the beginning of 1935 shows a decrease over the previous year of some 400,000 small stock. The census showed a total of 1,285,596 sheep and 432,230 goats in the territory. This decrease was due principally to internal parasites. A dosing campaign was inaugurated during the year and 259,367 small stock were dosed. The policy of voluntary dosing did not meet with as much success as was hoped, and the Government was forced to introduce legislation for the compulsory monthly dosing of small stock. This campaign will start early in 1936.

During the year 3,718 undesirable rams were emusculated. The campaign to eliminate undesirable rams was successful chiefly owing to the whole-hearted support received from the Paramount Chief.

Statistics show that 7,317,226 lb. of wool and 851,083 lb. of mohair were exported during the year.

In order to demonstrate that the sorting of native wool pays, an experiment was conducted in the Quthing district. Before shearing was commenced the farmer was offered by the local trader 4d. per lb. for his wool in the mixed state. Twenty bales of the sorted wool were despatched to the coast and, after deducting all expenses, the owner received £36 8s. 3d. more than he would have received had he sold locally. Top lines realised 8½d. It is the Government's policy to encourage and promote the sorting of native wools by giving demonstrations and proving the economic value of this course.

As a result of a conference between Veterinary Officers of the High Commission Territories and representatives of the Union Veterinary Service, double dipping of slaughter sheep at certain ports of exit from Basutoland to the Union was abolished. This concession should be of material benefit as it will encourage the the slaughter sheep industry. The concession only applies to sheep consigned to abattoirs for immediate slaughter.

#### *Cattle.*

In order to bring Basutoland in line with other countries it was decided to adopt the block system of annual inoculation of all cattle in the territory against anthrax. Some 371,499 cattle were inoculated by the members of the Veterinary Division during 1935 and this operation will be repeated annually.

Practically no slaughter cattle were exported during the year, but there is a steady and growing demand in the Union for Basutoland oxen for draught purposes. The Basuto ox is famous for its docility, hardiness and stoutness of build.

The policy of eliminating undesirable bulls by emasculation was pursued and as a result of moral persuasive measures many weedy scrub animals were castrated.

The exportation of female cattle is prohibited excepting in certain cases. These measures have helped to consolidate our position as far as cattle improvement is concerned.

Basutoland has great natural advantages for cattle breeding.

#### *Horses.*

Despite all efforts in the past, the famous Basuto pony has lost its individuality and the old stocky type is rarely seen. This situation is causing the Administration much anxiety and steps are to be taken to rehabilitate our horse stock. Basutoland is very suitable for the breeding of horses although certain poisonous plants of the *Senecio* family have in recent years made inroads into the pastures in the highlands.

### **VII.—COMMERCE.**

The following is a comparative statement of the imports and exports by general traders during the last three years:—

Imports.

Description.	1933.		1934.		1935.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Merchandise ... ..	—	£ 362,986	—	405,359	—	£ 498,992
Live Stock :—	No. 40	98	No. 6	18	No. 76	297
Horses, Mules, etc. ... ..	1,284	1,691	157	354	436	1,213
Cattle ... ..	783	210	24	21	77	43
Sheep and Goats ... ..	Bags.		Bags.		Bags.	
Wheat and Wheat Meal ... ..	8,675	10,381	10,051	14,770	5,900	8,311
Maize and Maize Meal ... ..	356,158	217,007	138,779	97,105	101,531	51,476
Sorghum... ..	25,018	17,028	78,051	47,956	50,229	26,696
Other Produce ... ..	—	1,709	—	684	—	1,303
<b>Total Imports</b> ... ..	—	£611,110	—	£566,767	—	£588,331

Exports.

Description.	1933.		1934.		1935.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Live Stock :—	No. 52	144	No. 191	844	No. 100	521
Horses, Mules, etc. ... ..	17,491	41,665	17,173	53,574	3,189	14,943
Cattle ... ..	3,831	1,423	2,971	1,542	1,138	730
Sheep and Goats ... ..	Bags.		Bags.		Bags.	
Wheat and Wheat Meal ... ..	55,822	45,102	89,545	88,910	181,090	152,315
Maize and Maize Meal ... ..	107	71	1,675	1,048	8,105	2,574
Sorghum... ..	1,561	806	73	54	184	109
Barley ... ..	91	36	275	146	1,108	428
Beans and Peas... ..	603	361	262	273	4,582	3,727
Wool and Mohair :—	lb.		lb.		lb.	
Wool ... ..	9,864,043	196,146	5,093,858	118,744	6,410,589	131,198
Mohair ... ..	1,926,180	26,697	702,018	12,642	830,245	22,513
Hides and Skins :—						
Skins ... ..	167,615	1,577	180,757	1,850	49,596	462
Hides ... ..	1,193,759	15,551	352,524	4,755	104,753	1,459
Miscellaneous ... ..	—	578	—	171	—	166
<b>Total Exports</b> ... ..	—	£330,157	—	£284,522	—	£331,145

**Other Statistics, 1935.**

(1) Government Imports	... ..	£33,095
		<i>No.</i>
(2) Sheep and Goats exported	... ..	3,858
(3) Sheep and Goats imported	... ..	5,500
(4) Cattle exported	... ..	6,301
(5) Cattle imported	... ..	3,207
(6) Equines imported	... ..	756
	<i>lb.</i>	<i>lb.</i>
(7) Wool exported by Traders	6,410,589	
Wool exported by Hawkers and Individuals	... .. 906,637	
	<hr/>	
Total Wool exported		7,317,226
(8) Mohair exported by Traders	830,245	
Mohair exported by Hawkers and Individuals	... .. 20,838	
	<hr/>	
Total Mohair exported	... ..	851,083
		<hr/>
Total Wool and Mohair exported	... ..	8,168,309
		<hr/>

All exports are made to the Union of South Africa and imports are as a general rule made through the same channel. The past few years have been characterised by the low prices obtaining for wool and mohair, the staple products of the territory on the value of which the main purchasing power of the native depends. A gradual improvement is now evident. The principal articles of United Kingdom manufacture for which there exists definite possibility of further development in trade are blankets, native trade goods, and agricultural implements (including steam or motor driven machinery). The blanket factory, started some years ago at Harrismith in the Orange Free State, takes an increasingly large portion of the blanket trade which was formerly given to manufacturers in the United Kingdom.

The following table indicates the source or origin of motor vehicles registered in the territory during 1935 :—

<i>Country of Origin.</i>	<i>New Registrations.</i>	<i>Total Registrations.</i>
<i>Private Motor Vehicles and Taxis.</i>		
Great Britain	15	24
Canada	24	37
United States of America	127	346
Germany	—	1
Italy	1	1
France	1	2
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	168	411
	<hr/>	<hr/>



<i>Country of Origin.</i>	<i>New Registrations.</i>	<i>Total Registrations.</i>
<i>Commercial Vehicles.</i>		
Great Britain ... ..	7	15
Canada ... ..	19	22
United States of America ...	33	100
	59	137
<i>Motor Cycles.</i>		
Great Britain ... ..	5	15
United States of America ...	—	4
	5	19

### VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

There are no factories or industrial undertakings in the territory, and there is only one mile of railway, which is owned and operated by the South African Railways Administration.

Salaries and wages earned by Europeans vary from £200 to £850 per annum in the case of Government servants and from £120 to £500 per annum in the case of employees of trading concerns.

Native wages vary from £24 to £204 per annum in the case of Government employees and from £15 to £48 per annum in the case of store boys, etc., employed by traders.

Natives proceeding to the gold mines in the Union of South Africa receive, on an average, a wage of £3 for every 30 shifts worked, with free food and housing.

The average cost of living for single natives is estimated at £1 *per mensem*, and for married natives £3 *per mensem*. The cost of living of Europeans varies considerably and is in a great measure dependent on the social or official position of the person concerned.

### IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

Education in Basutoland presents most of the problems attending African education in other territories with the additional difficulty that the country is for the most part very mountainous with its "highlander" population settled somewhat sparsely in isolated valleys very difficult of access.

In spite of this it can be claimed that education of an elementary sort at least is accessible to practically all the people; while the voluntary school enrolment of about two-thirds of the children of school-going age is undoubtedly a very remarkable phenomenon for Africa, and striking evidence of the devotion and enterprise of the missionaries who, with grants-in-aid from the Government,

have brought it about. The three missions mainly concerned are the Paris Evangelical Missionary Society, the Roman Catholic Mission and the English Church Mission. Of these the first named is the oldest, with over a century of work behind it in Basutoland, and it has reached a point in its development when it is no longer fairly described as a "mission", since as the result of the faith and foresight of its pioneers it has now in reality become an indigenous national Church, with its Basuto members in an overwhelming majority in its governing council. To this in great measure is to be attributed the fact that Basutoland is so much freer of mushroom and fancifully styled African sects than most other native areas of the sub-continent.

The main end of education policy in Basutoland has been to offer to as many as possible the opportunity of learning to read and write and make simple calculations. It is recognized that at the present time the greater numbers of pupils will attend school for three or four years only, and to achieve this end education in the lower classes is practically all in the native language and keeps the boys and girls in their own environment.

Of Elementary Vernacular Schools there are 519, which are aided from public funds, and 218 which the Missions maintain without aid. On a higher level there are 43 schools giving instruction up to Standard VI and introducing more English both into the curriculum and the teaching medium. Of these, three are purely Government schools, managed by local committees.

Education of a higher standard and of a vocational character is provided in one Government and ten Mission institutions. The former is a Trades School for boys, while of the latter, three train teachers to the standard of the Native Primary Lower Certificate of the Cape Province Education Department, three train girls as Infant School teachers, three are schools of domestic science for girls, and one offers industrial training for boys. Ordinary education up to the level of the Junior Certificate can be obtained in two of these Mission Institutions but beyond that it is necessary for students to proceed to colleges outside the territory, more especially the South African Native College at Fort Hare, which has been supported by the Basutoland Administration from its foundation and to which Government bursaries are available.

In 1935 the total enrolment in all schools in the territory was: Government schools 381, Government-aided Mission schools 64,000, Unaided Mission schools, 12,174, Training Institutions and Craft schools, 537.

The staff of the Education Department consists at present of a Director, two European Inspectors, and five Native Supervisors. Administrative expenses are met from the general revenue, while the grants-in-aid to Missions, the cost of the purely Government schools and certain other charges are taken from the Native Education Fund. This fund receives a quarter of the ordinary native tax

payments together with a special education levy of 3s. per taxpayer. It is estimated that £47,150 will be spent from this fund in 1936.

Education is free in all the elementary and intermediate schools, and attendance is not compulsory. There are the familiar difficulties of herding for the boys and home duties for the girls to make attendance irregular, but on the whole the eagerness to secure education is very remarkable.

There is discernible in Basutoland, as in all other South African native areas, a growing desire for education of a higher grade, and one of the urgent problems of the immediate future will be the consideration of how this is to be provided, and on what lines and with what amount of Government support.

The internal circumstances of the country are not such as to provide many openings for the more highly educated Basuto, except in the service of the Government.

Most of what is being done on the side of Vocational Education has to do with European rather than indigenous crafts, e.g., carpentry, saddlery, laundry, cooking, etc. In connexion with these the problem is often to find scope for their exercise in the life of a community which is not yet up to the standard required for the support of more than very few craftsmen. In regard to the domestic crafts of the girls there is, of course, ample scope, and a steady raising of the standard of homes and home-crafts is noticeable. But it will take some time for the ordinary life of the Basutoland countryside, which has a communal basis, to develop to the point of absorbing more than a very few skilled artisans. However, progress here is evident and an increasing number of tradesmen such as carpenters, blacksmiths, and cobblers are to be found doing reasonably well at their trades. Here, as in other spheres, it is energy that counts.

As regards indigenous crafts the range is not very great, perhaps in the main through the lack of the necessary materials such as wood, osiers, etc. An investigation conducted early in 1935 on behalf of the Administration by Mr. H. V. Meyerowitz has revealed how important in the life of the countryside is the pottery of the women, the grass and other weaving of both men and women, and how skilful in the clay modelling of animals, etc., are some of the children. These crafts are receiving attention in the handwork of some of the schools and there are possibilities of development.

Social welfare activities are mainly in the hands of the Churches, and much good work is being done. Useful training in home-making, needlework, etc., is a feature in many of the schools for girls who have ceased to attend the ordinary classes.

Recreative activities are noticeably on the increase, chiefly in the form of organized school games, and inter-school competitions in games, athletics, drill and singing are frequent and popular.

The Wayfarer-Guide and Pathfinder-Boy Scout Movements are developing in an encouraging fashion and cannot fail to exert a profound and beneficial influence on the life of the people.

*European Education.*—There are several small schools in the territory, managed by local committees and supported by the Government, which provide elementary education for the children in the European centres. For education beyond the elementary stage children are sent to schools in the Union. The Government provides annually one bursary (for children under 13 years of age) of £25 for two years; and for some time past, through the generosity of a local firm, another bursary of £50 per annum for two years (also for children under 13 years) has been instituted.

## X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

### Railways.

The territory is linked with the railway system of the Union of South Africa by a short branch line from Maseru to Marseilles on the Bloemfontein-Natal main line. One mile of this line is in Basutoland. The South African Railway runs near the boundaries of the territory and goods are transported by road to the nearest railway station across the border.

### Roads and Bridle Paths.

The greater part of Basutoland is exceptionally mountainous and in this area all transport is effected by the use of pack animals. A few of the main bridle paths are maintained by the Government.

On the western side of Basutoland where there is a strip of agricultural country stretching from north to south, a fairly good road system has been developed. The main roads traverse the whole of this area with branches leading west to the principal points of exit. In nearly all cases the roads are gravelled and carry motor and ox-wagon traffic in all weather. There are, however, a number of unbridged rivers and streams which during flood periods may delay travelling for some hours.

From the main roads a number of feeder roads lead towards the interior. By-roads to trading centres and missions connect with these feeder roads, penetrating still further into the interior, but although several roads now cross the first range of mountains none has yet reached the second range. Feeder roads are maintained by the Government but are not of a high standard. During the year under review a few additional culverts have been constructed on them, and as funds are available further improvements will be carried out.

The by-roads are in many instances unsuitable for any type of traffic except ox-wagons. They are maintained by traders and others to whose stations they lead and annual Government grants are made towards their upkeep.

On the eastern side of Basutoland in the ~~Quthus Nek~~ district a short system of roads similar to that described above exists, and the standard reached is much the same as that obtaining on the western side of the territory.

The existing system of communications came under review by the Fim Commission which visited the territory in 1934. The conclusions reached in the Report may be summarized as follows: Any considerable expenditure on new developments is not to be recommended at the present time, but steps should be taken to improve the condition of the bridle paths, the remedying of roadside erosion should be advanced energetically, and a commencement made in necessary re-alignment of the roads and in the construction of permanent donga crossings and causeways.

The recommendations of the Commission are being carried out. During the year the expenditure on bridle paths has been increased materially, a causeway has been erected over the Hlotsenyane river, a small low-level bridge over the Qalaheng, while a new road has been constructed from the main road two miles south of Mohales Hoek to the site of the new bridge over the Maghaleen river.

During the year, work carried out by the Union Public Works Department has been commenced on two border bridges, one at Caledon Poort over the Caledon river on the north-west boundary of the territory and the other on the south-west boundary across the Maghaleen river. Basutoland will contribute one-half the cost of these bridges. It is anticipated that the Caledon Poort bridge will be open to traffic early in 1936.

The funds allocated during the past two years for the maintenance of roads, bridges and ferries together with the expenditure on new construction for the same period are tabulated below:—

					<i>New Construction.</i>	<i>Maintenance.</i>
1934	...	...	...	...	£5,520	£12,260
1935	...	...	...	...	£5,050*	£14,000*

\*Estimated expenditure.

The following is a classification of the roads in the territory:—

Gravel—320 miles main road and 62 miles feeder road.

Earth—40 miles main road and 70 miles feeder road.

In addition there are 290 miles of by-road which are chiefly earth roads.

## **XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.**

There are no agricultural or co-operative banks within the territory; but the Standard Bank of South Africa, Limited, has a branch office at Maseru.

A change in connexion with currency in Basutoland was effected during 1933 by Proclamation No. 2 of 1933, which made notes of the South African Reserve Bank legal tender for all purposes. The issue by the Standard Bank of gold coin was suspended as from

28th December 1932; and as a result of the Reserve Bank having been relieved of its obligation to redeem its notes in gold and the consequent increase in the price of gold, the Administration, in order to protect the natives of the territory, arranged to buy gold coin at the bank rates of exchange at all district offices.

The weights and measures in common use in the territory are the British Imperial.

## **XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.**

A small programme of construction work was carried out in 1935, in addition to the road work dealt with in Chapter X. The housing facilities at Mokhotlong, a Government camp which can only be reached by bridle paths, have long been inadequate and a start has been made on the building of quarters for the Officer-in-Charge. Additional accommodation for the Police is also being constructed.

In Maseru extensions have been made to the agricultural offices and the veterinary clinic transferred to a more suitable site.

The usual maintenance work on Government buildings accounts for the largest item of expenditure on buildings.

The water supplies of the various camps have been maintained during the year and the supply at Butha Buthe has been augmented by an additional bore-hole. A proposal to increase the supply at Quthing has had to be postponed as it was not possible to obtain a boring unit during the year.

## **XIII.—JUSTICE AND POLICE.**

### **Justice.**

The laws in force in Basutoland include those of the Cape of Good Hope up to 18th March 1884, except where repealed or altered by proclamation of the High Commissioner, who is empowered to make by proclamation such laws as may be necessary for the peace, order and good government of the territory.

The Basutoland Courts of Law consist of :—

(a) *The Resident Commissioner's Court*, which constitutes the Supreme Court of Basutoland, and from which an appeal lies to the Privy Council. Under Proclamation No. 10 of 1928, as amended, the constitution of the Resident Commissioner's Court was altered and provision made for the appointment of a Judicial Commissioner. The Court is now constituted by the Resident Commissioner or, when deputed by him thereto, the Deputy Resident Commissioner or the Judicial Commissioner sitting alone or together; and there may be associated with the Court not more than two officers of the Administration, appointed by the Resident Commissioner for the purpose by notice in the *Gazette*. The Resident Commissioner when present and, in his absence, the Judicial Commissioner is President of the Court, and the judgment of the Court is the judgment pronounced or approved by the President.

The power conferred on the Resident Commissioner to review and correct the proceedings of Courts or officers may be exercised also by the Judicial Commissioner, and any decision recorded or action taken by the Judicial Commissioner in the course of such review or correction is of the same force and effect as if it had been recorded or taken by the Resident Commissioner.

(b) *Courts of District Commissioners*, who are empowered to impose sentences not exceeding two years imprisonment with hard labour or fines not exceeding £50, with jurisdiction in civil cases up to £500. These Courts have no jurisdiction to try, as Courts of the first instance, any person charged with treason, murder, attempt to murder, culpable homicide, rape, attempt to commit rape, or sedition.

These Courts are situated in each of the seven districts and in the sub-district of Butha Buthe. A detached Court is also held in the sub-district of Mokhotlong, presided over by a Police Officer exercising minor jurisdiction.

(c) *Chiefs' Courts*.—Under Proclamation No. 2B of 1884 the Paramount Chief and other Native Chiefs of Basutoland were authorized to continue to exercise jurisdiction according to native law and custom in civil and criminal cases within such limits as may be defined by any rules established by the authority of the Resident Commissioner, subject to a proviso that no suit, action or proceeding whatsoever to which any European shall be party, either as plaintiff or complainant, or as defendant, shall be adjudicated upon by any such Chief, save by the consent of all parties concerned. An appeal lies from a decision of any Chief to the Court of the District Commissioner of the district within which such Chief exercises jurisdiction.

The following table shows the number of convictions for various crimes and offences during the last five years :—

<i>Nature of Crime.</i>	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.
<b>In Magisterial Courts—</b>					
Offences against the person ...	190	351	95	147	137
Offences against property ...	299	373	558	594	338
Offences against liquor laws ...	41	20	6	12	19
Other crimes ...	2,406	2,729	1,778	1,327	1,356
<b>In Resident Commissioner's Court—</b>					
Murder ...	11	10	6	11	2
Culpable homicide ...	14	62	68	145(a)	124(a)
Attempted murder ...	3	5	4	3	3
Rape ...	9	6	5	1	7
Other offences against the person ...	9	1	6	7	3
Offences against property with violence to the person.	50	214	94	3	—
Other offences against property...	17	33	45	62	32
Other crimes ...	1	1	3	2	1

(a) Includes cases of public violence resulting in culpable homicide.

**Police.**

*Constitution and Command.*—The Basutoland Mounted Police is maintained under Proclamation No. 12 of 1921. The Force is under the control of the Resident Commissioner of Basutoland, who is the Commandant, with a Staff Officer who is stationed in Maseru.

The Establishment of the Force provided for in the Estimates, and actual strength on the 31st of December 1935, was as follows:—

<i>Europeans.</i>	<i>Establishment.</i>	<i>Strength.</i>
Staff Officer ... ..	1	1
Inspectors ... ..	5	5
Sub-Inspectors ... ..	6	5
Chief Constable ... ..	1	1
Assistant Superintendent... ..	—	1
	Total ... 13	Total ... 13
 <i>Native Police.</i>		
Sergeant Major ... ..	1	1
Sergeants ... ..	14	14
Corporals ... ..	16	14*
Privates ... ..	260	259*

\*Vacancies to be filled.

In addition to the native strength there are two native saddlers attached to the Police.

Of the European personnel two Inspectors acted as District Commissioners, each for a period of six months. Two Sub-Inspectors were seconded for duties in the Secretariat and District Administration for the period under review, and one Sub-Inspector was acting as District Commissioner for three months. The Chief Constable during the year continued to perform the duties of District Police Officer, Maseru, with the rank of Acting Sub-Inspector.

*Depot.*—The Depot was open for the whole year and 59 men underwent the usual training. Twenty-seven of these were recruits recently joined; the remainder were men enrolled during the years (1931-4) the Depot was closed. Thirty-eight men were sent in from the districts for refresher courses. Owing to the fact that no European Drill Instructor was available the work at the Depot was again undertaken by the native Sergeant-Major and native Sergeant Drill Instructor under the supervision of the Staff Officer.

*Finger Print Bureau.*—From the 17th of April the Finger Print Bureau has been under the charge of an Assistant Superintendent. Previous to this a part-time officer was employed from another department, and the service could only be used for search of information required; no examination of exhibits or field work could be undertaken. During the year 1,201 prints were received for exam-



ination. This showed a decrease of 341 compared with the previous year. Field work in 14 storebreaking cases was undertaken by the Finger Print Officer. In six of these cases identification of the accused has been proved and the cases concluded. Four cases are still under investigation and in four cases there was no finger print evidence. Material evidence has also been supplied by the Bureau where exhibits were sent in for examination. The services of the Finger Print Officer have also been engaged on relief duties in Maseru District Office when shortage of staff demanded such relief.

*Health of the Force.*—Generally speaking the health of the Police throughout the year has been good. A senior officer had to be retired on the grounds of ill-health and one native non-commissioned officer died during the year.

*Medals and Commendations.*—During the year five claims for the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal were received for consideration. These, together with those considered in the previous year, resulted in the award of medals being made to ten non-commissioned officers and men. The presentation was made by the Resident Commissioner at the Police Barracks in Maseru.

One non-commissioned officer was specially commended for conspicuous ability in dealing with a theft case.

*Deportees.*—During the year 678 deportees and prohibited immigrants were accepted from the Union on their claims to Basutoland domicile being established. These figures show a decrease of 293 compared with the previous year.

*Extraneous Duties.*—During the year 462 Police were engaged for 11,759 days on duties for other departments. This work was chiefly in connexion with collection of revenue, provision of reliefs for the native staff in the Administrative, Postal and Agricultural Departments. An increase of 460 days is shown compared with last year's figures.

*Work of the Police.*—During the year 9,920 patrols were sent out. 257 men were engaged and the mileage covered by the patrols was 193,269, while the mileage performed by the men was 226,780. This shows a slight decrease on the number of patrols performed compared with the previous year.

2,756 cases were reported and dealt with, including 53 cases awaiting trial at the end of 1934. The cases were disposed of as follows: 1,715 cases were brought before the District Commissioners' Courts, 112 cases were sent to the native Courts, and 929 cases were not brought before the Courts. Included in this latter number there were 389 cases under investigation and 82 committals and awaiting trials at the 31st December, 1935. The remaining 458 cases were withdrawn, found false on enquiry, or dropped for lack of evidence.

The following table shows the increase or decrease in number of crimes reported and dealt with compared with the previous year :—

	<i>Increase.</i>	<i>Decrease.</i>
Cases reported to the Police ... ..	—	54
Cases brought before the magisterial Courts ... ..	—	91
Cases not proceeded with, handed to native Courts, etc. ... ..	37	—
Cases awaiting trial and under investigation ... ..	293	—

As a result of the above investigation 2,167 persons were proceeded against, which included 68 awaiting trial at the close of the year 1934. 116 of this number were females. 1,923 were arrested and 244 summoned to attend the Courts on charges of a criminal nature. 76 persons were arrested on behalf of the Union of South Africa for various crimes.

The following shows the increases and decreases in the number of persons dealt with as compared with the figures of the previous year :—

	<i>Increase.</i>	<i>Decrease.</i>
Persons proceeded against ... ..	—	490
Persons arrested ... ..	—	582
Persons summoned ... ..	92	—
Persons convicted summarily ... ..	—	232
Persons discharged ... ..	—	82
Persons committed for trial ... ..	—	208
Persons awaiting trial ... ..	—	46
Persons arrested on behalf of the Union ... ..	15	—

The following is a comparative table of crimes reported to the Police for the last four years :—

	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.
Homicide ... ..	112	79	98	90
Other offences against the person	287	169	169	154
Offences against liquor laws ... ..	33	13	13	27
Offences against property ... ..	684	909	834	631
Other crimes ... ..	3,394	2,318	1,896	1,854
<i>Total</i> ...	4,510	3,488	2,810	2,756

Included under the heading " Other Crimes " are cases of Dugga (Indian hemp) smuggling. During the past year there were 66 prosecutions and 63 convictions for this offence as compared with 53 prosecutions and 52 convictions during the previous year.

It is gratifying to observe that there has been a general decrease in serious crimes during the year.

It is a pleasure to record that the relations with the Police in the Union of South Africa have been, as in the past, most cordial. Both forces have rendered valuable assistance to one another in the detection of crime.

#### **Prisons.**

There are gaols at the headquarters of each of the seven districts into which the territory is divided and in the sub-districts of Butha Buthe and Mokhotlong.

*Buildings.*—All gaol buildings are of stone with iron roofs and cement floors; the inmates are supplied with bed-boards on which to sleep. The majority of cells are built to contain on the average eight to ten prisoners, but there are usually one or two smaller ones for violent or dangerous inmates, or for occasional European convicts. Attached to each prison is an exercise yard and cement baths with water laid on. The cook-house is in the yard, and a daily scale of ration as laid down by statute is provided. As no special accommodation exists in the district gaols for female or European prisoners, they are invariably transferred to Maseru.

*Health.*—The health of the prisoners during 1935 has been good, the daily average on the sick list being 10. Six deaths were recorded during the year. All prisoners are medically examined on admission, and the Medical Officers make regular visits to the gaols, apart from the weekly inspection when they accompany the District Administrative Officer in charge. Prisoners reporting sick are taken to the Government dispensary, and if necessary are admitted to hospital where they are put into the ordinary public wards and treated on similar lines to other patients.

*Discipline.*—During 1935 breaches of prison discipline were few and escapes of prisoners numbered only 10. Until 1929 the large majority of convicts were stock thieves, persons committed for public violence in connexion with land disputes and a large percentage of persons convicted for offences against the revenue laws. For the most part they were not the habitual criminal type, and gaol discipline was therefore more or less easy to maintain. Unfortunately, since then, there has been an influx of the more criminal type owing to the deportation of bad characters from the Union, and their influence has already made itself felt in the gaols throughout the territory to the detriment of discipline.

*Labour.*—The policy commenced in 1931 of utilizing convicts to a greater extent on road construction and maintenance in the vicinity of the various Camps has been maintained. Where possible convicts are trained to become useful members of society on release, by instruction in such trades as masonry, carpentry, building and other kinds of manual labour.

*Sentences.*—The majority of offenders are given the option of paying a fine in lieu of imprisonment with hard labour. Pro-

vision has been made under Proclamation No. 55 of 1921 for the punishment of offenders in certain cases under which the Court may in its discretion—

(a) postpone for a period not exceeding six months the passing of sentence, and release the offender on one or more conditions; or

(b) pass sentence but order the operation of the sentence to be suspended for a period not exceeding three years on such conditions as the Court may specify in the order; or

(c) pass sentence of a fine or, in default of payment, imprisonment, but suspend the issue of a warrant committing the offender to a gaol in default of payment until the expiry of such a period not exceeding twelve months as the Court may fix for payment, in instalments or otherwise, of the amount of the fine or until default has been made.

Suspended sentences are awarded in cases of default of payment of tax and similar offences against the revenue laws.

Good conduct remission up to one-fourth of the sentence is allowed on all sentences of imprisonment for six months or more.

*Statistics.*—During the year under review, 2,600 persons passed through the various gaols in the territory, and of these 1,678 were committed to penal imprisonment. The corresponding figures for 1934 were 3,004 and 1,977 respectively.

*Juvenile Offenders.*—All juvenile prisoners are transferred to Leribe where they are kept segregated from adult prisoners so far as possible. The daily average number of juveniles in prison during 1935 was 18.

#### **XIV.—LEGISLATION.**

The following is the more important legislation issued during 1935 by proclamation in the *Gazette* :—

- (1) No. 18—Amending the Basutoland Prisons Proclamation (No. 21 of 1917).
- (2) No. 19—The Basutoland Administration of Estates Proclamation, 1935.
- (3) No. 20—The Basutoland Death Duties Proclamation, 1935.
- (4) No. 24, No. 40 and No. 45—Amending the law relating to Stamp Duties in Basutoland.
- (5) No. 28—Providing for the establishment of the office of Attorney-General for the High Commission Territories.
- (6) No. 34—The Basutoland Trading Amendment Proclamation, 1935.
- (7) No. 62—Amending the Basutoland Motor Vehicle Proclamation, 1926.

**XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.****Revenue and Expenditure.**

The following statement shows the revenue and expenditure for the past five financial years:—

<i>Head.</i>	REVENUE.				
	1930-1. £	1931-2. £	1932-3. £	1933-4. £	1934-5. £
Native Tax ... ..	125,665	116,783	121,795	90,017	129,312
Customs and Excise ... ..	77,810	80,842	86,161	90,040	104,442
Posts and Telegraphs ... ..	8,883	9,964	9,172	12,900	11,437
Licences ... ..	8,068	7,821	7,855	8,466	8,615
Fees of Court or Office ... ..	810	1,042	810	773	361
Judicial Fines ... ..	1,445	976	783	424	739
Income Tax ... ..	5,929	3,957	4,040	4,115	5,608
Poll Tax ... ..	—	—	—	1,265	1,345
Fees for Services Rendered ... ..	1,105	1,165	1,020	1,023	1,017
Interest ... ..	4,033	3,997	2,473	1,963	1,408
Wool Export Duty ... ..	25,436	19,265	678	8,107	6,786
Miscellaneous ... ..	8,654	8,040	22,094	12,155	12,422
Education Levy ... ..	13,963	13,017	13,853	10,340	14,766
Civil Servants, Salary Deductions	—	—	4,676	4,550	2,689
Colonial Development Fund ... ..	—	—	—	—	1,543
<b>Totals ... ..</b>	<b>£281,801</b>	<b>£266,860</b>	<b>£275,410</b>	<b>£246,144</b>	<b>£302,490</b>

<i>Head.</i>	EXPENDITURE.				
	1930-1. £	1931-2. £	1932-3. £	1933-4. £	1934-5. £
Resident Commissioner ... ..	12,783	12,789	13,280	13,163	13,018
District Administration ... ..	15,333	15,121	15,596	16,157	16,874
Police ... ..	37,600	35,455	33,908	33,386	34,188
Administration of Justice ... ..	13,306	13,255	10,683	13,923	13,674
Posts and Telegraphs ... ..	12,004	11,027	14,065	10,949	10,599
Public Works Department ... ..	5,322	5,761	5,166	5,308	5,476
Public Works Extraordinary ... ..	5,168	345	39	493	986
Public Works Recurrent ... ..	29,774	20,516	17,949	20,645	25,493
Medical ... ..	29,202	25,394	24,507	25,712	26,605
Education ... ..	53,235	49,734	51,587	39,352	53,357
Lerotholi Technical School ... ..	5,772	5,541	5,195	5,515	6,503
Agriculture—					
Veterinary ... ..	39,140	23,630	12,799	12,598	12,944
Agricultural ... ..	6,849	5,751	7,184	7,351	8,664
Allowances to Chiefs ... ..	13,754	11,628	11,472	11,145	9 '13
National Council ... ..	1,634	1,613	1,786	736	1,697
Leper Settlement ... ..	21,501	20,317	19,820	19,671	19,138
Pensions ... ..	12,726	11,242	11,760	14,562	13,962
Miscellaneous ... ..	7,225	6,758	6,243	40,910	15,399
Capital Expenditure ... ..	1,090	4,312	585	538	5,440
Colonial Development Fund ... ..	—	—	—	—	1,543
<b>Totals ... ..</b>	<b>£322,418</b>	<b>£280,189</b>	<b>£263,624</b>	<b>£292,114</b>	<b>£294,973</b>

**Liabilities and Assets.**

The surplus balance at the 31st March 1935 amounted to £40,725. £35,000 of the surplus balance is on loan to the Swaziland Government at 3½ per cent. per annum. This loan is repayable by 1943.

The detailed statement of Liabilities and Assets at the 31st March 1935 is as follows:—

<i>Liabilities.</i>	£	<i>Assets.</i>	£
Reserved Surplus (Fixed in terms of High Commissioner's telegram dated 13th March 1929) ...	70,000	Crown Agents, London, Deposit Account... ..	6,500
Crown Agents, London, Current Account ... ..	190	Standard Bank of S.A., Ltd., Current Account... ..	16,090
Guardian's Fund Deposit Account ... ..	14,385	Sub-Accountants' Balances	14,913
Sub-Accountants' Suspense Account ... ..	3,189	Advances recoverable ... ..	0,894
Stores Imprest Account ... ..	13,486	South African Railways and Harbours ... ..	56
Wool and Mohair Fund (a)	2,296	Swaziland Administration Loan ... ..	35,000
Basutoland Education Fund (b) ... ..	3,048	Stores Suspense Stock ... ..	7,753
Bechuanaland Protectorate and Swaziland Tax Account ... ..	646	Bloemfontein Board of Executors and Trust Company, Ltd. (under Judicial Management) ... ..	283
Colonial Development Fund Account ... ..	207		88,389
Deposits (c) ... ..	10,217	Balance Liabilities over Assets ... ..	29,275
	<u>£117,664</u>		<u>£117,664</u>

(a) The Wool and Mohair Fund was established under Proclamation No. 39 of 1931 with funds received from the Union Government under Notice No. 1493 dated the 15th August 1930 in respect of wool and mohair exported from Basutoland together with amounts recovered from persons to whom live-stock or other articles have been supplied from moneys provided by the Fund. The proceeds of this Fund are devoted to the promotion of the future production of wool and mohair. During the year 1935, 663 pedigree rams were purchased for distribution amongst the Basuto at £2 each.

(b) *Basutoland Education Fund.*—The Government advanced an amount of £4,022 during the financial year 1933-4 in order to pay the grants to the Missionary Societies and the other annual commitments of the Fund. The receipts of the Fund for the 12 months ending the 31st March 1935 were £47,110 and, in addition to the usual grants, etc., permitted the repayment of the advance made by the Government, leaving a balance of £3,048 in hand. The revenue of the Fund is made up of a quarter of the Native Tax and 3s. contributed by every adult male native.

(c) *Deposits.*—An amount of £10,000 was donated by the Transvaal Chamber of Mines for welfare, etc., services in the High Commission Territories. £5,000 of this amount has been allocated to Basutoland, and the remaining £5,000 has been distributed between the Bechuanaland Protectorate and Swaziland. The capital sum was placed at interest during the year. A scheme is now under consideration to utilize the share allotted to Basutoland on the training of native nurse-aids and on welfare work in the territory.

*Estimated Financial Position at the 31st March 1936.*—It is anticipated that there will be a surplus of Revenue over Expenditure for the financial year 1935-6 of £20,000 and that the available surplus balances will amount to £60,725 at that date.

### **Description of Main Heads of Taxation.**

#### *Native Tax.*

The rate of tax is 25s. for every adult male native domiciled in Basutoland and in addition 25s. for each wife after the first, but no native is liable for more than £3 15s. Od. in any one year for himself and his wives.

The collection was £39,295 10s. Od. more than in 1933-4 and was made up of £49,246 5s. Od. Arrear, £79,400 Current (1934-5) and Advance (1935-6) Tax £666 5s. Od. The drought and depression years account for the large amount of the Arrear Tax.

#### *Customs and Excise.*

An amount of £102,685 16s. 1d. was received from the Union Government under the Customs Agreement and represents .88575 per cent. of the gross customs revenue of the Union of South Africa for the twelve months ended the 31st March 1935. Local collections on Union manufactured spirits and beer amount to £1,755 19s. 9d.

#### *Licences.*

There was no change in the rates paid for the various classes of licences during the year under review.

#### *Income Tax.*

The rates fixed for the Tax year ended the 30th June 1934 were the same as those for the previous year and were:—

##### (1) Normal Tax :

(a) In the case of companies, for each pound of the taxable amount, two shillings and sixpence.

(b) In the case of persons other than companies, for each pound of the taxable amount, one shilling and as many two-thousandths of a penny as there are pounds in that amount, subject to a maximum rate of two shillings in every pound.

##### (2) Super Tax :

(a) When the amount subject to super tax does not exceed twenty-four thousand pounds, for each pound of such amount, one shilling and as many five-hundredths of a penny as there are pounds in that amount.

(b) When the amount subject to super tax exceeds twenty-four thousand pounds, for each pound of such amount, five shillings.

The following abatements were deducted from the taxable income of any person, other than a company, for the purpose of determining the taxable amount :

*Abatements :*

(a) Primary £400.

(b) Life Insurance and similar Allowances. A deduction not exceeding £50 is made in respect of premiums paid during the period of assessment on policies under which the tax-payer, his wife or minor children are insured against death, accident or sickness.

(c) A deduction not exceeding £10 is allowed for fees or subscriptions paid during the period of assessment to any friendly or benefit society.

(d) £75 for each unmarried child or step-child who was alive during any portion of the year of assessment and was or would have been under the age of 21 years on the last day of the year of assessment.

(e) A sum of £30 for each dependant of the taxpayer.

The total of the abatements and allowances is reduced :—

(1) In the case of every such taxpayer (i) who during any portion of the period in respect of which the assessment is made was married ; or (ii) who during the whole or any portion of the period in respect of which the assessment was made was divorced, but maintained during any portion of that period a child of his own or a step-child who was or would have been had he lived under the age of twenty-one years on the last day of the year of assessment in respect of which, or portion of which, the assessment is made, the reduction shall be by one pound for every completed ten pounds by which the taxable income of such person exceeds six hundred pounds or when the period assessed is less than twelve months, by which it exceeds so much of six hundred pounds as is proportionate to the period assessed : Provided that for the purpose of this paragraph any person who was a widow or widower during the whole or any portion of the period in respect of which the assessment is made shall be assessed as though he had been married throughout that period and any person who has been separated under a judicial order or written agreement throughout that period shall be assessed as though he had been divorced throughout that period.



(2) In the case of all other persons to whom paragraph (1) of this sub-section does not apply, the reduction shall be by one pound for every completed pound by which the taxable income of any such person exceeds three hundred pounds or, when the period assessed is less than twelve months by which it exceeds so much of three hundred pounds as is proportionate to the period assessed.

*Companies.*—In the case of Companies an abatement of £300, which is subject to reductions in accordance with paragraph (2) above.

*Super Tax* is payable (other than by a public company) on a taxable income exceeding in the aggregate £2,500 in any year of assessment. The taxable income of any person determined for normal tax purposes is the amount upon which the super tax is assessed.

There is an abatement of £2,500 and this is diminished by £1 for every £1 by which the income, subject to super tax, exceeds £2,500.

Dividends accruing to non-residents are exempt from super tax provided such dividends are not paid nor payable within the territory.

The sources from which taxable incomes were derived and the amount of tax paid for the tax years 1933 and 1934 are as follows :—

<i>Source.</i>	<i>1933.</i>	<i>1934.</i>
	£	£
General Traders ... ..	837	4,077
Civil Servants ... ..	1,557	786
Employed Persons ... ..	565	58
Others ... ..	560	597
Non-residents ... ..	596	90
	£4,115	£5,608

The numbers of incomes assessed for current tax and the total amount of taxable incomes in the categories shown are :—

<i>Numbers.</i>	<i>Categories.</i>	<i>Total of taxable Incomes.</i>
	£	£
14	500 and under	6,524
31	501-750	19,902
24	751-1,000	21,208
16	1,001-1,500	17,880
6	1,501-2,000	10,074
10	Over 2,000	37,111
101		£112,699

The following changes have been made in respect of the Tax Year ended the 30th June 1935 :—

The abatement has been increased from £75 to £100 for each child or step-child and by the deduction of 20 per cent. on the Tax assessed.

*Stamp Duties and Fees on Documents Payable by Means of Stamps.*

The duties and fees payable are specified in the Schedule to Proclamation No. 16 of 1907 as amended and are classified under the following heads :—

- Arbitrations and Awards.
- Bonds.
- Courts of Law (District Commissioners' Courts).
- Civil Cases (Resident Commissioner's Court).
- Acts or Deeds of Donations.
- Leases.
- Master's Office : (a) Insolvency.  
(b) Orphan Chamber.

*Office Fees and Transfers and Miscellaneous.*

Estate Duty is payable in terms of the Basutoland Death Duties Proclamation of 1935 at  $\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. upon the first £2,000 and up to 17 per cent. on £75,000 and over, and the rates of Succession Duty vary from 2 to 10 per cent.

*Wool and Mohair Export Duty.*

This duty was fixed at  $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per lb. for the period 1st April 1934 to 31st March 1935. The decreased collection as compared with the previous year's total is due to the large mortality in sheep and goats.

*Poll Tax.*

The rate is fixed at £2 per annum payable half-yearly on the 1st January and the 1st July by all adult males domiciled in Basutoland who are not liable to pay Native Tax. In the case of failure to pay any one instalment of the Tax within the period provided, a further sum of 2s. for each month or part of a month is payable.

**Posts and Telegraphs.**

The revenue amounted to £11,437 during the financial year ended 31st March 1935, and the expenditure to £10,599.

During the financial year 1934-5 postal and money orders to the value of £23,680 were issued and £31,845 paid.

The Union Post Office Savings Bank System is in operation in Basutoland and the following deposits and withdrawals at post offices in the territory were made during the financial year 1934-5 :—

	£
Deposits ... ..	26,635
Withdrawals ... ..	19,847

Basutoland has its own postage and revenue stamps. There are 11 denominations ranged in the following order, the first ten being postage and revenue stamps:—½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d., 1s., 2s. 6d., 5s., 10s., and for revenue purposes only £1. The respective colours are green, red, purple, blue, grey, light brown, orange, dark brown, blue-purple, olive and black. One design only is used, which contains a pleasing vignette of His Majesty the King, placed above a scene depicting the Maluti mountains and the Orange River, while in the foreground is a representation of a crocodile—the emblem of the ruling house of Moshesh.

A special issue of stamps was made during the year to commemorate the Silver Jubilee of the reign of His Majesty, the late King George V.

#### **Civil Servants' Salary Deductions.**

The rate of deduction from the emoluments of European officers, less certain abatements, was reduced from 10 per cent. to 5 per cent. from the 1st July 1934, and 1½ per cent. in the case of the native staff, when the amount involved is one shilling or more for each month.

#### **Johannesburg Agency.**

The Report on the Financial and Economic position of Basutoland dated January 1935 recommended the permanent establishment of this Agency (page 58) and all three High Commission Territories now participate and contribute towards the cost of maintenance.

Revenue is collected from the Basuto, Bechuana and Swazis working in the Transvaal industrial and mining areas, and the functions of the Agency are now extended to general welfare work. (A fuller report of the work of this Agency will be found under Section XVI, Labour.)

The total Revenue collections were:—

	£	s.	d.
Basutoland ... ..	38,162	18	0
Bechuanaland Protectorate ... ..	4,253	3	6
Swaziland ... ..	1,442	12	0
	<hr/>		
	43,858	13	6
	<hr/>		

The collections on behalf of the Bechuanaland Protectorate Administration commenced in May 1934 and in June 1934 for Swaziland.

**XVI.—LABOUR.**

The following table shows the number of passes issued during the past three years to enable natives to leave the territory to take up or seek employment in the Union of South Africa :—

	1933.	1934.	1935.
Mines :—Gold ... ..	25,731	22,994	29,502
Coal ... ..	72	156	472
Diamonds ... ..	—	220	83
<b>Total Mines ... ..</b>	<b>25,803</b>	<b>23,370</b>	<b>30,057</b>
Agriculture ... ..	15,237	6,700	5,584
Miscellaneous Labour ... ..	10,816	8,372	9,852
<b>Totals ... ..</b>	<b>51,856</b>	<b>38,442</b>	<b>45,493</b>

The gold mines play a large part in the economic position of the territory, employing annually large numbers of Basuto. At the close of the year 1935 over 41,000 Basuto were employed on these mines.

In addition to Basuto employed on the gold mines, there is a fairly large number in industrial employment in the Witwatersrand area. The number at the close of the year was approximately 10,000.

Many of the Basuto on the Witwatersrand remit money to their families in Basutoland through the Native Recruiting Corporation, Limited, and the Native Deposit and Remittance Agency, and a large percentage of the natives recruited for the mines defer a portion of their earnings for payment to them on their return to Basutoland. Many of them also make remittances through the post and it is estimated that an amount at least equal to the amount remitted through other channels is remitted in this way, though statistics cannot be obtained. During the year under review a sum of £90,875 was remitted by Basuto to their families through the Native Recruiting Corporation and a sum of £7,383 through the Native Deposit and Remittance Agency, whilst a total sum of £75,118 was paid out as deferred wages.

During the year 1932 an office was opened temporarily in Johannesburg for the purpose of collecting tax from Basutoland natives employed on the Witwatersrand. At the beginning of 1933 the Agency was re-opened and it has been maintained ever since. The Agency at first dealt only with the collection of revenue, but its functions were soon extended in the direction of dealing with the domestic affairs of the Basuto on the Witwatersrand, encouraging them to save money, giving them home news, counteracting as far as possible the demoralizing influence of their environment, repatriating those who are indigent and, generally, giving advice and assistance to them whenever required.

The Bechuanaland Protectorate and Swaziland now share in the Agency which thus deals with natives from all three High Commission Territories, both in regard to the collection of taxes and in general welfare work.

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APPENDIX.

PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO BASUTOLAND.

- "The Basutos" by Sir Godfrey Lagden, K.C.M.G., 2 vols.—Hutchinson.  
 "History of the Basuto"—D. F. Ellenberger and J. C. Macgregor.  
 "The Basuto of Basutoland"—E. A. T. Dutton—Jonathan Cape.  
 Report on the Financial and Economic Position of Basutoland (Cmd. 4907)  
 His Majesty's Stationery Office ... .. 3s. 6d.



## Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

### MIGRATION.

Report to the Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs of the Inter-Departmental Committee on Migration Policy. [Cmd. 4689.] 1s. 6d. (1s. 8d.)

### MALTA.

Report of Royal Commission, 1931. [Cmd. 3993.] 3s. 6d. (3s. 11d.).

Minutes of Evidence. [Colonial No. 68.] 5s. (5s. 9d.).

### IMPERIAL CONFERENCE, 1930.

Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3717.] 2s. (2s. 2d.).

Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3718.] 4s. (4s. 4d.).

Report of the Conference on Standardisation. (Including Resolutions adopted by the Imperial Conference). [Cmd. 3716.] 3d. (3½d.).

### COLONIAL OFFICE CONFERENCE, 1930.

Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3628.] 2s. (2s. 2d.).

Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3629.] 3s. (3s. 3d.).

### KENYA.

Native Affairs Department Annual Report for 1932. 3s. (3s. 4d.).

Report by the Financial Commissioner (Lord Moyne) on Certain Questions in Kenya. May, 1932. [Cmd. 4093.] 2s. (2s. 2d.).

### KENYA, UGANDA, AND THE TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.

Railway Rates and Finance. Report by Mr. Roger Gibb, September, 1932. [Cmd. 4235.] 1s. 6d. (1s. 7d.).

### TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.

Report by Sir Sydney Armitage Smith, K.B.E., C.B., on a Financial Mission. [Cmd. 4182.] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.).

East African Agricultural Research Station, Amani. Sixth Annual Report, 1933-34. [Colonial No. 100.] 1s. (1s. 1d.).

### BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE.

Financial and Economic Position. Report of Commission, March, 1933. [Cmd. 4368.] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.).

### SWAZILAND.

Financial and Economic Situation. Report of Commission. [Cmd. 4114.] 2s. 6d. (2s. 9d.).

### MALAYA.

Report of Brigadier-General Sir S. H. Wilson, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., K.B.E., on his visit during 1932. [Cmd. 4276.] 1s. (1s. 1d.).

### SEYCHELLES.

Financial Situation. Report of Commission, July, 1933. [Colonial No. 90.] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.).

### MAURITIUS.

Financial Situation. Report of Commission, December, 1931. [Cmd. 4034.] 4s. 6d. (4s. 10d.).

### WEST INDIES.

Report of the Closer Union Commission. (Leeward Islands, Windward Islands, Trinidad and Tobago.) [Cmd. 4383.] 1s. (1s. 1d.).

Report of a Commission appointed to consider problems of Secondary and Primary Education in Trinidad, Barbados, Leeward Islands, and Windward Islands. [Colonial No. 79.] 2s. (2s. 2d.).

### BRITISH HONDURAS.

Financial and Economic Position. Report of Commissioner, March, 1934. [Cmd. 4586.] 4s. 6d. (4s. 10d.).

### BRITISH GUIANA.

Financial Situation. Report of Commission, June, 1931. [Cmd. 3938.] 1s. (1s. 2d.).

### THE LEEWARD ISLANDS AND ST. LUCIA.

Report by Sir Sydney Armitage Smith, K.B.E., C.B., on a Financial Mission, October, 1931. [Cmd. 3996.] 2s. (2s. 2d.).

### PALESTINE.

Report on Immigration, Land Settlement and Development, by Sir John Hope Simpson, C.I.E., 1930. [Cmd. 3686.] 3s. (3s. 3d.).

Appendix to Report, containing Maps. [Cmd. 3687.] 2s. (2s. 3d.).

*All prices are net. Those in brackets include postage.*

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