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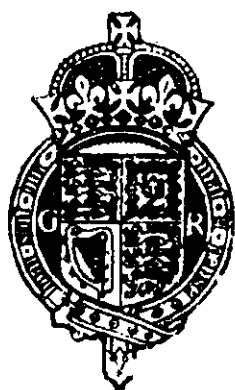
No. 1234.

BASUTOLAND.

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REPORT FOR 1925.

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**BASUTOLAND.****ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1925.****INTRODUCTORY NOTE.**

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

The altitude varies from 5,000 ft. to 11,000 ft. above sea level, and the climate is, on the whole, healthy. The Maluti Mountains in former years were used entirely as cattle posts, but owing to the increase in population the Basuto have found it necessary to migrate there and build villages and cultivate the land, so that to-day the more or less inaccessible area is gradually becoming as thickly populated as the low-lying country to the west. In favourable seasons the Territory produces wheat, mealies and kafir-corn, also horses, cattle and sheep; the export of wool for this year amounting to 11,721,411 pounds weight.

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

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refused to accept the terms, and, after a war lasting nearly a year, an agreement was arrived at by which the Act was repealed and certain fines inflicted on the tribe.

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

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

### General Events of the Year.

#### VISIT OF HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES.

His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales paid a visit to the Territory on the 28th, 29th, and 30th May. On arrival His Royal Highness was met by the Resident Commissioner, Officials, the Paramount Chief and Chiefs. On the 29th May a Pitso, attended by fifty to sixty thousand natives, was held and addresses of welcome delivered by the Resident Commissioner and Paramount Chief and replied to by His Royal Highness. A gold-mounted walking-stick was presented to the Paramount Chief by the Prince at the Pitso, and the other prominent Chiefs received silver-mounted sticks.

After the Pitso, His Royal Highness paid a visit to the Leper Settlement at Botsabelo and then proceeded to the Basutoland War Memorial where wreaths were laid and the members of the British Empire Service League and all other ex-service men were inspected.

Whilst at Maseru His Royal Highness took a prominent part in various entertainments and games which were arranged in honour of his visit to the Territory.

#### DROUGHT.

Although good rains fell during the early months of the year, the Territory suffered considerably from the drought which occurred during the spring and early summer, and it is feared that the result will be a shortfall in the maize harvest and other grain crops. This subject is further dealt with under the head "Agriculture."

#### DEATHS OF CHIEFS.

The following chiefs died during the year :—

Chief Mojela.  
Chieftainess Mamathe.

## NATIONAL COUNCIL.

The twentieth session of the National Council was held from the 31st August to the 17th September, 1925, and in his opening address Sir Edward Garraway expressed his regret that this would be the last occasion on which he would preside over the Council.

The following were the more important matters discussed :—

- (1) *Eradication of Noxious Weeds.*—This question was again very fully discussed and various suggestions made, one of which was that native inspectors should be appointed. Although attempts have been made by some of the Basuto to eradicate noxious weeds, there has been little improvement on the whole and the position still leaves much to be desired. An address was delivered by the Agricultural Officer on this subject.
- (2) *Reduction of Stock.*—In general speakers were opposed to any attempt at reduction of stock and urged the usual reasons, viz. : cattle were the recognized wealth of the Basuto and were necessary to provide dowry for marriages, and also for providing hospitality.
- (3) *Education Fund.*—In his opening address to the Council the Resident Commissioner explained fully the proposals which had been made for the formation of an Education Fund. Whilst the Council were unanimous in their appreciation of the benefits which would result from the formation of such a Fund, a proposal that the fund should be raised partly by a levy of 2s. per tax resulted in a very lively discussion. Various proposals for raising the money otherwise than by means of the levy of 2s. per tax were put forward, but none of them was sufficiently practicable to merit serious consideration. It was eventually agreed that the matter should again be referred to the High Commissioner and His Excellency informed of the opinion of the members in regard to the levy.
- (4) *Proportional Representation in the Council.*—A motion was brought forward in which it was suggested that proportional representation should be introduced in the Council. After a discussion lasting a day and a half the motion was lost.
- (5) *Scab, Equine Mange and Mange in Cattle.*—The Principal Veterinary Officer gave a brief history of the past year's work in connection with scab. The Councillors expressed great appreciation of the work that had been done and urged that steps be taken to train natives as Scab Inspectors. The Principal Veterinary Officer also addressed the Council on the subject of equine mange and mange in cattle and explained to the members the methods of treatment of the diseases.

**Legislation.**

The following Proclamations were promulgated during the year :--

- (1) Cattle Importation Further Amendment, 1925 (No. 2).
- (2) Locust Destruction Proclamation, 1925 (No. 3).
- (3) Opium and Habit-forming Drugs Regulation Proclamation, 1922—Amendment (No. 4).
- (4) Basutoland Witnesses Allowances Proclamation, 1925 (No. 9).
- (5) Appropriation Proclamation, 1925 (No. 14).
- (6) Customs Tariff and Excise Duties Amendment Proclamation, 1925 (No. 19).
- (7) Income Tax Proclamation, 1925 (No. 23).
- (8) Further Appropriation (1924-25) Proclamation, 1925 (No. 30).

**Financial.**

The revenue for the financial year ended the 31st March, 1925, amounted to £261,008, an increase of £10,108 on the Estimate. The expenditure for the year was £250,197, a saving of £2,635 on the sum authorized.

The balance of assets in excess of liabilities at the close of the financial year was £78,861 17s. 2d.

The following statements show the revenue and expenditure during the past three years.

		REVENUE.		
		1922-23.	1923-24.	1924-25.
		£	£	£
Native Tax	.. ..	121,233	134,689	127,531
Customs and Excise	.. ..	62,011	71,043	76,765
Posts and Telegraphs	.. ..	7,522	8,038	8,520
Licences	.. ..	7,097	7,585	7,928
Fees of Court or Office	.. ..	814	784	906
Judicial Fines	.. ..	1,305	2,009	1,991
Income Tax	.. ..	3,755	6,773	12,997
Fees for services rendered	.. ..	2,605	1,366	1,484
Interest	.. ..	2,550	2,341	1,735
Wool Export Duty	.. ..	—	14,128	17,189
Miscellaneous	.. ..	3,645	3,857	3,962
		£212,537	£252,613	£261,008

EXPENDITURE.			
	1922-23.	1923-24.	1924-25.
	£	£	£
Resident Commissioner ..	12,554	13,758	13,692
District Administration ..	12,934	12,670	12,791
Police .. .. .	35,647	36,189	36,756
Posts and Telegraphs ..	10,043	10,437	10,118
Administration of Justice	9,116	9,806	11,078
Public Works Department	5,811	6,526	5,665
Public Works Recurrent..	20,371	20,990	22,153
Public Works Extraordinary	2,335	3,661	2,383
Medical .. .. .	20,443	20,575	22,795
Education .. .. .	34,681	34,813	35,836
Government Industrial School	2,323	2,437	2,429
Audit .. .. .	733	(a)	(a)
Agriculture .. .. .	9,984	21,806 (b)	22,927 (b)
Allowances to Chiefs ..	11,290	12,448	12,323
National Council .. ..	1,830	1,950	2,193
Leper Settlement .. ..	20,845	20,036	19,077
Pensions .. .. .	5,259	6,681	6,812
Miscellaneous .. .. .	4,868	5,656	6,955
Total Ordinary Expenditure	221,067	240,439	245,983
Expenditure from Surplus			
Balances .. .. .	3,480	1,230	4,214
Total .. .. .	£224,547	£241,668	£250,197

(a) Provided for under "Resident Commissioner."

(b) Includes cost of measures taken for the eradication of Scab.

#### INCOME TAX.

The rates of normal tax and super tax in respect of incomes for the year ended the 30th June, 1924, were the same as for the previous year.

The collections for the year amounted to £12,996 9s. 11d., being an increase of £6,223 16s. 5d. on the receipts for the preceding year.

The collection was made up of:—

Arrear Tax .. .. .	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Normal .. .. .				163	13	9
Current Tax						
Normal .. .. .	9,081	3	7			
Super .. .. .	3,751	12	7	12,832	16	2
				£12,996	9	11

The following shows the sources from which the taxable incomes were derived :—

	£	s.	d.	per cent.
General Traders .. .. .	8,887	12	1	or 68·38
Civil Servants .. .. .	1,432	5	6	„ 11·02
Employed persons .. .. .	590	17	11	„ 4·55
Others—including Banks, etc. ..	908	5	0	„ 6·99
Non-residents .. .. .	1,177	9	5	„ 9·06
	£12,996 9 11			= 100 per cent.

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

No.	Category.	Total of Taxable Incomes.
	£	£
101	500 or under	37,319
66	501— 750	40,249
25	751— 1,000	22,236
21	1,001—1,500	25,151
6	1,501—2,000	10,561
7	2,001—5,000	23,153
6	Over 5,000	54,092

232 Total taxable income of persons  
assessed for Current Tax £212,761

**Trade.**

The following is a return of the imports into, and the exports from, the Territory during the calendar year 1925, the figures for 1924 being given for purposes of comparison :—

IMPORTS.

	1924.		1925.	
	No.	Value.	No.	Value.
Merchandise .. .. .	—	£ 788,005	—	£ 733,173
Livestock :—				
Horses, Mules, etc. ..	692	2,124	425	1,921
Cattle .. .. .	4,891	11,548	1,682	5,008
Sheep and Goats .. ..	468	216	338	364
Grain :—	<i>Muids.</i>		<i>Muids.</i>	
Wheat and Wheat-meal ..	4,666	7,582	3,343	6,458
Maize and Maize-meal ..	82,291	69,928	39,423	32,785
Kafir Corn .. .. .	32,871	28,963	34,739	27,475
Other Produce .. .. .	—	604	—	6,263
Government Imports .. ..	—	908,970	—	812,547
	—	33,309	—	38,431
Total Imports .. .. .	—	£1,912,279	—	£1,850,978



## EXPORTS.

	1924.		1925.	
	No.	Value.	No.	Value.
Livestock :—		£		£
Horses, Mules, etc. ..	58	430	93	963
Cattle .. .. .	242	1,048	877	4,235
Sheep and Goats ..	253	210	1,670	1,515
Grain :—	<i>Muids.</i>		<i>Muids.</i>	
Wheat and Wheat-meal	30,858	32,492	83,602	105,558
Maize and Maize-meal	9,767	6,939	71,061	34,553
Kafir Corn .. ..	14,628	8,865	3,249	2,018
Oats .. .. .	—	—	413	135
Barley .. .. .	39	23	44	25
Beans and Peas ..	3,010	2,927	15,771	6,549
Wool and Mohair :—	<i>lb.</i>		<i>lb.</i>	
Hair, Angora .. ..	2,455,950	183,076	1,958,877	119,285
Wool .. .. .	11,577,384	715,665	11,721,411	469,315
Hides and Skins :—				
Hides .. .. .	160,627	4,113	204,408	6,067
Skins .. .. .	99,342	2,732	116,347	2,802
Miscellaneous .. ..	—	287	—	3,156
Total Exports ..	—	£958,810	—	£756,106

These statistics show a decided fall in volume and value compared with 1924, imports being less by £91,301 and exports by £202,704. Imports exceeded exports by £94,872, whereas in 1924 the latter exceeded the former by £16,531. This is anything but gratifying and in looking into details for an explanation of the retrogression it is seen that wool, the basic industry of the Territory, shows a decreased value of £246,350, although 144,000 lb. more wool was exported than in the previous year. This is accounted for by the fact that the sale of Basuto short wools fell from the vicinity of 13*d.* or 14*d.* in 1924 to 9*d.* or 10*d.* in 1925.

The value of mohair in the same period shows a decrease of £63,791, but 497,000 lb. less were exported.

Wheat, on the other hand, shows an increase of 52,744 muids exported and £73,061 more in value, and maize 61,294 more bags, representing an increase of £27,614, while kafir-corn exports were less by 11,370 muids or £6,847.

As to imports of grain, kafir-corn was about the same as in 1924, but the imports of maize was less by over 42,000 muids or £37,000. Thus it will be seen that although Basutoland suffered heavily through the decline in the wool market, grain crops were good, but the difference in value was far too great to adjust the balance, and the result was that in a great measure merchandise imports suffered, as shown by the decreased importation, to the extent of £54,832.

Of livestock, cattle imports dropped over 3,000 head, while exports increased by 600 head, and sheep exports by 1,400.

**Education.**

The average attendance of pupils in Schools and Institutions is now close on 30,005, while the number of pupils on the Roll is 42,505.

The following table shows the average attendance of pupils during the last 10 years :—

*Table I.*

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Average Attendance.</i>	<i>Increase.</i>	<i>Decrease.</i>
1916 .. ..	19,496	—	—
1917 .. ..	20,760	1,264	—
1918 .. ..	21,160	391	—
1919 .. ..	22,556	1,396	—
1920 .. ..	23,479	932	—
1921 .. ..	22,586	—	893
1922 .. ..	23,424	838	—
1923 .. ..	26,124	2,700	—
1924 .. ..	29,267	3,143	—
1925 .. ..	30,005	738	—

During this period there has been an increase of about 10,500 units of average attendance, making an average annual increase of 1,166. There have been, however, in particular years fairly wide departures from the average. From 1916 to 1920 the rate of progress was fairly steady, but in 1921 (in the slump which followed the post-war boom) the attendance decreased, and the normal position was not regained until 1923, when in a single year the whole of the arrears were wiped out. Again an unusually large increase was recorded for the year 1924, but the present year shows an increase of 738 only, and it would appear that the period of exceptionally large increase is over.

*Table II.*

*Grants to Missions for Schools and Institutions.*—Increased grants were given to the three missions from October 1st, 1925. These increases for the quarter ending the 31st December, 1925, were as follows :—

Paris Evangelical Mission Society .. ..	£ 581
Roman Catholic Mission .. ..	230
Church of England Mission .. ..	125
<i>Total grants to Missions for year ending December, 1925.</i>	
Paris Evangelical Mission Society .. ..	22,109
Roman Catholic Mission .. ..	6,760
Church of England Mission .. ..	3,440
	£32,309

Table III.

*Elementary Schools according to size and denomination.*—In this table it will be noticed that there is one very large class containing 164 schools. This class contains the largest of the third class schools and represents fairly flourishing schools in the mountain areas. The average number of pupils in these schools is about 35. The last class consists of 30 schools with an attendance under 20. Nearly all these are in the mountain districts and have a hard struggle for existence owing to the sparseness of the population.

Mission.	Over 200	150 to 200	100 to 150	70 to 100	60 to 70	45 to 60	25 to 45	20 to 25	Under 20	Total.
Paris Evangelical Mission Society .. ..	2	11	37	83	27	65	103	28	19	353
Roman Catholic .. ..	1	4	8	14	5	19	40	12	5	108
Church of England .. ..	—	—	5	14	2	6	21	7	6	61
Total .. ..	3	15	50	91	34	90	164	45	30	522

Table IV.

*Enrolment of Pupils in Elementary Schools.*—This table hardly calls for any remark except that the increase is 1,632. This is about the average annual increase.

Mission.	Number of pupils on the Roll, September, 1924.			Number of pupils on the Roll, September, 1925.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Paris Evangelical Mission Society.	9,588	18,621	28,209	9,660	19,793	29,453
Roman Catholic .. ..	1,949	5,733	7,682	1,990	6,008	7,998
Church of England .. ..	1,434	2,895	4,329	1,458	2,943	4,401
Total .. ..	12,971	27,249	40,220	13,108	28,744	41,852

Table V.

*Enrolment of Pupils in Institutions.*—The number of pupils in Institutions remains much the same as in previous years and it is obvious from this that an increasing number of pupils must be leaving the country for Institutions in the Union of South Africa. There is one new Institution, namely, the Girls' Industrial School at Cana. This was started in August 1925.

Institution.	Mission.	No. of pupils on Roll, September, 1924.			No. of pupils on Roll, September, 1925.		
		Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Morija (Normal and Agric.)	Paris Evangelical Mission Society	77	—	77	120	—	120
Tn. Morena (Normal and Industrial)	"	—	37	37	—	27	27
Cana (Indus.)	"	—	—	—	—	15	15
Leloaeng (Indus. and Agric.)	"	46	—	46	51	—	51
Roma (Normal, Indus. and Agric.)	Roman Catholic	138	245	383	136	243	379
Masite (Normal).	Church of England	18	—	18	23	—	23
Maseru (Indus.)	Church of England	—	40	40	—	38	38
Total ..	—	279	322	601	330	323	653

The figures given for the Roman Catholic Mission include a considerable number of day scholars who attend the boarding schools for boys and girls at Roma. In the other missions only boarders are enrolled in the Institutions.

Table VI.

*Average attendance of pupils in Elementary Schools.*—The total average attendance is 29,352 pupils. This is a very low average as the enrolment is 41,852. The average attendance in camp schools and in more densely populated districts is much higher than would appear from the above figures and is probably 80 to 85 per cent. Even this however can hardly be regarded as satisfactory. The average attendance in the mountain areas is often as low as 60 per cent.

## AVERAGE ATTENDANCE

Mission.	Year ending September, 1924.			Year ending September, 1925.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Paris Evangelical Mis- sion Society.	6,439	13,272	19,711	6,478	13,985	20,463
Roman Catholic ..	1,437	4,462	5,899	1,412	4,449	5,861
Church of England ..	971	2,143	3,114	956	2,072	3,028
Total .. ..	8,847	19,877	28,724	8,846	20,506	29,352

## GENERAL.

Mr. F. M. Urling Smith, Director of Education for Northern Nigeria, who had received a commission from the Dominions Office to undertake an investigation into education conditions in Basutoland, arrived on the 28th October and left Basutoland on the 19th of January, 1926.

During this comparatively short time Mr. Urling Smith saw practically all the different types of schools in the country, and met a very large number of Europeans and Basutos interested in education.

## EUROPEAN SCHOOLS.

I. December, 1925, there were 124 pupils in the eight schools for European children, being a decrease of seven pupils as compared with last year's figures.

**Veterinary.**

## ANTHRAX.

During the year there has been a very gratifying decrease in the number of outbreaks of anthrax, 21 outbreaks having occurred as against 62 in 1924. This decrease might reasonably be ascribed as largely due to the policy of prompt inoculation of all outbreaks, and enforcement of inoculation of all transport cattle and perhaps a better effort on the part of owners of dead animals in having the carcasses buried intact.

Possibly also the climatic conditions have been unfavourable to the spores of anthrax though it is feared little is understood in this direction, but it may be noted that in 1925 at any rate the first six months were abnormally wet. Credit must also be given to the spore vaccine supplied by the Union Research Laboratory which has been most satisfactory in every way.

During the year 28,739 animals were inoculated. That this was possible was largely due to the assistance and co-operation so willingly given by the Assistant Commissioners and Police Officers. Most of the inoculations were done by trained members of the Basutoland Mounted Police.

#### EQUINE MANGE.

The spread of this disease has been quite alarming and has seriously threatened the equines of the Territory, and has undoubtedly been responsible for very serious losses and a disturbance in the very necessary pack transport of the mountain areas. The serious prevalence of this disease is illustrated by the fact that the Veterinary Department and the Police have dressed no less than 19,958 horses, 14,668 more than last year. The disease became distributed throughout every district, the worst districts being Butha Buthe, Leribe, Qacha's Nek and Maseru. There are two chief reasons why this disease assumed such serious proportions.

Undoubtedly the wet summer and autumn was particularly favourable to the mite of the sarcoptic mange, associated with the almost entire negligence of horse owners to make any effort to prevent its spread.

At the last two sessions of the Basutoland Council the attention of the members has been drawn to the menace and seriousness of equine mange and their obvious duties have been pointed out to them.

The only gratifying feature in dealing with equine mange has been the demonstration of the efficacy of the treatment adopted and the willing assistance many of the traders have given in dealing with this disease, recognising how seriously the disease was threatening the economic conditions of the Territory. In the winter and spring, Scab Inspectors reported serious outbreaks of sarcoptic mange in goats and on investigation all the evidence went to show that these animals had contracted the disease by being kraaled or herded with mange infected horses and this is another good reason why it is imperative that equine mange should be eradicated as the mohair industry is a very important economic factor of Basutoland.

#### SHEEP SCAB.

It is gratifying to report that good progress has again been made in dealing with this disease and this was forcibly illustrated when the policy of simultaneous dipping in protected areas in the spring was again carried out. From the Telle in the Quthing District to Moirose's in the Butha Buthe District extending along the Cape and Free State Borders, 341,369 sheep and goats were dipped and only nine flocks were found infected—a most gratifying result and one which speaks volumes for the Dipping Tank and

the policy adopted. In the early part of the year climatic conditions were very trying owing to the rain and it says much for the Veterinary staff for the way they carried out their work under these trying conditions. Since autumn the weather has been very favourable for dipping and in commencing the big campaign in October of simultaneous dipping the weather was ideal with the result that no less than 996,056 sheep were dipped as soon as the lambing and shearing were completed.

During the year 2,041,117 sheep and goats were dipped. This represents an increase of 582,070 over the number dipped last year.

A great effort has been made to study the question of mortality from dipping and as far as possible to reduce this as it is most undesirable to shake the confidence of the native sheep owner by having dipping casualties. Observations went to show that a large proportion of the dipping casualties took place amongst the flocks that were first put into a tank after the mixing of the dip. This suggested that probably proper mixing was not done and every care was taken to train the native staff in this important work, and in addition to mixing the powder very thoroughly in a bucket the mixture is now being put through a grain bag and this method as far as is humanly possible ensures proper mixing.

It is reasonable to assume that these efforts have been of considerable value in view of the fact that the casualties for the year out of 2,041,117 sheep have been 442 (.0217 per cent.).

When it is realized that the majority of the dipping is in native hands and an arsenical dip is used the result is remarkably low.

#### DIPPING TANKS.

The erection of tanks in the lowlands is practically completed and is now gradually extending into the mountain areas, which fact has not decreased the difficulties in building tanks.

In some districts it is found to be most difficult to secure the services of reliable workmen either European or native. Good European workmen are not inclined to rough it under the climatic and local disabilities of the mountains. All material, &c. has to be taken to the chosen site on pack animals, often over mountains up to 8,000 feet. With these transport difficulties the expenses incurred with each tank are increasing, and this means that it will not be possible to build the annual complement of tanks. As the mountain area only consists of iron-stone this adds considerably to the difficulties of tank building.

Twenty-eight new or reconstructed tanks have been erected during the year.

It has not been possible to complete the tanking of the south-eastern border of the Territory owing to the difficulties of transport and of securing the services of reliable builders, but it is hoped soon to complete these arrangements.

At the last Session of the Council it was gratifying to find how appreciative the members were of the work being done and of the great benefit it had been to the sheep and goats of the Territory.

The weakest spot in the scab eradication campaign is the movement of sheep from outside or from unprotected areas into protected areas and difficulty has been experienced in teaching owners that no movement of sheep into protected areas must take place without a permit either from the dipping supervisor of these areas or the Scab Inspector.

#### GOAT SCAB.

As previously mentioned, this disease appeared most unexpectedly; hitherto it was imagined to be non-existent in the Territory. Goat scab being due to a sarcopt (a mite that burrows) is a very difficult disease to eradicate by dipping although full strength dip is used. From observations it is doubtful if ordinary dipping will eradicate a severe outbreak of goat scab.

#### WORMS IN SHEEP.

The wet summer of this year clearly demonstrated what a serious menace to the sheep industry worms in sheep would be if the climatic conditions of moisture favourable to the life history of the wire-worm and tape-worms were customary.

In the autumn large numbers of sheep showed clinical evidence of internal parasites and their health suffered seriously in consequence.

Advice was given to owners in this matter and the attention of the members of the Basutoland Council was drawn to this important matter.

#### STUD.

Seventy-five mares proved in foal out of 153 mares covered. The past stud season has been rather trying owing to the drought and excessive heat, and pasturage has not been as good as it should be for breeding-mares.

#### GENERAL.

In the course of the year 2,559 professional attendances were made by the Principal Veterinary Officer and of these 1,728 were to native owners.

#### Agriculture.

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

#### DONGA PREVENTION.

The existing work was kept in repair and a little fresh work undertaken.



### TREE-PLANTING, ETC.

At the close of the year there were some 217,000 trees in the various Government nurseries and the number of trees issued during the year was 61,225. 3,340 trees were planted out on the various Government reserves. It is noticeable that more interest is being taken by the natives in tree-planting. The Agricultural Officer is being asked for much more advice on tree-planting than has hitherto been the case.

### LOCUST DESTRUCTION.

During the period under review there were no fresh outbreaks of voetgangers in the Territory. Several large swarms of flying locusts were seen but they were migratory and as far as can be ascertained they did not lay eggs in Basutoland.

### AGRICULTURAL SHOWS.

Agricultural shows were held at Maseru, Teyateyaneng, Mafeteng, Mohale's Hoek and Quthing.

### AGRICULTURAL DEMONSTRATION WORK.

A sum of £700 was set aside for agricultural demonstration work. Of this £450 was used to pay the demonstrators and £250 in the purchase of implements and seed. The year has been an exceptionally difficult one owing to the prolonged drought and to the infestation of cut-worm in the lands. The number of agricultural demonstrators was increased to five during the year.

### GENERAL.

The natives are now showing far more interest in improved methods of agriculture. Advice on cultivation, the best varieties of seed to grow and the right type of implements to use, is constantly being sought.

Owing to the severe drought which occurred towards the end of the year, many lands were left uncultivated. It is feared that the maize and kafir-corn crops will in consequence be rather poor. Good rains, have, however, now fallen and it is hoped that wheat will be sown in the lands left unplanted with maize, &c.

### Public Works.

#### ROADS.

The condition of the road surfaces has improved during the year but a great deal of permanent work is still necessary to meet the requirements of the Territory.

## BUILDINGS.

A new Court Room was built at Teyateyaneng. A new house has also been erected for the Medical Officer at Teyateyaneng and is now occupied.

The Hospital at Quacha's Nek has now been completed.

Alterations and additions to the Assistant Commissioner's quarters at Maseru have been made, and new rooms have been added to the European Teacher's quarters.

## SEAKA PONT.

The new pont at Seaka has now been completed.

## WATER-WORKS.

*Maseru.*—Repairs have been carried out on the river water plant and several new leads have been put in.

*Leribe.*—Additional springs were brought into use giving 12,000 gallons of water per diem, through 2 miles of 1½ inch piping.

*Butha Buthe.*—An additional mile of 1½ inch piping has been laid into this camp, greatly increasing the water supply.

*Teyateyaneng.*—The pumping plant for this camp was completed early in the year and is giving satisfaction.

## Gaols and Crime.

There are seven gaols and four lock-ups in the Territory, and during the year 2,216 prisoners passed through them, as compared with 2,049 during the year 1924.

The number of convictions for contravention of the liquor laws in 1925 was 48, as compared with 76 for the previous year.

Convictions for offences against property numbered 439, as compared with 137 in 1924.

## Movement of Inhabitants.

The following figures give the number of passes issued to natives to leave the Territory during the year, as compared with the figures for the year 1924 :—

	Labour	Visiting and Miscellaneous.	TOTAL.
1924 .. ..	88,627	41,841	130,468
1925 .. ..	70,048	29,392	99,440

**Post Office.**

The net postal, telegraph and telephone revenue amounted to £8,520 6s. 1d., as compared with £8,038 7s. 3d. for the year 1923-24.

The expenditure amounted to £10,117 14s. 2d., as compared with £10,437 8s. 3d. for 1923-24.

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

<i>Deposits.</i>	<i>Withdrawals.</i>
1923-24 = 1,261, value £7,129.	442, value £5,512.
1924-25 = 1,122, value £6,229.	503, value £4,715.

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

<i>Issued.</i>	<i>Paid.</i>
1923-24 = 20,301, value £23,248.	21,376, value £26,721.
1924-25 = 26,373, value £24,131.	33,148, value £42,457.

**Medical.**

During the year 59,529 patients were treated at the Government dispensaries—an increase of 2,335 over the previous year. The number of patients treated in the hospitals during the year was 2,221. This shows a slight decrease as compared with last year. It is accounted for by the long wet summer and autumn, making transport of the sick to the hospitals impossible at times through flooded rivers and over bad roads.

The following table shows the number of dispensary and hospital patients in the various districts :—

<i>District.</i>	<i>Out-patients.</i>	<i>In-patients.</i>
Masera .. .. .	14,247	897
Leribe .. .. .	11,246	432
Berea .. .. .	7,097	—
Mafeteng .. .. .	10,636	408
Mohale's Hoek .. .. .	6,040	309
Quthing .. .. .	5,921	175
Qacha's Nek .. .. .	4,348	—
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	59,529	2,221

2,148 operations were performed during 1925.

There has been considerable unavoidable delay in completing the hospital at Qacha's Nek, but it is hoped to have it in full working order in 1926.

The revenue collected from hospital and dispensary fees amounted to £2,393 18s. 8d.

The general health of the territory has been very good. Typhus fever, which has been endemic since 1917, has almost disappeared, only 51 cases with 4 deaths being reported—as compared with 556 cases and 41 deaths in 1924, and 958 cases with 120 deaths in 1923. This is very gratifying and is due to the natives appreciating the cause of the disease and taking all necessary precautions. The epidemic of small-pox in the centre of the country, which was reported last year, was got well in hand. 52 cases with no deaths were recorded in the earlier part of the year. 23,632 persons were vaccinated. Influenza and dysentery were responsible for 589 and 130 cases respectively, and were of mild type.

The free treatment of syphilis has been continued and the number availing themselves of the privilege is increasing every year. Certain European missionaries who live in remote parts of the Territory have been given a supply of the remedies for distribution in these areas and with excellent results.

The sanitary condition of the various Government reserves has been very much improved by the provision of latrines &c. for the use of the native inhabitants.

Outside the reserves it is not possible to do much as yet, except in the way of instruction in simple hygiene when opportunity offers at the dispensaries.

#### LEPER SETTLEMENT.

On 31st December, 1925, the numbers of the inmates were 228 male and 233 female: total 461. Except for minor fluctuations throughout the year the population was stationary. Admissions and re-admissions were slightly less in number in 1925, and no particular significance can be attached to the difference. The number of deaths was of the same order. Desertions in 1925 were considerably more numerous, and paradoxical as it may seem, the increase in the number was due to greater prosperity. Most of the desertions occurred immediately after the inmates had been paid for their exceptionally large crop of maize, and it is presumed the less provident went out to spend the money.

It is satisfactory to note that of those previously discharged as cases of arrest of the disease only two, one male and one female, had to be re-admitted as recurrences, and one only, a female, had to be re-admitted on account of lack of proper care outside.

During the year 28 patients were boarded as fit for discharge. Since 1920 the number of patients discharged as arrested cases is 166.

The general health of the institution has been good and there was particular freedom from epidemic disease.

The intensive treatment for leprosy still continues to be rigorously pushed, with more or less gratifying results. Doctor Slack, the Medical Officer of the Settlement, went to India towards the end of the year for the purpose of studying the disease there and at the Calcutta centre for Leprosy Research. Much is hoped from his visit in the way of improved treatment.

The farm produced excellent crops of maize, oat forage, hay, ensilage &c., and the dairy provided 13,680 gallons of milk. Carrots and swedish turnips were sown for the use of the lepers who ate them raw for their vitamin content. These raw vegetables had an excellent anti-scorbutic effect and rendered the purchase of oranges unnecessary. The orchard produced an abundance of fruit of which the lepers received a large share. Their own fruit trees planted round the compounds and in the squares between the compounds, are now bearing well, and, as they are for the most part late bearers, they form a welcome addition to the supply of fruit at a time when that from the orchard is becoming scarce.

R. B. SMITH,  
*Government Secretary.*