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COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 558

BASUTOLAND.

REPORT FOR 1906-7.

(For Report for 1905-6, see No. 513.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
March, 1908.



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No. 556.

BASUTOLAND.

(For Report for 1905-6, see No. 513.)

THE HIGH COMMISSIONER TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE,

High Commissioner's Office,

Johannesburg,

18th November, 1907.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you a copy of a despatch from the Resident Commissioner of Basutoland, enclosing the Annual Reports on that territory for the year 1906-7, together with a copy of my reply.

I have, &c.,

SELBORNE,

High Commissioner.

The Right Honourable

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

&c., &c., &c.

Resident Commissioner's Office,

Maseru,

15th October, 1907.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward the Annual Reports of the Government Secretary, the Assistant Commissioners, and other officers for the year ended 30th June, 1907.

The revenue of Basutoland during the year has exceeded all previous collections, amounting to £111,903 17s. 9d., the principal increase being in hut-tax and Customs.

The expenditure has amounted to £108,832 19s. 4d. The details and comparative revenue and expenditure for the past five years are given in the Government Secretary's report.

In spite of the depression prevailing throughout South Africa, and notwithstanding the complaints of traders as to the dulness of business, the trade conditions in Basutoland as evidenced by the returns of imports and exports have been fairly satisfactory. The Basuto appear to have done well with their produce, especially mealies, mohair, and wool, and native labourers have continued to bring money into the country. In this connection I have to record my impression that a very large proportion of labourers' wages is spent by them before their return to Basutoland. It is impossible to form anything like a reliable estimate of what proportion of their earnings is so spent, but judging by the quantity of newly purchased articles they bring with them it must be considerable.

Vigorous efforts were made in the spring to destroy the swarms of young locusts which either hatched in Mafeteng District or crossed into Basutoland from the Orange River Colony. Separate reports on this campaign against locusts have been submitted. It has been estimated that 80 per cent. of the swarms were destroyed by the approved method of spraying with a solution of arsenite of soda.

Steps have been taken to encourage the production of good wool by the introduction of well-bred sheep rams, and by additions to the number of dipping stations erected for the use of native sheep owners. I am confident that a steady continuance

of this policy of fostering production of wool and mohair will in time materially tend to the increased prosperity of the country. It is to be regretted that the inferior quality of the grain produced by the natives neutralises the advantages of soil and climate which they enjoy.

The following legislative Proclamations were issued during the year :—

Proclamation No. 20 of 1906.—Extending to Basutoland the Imperial Foreign Enlistment Act of 1870.

Proclamation No. 22 of 1906.—Announcing that the Transvaal Colony and Bechuanaland Protectorate have respectively made due provision for persons resident there to attend the Courts of Basutoland as witnesses.

Notice 107 of 1906.—Notification by the High Commissioner that due provision has been made in Basutoland for compelling the attendance of witnesses resident therein before the Courts of the Bechuanaland Protectorate.

Proclamation 27 of 1906.—Further amending the Customs Law with regard to spirits imported into and distilled in Basutoland.

Notice 1 of 1907.—Publishing Order in Council entitled “Inter-Colonial Council South Africa Order in Council,” authorising among other amounts the loan of £90,000 by the Government of Basutoland for the construction of the Maseru Railway, to the Inter-Colonial Council.

Proclamation No. 16 of 1907.—Consolidating and amending the law which is in force in Basutoland relating to Stamp Duties and fees on documents payable by means of stamps.

A report by the Director of the Industrial School at Maseru is attached.

During the year the provisional appointment of an Education officer has been made. I hope this will tend to the increased efficiency of the instruction in the Mission Schools. There has been a further slight falling-off in the number of scholars attending the aided schools.

It is discouraging to note that among the older scholars there appears to be a growing tendency towards impatience of control and discipline. A similar tendency is observable among a certain section of the educated youth of the country who, at times, in contributions to the native press, criticise the Government and its representatives in what appears to be a tone of jealousy and ill-will. The spirit thus exhibited by some native contributors to the local newspapers resembles to a certain extent what I understand to be that expressed in the newspaper utterances of the corresponding class of the population both in India and Egypt. The representatives of this class in Basutoland are not at present either numerous or influential.

The Government Medical Officers' reports show the nature and extent of the hospital and dispensary work that is being done. I trust that the new hospital at Leribe may be opened before the end of December, and I anticipate that it will largely increase the medical and surgical advantages offered to the people.

The judicial returns show a regrettable increase in the number of arrests and convictions for illicit introduction of intoxicating drink. The police do good work in endeavouring to grapple with this demoralising traffic, but liquor can be obtained by natives with great ease in the Orange River Colony and the Cape Colony. Sixty-seven arrests of smugglers were effected, but there is reason to think that by far the greater number of offenders escape uncaught and unpunished.

The reorganisation of the Post and Telegraph offices has been carried out under the advice of an official kindly detached for the purpose by the Postmaster-General of the Cape Colony.

The following are the principal public works completed during the year under report :—

A reservoir holding 300,000 gallons for Maseru water supply.

New dispensary at Maseru hospital.

New stables for officers at Maseru.

New Post Office and Postmaster's Quarters at Morija.

New water supply at Mohales Hoek.

New gaol at Mohales Hoek.

New water supply at Qacha's Nek.

New bridge on Caledon between Basutoland and Orange River Colony (built in co-operation with the Government of the Orange River Colony).

Notwithstanding the numerous existing disputes between chiefs as to land and chieftainship, the internal condition of the country has been peaceful. The Paramount Chief, Letsie, apparently abstains from mischievous interference in the wards of other chiefs, and has not encouraged the intrigues which are so frequently the causes of inter-tribal strife. He and the other chiefs have given the necessary assistance when called on, in the matter of collection of revenue and detection of crime. I trust in time to be able to arouse the chiefs to a more lively sense of their responsibilities with regard to such matters as locust destruction, eradication of burrweed, and scab. Your Excellency's own addresses to Letsie and other chiefs at Mohales Hoek and Leribe upon these and similar subjects cannot fail to have a good effect.

Few of the chiefs seem able to restrain themselves in the matter of strong drink, although they all acquiesce in the wisdom of the restrictions on the introduction of liquor, and on occasion give active assistance in the arrest of brandy

smugglers. They have, as a rule, exercised their authority over their people with justice and moderation, but a few instances of unjust or venal treatment of cases have been brought to my notice. The adjustment of such cases of appeal is one of the most difficult questions that have to be dealt with by myself or the District Officers and calls for the exercise of special tact and firmness.

The protection of the interests of Basutoland subjects who may have cases in the Courts of the Orange River Colony and Cape Colony also presents peculiar difficulties. The fact that a native is not allowed to sue in such Courts except through the intervention of a law agent, who usually demands a deposit in advance (often exceeding the value of the goods or amount sued for), is a great cause of complaint, and in many cases is prohibitive as regards a native's access to a Court of Justice. During the year I had to forward to Your Excellency the papers in a case wherein the costs of a suit concerning 17 cattle, worth probably £120, amounted to £261; judgment in this particular case was "absolution from the instance."

I would like again to place on record my appreciation of the good work performed by the officers and employees of the Government Service.

I have, &c.,

H. C. SLOLEY,
Resident Commissioner.

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

THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARY'S ANNUAL
REPORT, 1906-7.

Government Secretary's Office,
Maseru,
30th June, 1907.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward you herewith the usual Annual Reports for Basutoland for the year ending 30th June, 1907, and also the Statistical Returns for the Territory for the same period compiled from these Reports and from other sources. The Customs Returns, however, in compliance with

the custom prevailing throughout South Africa, are for the year ending 31st December, 1906.

The past year has been a welcome change agriculturally from the preceding ones. After a dry spring, plentiful, well-distributed rains fell in September, and continued throughout the year until well into the winter. This cessation of drought and the consequent agricultural prosperity will, I think, be found reflected in most of the returns contained in this Report.

In October, 1906, for the first time for many years, voetganger locusts hatched out in Basutoland, while the Territory was also invaded by large swarms which crossed the border from the Orange River Colony. Energetic measures were taken against them with soap and arsenical sprays, and a very large proportion were destroyed before they got their wings or did much damage. In March, 1907, flying locusts entered the country from the Orange River Colony and did a good deal of damage, but fortunately their arrival so late in the year did not allow of their sweeping off the fast ripening crops, as would have been the case had they made their appearance earlier.

Altogether a sum of £1,897 was spent on the locust campaign in Basutoland.

FINANCIAL.

Revenue has risen from £98,515 to £111,903, while expenditure has increased from £93,333 to £108,832. I attach a comparative return of revenue and expenditure for the last five years :—

Year ending	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
30th June, 1903	101,399 4 2	76,271 12 11
30th June, 1904	106,794 15 8	72,393 19 4
30th June, 1905	97,034 1 6	78,837 8 2
30th June, 1906	98,515 6 3	93,333 13 8
30th June, 1907	111,903 17 9	108,832 19 4

I also attach a Return of the revenue for the year in detail of heads of receipt :—

	£ s. d.
Hut tax	64,870 0 0
Licences	3,948 4 9
Fees of Court	187 18 11
Post Office	3,453 8 9
Miscellaneous	1,532 17 0
Customs	31,432 2 8
Interest	6,479 5 8
Total	£111,903 17 9

Expenditure for the same period £108,832 19s. 4d.
 During the period under report hut tax was paid on 63,611 huts, while £1,807 arrear hut tax was received as against £1,811 the previous year. The total current tax shows an increase of some £2,000 over 1905-6.

COMMERCIAL.

Return of Imports and Exports for the last Five Years.

Year.	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
1903 Dutiable Imports	191,019	258,927
1904 Total Imports	298,140	127,057
1905 " "	149,821	164,817
1906 " "	191,701	172,496
1907 " "	242,353	185,155

The Imports and Exports of the Territory certainly show well when compared with last year, both as regards quantity and money value. Grain and produce, though far below what they should be with continuous good seasons, show a great improvement on the previous years of drought. Wheat, maize, and Kafir corn exported show an increase of nearly 100 per cent., while wool and mohair have each increased about 25 per cent. There being no further demand for remounts for the German Government, there is, of course, a heavy falling off under this head.

The following is a table of exports :—

Articles and Livestock.	Quantity in lbs. or No.	Value.
<i>Livestock—</i>		£
Horses	125	3,283
Cattle	272	3,360
Sheep and goats	371	294
All other : Pigs, poultry, &c. —		484
<i>Corn, grain and flour—</i>		
Kafir corn	2,644,227	6,780
Maize... ..	21,114,704	47,747
Oats	199,138	681
Wheat	1,770,335	6,538
Flour, wheaten	43,587	277
All other	75,952	223
Hair, Angora	680,947	26,191
<i>Hides and skins—</i>		
Hides, cattle	11,813	326
Skins, sheep and goats	79,977	1,654
Wool, sheep	3,733,776	82,330
Miscellaneous	—	586
„ (imported goods) —		4,401
		£185,155

While on the one hand the exports of the year are satisfactory, it is pleasant to be able to report a similar rise in the imports.

I give below a return of the imports, which show an increase of about £50,000.

Articles, &c.	Value.
	£
Animals : Horses, cattle, sheep, &c.	2,567
Apparel, slops, &c.	15,200
Bags of all sorts	7,668
Beads of all sorts	1,069
Cotton piece-goods	12,871
Cotton manufactures	22,146
Food and drink, articles of	23,800
Haberdashery and millinery	17,581
Hardware and cutlery, fencing material, &c... ..	8,473
Hats and caps	1,176
Implements (agricultural)	3,940
Leather and leather manufactures (including boots and shoes and saddlery)	14,485
Soap of all kinds	3,696
Wood, manufactured and unmanufactured	4,162
Woollen manufactures (including blankets and shawls)	69,790
All other articles of merchandise	33,729
Total	<u>242,353</u>

The above figures include importations of South African produce from other territories amounting to £29,827.

LICENCES.

The following licences were issued during the year :—

General trader	168
Hawkers (paid)	405
„ (free)	203
Mill licence	1
Labour Agents	298

PASSES.

The return of passes for visiting and labour which I give below seems to suggest some interesting facts and figures regarding the movements of the native population in good years and bad. The year 1905-6 may, I think, be taken as a bad year, while 1906-7, with its plentiful rains, was distinctly a good one. A comparison of the returns of passes for these two years seems to point out that as the population increases and the country fills up the native population is showing a tendency to divide itself into two distinct classes of labour, namely the agriculturist and the mine labourer. It would appear that year in and year out the latter goes to his work at the mines, while, on the other hand, it appears that the native farmer who, in bad years, went out to "miscellaneous" farm and domestic labour, in a good year remains at home and tills his land. Thus it will be seen that while the mine labourers of 1905-6 and 1906-7 show little difference in numbers there is a falling-off of more than 19,000 in farm, domestic and miscellaneous work, while "visitors" remain practically unchanged for both years:—

RETURN OF PASSES IN DETAIL.

Return of Passes Issued.

Districts.	Visiting in Orange River Colony.	Visiting in Cape Colony.	Visiting in Natal.	Transvaal Mines.	Indwe Coal Mines.	O. R. C. Mines.	Jagersfontein Mines.	Railway Construction	Far and Domestic.	Miscellaneous Work.	Kimberley Mines.	Johannesburg Municipality	Totals.
Leribe ...	19,780	176	—	6,473	—	—	—	4,022	2,271	18,469	231	—	51,482
Berea ...	4,389	83	—	2,101	—	—	—	2,529	1,807	703	635	—	12,247
Maseru ...	8,835	271	—	7,462	—	1,253	—	62	273	2,270	833	483	21,742
Mafeteng ...	7,574	676	—	1,086	2	164	842	125	4,707	3,367	448	—	18,991
Mobales Hoek ...	1,103	1,009	—	294	3	519	404	—	2,151	2,063	641	—	8,187
Quthing ...	205	3,355	—	51	10	15	88	30	700	1,412	53	—	5,899
Qacha's Nek ...	151	3,267	216	141	13	—	—	10	888	4,596	55	—	9,337
Total ...	42,037	8,847	216	17,608	28	1,951	1,334	6,778	12,757	32,880	2,926	483	127,885

Summary of Passes for Labour.

	Orange River Colony.	Cape Colony.	Natal	Transvaal.	Farm and Domestic.	Miscellaneous.	Total.
1905-6...	12,699	3,016	—	14,012	18,802	46,480	95,009
1906-7...	9,961	2,994	—	18,091	12,797	32,942	76,785

Summary of Passes for Visiting.

Year.	Totals.
	£
1905-6	50,889
1906-7	51,100

NATIVE DEPOSIT AND REMITTANCE.

The Deposit and Remittance Branch of the Transvaal Native Affairs Department being now closed no money was received from that source for distribution as was the case last year.

POLICE AND JUDICIAL.

Police and gaol Returns for the Territory will be found below :—

European officers	...	...	...	14
" constables	...	...	...	6
Native officers	...	...	...	4
" constables	...	...	...	4
" sergeants	...	..	...	9
" corporals	...	...	...	10
" privates	...	...	...	246

Police Patrol Return.

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

Number of patrols	...	...	...	2,036
" men on patrol	...	...	...	2,858
" miles patrolled	...	...	...	66,656
Arrests under liquor laws	...	...	...	67
" " pass laws	...	...	...	129
Other offences	...	...	...	109

Gaol Return.

Prisoners received into gaol	...	...	...	453
" convicted	...	...	...	315
" discharged unconvicted	...	...	...	124
" in gaol 30th June, 1907	...	...	...	103
Floggings inflicted	...	...	...	Nil

Judicial Cases.

Judicial cases as under were heard in the Courts of the Assistant Commissioners for the Territory:—

Culpable homicide	...	...	...	8
Theft	...	...	...	67
Pass regulations	...	...	...	120
Liquor regulations	...	...	...	32
Trading regulations	...	...	...	27
Resisting police	...	...	...	10
Assault	...	...	...	20
Rape	...	...	...	Nil
Other crimes	...	...	...	77
Civil cases	...	...	...	29

EDUCATION.

In the matter of education there again appears a slight falling-off in the number of scholars in the Government-aided schools.

	1905-1906.	1906-1907.
Expenditure	£11,119 15s. 4d.	£14,000 16s. 11d.
Schools	246	250
Scholars	12,490	12,275
Mean average attendance	9,704	9,454

POST AND TELEGRAPH.

During the past year the reorganisation of the whole Post and Telegraph Department of the Territory has been completed. The postmasters have been properly graded, the post offices renovated and brought up to date, and the whole Department placed on a sound footing to cope with the increased work which of late has been demanded from it.

The thanks of this Government are due to the Postmaster-General of Cape Colony for the following postal statistics which he has kindly furnished:—

Correspondence.

Letters posted in Basutoland	...	...	..	356,915
„ received in Basutoland	...	...	...	388,297

Money Orders.

Issued	...	...	5,593—Value	...	...	£	s.	d.
Paid	...	...	2,984	„	...	16,278	16	8
						13,208	4	3

Savings Bank.

				£	s.	d.
Deposits	...	294—Value	...	2,345	11	6
Withdrawals	...	96	„	1,272	4	4

Telegraphs.

The Revenue derived from this source was £1,093 13s. 8d.

Postal Notes.

				£	s.	d.
Issued	...	1,960—Value	...	621	2	9
Paid	...	2,681	„	1,179	18	6

The average rainfall throughout the year for seven stations was 41.49 inches, being an increase of 15.15 inches on the previous year.

I have, &c.,

L. WROUGHTON,
Government Secretary.

The Resident Commissioner,
Basutoland.

ANNUAL REPORT—LERIBE DISTRICT, 1906-1907.

There has been no great change in the political state of the district since last year, though here and there a slight improvement is perceptible. This is especially so at Makhoakhoeng, where Letsika has at last been brought to see the futility of trying to disown his eldest son, and the result is that the state of the ward is more peaceful and orderly than I have ever known it to be.

Things at Tsimc are just as they were, though quite lately, owing to a recent *entente* between Jonathan and Joel, they seem to be mending, but as I believe the *entente* is only for a particular purpose, and not likely to be more than temporary, I do not see much chance of a permanent settlement growing out of it.

As I ventured to hint in last year's report, Jonathan found himself compelled to make a pronouncement upon the position of

his two principal sons Tau and Mateadira, but the pronouncement was rather equivocal and indecisive, and in effect left matters very much as they were before. I am not prepared to say that this is altogether deplorable, as I think there is something to be said for the view which I suggested last year—that a definite pronouncement might very possibly precipitate a disturbance.

The Leribe Chiefs have recently resuscitated their old claim to a definite portion of the mountain pasturage. I believe the claim, as an abstract question, has much to be said for it, but the ground they are claiming is now, and has been for many years, in effective, though not undisputed, occupation by the sons of Letsie, and even if the justice of the Leribe claim were admitted, it would be difficult to dislodge them now.

A disturbance occurred in the Ramanella ward last November. The Chief Mitchell, greatly provoked by acts of aggression on the part of Hlayoane, son of Seshope, whose general conduct was commented on in last year's report, went with an armed party and burned his village. A good deal of property was destroyed, but fortunately no lives were lost. The case was tried in the Court of the Resident Commissioner, and those responsible were fined and imprisoned.

I fear this ward is in rather a deplorable state owing to what, for want of a better term, I will call the senile slackness of the principal chiefs and the consequent lawlessness of their sons, notably those of Seshope. Peete's son Mitchell, the heir to the chieftainship, is an exception, and shows promise of ability in the management of affairs, but he is still in a subordinate position, and his influence, though considerable and growing, is not yet a power outside his personal following.

A bridge has been built over the Calcdon river near Ficksburg, which should prove a great boon to the public. One over the Hlotse is now urgently required, as in wet seasons this station is practically isolated.

The main roads in the district are in good order, notwithstanding the heavy rains of last summer and autumn.

The harvest has been a very good one this year, and probably a large quantity of grain will be exported. One large swarm of locusts visited the district, but did only partial damage.

A sheep-dip was established last year, and was well patronised. 4,093 sheep were dipped during the year.

There is a new hospital in course of erection, which will be completed by November.

A successful Agricultural Show was held here on July 6th, and a remarkably fine lot of young stock, especially horses, was exhibited. Among these last the progeny of the Government Arabs was very noticeable.

Relations with neighbouring officials of the Orange River Colony continue to be of a cordial nature. I would like,

however, to draw attention to a difficulty felt by the absence of any adequate machinery in that Colony for the trial and adjustment of purely native matters. If the dispute is in the nature of an ordinary civil case, the complainant is referred to a lawyer, whose initial fees probably amount to more than the amount in dispute, and if, as is more likely, it happens to be a native matrimonial case there seems to be no remedy at all.

Natives of Basutoland are closely related and inter-married with those of the Orange River Colony, and disputes concerning inheritance, dowries, the custody of children, damages for seduction, &c., &c., are constantly occurring between parties on this side and that, and though Orange River Colony subjects get a ready hearing in our Courts, Basutoland natives have in effect either to forgo their claim, or wait for a chance of retaliation, which I have known to take the form of seizure of property and breach of the peace.

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

The following are the usual annual returns :—

				REVENUE.		
				£	s.	d.
Hut tax	...	...	...	14,851	0	0
General traders' licences	...	...	...	505	0	0
Hawkers' licences	...	...	...	36	0	0
Recruiting labour licences	...	...	...	15	0	0
Judicial fines	...	...	...	253	5	0
Fees of court	...	...	...	9	16	0
Transfer of licences (fee)	...	...	...	0	5	0
Registration of marriages (fee)	...	...	...	2	15	0
Excise	...	...	...	12	14	3
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	124	15	9
Total ...				<u>£15,810 11 0</u>		

Tax has been paid on 14,361 huts.
Arrear tax collected amounts to £550.

LICENCES.

The numbers of licences issued during the year are :—

General traders'	...	...	...	...	51
Paid hawkers'	...	...	...	...	36
Free hawkers'	...	...	...	...	17
Labour agents'	...	...	...	...	18

PASSES.

Passes were issued for the following purposes :—

Visiting in the Orange River Colony	19,780
„ „ Cape Colony	176
Working in the Kimberley mines ...	291
„ on Railway construction ...	4,022
„ in the Johannesburg mines	6,473
Agricultural labour	2,271
Miscellaneous	18,469
Total	<u>51,482</u>

POLICE.

The police force in the district consists of :—

Inspector	1
Sub-inspectors	2
Sergeants	2
Corporals	3
Lance-corporal	1
1st class privates	22
2nd class privates	34
Native officer	1
European constable	1
Total	<u>67</u>

Gaols.

During the year 45 persons were received into gaol, and of these 32 were convicted and sentenced. There were 13 not convicted. The number in gaol on the 30th June, 1907, was 13.

Patrols.

Number of patrols	532
„ men engaged	676
Estimated distance covered	20,883 miles.
Number of arrests	104
For contravening liquor regulations ...	5
„ „ pass regulations	50
For other offences	49

LOST STOCK.

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

Description.	Traced to Basutoland.	Not traced to Basutoland.	Total Reported.	Recovered in Basutoland.	Not recovered in Basutoland.
Horses ...	8	25	33	8	25
Cattle ...	2	2	4	2	2
Sheep ...	—	143	143	—	143
Goats ...	10	134	144	10	134
Total ...	20	304	324	20	304

Of these it has been officially reported that seven horses, 62 sheep, and 112 goats were recovered in the Orange River Colony.

Cases Tried.

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

Assault	9
Culpable homicide	6
Theft	14
Contravening Pass regulations	35
" trading regulations	5
" customs regulations	3
Resisting police	3
Fraud	1
Abduction	1
Creating a disturbance	2
Contempt of court	1
Other crimes	5
Total	85

There were nine civil actions.

PRICES OF STOCK AND PRODUCE.

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

Wheat (per muid)	12s. to 15s.
Mealies, "	6s. to 8s.
Kaffir corn "	8s. to 10s.
Forage, per 100 bundles	10s. to 20s.
Ponies	£10 to £25.
Cattle	£7 to £10.
Sheep and goats	£1.
Wool, per lb.	3d. to 5d.
Mohair, per lb.	10d. to 11d.

J. C. MACGREGOR,
Assistant Commissioner.

ANNUAL REPORT—BUTHA BUTHE 1906–1907.

The past year has been exceptionally quiet and uneventful ; there have been no fights or disturbances of any kind.

The friction between Joel and Hlasoa still continues and unfortunately does not show signs of coming to an end.

The Makhoakhoa have been quiet, and this I put down to the fact that Letsika is now working with his eldest son Thakabanna.

There was a slight increase in the Hut Tax on last year amounting to £39 10s.

A large swarm of locusts passed through the district, but I am pleased to say that they did very little damage to the crops.

The mealie and Kaffir corn crops were very good and food is plentiful in all parts of the district.

The Government stud horse was killed by lightning on 15th December last.

The Police Detachment at this station is in an efficient state and the various duties were satisfactorily performed.

The roads are in a fair state, but it has been most difficult to keep them in anything like decent order, owing to the heavy rains and the want of sufficient road parties.

L. GRIFFITH,

Inspector, B.M.P.

Butha Buthe,
30th June, 1907.

ANNUAL REPORT—BEREA DISTRICT 1906–1907.

Assistant Commissioner's Office.

Berea,

1st July, 1907.

SIR,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report on the Berea District for the year ended 30th June, 1907.

I am glad to be able to report that this has been the most uneventful year since I came to the District. There has been an almost total absence of serious crime. Indeed, there was only one case—a leper in Peete's Ward murdered his wife and afterwards committed suicide.

There were, of course, some of the usual disputes as to the boundaries of the various wards, and probably one or two such cases will be brought before you during the coming year. The

line between Senekal and Sauer has, I hope, been finally settled. But the boundaries between Koali and Fako, and Koali and Senekal probably will be in dispute again.

The relations between Koali and Moeketse are still far from satisfactory. I believe the truth is that Moeketse desires to be independent of Koali; this is Koali's view, and of course, that being so, he does not make any serious effort to pull well with Moeketse.

A matter which I think may cause trouble any day is that of the cattle posts in the mountains. Masupha complains that he is being crushed out by Theko and Peete, and Leshoboro has also complained about the same subject. Knowing the great importance which the chiefs attach to their cattle posts, I consider this a serious question.

We have been visited by some very large swarms of locusts, and in many parts the crops have been quite destroyed. No "hoppers" were reported in this district.

We held our usual Agricultural Show on 5th June, and the reports of the judges on several of the exhibits were very good.

His Excellency the High Commissioner passed through part of the district during his tour in Basutoland, and I was much pleased with the way Masupha assisted in supplying horses at very short notice.

The tree nursery which I started last year will, I think, be a success, and though a large number of young trees were destroyed by a flood, we have 500 or 600 ready to plant out next season. All the walls which had been built in the donga here were swept away by the same flood.

In November I took over the main roads in the district. It has been a particularly hard season to keep roads in order, but I now have them in fair condition, and during the winter hope to make them really good. I find it much more satisfactory having the roads under my own control.

The Hut Tax has not, I am sorry to say, been paid up as well as I expected, the amount being £25 short of last year. The smaller amount of arrears will account for more than this, but still there should have been an increase—as there was in some wards.

I attach the usual returns :—

	£	s	d.
Hut tax	6,667	10	0
Licences	266	10	0
Fines	39	10	0
Fees of court	2	16	8
Miscellaneous	0	13	0
Customs	47	3	4
Total	£7,024	3	0

Tax was paid on 6,454 huts. Arrears were £319 10s., or 4.78 per cent.

The following licences were issued during the year :—

General traders	...	...	...	...	24
Hawkers (paid)	...	...	...	...	3
Labour	...	...	...	...	27
Mill licence	...	...	...	...	1
Hawkers (free)	...	...	...	...	19

The passes issued were as follows, under various heads :—

Visiting Orange River Colony	...	...	...	4,389
" Cape Colony	...	...	...	83
Kimberley mines	...	...	...	635
Railway construction	...	...	...	2,529
Johannesburg mines	...	...	...	2,101
Agriculture	...	...	...	1,807
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	709
				12,247

POLICE STATE.

Sub-inspector	...	...	...	...	1
European constable	...	...	...	...	1
Native sergeant	...	...	...	...	1
" corporal	...	...	...	...	1
" lance-corporal	...	...	...	...	1
" 1st class privates	...	...	...	...	12
" 2nd " "	...	...	...	...	13
					Total
					30

Return of Patrols.

Number of patrols	...	...	...	328
" men employed	...	...	...	638
" miles covered	...	...	...	5,127
" arrests (a)	...	...	...	8
" " (b)	...	...	...	44
" " (c)	...	...	...	3

The following cases were tried during the year :—

Contravening Pass laws	...	...	...	30
" liquor regulations	...	...	...	11
Assault	...	...	...	1
Theft	...	...	...	4
Contravening trading regulations	...	...	...	1
Other cases	...	...	...	2
Civil cases	...	...	...	4

Gaol Return.

Number in gaol on 1st July, 1906 ...	...	7
Received into gaol during year ...	...	14
Sentenced ...	...	9
Handed over to Orange River Colony ...	...	2
Discharged ...	...	14
Untried ...	...	2
In gaol on 30th June, 1907 ...	...	5

RETURN OF LOST AND STOLEN STOCK REPORTED.

Description.	Reported.	Traced to Basutoland.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses ...	13	8	5	8	5
Cattle ...	Nil	—	—	—	—
Sheep ...	Nil	—	—	—	—

The prices of stock and produce in the district are about as follow :—

Trek oxen £8 to £11; slaughter oxen £9 to £12; cows £7 to £12; horses £12 to £20; sheep 20s. to 25s.; goats 10s. to 15s.; wheat 10s. to 13s. per bag; mealies 5s. to 8s.; Kaffir corn 8s.; fine grease wool 4½d. to 5d. per lb.; mohair 7d. to 9d.

I attach roll of general traders.

NOMINAL ROLL OF GENERAL TRADERS.

Berea District, June, 1907.

No.	Names.	Situation of Store.	Remarks.
1	Bodkin, J. M. ...	Sefking.	
2	Bradshaw, J. ...	Mohatlane.	
3	" ...	Motika.	
4	Crisp, O. E. ...	Teyateyaneng.	
5	Dawson, W. R. ...	Mapoteng.	
6	" ...	"	
7	" ...	Makhate.	
8	" ...	Hanoletsane.	
9	Fraser, D. and D. H. ...	Khamolaue.	
10	" ...	Fako.	
11	" ...	Qhalaheng.	
12	Johnson ...	Marthinus.	
13	Kohler, H. ...	Tebetebeng (mill).	
14	Mahommed, E. N... ..	Mapoteng.	
15	Maitin Bros. ...	Berea Hills.	
16	" ...	Haugers Drift.	
17	" ...	Teyateyaneng.	
18	Stevens, G. L. ...	"	
19	" ...	"	
20	" ...	Koali.	
21	" ...	Ntlama.	
22	" ...	Cana.	
23	" ...	Sebalabala.	
24	" ...	Phofoolo.	
25	Yeats, J. S. ...	Senekal.	

W. BOXWELL, Assistant Commissioner.

ANNUAL REPORT—MASERU DISTRICT.

Office of the Assistant Commissioner,
Maseru, Basutoland.

30th June, 1907.

The past year has been a most peaceful one, and no disturbances of any kind have occurred.

The rains, which started in September, continued with very little intermission until about May, and the roads have been in consequence in a deplorable condition. With the most strenuous efforts the main roads in the district have been kept open for traffic. During the coming year a greatly increased grant will be required to again get them into passable order. The bridge across the Little Caledon River, referred to in previous annual reports, has been commenced, and work on it, under the supervision and control of Mr. Gibson, the Government Engineer, is proceeding apace.

The railway continues to be a source of great convenience, and judging from the amount of activity at the station the returns should be financially satisfactory.

The hospital at Maseru is very greatly appreciated and is almost always continuously without an empty bed, the number of patients seeking admission being greatly in excess of the available accommodation. The general health of the district has been most satisfactory, no reports of any endemic disease having been received.

The water supply for the village has proved, owing to the abnormal rainfall, to have been sufficient for domestic purposes. When the new reservoir, the holding capacity of which is calculated to be 300,000 gallons, is completed, and further available water brought in, the water difficulty should be settled.

A number of trees have been planted out during the year, but some of the new plantations have not succeeded as well as they ought. Young trees are issued to natives free of charge.

Religious instruction and educational work continue to be carried on by missionaries of the Paris Evangelical Society, and the English and Roman Catholic Churches. The Government-aided schools in the district have been visited and reported on by Mr. Austen Williams, who was temporarily engaged for the work.

There has been, I regret to say, more disease than usual amongst stock. Several cases of anthrax amongst cattle and of glanders amongst horses have been reported. In the case of

the latter where owners have been induced to destroy the infected animals, compensation has been awarded, disinfectants have been issued free of charge, and isolation of suspected animals has been insisted upon. Every endeavour has been made to carry out the recommendations of the Veterinary Officer.

The sheep dip at Qeme is much used by natives in the neighbourhood, and during the past year upwards of 5,000 sheep and goats have been dipped. A number of good rams were imported by the Government, 10 of which were given to me to issue out to responsible natives. This I did after satisfying myself that they had cleared their respective wards of *zanthium spinosum*.

During the past spring locusts hatched out in the southern portion of the district, and prompt measures were taken for their destruction. Gangs of men were set to work destroying them with, in the early stages, soap spray, and later with the arsenical solution recommended by the locust bureau. The result proved most satisfactory, and a great number of swarms were destroyed. Later on, in the autumn, the district was visited by flying locusts, which did considerable havoc to the younger crops and to pasture generally. These swarms hovered around, and eventually deposited eggs over the greater portion of the district outside the mountain belt. These eggs will in turn have to be dealt with in the coming spring, when they are due to hatch out. The localities in which these eggs have been deposited have been marked, and the entire area covered is very extensive.

An Agricultural Show was held in Maseru on the 24th May last and was a great improvement on the one held the previous year. The exhibits were in many cases more numerous and the quality in some excellent.

Trade during the year has been fair. The wheat crop has again been a failure. Wool and mohair have increased in both quantity and quality, and the mealie and kaffircorn crops, though not yet reaped, bid fair to be good, despite the damage done to them by locusts.

The Government Industrial School has made considerable progress during the year, the number of pupils now being about sixty. The trades taught include carpentering, stone-cutting, blacksmith's work, shoeing of horses, the running of an oil engine for supplying the railway station with water, work in the fitter's workshop, and general supervision of the village water supply, pipes, and reservoir. Recently a corn mill has been started, driven by a steam engine, and this also is worked by the pupils under supervision.

The laundry under the auspices of the English Mission is still doing good work.

I attach the usual annual returns.

REVENUE.

	£	s.	d.
Hut tax	11,546	0	0
Licences	500	10	0
Fines	164	17	6
Customs	41	1	11
Fees of court	6	15	0
Miscellaneous	50	15	6
Total	£12,309	19	11

Tax was paid on 11,282 huts, and arrear tax amounting to £442 was collected.

LICENCES.

The number of licences issued is as under :—

General traders'	31
Hawkers' (paid)	98
„ (unpaid)	54
Labour agents'	185

PASSES.

The following is the return of passes issued :—

Visiting in the O.R.C.	8,835
Working—O.R.C. coal and diamond mines	1,253
Visiting Cape Colony	271
Kimberley diamond mines	833
Johnannesburg Municipality	453
Transvaal gold and diamond mines	7,462
Agricultural work	273
Railway construction	62
Miscellaneous work	2,270
Total	21,742

POLICE.

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

Sub-inspector	1
Native officer	1
European constables	3
Native „	2
„ sergeants	2
„ corporals	2
„ lance-corporal	1
„ privates	54

Patrols.

Number of patrols	446
" men employed	461
Estimated distance travelled (miles) ...	9,157

And the following arrests have been made :—

Contravening liquor laws	3
" pass " 	10
Other offences	7

Gaol Return.

Number of prisoners received into gaol	145
" " discharged unconvicted	57
" " convicted and sentenced	73
" " in gaol 30th June, 1907	28
" " transferred	15
Floggings inflicted	1

Cases Tried.

The following cases have been tried during the year :—

Common assault	6
Assault with intent	2
Assault with intent to commit rape	1
Extortion	2
Escaping from custody	1
Fraud	14
Police Offences Act	5
Introducing Arms	1
Contravening liquor regulations	3
" trading " 	4
" pass " 	10
" Prisons Act	1
Pretended witchcraft	2
Theft	14
Civil cases	13

LOST STOCK.

Description.	Reported Lost.	Traced into Basuto-land.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses	26	10	16	10	16
Mules	2	—	2	—	2
Cattle	7	—	7	—	7
Sheep	5	—	5	—	5

PRICES OF STOCK AND PRODUCE.

The following are current prices for stock and produce :—

Slaughter cattle ...	...	...	...	£10 each.
Cows ...	...	...	...	£8 to £10 each.
Horses ...	...	...	...	£15 to £25 „
Sheep ...	...	...	...	15s. to 25s. „
Goats ...	...	...	...	10s. to 12s. 6d. each.
Mealies ...	...	...	...	8s. 6d. to 9s. 6d. per bag.
Kaffir corn ...	...	...	...	10s. per bag,
Wool ...	...	...	...	4½d. to 6d. per lb.
Mohair ...	...	...	...	9d. per lb.

CHAS. E. BOYES,
Assistant Commissioner.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE MAFETENG DISTRICT, FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30TH JUNE, 1907.

GENERAL.

Nothing of much political importance has occurred in Mafeteng district during the past year. The land dispute between the Chiefs Seiso and Mahapela, referred to in my last annual report, still continues to cause friction, and the action of the higher chiefs, to which reference was made in that report as being calculated to prevent Mahapela from deriving any advantage from the decision then recently given, has led to a regrettable series of petty disputes tending to break up the authority of Mahapela over the clan of the Ba-Mohale. The present position is that the ground taken from Seiso has not reverted to Mahapela, nor has he been permitted to locate his followers thereon, but it has been handed over to a sub-chief, Napo, who although formerly under Mahapela, now claims to be directly under the Paramount Chief, and this claim on his part is rather encouraged than otherwise.

Such disputes, besides having an unsettling effect on the parties concerned, are found to seriously impede the collection of Hut Tax in the district.

A proper survey of the Mafeteng Camp and Government Reserve is much needed. A considerable number of building sites appear to have been granted in former years without any record having been kept. Many of these sites were built upon by natives, who subsequently sold them either to other natives or

to Europeans, and there appears to be no record of these transfers. In the absence of any properly drawn up plan of the Camp, it is difficult to revise the system or to trace the history of the various grants.

PUBLIC WORKS.

The condition of the main roads, after a season of unusual rain-fall extending over eight months, is far from satisfactory. Repairs have, however, been constantly carried on, and traffic has not been suspended, except at times by flooded rivers. As there are upwards of 180 miles of waggon roads in the district the expense of maintenance has been considerable.

The camp water-works continue to give a satisfactory supply of water. There is also a sufficient supply conserved in dams for the present needs of livestock.

New public offices are in process of building, and should be completed in a few months.

AGRICULTURE.

The drought which has prevailed during the four previous years, broke up at the end of September, 1906, and copious rains have since fallen lasting well into the present winter. The country is now well saturated and there is every prospect of a good wheat season, should the people take advantage of it. Some of them are, however, afraid to plough on account of the locusts, which may be expected to re-visit the country in the coming spring. There was a great invasion of locusts from the Orange River Colony during the months of November and December, 1906. Efforts were made to check them, with the result that, although the crops near the border suffered severely, the insects were prevented from penetrating any great distance into the district until their wings were developed, after which little could be done against them. They are reported to be breeding in various places near the border, and the work of locust destruction will probably have to be renewed in the spring and early summer. Detailed reports of the work done during the past season have already been furnished.

It is difficult to impress the Basuto with the importance of combined action in dealing either with locusts, or with the various weeds which are spreading through the country. As they occasionally collect a few sacks of locusts and use them for food, they are disposed to look on any general scheme for locust destruction with indifference, if not with actual disfavour, as interfering with one of their minor sources of food supply.

They were induced by the reward offered by Government of 2s. per sack, to collect locusts and bring them to the various destruction camps, but nothing would induce them, except in a few isolated cases, to take any steps for locust destruction

without payment. Similarly it is almost impossible to get them to destroy weeds outside the limits of their own gardens, and as they generally plough far more ground than they can keep in order, noxious weeds continue to spread through the country with very little check. Burrweed, which is the curse of the woolbuyer, is allowed to grow everywhere, except along the main roads, where the Government road parties have orders to destroy it. This state of things is naturally viewed with grave concern by the farmers of the Orange River Colony, as the sluits and water courses which drain into that territory from Basutoland, are full of burrweed, the seeds of which are carried on to the farms with every freshet.

An attempt has recently been made by the anti-progressive party among the natives, to raise an outcry against the efforts of the Government to improve the quality of the Basuto ponies by the introduction of better blood. This is only one of a series of frivolous complaints which have recently emanated from the same source against the Government. The theory set up in support of their contention is that the Basuto possess a native breed of ponies, which is more sure-footed and enduring than other breeds, and that the crossing with better bred animals is calculated to eliminate these qualities. The absurdity of this theory is shown by the following facts.

Firstly, the Basuto have no native breed of ponies, as 60 or 70 years ago they possessed no horses whatever. All the ponies in the territory at the present time, with the exception of actual importations, have been bred from stock originally brought in from the various surrounding colonies.

The descendants of these importations are generally of smaller size than the original stock, owing to their having to pick up a living in the mountains, where the climate in winter is decidedly rigorous. They are admittedly sure-footed, but not more so than well-bred horses brought up in similar situations; and these better-bred animals are found, owing to their being able to travel faster without distress, to be capable of beating the ordinary pony in endurance on his own ground, to say nothing of their being more generally useful both for saddle and draught purposes, and almost invariably realising better prices when sold to Europeans. As the Basuto usually castrate their best colts, leaving the inferior ones (which are too under-sized or misshapen to make useful saddle horses) to spoil the breed, the necessity for Government intervention to prevent the deterioration of a really useful class of animal, by means of fresh importations of suitable stallions, is sufficiently obvious.

RELATIONS WITH BORDERING STATES.

Our relations with the Orange River Colony are generally of a cordial nature. There are frequently recurring cases of Basuto women absconding from their husbands and taking

refuge in the Colony; and delay is sometimes experienced in dealing with these matters.

The question of the liability of Basutoland natives to pay poll-tax in the Orange River Colony, has also led to some correspondence, the usual course pursued being the somewhat cumbersome one of making the native pay poll-tax at the local magistracy in the Orange River Colony after which he has to apply through the Basutoland Government for the refund of the amount from the Government at Bloemfontein.

Liquor smuggling is still carried on to a considerable extent, and there have been several recent convictions for this offence.

The Orange River Colony officials have always rendered every assistance in their power in dealing with any matters which it has been necessary to refer to them.

EDUCATION.

A report on the Government-aided schools in this district was submitted in November, 1906. It is a discouraging feature of the native problem, that the better-educated natives, who owe their education in a great measure to the money granted by Government for that purpose, are among the most bitter opponents of the Government in this territory. In view of what is happening in India at the present time, this circumstance is worthy of attention.

REVENUE.

	£	s.	d.
Hut tax	10,385	0	0
Licences	326	0	0
Fines	226	12	9
Customs	42	10	3
Fees	12	19	2
Miscellaneous	358	0	6
	<u>£11,351</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>8</u>

Number of huts upon which tax was paid, 10,159. Amount of arrear tax paid was £226.

PRICES OF STOCK AND PRODUCE.

Wheat, per bag	15s.
Mealies	7s. 6d.
Kaffir corn	8s.
Barley	10s.
Oats	8s.
Oat hay, per 100 bundles	20s. to 25s.
Slaughter oxen	£9.
Cows	£6.

Basuto ponies	...	...	...	...	£18.
Sheep (breeding)	...	...	...	...	15s.
„ (slaughter)	...	...	...	...	20s.
Goats	...	...	...	...	10s.
Wool, per lb.	...	...	...	...	6d.
Mohair „	...	...	...	...	10d.
Hides „	...	...	...	...	6d.
Sheepskins, per lb.	...	...	...	...	5d.

PASSES ISSUED.

Visiting Orange River Colony	...	...	...	...	7,574
„ Cape Colony	...	...	...	...	676
Domestic service, Orange River Colony	...	...	...	...	4,140
„ „ Cape Colony	...	...	...	...	464
Kimberley mines	...	...	...	...	418
Jagersfontein „	...	...	...	...	842
Koffyfontein „	...	...	...	...	161
Johannesburg „	...	...	...	...	1,086
Railway construction	...	...	...	...	125
Indwe coal	...	...	...	...	2
Agricultural labour	...	...	...	...	103
Miscellaneous work	...	...	...	...	3,367
Viljoen's Drift coal	...	...	...	...	3
Total	...	...	...	...	<u>18,991</u>

POLICE STRENGTH.

Inspector	...	...	...	...	1
Native officer	...	...	...	...	1
„ constables	...	...	...	...	2
„ sergeant	...	...	...	...	1
„ corporal	...	...	...	...	1
„ privates	...	...	...	...	37

Patrols.

Number of patrols	...	...	...	...	590
„ men employed	...	...	...	...	420
„ miles patrolled	...	...	...	...	15,784
„ arrests for contravening liquor regulations	...	...	...	...	13
„ arrests for contravening pass regulations	...	...	...	...	7
„ arrests for other offences	...	...	...	...	23

LICENCES ISSUED.

General traders'	25
Hawkers' (paid)	49
„ (free)	64
Labour licences	54

CIVIL CASES tried	2
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CRIMINAL CASES.

Culpable homicide	1
Concealment of birth	3
Forgery	2
Theft	9
Contravening liquor regulations	8
Miscellaneous crimes	21

LOST STOCK.

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered in Basuto-land.	Recovered in Orange River Colony.	Not recovered.
Horses ...	35	—	35	—	21	14
Cattle ...	15	1	14	1	8	5
Sheep ...	255	—	255	—	21	232

Number of sheep dipped in the three Government dips 14,128.

GAOL RETURN.

Number of prisoners received into gaol... ..	79
„ „ discharged unconvicted	12
„ „ convicted and sentenced	67
„ „ in gaol on 30th June, 1907	17

No floggings were inflicted during the year.

S. BARRETT,
Assistant Commissioner.

ANNUAL REPORT—MOHALES HOEK DISTRICT, 1906-7.

During the past twelve months the principal event of interest was the visit of His Excellency the High Commissioner, who made a short stay here last April on his way to the Maluti for a shooting trip. A Pitso was held before Lord Selborne, who was accompanied by the Resident Commissioner. This was well attended, and several affairs of interest to the nation generally were discussed. His Excellency was rather unfortunate in the weather, which was not particularly propitious for mountain travelling.

Politically there have been very few occurrences of any moment in the district.

A few slight disturbances have taken place, but these were of a trivial character.

The tendency of the Baphuti to acknowledge Griffith's supremacy, to which I alluded in my last year's report, has received no check, and several more of the recalcitrant headmen have now been liberated for some months and have, so far as I am aware, given no further trouble.

In the Bataung ward Mokhele, who is now of advanced age, has, with the approval of the Paramount Chief, nominated his grandson Mokhelinyane as his heir. Mokhelinyane has already shown signs of a disposition to act wisely and sensibly, and I regard the prospect of his future chieftainship without apprehension.

Among the Bamohale, Goliath, Malebanye's son, at the beginning of the year appeared likely to upset the balance of affairs, but has, I trust, been influenced by his elders to settle down, and with additional experience should prove more useful and less disturbing.

The revenue shows an increase of over £900, which is to a great extent attributable to the hut tax being now levied on widows and bachelors.

A new gaol has been built at this station, and the much needed scheme for a new water supply is being proceeded with, and will soon be in working order.

Much damage was done to the roads owing to the heavy rainfall, but thanks to the increased sum allotted for road maintenance, they are fairly passable, and if a substantial addition can be made to the existing plant, the results next year should be of a more satisfactory and permanent nature.

A bridge over the Cornet Spruit would be a great boon. Great inconvenience and loss were experienced both by the European and native population owing to this river having been impassable during a great part of the summer and autumn.

The Agricultural Show suffered owing to this, as the Bataung, who have in the past taken a comparatively keen interest in it, were debarred by the river from exhibiting their stock or produce.

I regret that very few foals from the Government stallion have been reported, and hope that next season's results may be more satisfactory.

The wheat crop was a failure owing to the prolonged drought experienced in the early part of the year. This was followed by a remarkably wet summer and autumn, and the mealie and kaffir corn crops would have been immense had it not been for the late rains which rendered reaping a matter of great difficulty. Locusts also did some damage, although we were more fortunate than the neighbouring districts.

I fear, however, that next season there will be a great number of voetgangers to contend with, as reports have been brought in of quantities of locusts laying in the district. This is said to be preventing the natives from sowing wheat to any extent. This is greatly to be regretted, as a good wheat season would tend to relieve the commercial depression which exists, and on which the improvement in mealie and kaffir corn crops has little or no effect.

The police of this detachment continue to be efficient, and have made several captures of brandy runners, but owing to the facilities enjoyed by native voters in the Cape Colony, and the lower class of Dutch in the Orange River Colony for obtaining liquor, and to the difficulties they meet with in Basutoland, where almost every man acts as a scout for the smugglers, the task of putting anything like a check on this traffic is well-nigh a hopeless one.

The number of lost stock reported from neighbouring territories has been inconsiderable, and serious crime has not been very prevalent in the district.

The border fence between the Orange River Colony and Basutoland has been completed, but cannot be considered a thoroughly effective obstacle to small stock straying over the border on account of the numerous stretches of drystone wall which have been allowed to remain.

A few headmen have made efforts towards eradicating burr-weed in their wards, but only half-heartedly, and it is to be hoped that the Government rams, which have been issued to those who show interest in this work, may prove a more effectual inducement in the future.

The number of passes issued for work at the mines is about the same as last year, and would probably have shown an increase had it not been that De Beers Company, which is the most popular with natives in this district, stopped recruiting during the past few months.

I append the usual annual returns :—

REVENUE.				£	s.	d.
Hut-tax	...	...	...	11,040	0	0
Licences	...	...	...	203	10	0
Fines	...	...	...	189	6	6
Fees of court	...	...	...	8	6	0
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	105	1	10
Customs	...	...	...	70	6	10
Total	...	...	...	£11,616	11	2

Number of huts on which tax was paid, 10,970.
Amount of arrear tax paid was £109.

LICENCES.			
General traders' licences	...	...	18
Hawkers' (paid)	...	...	16
„ (free)	...	...	41
Labour agents	...	...	13

PASSES.			
Johannesburg mines	...	...	294
Kimberley	„	...	641
Jagersfontein	„	...	404
Indwe	„	...	3
Orange River Colony mines	...	...	519
Visiting Cape Colony	...	...	1,009
„ Orange River Colony	...	...	1,102
Farm and domestic work	...	...	2,151
Miscellaneous	...	...	2,063
Total	...	...	8,187

POLICE.			
Sub-inspector	...	...	1
European constable	...	...	1
Native officer	...	...	1
„ sergeant	...	...	1
„ corporal	...	...	1
„ lance-corporals	...	...	2
„ privates	...	...	22
„ Special police	...	...	4
Total	...	...	33

Patrols.

Number of patrols	145
„ men employed	253
„ miles patrolled	10,374
„ arrests for contravening pass laws.	30
„ arrests for contravening liquor laws.	15
„ arrests for other offences.	14

Civil and Criminal Cases.

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

Culpable homicide	1
Concealment of birth	1
Assault with intent	1
Theft	9
Liquor running... ..	10
Contravening pass regulations ...	30
Attempting to obtain passes fraudulently.	12
Other minor offences	8
Civil actions	1

No floggings were inflicted.

Gaol Return.

Number of prisoners received into gaol	68
„ „ „ sentenced	57
„ „ „ discharged unconvicted ...	5
„ „ „ in gaol on 30th June, 1907	21

LOST STOCK.

Reported.	Description.	Traced into Basutoland.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
11	Horses... ..	2	9	4	7
88	Sheep	—	88	13	75

PRICES OF STOCK AND PRODUCE.

Horses	£15 to £25
Cattle	£6 to £11
Sheep	10s. to £1
Mealies (per bag)	6s. to 12s.
Kaffir corn „	10s. to 15s.
Wheat „	No local supply.

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

Mohales Hoek,
30th June, 1907.

J. W. ROWKER,
Assistant Commissioner.

ANNUAL REPORT—QUTHING DISTRICT, 1906-7

In Mr. Mansel's Annual Report of last year on the district, he intimated that, owing to the fact that a number of important land settlements made here in 1904 by the late Paramount Chief Lerothodi were being disregarded by the different parties, considerable confusion existed in the district. In September last the Resident Commissioner and three influential representatives of the Paramount Chief came here to enquire into these and other matters of discord which had subsequently cropped up. Pitsos lasting over ten days were held, and most satisfactory settlements arrived at. The terms of these settlements are being strictly enforced, and it may safely be said that, in a political sense, the district is in a tranquil state.

In consequence of the heavy rainfall of 43·92 inches during the year under review, considerable damage has been done to all district roads; but, with an increased grant from Government funds, repairs of a permanent nature are now being undertaken.

The wheat crop this year, though not an entire success, has shown an improvement on the harvesting results of a few previous seasons. Oats, maize, and Kaffir corn have all been successfully grown, and good crops have recently been reaped.

At the Agricultural Show held here in May last, the exhibits of animals and produce were of good class and quality; the exhibits, however, were not numerous as the weather on the occasion was wet and very cold.

A few dense swarms of locusts visited the district in May and June—fortunately too late to do any serious damage. It is expected, however, that the egg deposits will cause numerous "vootgangers" to be hatched out in the early spring, and the expense of a locust campaign may be entailed.

Fourteen Government rams of a suitable breed have been received from Maseru for issue to enterprising sheep farmers in the district. Local chiefs have been advised that the issue will only be made to those who have shown successful efforts in assisting to destroy burrweed.

The Arab stud horse "Viceroy" standing at this station, appears to be much appreciated by the Quthing natives, and during the season ended March, 1907, 35 mares were served.

Certain additional public works are shortly to be undertaken in this camp, notably the erection of a new gaol. With improved accommodation for prisoners, it is hoped to check the spread of enteric fever, which has recently occurred here to a considerable degree—due, possibly, to the crowded and unhealthy state in which convicts have previously been housed.

The following are the usual Annual Returns:—

Patrols.

Number of patrols	...	...	...	...	165
„ men employed	...	...	...	...	240
„ miles travelled	...	...	...	...	5,321
„ arrests for contravening pass regulations	...	...	...	...	3
„ arrests for contravening liquor regulations	...	...	...	...	8
„ arrests for other offences	...	...	...	...	13

Gaol Return.

Number of prisoners received into gaol	...	...	...	...	50
„ „ convicted and sentenced	...	...	...	...	47
„ „ discharged unconvicted	...	...	...	...	3
„ „ in gaol on 30th June, 1907	...	...	...	...	11

Cases Tried.

Theft	...	...	...	...	...	3
Contravening Pass regulations	...	...	...	...	...	15
Contravening trading regulations	...	...	...	...	...	14
Resisting arrest	...	...	...	...	...	7
Trespass	...	...	...	...	...	1
Contravening Masters and Servants Act	...	...	...	...	...	3
Forgery	...	...	...	...	...	1
Contempt of Court	...	...	...	...	...	1

No floggings were inflicted during the year.

PRICES OF STOCK AND PRODUCE.

Horses	...	...	...	£10 to £15.
Oxen	...	...	...	£7 to £8.
Cows	...	...	...	£5 to £6.
Sheep	...	hamels	22s. 6d.,	ewes 12s. to 15s.
Goats (Boer)	...	...	...	12s. to 15s.
Wool	...	...	...	6d. per lb.
Mohair	...	...	...	10d. „
Wheat	...	...	...	12s. per bag.
Mealies	...	...	...	8s. „
Kaffir corn	...	...	...	10s. „

F. JENNER,

Acting Assistant Commissioner.

Quthing, Basutoland,
30th June, 1907.

ANNUAL REPORT—QACHA'S NEK DISTRICT,
1906-7.

The dispute mentioned in my last report between chiefs Makhala and Ntaote nearly reached a climax some months ago as Chief Jonathan Molapo of Leribe is claiming the place where Ntaote resides. I am afraid no settlement can be made at present.

Owing to the prevalence of East Coast fever in Natal it was considered necessary to protect the country, and native guards were engaged to watch the principal passes. So far this work has been effectually performed, and no attempts have been made to smuggle cattle into the district. Some of the police have been constantly employed on the same duty.

Great hardship has been caused in this district by the Cape Proclamation, No. 74, dated 6th February, 1907, prohibiting the introduction of cattle into East Griqualand unless used solely for transport purposes, immediate slaughter, or those that have recently been inoculated against lung-sickness. As the disease does not exist in the country it is absurd to inoculate, and the interchange of cattle amongst natives with the neighbouring territory is thereby prevented.

Locusts made their appearance in Sekake's ward in May and June; large numbers died from the severe weather and very little damage was done.

The postal service between this station and Quthing was discontinued as delays were constantly taking place.

Within the last few months an agreement has been made with a medical practitioner residing near the border in Matatiolo district to visit this camp twice a month and whenever urgently needed.

A rough wagon road has been constructed by the firm who opened a store at Sehapa's village from Mpite's, a distance of about 15 miles through rather bad country. I hope in time to come it will be extended by Government along the Orange River to Quthing so as to connect this district with other parts of Basutoland. The projected Ongeluk's Nek route, abandoned years ago, would undoubtedly be the best if all the difficulties could be surmounted.

A few Rambouillet rams were purchased and distributed amongst chiefs and people; a repetition of this on a larger scale would greatly increase the export of wool in a few years.

Crops, particularly wheat, have done remarkably well in the northern wards, but here they have been almost a failure.

I attach the usual annual returns.

REVENUE.

	£	s.	d.
Hut tax	3,996	0	0
Licences	217	0	0
Fines	87	5	0
Fees	2	0	0
Miscellaneous	6	16	0
Customs	17	16	0
Total ...	£4,326	17	2

Number of huts on which tax was paid, 3,937.
Amount of arrear tax paid was £113.

LICENCES.

General traders'	5
Paid hawkers'	172

PASSES.

Visiting in the Orange River Colony	151
" " Cape Colony	3,267
" " Natal	216
Kimberley mines	55
Johannesburg mines	141
Indwe coal mines	13
Railway construction	10
Agricultural work	888
Miscellaneous work	4,596
	<u>9,337</u>

DEPOSIT AND REMITTANCE AGENCY.

Remittances received through the Deposit and Remittance Agency, Johannesburg.—Nil.

POLICE STATE.

Sub-Inspector	1
Native sergeant	1
" corporal	1
" privates	21

Patrols.

Number of patrols	178
" men employed	226
" miles patrolled	7,022

Number of Arrests.

Contravening pass laws	6
" liquor regulations	5
" other regulations	8

Cases Tried.

Theft	13
Pass regulations	12
Culpable homicide	2
Section 7 liquor regulations	5
Customs regulations	3
Trading do.	2
Other offences	20
Civil cases	1

Gaol Return.

Number of prisoners received into gaol	52
" " sentenced	46
" " discharged unconvicted	4
" " in gaol on 30th June, 1907	8

No floggings were inflicted.

RETURN OF LOST STOCK.

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Re-covered.	Not recovered.
Horses	5	5	—	5	—
Sheep	36	—	36	—	36

PRICES OF STOCK AND PRODUCE.

Cattle	£5 to £14.
Horses	£10 to £25 (scarce).
Sheep	10s. to 20s.
Goats	10s. to 20s.
Wheat	15s. per bag.
Mealies	8s. to 10s. per bag.
Kaffir corn	10s. per bag.
Wool	5d. to 6½d. per lb.
Mohair	10d. to 11d. "

E. D'U. BLYTH,

Assistant Commissioner.

Qacha's Nek,
30th June, 1907.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL MEDICAL OFFICER, 1906-1907.

During the year under review the people have shown an increasing inclination to utilise the Government hospitals and dispensaries. There is an increase over last year of 2,500 first attendances and 87 in-patients.

There were no epidemics of any importance during the year, which was an unusually healthy one. This makes the increased attendances the more satisfactory.

I am glad to be able to report that with the exception of a small outbreak at a village in the Quthing district the territory has been quite free from small-pox.

Table showing attendances during the year.

District.	First attendances.	Subsequent attendances.	In-patients.	Vaccinations.
Leribe	4,810	760	146	58
Maseru	8,164	1,112	441	—
Mafeteng	6,463	1,186	80	2,504
Mohales Hoek	2,190	326	70	4,541
Total	21,627	3,384	737	7,103

References to an increase of leprosy are made in two Medical Officers' Reports. Efforts to ascertain the real extent to which the disease prevails have been made. On three occasions every leper who could be traced was examined and the case recorded. The first leprosy investigation was viewed with suspicion by the natives and doubtless many cases were concealed. The second count made in 1902 was more successful, and I think most of the cases were under observation. In 1906 a third investigation was made and a report thereon is in course of preparation. The numbers show an increase over those observed in 1900, but the increase, after making allowance for cases which probably existed but were not observed on that occasion, is not sufficient to lead one to regard the disease as a serious menace. The natives now fully realise its contagious nature and voluntarily segregate their lepers. The experiment of forming a leper colony, which is being tried by the Chief Jonathan in the Leribe district, deserves encouragement. This method of dealing with leprosy was advocated by the writer in 1894, but the difficulty of finding sufficient land has always been a difficulty, and will remain so until the initiative is taken by the Chiefs. It must not be forgotten that unless isolation of a leper colony is strictly enforced the experiment will fail. If, however, it proves successful it may be possible in future to induce other leading Chiefs to follow

Jonathan's example, and to place the leper colonies under the supervision of the Medical Authorities.

Hospital Accommodation.—This is still a pressing question. In my last annual report I drew attention to the matter and I would again earnestly represent the desirability of enlarging the Maseru hospital. It is unnecessary to repeat the facts adduced in my last report as the same conditions still obtain, except that the need is more urgent.

Additions to the Staff.—In 1906 I pointed out that we were running the medical work on too small a margin. The experience of the past year has served to confirm this view. A whole-time Assistant Medical Officer should be appointed on the lines sketched in my last annual report, and as the present nurses' quarters would be required for the Resident Medical Officer, it would be necessary to provide the increased hospital accommodation immediately.

Water supply.—At most stations I gather from reports this is now in a satisfactory state. At Maseru, however, it is still inadequate. The average daily amount available is about 10,000 gallons, while the population of the camp comprises approximately 1,500 natives and 250 Europeans. There are also two public drinking troughs for horses and cattle, two industrial schools, the hospital, gaol, and veterinary department to be supplied. It will, therefore, be seen at a glance how inadequate the present supply is.

Sanitation and public health.—In November, 1906, I represented this Government at the first meeting of the principal health officers of the various South African Colonies and Protectorates. The report of this conference is already in the hands of the Government. Under existing conditions in Basutoland, it is not possible to give effect to the recommendations which were unanimously adopted by the conference. I consider, therefore, that it is worthy of consideration as to whether the time has not now arrived when the Basutoland Administration should have a public health department. This report is not the place to discuss details of such a scheme, but I am convinced that the well-being of the people would be furthered by its adoption. Pending the organisation of a public health department, I agree with the medical officer, Mohales Hoek, in thinking that something might be done to make the Government reserves an object lesson in sanitary efficiency. I have lectured for the last two years on public health and sanitation to the native teachers at their vacation course. Unless the principles taught in these lectures are exemplified in practice, and the practice enforced on the Government reserves, we cannot look for much improvement in the habits of the people, or the condition of their own villages.

EDW. C. LONG,

Principal Medical Officer.

LERIBE MEDICAL REPORT, 1906-7.

The following table shows the attendances at the Dispensary, and the number of hospital patients during the year ending 30th June, 1907 :—

Out-patients—First attendances	...	4,816
" Subsequent attendances	...	760
In-patients	... ..	146
		5,716
		5,716

The figures indicate a considerable increase over those of last year, and it is gratifying to note that the Basuto are appreciating more and more every year the work of the Dispensary and Hospital.

The year has been an average one, and there is not much of importance to record. There was a severe epidemic of measles during the summer months, and, at the time of writing, whooping cough is prevalent. The year has been the wettest on record, 48·34 inches having fallen. Summer diarrhoea was more severe than usual, especially during the months of January and February.

There are 107 persons on the Leper Register. Chief Jonathan has started a small agricultural colony for a few of these unfortunate people, and it is hoped before long that he will be able to set aside sufficient ground to support all the lepers in the district. When this is done it will be possible to grapple with the disease, and to relieve the sufferings of those who are afflicted.

The new Hospital and Dispensary are nearing completion, and it is hoped that work will be begun in them on 1st November.

The health of the police detachments and the prisoners has been good during the year.

Fifty eight vaccinations were performed. Emigrants are not vaccinated now when leaving the country.

N. M. MACFARLANE,
Medical Officer.

**ANNUAL MEDICAL REPORT—MAFETENG
DISTRICT, 1906-7.**

During the past year 7,649 patients were treated at the dispensary. Of these 6,463 attended for the first time, showing an increase of 936, and the subsequent attendances were 102 in excess of last year. There has been no very serious outbreak of any infectious disease in the district, save during the last three months. Whooping cough has been rather prevalent, and during the summer many cases of gastro-enteritis were seen. In the months of January and February there were six cases of enteric fever in the camp, three Europeans and 13 natives being attacked. The former all recovered, while two of the latter succumbed, and with this exception the health of the camp has been very good. One white infant died of gastro-enteritis, and this was the only case of death amongst Europeans.

80 patients were operated on in the hospital, and 34 were medically treated. Of the latter three died, the cause of death being enteric fever, dysentery, and gastro-enteritis.

There was an inspection of lepers during the months of October and November, and these cases show a large increase.

The gaol has a good health record, no case of serious illness having occurred, and the building is kept clean and sanitary.

The number of vaccinations at the dispensary has been 4,541.

With an attendance of 7,649 patients and an increase of 1,038 on last year, I should like to call your attention to the advisability and necessity of a small hospital with an efficient nursing staff.

H. K. F. NATTLE,
Medical Officer.

**MEDICAL OFFICER'S ANNUAL REPORT,
MOHALES HOEK, 1906-7.**

The attendances under different headings as compared with those of the previous year are shown in the following table:—

Attendances.	1905-6.	1906-7.	Increase.	Decrease.
Out-patients—				
(a) First attendances	2,109	2,190	81	—
(b) Subsequent attendances	339	326	—	13
In-patients	46	70	24	—
Paid vaccinations ...	2,405	2,504	99	—
Totals	4,899	5,090	204	13

The treatment of a larger number of in-patients was possible on account of a marquee being placed at my disposal during the past year.

There were 60 surgical and 10 medical cases admitted, the latter being all serious cases.

Of the surgical cases 47 were cured, two improved, three not improved, one refused operative treatment, and seven remain under treatment.

Of the medical cases five were cured, one improved, one not improved, two died, and one still remains under treatment.

Chloroform was administered 45 times without any mishap.

The necessity for sufficient and proper hospital accommodation with its accompaniments is the chief want of this station, and of South Basutoland.

The question has already been referred to in my annual reports of 1904-5 and 1905-6, and I submitted a further memorandum to the Resident Commissioner in April of this year, so will not refer further to the matter here.

The health of the district has been undisturbed by any severe outbreak of disease during the past year with the exception of small isolated occurrences of enteric fever which took place soon after the first spring rains fell.

The cases were mostly mild, however, and in this camp children only were attacked.

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

The gaol accommodation is now ample, and sanitary arrangements all that can be desired.

The new water supply will soon be completed, and promises to be sufficient for our needs for some time to come.

As the population increases in our camps the question of the disposal of night soil and rubbish must receive attention if we are to be saved from some fearful epidemic at some future time. It is a difficult question to deal with as met with in a native community, but a beginning could be made amongst the purely Government employees of such. As an example to the village, I should like to see the Government lay out a central police camp, with a uniform type of cottage and small garden attached to each, with the necessary sanitary arrangements for each family. Being done at Government expense, such a scheme could be controlled, and inspections duly made, and penalties exacted for non-compliance with regulations laid down. In time the more educated natives in the camps would follow suit, and later compulsory sanitary regulations could be extended to the whole camp.

W. R. NATTLE,
Medical Officer.

**ANNUAL REPORT—GOVERNMENT INDUSTRIAL
SCHOOL, MASERU, FOR THE YEAR ENDED
30TH JUNE, 1907.**

During the past year considerable progress has been made with the school buildings. The native teachers' cottages have been completed, and are now occupied by the two native teachers on the staff. The main school building has been finished, and has been in occupation since January. The completion of this building has made a great deal of difference in the working of the school. The "Selborne Hall"—the school room—is used daily for the night school, and enables the teacher to do his work in comfort. The dormitories in the main school building are large, light, and well ventilated, and will be of the greatest benefit in keeping the pupils in good health. In accordance with the instructions of the Principal Medical Officer, the floors of the dormitories are flagged. This is a great improvement to a boarded or earth floor, as the room can be flushed out with water and disinfectant every week, and thus kept very clean. The waggon makers' shop has been finished and is now in use. The blacksmiths' shop is nearly completed, and will be in use in August next.

In January a special grant was authorised by His Excellency the High Commissioner for the erection of an engineers' shop, and the purchase of an engine and plant to be run by steam. The shop has been built, and is now in use. We have purchased and erected a 7 b.h.p. boiler and high-speed vertical engine, a screw-cutting lathe, and an Inkoos mill. The above are all in working order, and the mill is proving of great use to the natives in the district. The pupils have erected the whole of this plant under the direction of the instructor in this department.

We have now, in the Engineers' department, oil and steam engines; and pupils who pass through their course in this department should have no difficulty in obtaining lucrative work in the adjoining territories. To complete the school buildings as allowed for in the first estimate and plan, we have to erect two cottages for European teachers and the main store. These will be put in hand and finished in the coming year.

The health of the pupils throughout the year has been good. I feel sure that, with the excellent dormitories we have, we shall be able to avoid chest complaints, which natives are so liable to contract at schools.

At the end of June, 1906, we had on the roll 29 pupils. This number continued till December, 1906. In January, 1907, new pupils were accepted, and we have now on the books 56 pupils, distributed as follows:—

Carpenters...	...	...	...	...	12
Blacksmiths	...	...	...	...	10
Engineers ...	...	...	...	...	8
Waggon Makers	...	...	...	...	9
Builders ...	...	...	...	...	17

In January, 1908, I propose to admit more pupils to bring the number up to 80, which will be as many as we have accommodation for, and as many as we shall be able to find work for.

During the year the pupils have been employed on various works for the school, for the Government, and for the European and native inhabitants of Maseru.

The value of work done in each department during the year is:—

	£	s.	d.
Building Department	1,503	19	5
Blacksmiths' Department	350	14	6
Carpenters' Department	1,974	14	0
Waggon Makers' Department	388	17	10
Engineers' Department	687	8	8
Total	£4,605	14	5

The school buildings and the carpenters' shop were again used, during the first three weeks in January, for the native teachers' vacation course; and the school instructor in carpentry conducted the classes in woodwork.

There has been one change in our staff. Mr. Mann, the instructor in smiths' work, left at the end of 1906 to proceed to England, and his place has been filled by Mr. W. Penfold. The department under his care is making satisfactory progress.

The method of teaching the pupils is very much the same as that given to apprentices in English workshops. The pupils are not employed in making useless fancy articles, but in making useful everyday things, as doors and windows, &c., and they get a great deal of practical experience in the contract work which we undertake. During the first year it meant a great waste, in many cases, of good materials, but we find that it is quite the best in the long run, for the boys who have passed through their first year are getting most useful and can be left to themselves to complete many small jobs.

The conduct of the pupils during the past year has been good.

I have to thank the staff, European and Native, for the loyal support they have given me, and for the tact they have exercised in maintaining discipline. The average age of the pupils is 20, and it requires tact and discretion on the part of the teachers to maintain discipline among pupils of this age, who have never been under any restraint or discipline before coming to the school.

NELSON W. FOGARTY,
Director of the Government Industrial School,
Maseru,
30th June, 1907.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE GOVERNMENT
VETERINARY OFFICER, 1906-7.

Maseru,

30th August, 1907.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit to you, herewith, my Third Annual Report, dealing with stockbreeding and stock-diseases, subjects which during the past year have engaged my attention.

A.—GENERAL REMARKS.

(1) The *rainfall* has throughout the country been considerably above the usual average, and a natural consequence of the increased moisture in soil and air was a very satisfactory appearance of the veld nearly all the year round. This change, however, cannot be said to have been an unmixed blessing for, as invariably the case, it was quickly followed by a higher rate of morbidity and mortality from such diseases which are due to macro- or micro-organisms capable, under such conditions, of showing more rapid propagation and thus greater activity for evil. Foretold should be forewarned, and stockbreeders would do well to keep this fact in mind, and to acquaint themselves beforehand with the methods of battling against these plagues.

(2) *Locusts*, both voetgangers and fliers, have, unfortunately, not been conspicuous by their absence, especially along our western border. It is to me a matter for congratulation that concerted action is contemplated by the South African States, including Basutoland, against this curse, but in a country like the latter, which has an abundance of live-stock, a happy-go-lucky native population, and limited grazing areas, often very thickly covered with luxurious grass, particular care must be taken to prevent injury or even loss of stock.

The occurrence at Kolo in the district of Mafeteng, where several big oxen and cows succumbed to acute inflammation of the bowels, combined with more or less complete paralysis of the locomotive apparatus, proves that proper instruction and care should by no means be "negligible quantities" during spraying operations.

(3) My *veterinary lectures* for the teachers present at the vacation course held during January, were continued at the request of the Director of the Industrial School, Maseru. I have naturally endeavoured to select matter of general interest to the public and of importance to the country. The subjects discussed in the past are "The necessity and value of Agricultural Schools," "Horse-breeding in South Africa and Basutoland in particular," "Diseased meat and its dangers to man," "The castration of stallions and the caponising of cocks." In addition

I handed to each teacher two pamphlets, on scab and on quarter-evil, for careful perusal, hoping in this way to spread light on these diseases.

(4) The *exportation of live-stock*, viz., sheep, slaughter oxen, and especially horses, has not been considerable. The heavy losses from horse-sickness in the other Colonies have induced many speculators to barter horses for cattle, a business to which Basuto are not in the least averse. But this trading in domestic animals, which is of great economic value to the country, as it has within its borders ever-increasing numbers of surplus live-stock, is more or less endangered on account of the restrictions which the adjoining States have now begun to place upon the removal of farm-stock from Basutoland. The tendency, I have no doubt, will be to make such regulations more severe and to extend them to various classes of animals—a system which our native population may perhaps think irksome and unnecessary, but which is dictated by a spirit of self-protection thoroughly justifiable under the circumstances.

(5) An Inter-Colonial *Veterinary Conference* was held in Bloemfontein during March, which I attended as the delegate from Basutoland. Important resolutions were submitted and discussed, dealing chiefly with Inter-state movements of horses, cattle, sheep, and dogs, and measures preventing the spreading of glanders, tuberculosis, contagious pleuro-pneumonia, scab, and rabies.

I understand that some months previously, in November, another colonial conference had been held, having as its object the question of Veterinary Research Laboratories—establishments which are of the very greatest importance to the South African flockmaster. It is, for this reason, much to be regretted that the deputy from Basutoland was a medical and not a veterinary officer, who would have approached the matter with the necessary professional experience and sense of responsibility.

B.—SPECIAL REMARKS.

(a) *Contagious and Infectious Diseases.*

(1.) It is a matter for sincere congratulation that Basutoland during the past year has continued to enjoy complete freedom from *pleuro-pneumonia* and from *East Coast fever*, diseases which at this moment still greatly disturb the farmers' minds and the farming operations in some of the neighbouring colonies, notably Cape Colony and Natal. The first-named of these scourges, having, in years not far remote, been rampant in Basutoland, inflicting severe losses, is by no means unknown to our native population. It is to be hoped that the Administration will succeed in preventing inroads of this plague across our borders, although this constitutes a task that is by no means easy, owing to the insidious nature of the disease, which is due to an often

very protracted period of incubation and a not infrequently somewhat latent course run by the malady. A proclamation, regulating the introduction of cattle from the colony of the Cape of Good Hope, has been drafted by me and will, I think, shortly be promulgated.

East coast fever, the symptoms and method of eradication of which I had an opportunity of studying during a flying visit to Natal in September last, is still to us a matter of anxiety and a source of danger, although it cannot be gainsaid that the double-fenced and strongly guarded line of railway running from Harrismith to Pietermaritzburg, is greatly to our advantage and deserves even more trust as a line of defence than our arrangements along the Natal-Basutoland border. What this pest could or could not achieve if introduced amongst our native stock I do not intend now discussing. Suffice it to state that, in Basutoland, we have numbers of ticks, plentiful in summer and somewhat rare during the cold season, which are known to be able to spread East Coast fever after they have once become infected with the piroplasma. It is, therefore, prudent to keep a watchful eye and to be up and doing instead of trusting in a purely imaginary immunity, whilst certain specific conditions prevailing in this territory would only produce in the long run more or less unimportant modification in the behaviour of an outbreak.

(2) *Anthrax* and *quarter-evil* have been very prevalent, practically all over Basutoland, during the past year. Statistics, which would form interesting as well as important reading, continue, unfortunately, to be non-existing, but it would not be difficult to prove, by means of an inquiry, that the losses amongst cattle have been very considerable. Indeed the virulence of the infection was frequently so remarkable that in many quarter-evil areas not only young calves and old cows, a very unusual experience in ordinary years, succumbed to the malady, but that even sheep and goats were not spared. Furthermore it may be worth recording that these outbreaks extended over a long period and that even in mid-winter, in June and July, cases were brought to my notice.

All these observations are due to the fact that the increased rainfall was particularly favourable to a rapid propagation of the micro-organisms which cause these maladies, and it is not too much to look forward to a renewal of such outbreaks during the coming season. There is also no doubt that the unclean habit of the Basuto to use for home consumption any carcase lying in the veld greatly tends to spread these maladies, on account of the constant re-infection of grass and soil, which goes hand-in-hand with their contamination.

It is fortunate that these dangerous maladies can be checked, and in course of time even completely eradicated from any area, by means of vaccine inoculations, but unless Basutoland has a staff of district veterinary surgeons to perform these difficult

operations, I am afraid their discovery will not be of material benefit to this country. To hand anthrax vaccine to laymen would be a mistake, and although I have been obliged, in spite of strong remonstrance from the Pasteur Institute, to send out quarter-evil vaccine to native inoculators, I had, for technical and other reasons, to select an inferior, because simpler, method, as the most life-saving, and therefore most commendable, method could not be entrusted to the ordinary man.

(3) *Glanders*, I regret to state, is gradually but surely gaining ground in Basutoland, although, owing to the non-enforcement of compulsory notification of all outbreaks, it is impossible to say to what extent such is the case. Unfortunately there exists, at least to the eyes of laymen, a more or less distinct resemblance between this ruinous plague and other maladies, prevalent amongst equines, as for instance acute or chronic catarrhs of the nose or sinus of the head, ordinary lymphangitis, strangles, and infections of various descriptions, producing sores and abscesses here or there on the body. Thus horse-owners do, as a rule, not realise that their animal is suffering from glanders until the disease is in a very advanced stage and has spread to others hitherto healthy. In this manner the disease gets a firm hold and does a corresponding amount of damage, especially as opportunities to contract the disease are by no means rare in Basutoland, the natives being fond of gathering together in large parties for agricultural, religious, legal, and other purposes.

The forms which glanders assumes in this country are the same as elsewhere and chiefly depend upon the initial seat of infection. Bacilli rubbed into the skin produce first of all what people commonly call farcy, cutane glanders, whilst an infection of the nose is followed by nasal discharge combined with ulcerations of the mucous membrane and an indurative process of the lymphatic glands. When the lungs become chiefly diseased we have the pulmonary form, which like the others may be acute or chronic, with its characteristic pathological lesions. Then there is the typical, and atypical, reactor, a horse probably infected through the digestive apparatus and not showing any external symptoms. Such animals appear not infrequently quite fit and fat, nothing whatever suggesting that they have been in contact with virulent material. It is only by means of mallein (malleus = glanders)—that diagnostic which has, in a measure, reformed our knowledge of the disease and its eradication—that they can be detected, and then either be placed under surveillance or destroyed. I must add, that in order to combat glanders successfully, a certain line of policy, finding expression in hard and fast rules, should be followed, wherever the disease exists, and I would strongly advise that these be laid down as early as possible and embodied in a proclamation. Our present practice, to have everything glandered, reactors included, destroyed, and a certain amount of compensation given to owners, is highly commendable; but unless we have a

complete set of regulations, and enforce the same throughout Basutoland, making the contents known in every "stad," store, and station of the missions, I am certain that the advantages gained by means of this expenditure, will only be temporary and individual and thus unsatisfactory.

(4) *Scab* continues to be prevalent amongst all classes of farm stock, particularly horses and sheep. More or less dormant during the season when the grass is plentiful and the animals gaining in condition, the disease becomes very evident during the winter, and many calls for advice and help reach me.

To encourage curing sheep's scab, and to bring the best method known, viz., dipping, still more within the reach of the public, the Administration has gone on with the work of erecting dipping stations and placing these important establishments at the disposal of owners of small stock. I understand that all our tanks have been fairly well patronised by flock-masters, and I trust they will remain in favour, even when the natives find out that the relief thus attained at a small outlay is but a temporary one, making it necessary to repeat the washing year by year. To derive a more lasting benefit would require infinitely more trouble and a much larger expenditure; indeed an organisation complete in every way, and taking the work altogether out of the hands of the scab-breeding public. Dipping is useful, but when animals thus treated are at once returned to their parasite-infected homesteads or soon again brought into contact with infected flocks, there is no chance of permanent improvement.

More important, however, and at the same time less expensive than a scheme dealing with the complete eradication of scab in sheep and goats within this native territory, are, in my opinion, measures which have as their object the cleaning of all those animals which are taken across our border and removed to an adjoining State. It is unquestionably in our own interest to do everything in our power to keep the markets for our live-stock open, but such is only possible by presenting animals all of which are quite free from contagious diseases. The Cape Colony is already practically closed to our sheep, and I have not much hope that the Government of the Orange River Colony will long continue their policy of paying for ports of entry which, in the first place, benefit the Basuto.

(5) Of other diseases which are of particular interest I may mention *horse-sickness*, as this plague has, during the past autumn, carried off a few horses—an occurrence which indeed is very rare, and shows how virulent this scourge has been in the other less fortunate colonies.

(a) Contagious and infectious diseases amongst *poultry* are also by no means uncommon in Basutoland, and not infrequently they cause very considerable loss to keepers of these useful animals. Worthy of special notice were, during the past year, outbreaks of a most virulent hæmorrhagic enteritis, affecting chiefly

turkeys, which here are often seen in large troops. As this pest is exceedingly fatal, having a mortality of at least 90 per cent., a bacteriological investigation into the nature of the malady would be particularly interesting. Fowls are also susceptible, whilst ducks, geese, and pigeons seem to enjoy an immunity.

I have only mentioned the most important diseases observed by me, leaving alone those of minor interest, as for instance strangles and lymphangitis in horses, gall-sickness and actinomycesis in cattle, gylzickte and jag-sickness in sheep, or measles in pigs.

(b) *Ordinary Ailments in Stock.*

During the past year I have in a considerable number of cases (1,207) given advice, free of charge, either verbally or by letter with regard to maladies common amongst all animals, such as disorders or inflammations of various organs. I have also in many cases given surgical help, and amongst these are 73 castrations. As the country is teeming with useless stallions, I have rather encouraged the natives to bring their entires to me, wishing to demonstrate to them that this operation, when properly performed, involves practically no risk. Although professional work is best done by professional men, I believe that, in the absence of such, a not inconsiderable amount of good could be done by instructing a number of suitable men in each district in a reliable method of emasculating farmstock. The necessary instruments could be supplied to them, and they would of course be entitled to a remuneration payable by the owners of the animals thus operated upon.

(c) *Stock Department.*

(a) *Stallions.*—Unfortunately one of the Arabs imported from India some years back was struck by lightning in his stable at Butha Buthe and died, so that the number of sires was during the past year again reduced and now amounts to nine. The killed stallion was Sahid, an animal only 7-8 years old. Kohat, who, in exchange for the Arab Beecham, has been on loan to the Government of the Orange River Colony, returned from the stud farm Tweespruit, and is stationed at Mafeteng.

On the whole the health of these stallions has been satisfactory, only two of them, viz., Kohat and Farsang, undergoing a somewhat lengthy veterinary treatment. We possess, as far as I know, no detailed description of all our stallions, giving colour, marks, age, height, together with any other remarks of special interest, such as condition, defects, diseases, &c., and I would advise that such a list be made. Furthermore, their progeny should be booked and carefully examined, not, however, on an Agricultural Show day, which leaves not sufficient time for this important work. Judging and comparing the foals would allow the

drawing of conclusions as to the quality of our stallions, of which we know practically nothing. They served each from 15 to 53 mares, the average being 34, a number which cannot be considered encouraging. How many foals are year by year produced would be most interesting to know, but unfortunately the register is found wanting in this respect. As the services of our stallions are given free of any charge, it would be desirable to inquire into the reason why they are not more patronised.

(b) *Bulls*.—Basutoland being a grand cattle country, steps should, as soon as possible, be taken to improve our breeds, which are undersized, badly built, and poor milkers. A beginning should be made in our magistracies by placing at the disposal of cattle-owners suitable bulls, selected from well-known good milking strains. Frieslanders would be very acceptable and would, I am sure, prove to be more valuable and more beneficial to the general public than anything else yet imported for the improvement of our live stock.

(c) *Sheep-rams*.—The introduction of suitable rams for our flocks of sheep was continued during the past year, the majority (80) of animals being purchased at Glencairn in the Division of Cathcart. The general appearance of the veld on this fine estate, its altitude, and climate are identical with that of Basutoland, and its rams, which are of the Rambouillet type, are therefore easily acclimatised. Altogether the sum of £500 has been spent for this purpose, an amount which, I believe, was originally intended for the purchase of both sheep and Angora rams, but was hardly large enough to be divided in this manner. Thus sheep-breeding, which is not only an older and more widespread industry but is also better suited for our grassy and often frost and snow swept mountain slopes and valleys, received the full benefit of this sum, putting off, for a while, the improvement of our Angora flocks, the owners of which, I have no doubt, also deserve our sympathy and consideration.

(d) *Agricultural Shows* were again held in various districts, Maseru included. The necessity, especially in the latter place, of a sufficiently large and properly fitted up showground is very evident, if we are desirous of making such exhibitions what they ought to be, viz., valuable object lessons for the breeders of stock and the Government, instead of mere huge gatherings for man and beast. Once these facilities are granted, we could use more discretion in the selection of our judges of live stock, whose reports and advice would prove most valuable to the country.

(e) *Stud-farm*.—Basutoland being one of the finest stock-breeding and agricultural countries, the establishment of a Government farm, where our stud stock can be housed and shown and even made use of for breeding purposes during certain periods of the year, should form the object of serious consideration. Such a farm, which by no means requires a big area nor insuperably large funds, could with palpable advantage to this nation serve at the same time as a training school for our

more intelligent native youths. Whilst industrial schools are thought indispensable, and rightly so, our biggest and most important industries, in which the vast majority of our inhabitants are engaged daily, may well claim attention and fostering. Breeding live-stock and tilling the soil are pursuits which, without suitable teaching and practical instruction, cannot be expected to make headway.

CONCLUDING REMARKS.

My clerical duties have been somewhat heavy, having despatched during the past financial year 509 official notes, letters, reports, telegrams, or certificates.

It gave me genuine pleasure to peruse the circular issued during February by His Excellency the Secretary of State for the Colonies, Lord Elgin, and dealing with the appointment of veterinary surgeons with the special object "to put veterinary matters on a better footing." The remarks made therein exactly hit the proverbial nail on its head, and they are therefore worthy of the most careful study. It must in this respect be remembered that Basutoland has horses, cattle, sheep, and goats valued at probably four to five million pounds sterling, that contagious diseases are on the increase, that the adjoining States view this position with growing suspicion, and that we possess no veterinary department which could, throughout the land, take care of the live stock and assist the inhabitants. There is only one Government veterinary officer, a sort of professional adviser without much responsibility or authority, with undefined duties, without any assistance whatever, without most of the necessaries usually placed at the disposal of such officials, with insufficient travelling and subsistence allowance, and without legal claim to a pension for services rendered.

I have, &c.,

OTTO HENNING,
Government Veterinary Officer.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

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

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
523	Ashanti	1906
524	Jamaica	1905-1906
525	Uganda	"
526	St. Helena	1906
527	Ceylon	"
528	Bermuda	"
529	Gibraltar	"
530	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
531	Sierra Leone	"
532	Colonial Survey Committee	1906-1907
533	Weihaiwei	1906
534	Gold Coast	"
535	Malta	1906-1907
536	Gambia	1906
537	British Central Africa Protectorate	1906-1907
538	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
539	Leeward Islands	"
540	Straits Settlements	1906
541	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
542	Somaliland Protectorate	1906-1907
543	Bahamas... ..	"
544	Barbados	"
545	Trinidad and Tobago	"
546	Grenada	"
547	Mauritius	1906
548	Fiji	"
549	Jamaica	1906-1907
550	British Guiana	"
551	Northern Nigeria	"
552	British Honduras	1906
553	St. Lucia	1906-1907
554	Southern Nigeria	1906
555	St. Vincent	1906-1907

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
41	East Africa Protectorate	Report on Kenia Forests.
42	Ceylon	Mineral Survey, 1905-6.
43	Caicos Islands	Fibre.
44	East Africa Protectorate	Survey Department.
45	Do.	Geology.
46	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1904-5.
47	Do.	Do. 1905-6.
48	Nyasaland Protectorate	Mineral Survey.

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