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REPORT FOR 1918.

(For Report for 1917 see No. 1008.)

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No. 1030.

NIGERIA.

(For Report for 1917 see No. 1008).

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR THE YEAR 1918.

FINANCIAL.

The gross total of revenue, £4,014,190, exceeded that of the previous year—the next highest on record—by £521,452, while the net total (£3,974,895), that is after deducting the Cameroons revenue and a small repayment from Loan Account, exceeded the net total for 1917 by £574,169.

Excluding the grant-in-aid in both years the net revenue was £3,924,895 as against £3,362,507 in 1913, the last complete pre-war year. As the latter total included a sum of about £1,140,000 derived from import duties on trade spirits, a source of revenue which had practically disappeared in 1918, the results must be regarded as satisfactory. This loss of revenue on trade spirits has been replaced, as between the two years 1913 and 1918, by the large increase in Railway revenue (£634,875) and by the Export Duties introduced in 1916 and extended in 1917, which produced £490,917 in 1918. The yield from the system of Direct Taxation in the Northern Provinces has, of course, greatly increased since 1913, but the sum brought to account in 1918 under this head is actually less than that credited to revenue in 1913. In the latter (1913) the whole proceeds of the taxes were credited to Protectorate revenue, whereas in 1918 only the share due to Government (about 50 per cent.) was so credited.

The Imperial grant-in-aid, originally given to assist the finances of Northern Nigeria, expired on the 31st March, 1918.

There was a considerable increase under Licences and Internal revenue, as compared with the previous year, due to a larger yield from tin royalties owing to increased production and the higher price of the metal, to the growing revenue from the Native Courts of the Southern Provinces, and to a sum of £36,239 received from Direct Taxation in the Southern Provinces—the first time this item has appeared. The yield from customs *ad valorem* duties increased by £98,183 and that from specific duties fell by £64,000. Owing to additional duties imposed in 1917 on ground nuts, and hides and skins, and increased exportations, the export duties yielded £151,888 more than in the previous year.

The expenditure which totalled £3,459,774 exceeded that for the previous year by £239,817. This may be attributed, in the main, to a contribution of £134,000 made by Nigeria towards the cost of the East African Campaign and the West African Service Brigade,

to increased Pensions disbursements (£14,000), increased expenditure on the Nigerian Regiment (£52,000), and the Marine Department (£57,000) for Colliers, and to a large excess under Miscellaneous (£73,000) due to the increased War bonus granted to European and Native officers during the year. On the other hand, the expenditure on the Construction of the Eastern Railway (advanced pending the issue of a loan) was £84,822 less in 1918 than in the previous year.

The revenue for 1918 exceeded the expenditure by the large margin of £554,416.

On the 1st January, 1914, Nigeria possessed surplus funds amounting to £1,821,384. From that date to the end of 1918 she spent a sum of £1,795,219 on new railway construction from those reserves, pending the issue of a loan, but on the 31st December, 1918, still had to her credit surplus funds amounting to £702,785. They would have amounted to nearly two and half millions sterling if this large expenditure on railway construction had not been advanced from revenue.* During the same period Nigeria provided from revenue a sum of £396,969 under the head of "War Costs," representing her contributions to the cost of the operations in the Cameroons and East Africa, and towards the expenditure on the Service Brigade which was formed for further service abroad after the troops returned from East Africa. A small portion of the sum was also expended on local defences. In addition to this sum of £396,969, the Native Administrations in the Northern Provinces contributed a sum of £98,456, which was employed in the same manner. The sum of £396,969 represents abnormal unprovided expenditure. It is estimated that in addition to it Nigeria contributed from her ordinary recurrent votes a sum of about £700,000 towards the cost of the prosecution of the War (men and material lent to the Cameroons and East African Expeditionary Forces, to the War Office, Admiralty, etc.).

It is necessary to state, however, that there are very large arrears to be overtaken in connexion with works which had to remain in abeyance during the War owing to lack of staff and materials. For the Railway, for example, orders have been placed, since the Armistice was signed, for rolling stock and other equipment estimated to cost about £1,500,000.

CHANGES OF TAXATION DURING THE YEAR.

The following additional Export duties were levied from the 1st January :—

Ground Nuts	.. .. .	..	10s. per ton.
Hides and Skins, tanned	.. .. .	..	3d. ,, pound.
Hides and Skins, untanned or haired	.. .. .	..	2d. ,, ,,

From the 20th November the duty on trade spirits was increased from 7s. 6d. to 10s. a gallon at 50° tralles.

The Public Debt stood at £8,470,593 on the 31st December, 1918, as in the previous year ; and the accumulated Sinking Funds amounted to £580,071 as against £473,531 at the end of 1917.

* The total sum to be recovered from Loan funds is £1,840,020, a sum of £44,891 having been expended on railway construction in 1913. £154,746 has also been provided from Loan funds.

The surplus funds belonging to the Native Administrations in the Northern Provinces amounted to £321,842 on the 31st December, 1918, as compared with £228,469 at the end of 1917. £57,390 of these balances is invested in England.

The total revenue and expenditure of these Native Administrations for the last two years has been as follows :—

		<i>Revenue.</i>	<i>Expenditure.</i>
1917	.. ..	£440,990	£329,444
1918	.. ..	492,663	353,296

The 1918 expenditure does not include £15,664 contributed to Red Cross Funds and £51,330 offered to the Home Government for Imperial War Expenses.

The revenue and expenditure of the Native Administrations in the Southern Provinces was approximately :—

		<i>Revenue.</i>	<i>Expenditure.</i>
1917	.. ..	£65,338	£54,249
1918	.. ..	103,649	98,155

TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

The total value of the imports during 1918 (exclusive of specie) was £7,423,158, as compared with £5,808,592 in 1917. As in the previous year this increase in the value of imports was largely due to the enhanced prices of commodities.

Article.	1917.		1918.	
	Quantity	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Bread and Biscuits cwt.	7,436	£ 18,647	659	£ 2,933
Fish "	1,405	2,211	1,773	3,688
Grain and Flour "	46,013	67,576	11,300	24,748
Kola Nuts centals	113,344	169,020	133,448	197,958
Salt cwt.	900,985	281,732	695,262	311,762
Spirits .. gall. at 100°	94,000	92,905	106,000	163,616
Tobacco, Cigars, &c. ..	..	267,826	..	297,368
Kerosene, &c. Imp. gall.	2,387,906	95,124	1,615,960	93,697
Wood and Timber Sup. ft.	1,069,852	17,916	877,588	22,687
Apparel "	..	88,678	..	109,159
Coopers' Stores "	..	594,702	..	1,024,622
Hardware, &c. "	..	121,379	..	169,313
Furniture "	..	50,277	..	31,091
Iron, Steel and Manufac- tures thereof .. ton	..	94,550	..	139,535
Machinery "	..	60,891	..	68,734
Soap cwt.	72,857	104,246	57,330	129,337
Cotton Piece Goods ..	..	2,098,182	..	2,804,379
Textile: Silk Manufac- tures "	107,574	48,661	101,237	38,079
do. Woollen do. ..	126,820	19,016	74,083	21,499
Bags and Sacks .. doz.	359,211	237,170	243,488	250,028

The outstanding feature in the return is, again, the extraordinary diminution in the importation of spirits. Only 106,000 gallons were imported in 1918. In 1910 the importation was 1,974,000 gallons. In 1913 the value of spirits imported, including duty, was over £1,500,000: in 1918 it was £163,616, notwithstanding that the duty on spirits was 50 per cent. higher than in the former year.

The value of imports from the British Empire increased from £5,025,043 in 1917 to £6,459,147 in 1918. Foreign goods were valued at £964,011, as against £783,549 in 1917. The United States of America shows an increase of £161,608.

The total value of the exports (exclusive of specie) amounted to £9,511,971 in 1918, as compared with £8,602,486 in 1917, and was higher than in any previous year in the history of Nigeria.

The following is a comparative table of the principal articles of export:—

Article.	1917.		1918.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Benniseed .. tons.	273	£ 2,376	42	£ 696
Cocoa .. cwts.	308,841	499,004	204,382	235,870
Cotton Lint .. "	47,137	234,338	13,214	97,399
Cotton Seed .. tons.	1,861	38,800	405	15,412
Corn and Maize .. cwts.	17,515	4,367	8,098	3,696
Rubber .. lbs.	878,281	32,350	352,504	19,667
Hides and Skins ..	..	886,986	..	293,019
Timber .. No. of logs..	3,739	21,282	9,016	68,480
Shea Products .. tons.	3,950	40,189	128	4,884
Tin Ore .. "	9,966	1,485,887	8,294	1,770,003
Palm Oil .. "	74,619	1,882,997	86,425	2,610,448
Palm Kernels .. "	185,998	2,581,702	205,167	3,226,306
Ground-nuts .. "	50,334	710,308	57,554	920,137

The exports to France and French possessions decreased in value from £270,175 in 1917, to £94,341 in 1918. This was due to the restrictions on exports due to War measures. The exports to the United States of America fell from £1,118,038 in 1917 to £571,200 in 1918, while the value of exports to the United Kingdom and British Possessions increased from £7,195,438 in 1917 to £8,791,994 in 1918, from 83.6 per cent. in 1917 to 92.4 per cent. in 1918.

The total imports and exports for the last three years exclusive of specie were:—

	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
1916	£5,174,474	£6,029,546	£11,204,020
1917	5,808,592	8,602,486	14,411,078
1918	7,423,158	9,511,971	16,935,129

The imports and exports of specie for the same period were:—

	Imports.	Exports.
1916	£605,644	£67,040
1917	1,724,143	125,384
1918	895,240	52,888

The value of the exports, excluding specie, has exceeded that of the imports by £5,737,779 during the last three years, against which there has been an excess of specie imports amounting to £2,979,000.

From 1900 to 1918 the imports of specie have always exceeded the exports, except in 1915, when the imports were less than the exports by £681,345. The absorption for the last five years has been £2,732,900.

MINES.

Northern Provinces.—82 Tin Mining Companies continued operations during the year, and held at the end of the year—

3 Lode Mining Leases	84·66 acres.
420 Alluvial Mining Leases	82,732·65 „
6 Stream Mining Leases	9,106 yards.
550 Mining Rights	738,264 „
71 Exclusive Prospecting Licences	233·288 square miles.

8,434 tons of tin ore were won in 1918 as compared with 8,314 tons in 1917, 8,186 tons in 1916, 6,910 tons in 1915, 6,143 tons in 1914, and 5,331 tons in 1913. The total output for the year gives an average of 1·50 cwt. per acre of land held under Alluvial Leases, Stream Leases and Mining Rights. The average price of metallic tin in the London market was £219 9s. 0d. per ton.

The average number of persons employed by the Mining Companies during the year was 201 Europeans and 21,568 Natives, and of the latter about 472 were employed on prospecting work. The number employed on actual mining shows a decrease, as compared with the preceding year, of approximately 406.

Gold mining operations have been continued near Minna in the Niger Province, and 1,414·6 ounces of gold have been won. This gold is all alluvial from river washings, nothing further having been done on known small gold bearing stringers of quartz.

Southern Provinces.—Mining in the Southern Provinces is confined to the Calabar Province, and the Nigerian Proprietary Company, Limited, which has been mining on a small scale since 1911, is the only Company operating.

COLLIERY.

12. The output from the commencement has been as follows, and future prospects are excellent :—

1916	24,500 tons.
1917	83,405 „
1918	148,214 „
	<hr/>
Total	256,119 „
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The greater part of this coal has been used by the Railway and other Government services, the balance being sold to ships visiting

Port Harcourt for bunkers and to the Sierra Leone Government. The coal tip erected at Port Harcourt to facilitate loading into ships, and constructed to handle 10 ton capacity wagons, was practically completed at the end of the year.

AGRICULTURE.

Northern Provinces.—The season was a fair one for most crops except cotton. That crop was even less than in the previous year owing to climatic reasons. The cultivation of the American cotton "Allen Longstaple" continues to be extended, and the price has been raised to 2½d. per lb. 311 tons of cotton seed were distributed in April.

It is estimated that the crop of ground nuts realised 57,000 tons approximate, as against 47,000 tons in the previous year, but owing to the lack of railway facilities a large quantity still remains in the country.

The cultivation of the sugar-cane from the pedigree seedling canes obtained from Barbados in 1914 also makes progress on native plantations, and it is estimated that there are now approximately 150 acres under cultivation.

At Ilorin, tobacco of the Virginian type is still under experiment, and a bale was sent home for valuation but unfortunately it never reached England, the ship being lost at sea by enemy action.

Southern Provinces.—Climatic conditions in 1918 were on the whole favourable for agriculture; the rainfall at the Agricultural Headquarters, Ibadan, was 49·29 inches, the average annual rainfall at this station being 50 inches. In the Abeokuta Province, farming operations were seriously hindered through the native rising which broke out in June. In September a serious epidemic of influenza, which started in Lagos and rapidly spread throughout the country, caused the suspension and in some districts the total abandonment of all farm work. These circumstances naturally reduced the food supply and in a measure were responsible for the subsequent inflation of prices. Quite apart from conditions arising from the War, the prices of local agricultural produce have increased in a marked degree during recent years.

Plantations of cocoa and cotton also suffered considerably from the same causes, and in the case of cocoa this was accentuated by the low prices offered locally during the early part of the year and to the temporary closing of markets. In many cases the prices offered for cocoa were so low that growers were not even able to harvest and cure the crop at a profit. Plantations were neglected or abandoned and cocoa, which was stored in anticipation of improved market conditions, became unsaleable through the attacks of mould and weevils. The neglect of the plantations is much to be regretted, for not only has it adversely affected the current crop, but it has favoured the development of fungus and insect diseases which will debilitate the trees and reduce their yields in the future. Native agricultural instructors continued to give cocoa curing demonstrations in the Abeokuta and

Oyo Provinces. The growing importance of this industry is well demonstrated by the fact that, notwithstanding the adverse conditions which obtained, the exports were more than twice as large as those of 1914.

Owing to unfavourable climatic conditions for planting in 1917 and to the greater demand for cotton for the local weaving industry, due no doubt to the increased cost of imported cloths, the quantity of lint available for export was exceptionally small. The total quantity of seed cotton purchased amounted to 3,599,136 lb. and 2,621 bales of lint (400 lb.) were produced at the ginneries. 415 tons of seed were crushed and yielded 433 tons of cake and 6,646 gallons of oil.

The Agricultural Department distributed 12 tons of Georgia cotton seed to farmers in the Meko district, where it was grown to the exclusion of native cotton. Smaller quantities of this type of seed were again distributed to selected farmers at Oyo and Iseyin. Nine bales of Georgia cotton lint of the crop grown at the Experimental Station, Ibadan, in the 1917-1918 season were sold in England at 25·26*d.* per lb. In order to maintain a supply of pure seed of this type, 40 acres were again planted with it at the station. The average yield of seed cotton was 649·7 lb. per acre; the highest and lowest yields being 930 lb. and 450 lb. of seed cotton respectively.

On behalf of the Agricultural Department, the British Cotton Growing Association distributed 602 tons of native cotton seed to planters. The prices offered for native seed cotton from the 1st January until the 29th November were 2*d.* per lb. at the ginneries and at the merchants' trading stations on the railway, 1½*d.* per lb. at Meko and Oyo respectively, and 2¼*d.* per lb. for Georgia seed cotton grown under Government supervision at Meko and Oyo. On the 30th November all the above rates were increased by ¼*d.* per lb. The 1918-1919 season's cotton crop is estimated to reach 10,000 bales.

The Agricultural Department's operations were even more restricted than in 1917 through still further staff depletion. Everything possible was, however, done to increase the production of food stuffs. It is possible that the stoppage of the export of maize was not altogether an unmixed evil, for a greater quantity was available for local consumption.

The measures taken in connection with the suppression of the bud-rot disease of coconuts in the Onitsha Province have been only partly successful, but everything possible was done with the Agricultural staff available.

Only a fair measure of success attended the Department's efforts to encourage the cultivation of ground nuts and maize for export in the Onitsha Province. The seed harvested was stored for planting in 1919.

Many of the Para rubber plantations which were established under the Department's auspices have reached a tappable size. Tapping was continued in a large Para rubber estate at Sapele, and it was begun in several other plantations in the Benin, Sapoba, Azumini, and Kwale districts. The yield and quantity of the rubber was on the

whole satisfactory. A serious fungus disease of the bark which broke out on tapped trees in several instances will receive mycological investigation. The rubber tapping and curing demonstrations at the Agricultural Department's Stations and Sub-Stations were continued.

The Agricultural Department's efforts to encourage the planting of the Gold Coast variety of the cola nut continue to meet with success. Some 35,000 seeds were distributed to farmers from the Agege station, and 13,782 plants were distributed from various other stations. Many of the trees raised from the seeds and seedlings that were distributed in former years have reached the productive stage; and the planters state that they find this crop even more profitable than cocoa. It is proposed to encourage the planting of sufficient trees to produce nuts at least equal in quantity to that imported into the country; this in 1918 amounted to nearly 6,000 tons valued at £197,958.

FORESTRY.

As far as the limited staff rendered it possible the usual inspection of licensed areas was carried out during the year. In addition to this several districts in the Sokoto Province, the catchment area of the Kogin Siriki Pawa in the Zaria Province, and parts of the Oyo and Ondo Provinces were visited by forest officers, mainly with a view to selecting areas for reservation.

The number of forest reserves in the Northern Provinces was increased by 10, which represents an addition of 308 square miles to the total reserved area. Considerable progress was also made in notifying proposed reserves for settlement under the Forestry Ordinance. The total areas thus concerned amounted to approximately 1,462 square miles in the Southern Provinces and to 3,965 square miles in the Northern Provinces. In addition to this the reservation of several selected forests was under consideration at the end of the year.

Good results in the protection of the more valuable species of timber trees as a result of the 1916 Regulations continue to be reported from the various Circles, but oil palms have been felled extensively in the Ogoja Province for obtaining palm wine. Natural regeneration appears to have been rather poor during the year, mainly on account of deficient rainfall.

The area of the plantations in the Southern Provinces was increased from 728 to 828 acres during the year under review. This is mostly planted up with teak, mahogany, *Albizia lebbek*, *Casuarina* and *Afara* (*Terminalia superba*). On the whole the growth shown by these species is excellent, especially that of the coppice shoots in the Ibadan Fuel Reserve. In the Mamu Reserve, however, a root fungus (*Fomes* sp.) has attacked the teak and caused a certain amount of damage. The matter is under investigation, but it is probable that the fungus has spread from the old dead stumps of the forest trees that were felled when the plantation clearings were made. The total cost of

the plantations, including cost of maintenance, filling up of blanks, and 98 acres of extension, amounted to £1,477, as against £1,140 in the previous year.

In the Northern Provinces planting operations have as usual been attended with considerable difficulties which were mainly due to insect and other animal pests and, in places, to a deficient rainfall. The Zaria plantations have done best and promise useful results. Apart from mahogany and *Albizia lebbek*, the species that have proved most successful there are *Cassia siamea*, *Dalbergia sisso*, *Grevillia robusta* and *meleluca leucodendron*. A small plantation was started at Naraguta, but it is too early yet to report on the results. Township avenues in Zaria and Kaduna were under the care of the Department and received a considerable amount of attention during the year.

The fuel plantation at Sokoto was completely restocked and increased by two areas, one of 60 acres under mahogany and the other of 29 acres under other species.

Admiralty contracts for mahogany (required for aeroplane construction) were responsible for increasing the number of licensed timber areas exploited during the year to 45, whilst 22 timber licences were renewed, 2 new areas were applied for and 9 old ones abandoned.

Permits were issued for the felling of 27,046 trees, as against 11,475 in the previous year. Of the former 5,932 belong to class 1 of the schedule of protected trees. The number of trees felled for export amounted to 4,244, whilst those for local use (including 2,690 teak poles from plantation thinnings) reached 16,971 as against 5,328 in 1917. In addition to these 2,800 mangroves were cut, whilst the Government exploitation of the Oni forests resulted in the felling of 3,031 trees, compared with 602 in the previous year. The output amounted to 243,585 cubic feet. Besides this 170 fender piles for the Iddo Wharf were extracted and 1,104 pit sawn sleepers delivered to the railway. Scarcity of labour, added to the disorganisation caused by the influenza epidemic, was mainly responsible for a reduction in the estimated output.

The number of trees felled under permits in the Northern Provinces amounted to 956, of which 172 belonged to class I of the schedule. The quantity of fuel extracted under permits was 3,094,222 cubic feet stacked, whilst the number of permits issued for the taking of minor forest produce amounted to 339.

The forest revenue for the Southern Provinces amounted to £20,136 as compared with £10,240 in 1917. The former figure is made up of £19,477 from timber fees, £121 from fuel permits, £256 from minor forest produce permits, and £282 from miscellaneous permits. Against this the expenditure was £30,389 (including a sum of £12,537 on timber exploitation, although the profits are not credited to the Department), as compared with £18,462 in the previous year, the increase being mainly due to the larger quantity of timber exploited by Government from the Oni forests. The corresponding figures for the Northern Provinces are: Revenue and expenditure in 1918—£2,055 and £6,096 respectively, as compared with £962 and £5,912 in the previous year.

LANDS.

Southern Provinces.—37 leases for trading sites were sold at auction in 1918. The premia payable thereunder amounted to £2,575 and the annual rent to £444. 795 deeds were registered in 1918. Of these 375 were conveyances, 214 mortgages, and 36 Crown leases. The total fees amounted to £608.

Northern Provinces.—135 licences of occupancy were issued during the year to Trading Companies. The premia paid thereon were £4,676 and they represent a gross annual rent of £1,942. All instruments affecting land in the Northern Provinces are registered at the Secretariat, Kaduna. During the year 718 instruments were registered; of these 170 were Certificates of Occupancy, 439 consisted of various Mining titles, and 109 were miscellaneous deeds.

SHIPPING.

As in the two previous years, the shortage of tonnage owing to the War was felt throughout the year. There was a slight falling off in the tonnage entered and cleared from Nigeria during 1918, as compared with 1917.

It is noteworthy that although the tonnage of all the ships which cleared from Nigerian ports fell from 852,000 tons in 1913 to 396,000 tons in 1918, the quantity of produce carried away in 1918 (about 380,000 tons) was considerably larger than in 1913. Speaking roughly and omitting intricate questions of gross and registered tonnage, weight and measurement, less than one half the tonnage carried away about 20 per cent. more produce. Vessels arrived empty to load and were able to take the bulk of their cargo from Nigerian ports; and the opening of the port of Lagos, as a consequence of the Harbour Works, which have been undertaken at great cost, must undoubtedly also have had an important influence in the achievement of these results. It is interesting in the former connexion to note that in 1918 the tonnage of vessels which cleared from the ports of Dahomey was 162,302 tons, taking away 36,173 tons of produce.

EDUCATION.

Northern Provinces.—During 1918, 3 new Government Schools were opened, at Daura, Missau, and Maiduguri, that at Maiduguri being Industrial.

New school buildings were under construction at the end of the year at Argungu, Kaduna, Sokoto, and Bida, those at Bida and Sokoto being for Industrial schools.

Year.	No. of Schools.	No. of Pupils.*	Average Attendance.
1917	12	858	795
1918	15	969	897

* Exclusive of Industrial Schools.

The number of unassisted Mission Schools, of which figures are at present available, was 107, with 2,438 pupils. Native Moham-medan Schools and pupils number approximately 26,000 and 222,000.

Southern Provinces.—The number of schools and of pupils at the end of 1918, as compared with 1917, is given below :—

	1917.			1918.		
	No. of Schools.	Pupils on Roll.	Average Atten-dance.	No. of Schools.	Pupils on Roll.	Average Atten-dance.
Government ..	45	4,754	3,499	44	4,791	3,716
Assisted ..	160	22,654	17,447	189	26,295	18,896
Unassisted ..	1,442	42,102	23,547	1,422	51,751	40,781
Total ..	1,647	69,510	44,493	1,655	82,837	63,393

The number of pupils receiving a secondary education was 70 in Government Schools and 330 in Assisted Schools, (77 and 305 in 1917). No returns are available with regard to pupils in secondary Unassisted Schools.

Seventy boys attended King's College, Lagos, as compared with 67 in 1917. Evening continuation classes were held during the year, the course comprising English subjects and mathematics. There were also classes for the instruction of teachers in School Method and the principles of teaching. The enrolment at these classes was 52 at the first session and 63 at the second.

Sixty-one Teachers' certificates were awarded during the year, 9 First Class, 21 Second Class, and 31 Third Class.

Instruction in manual training and elementary agriculture is given in most Government and Assisted Schools. Carpentry, printing, and tailoring are taught at the Hope Waddell Institute, Calabar, and carpentry at the C.M.S. Industrial Mission, Onitsha. In Government technical departments, there were at the end of the year 175 apprentices on the Railway, 217 in the Marine Department, 130 in the Public Works Department, and 37 in the Printing Department.

The total expenditure on Education in Nigeria during the year was £45,747, being 1.1 per cent. of realised revenue, as against £46,298 (1.3 per cent.) in 1917.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

HOSPITALS AND DISPENSARIES.

Northern Provinces.—The principal hospitals and dispensaries are at Kaduna, Lokoja, Kano, Zungeru, and Zaria. At each place arrangements have been made to deal with suspicious cases of fever.

Kaduna.—The same residential quarter as used last year is still in use as the European Hospital. There is no mosquito proofing, nets only being in use. The Native Hospital is still at the Junction and is of the same temporary character. The construction of a permanent hospital at Kaduna is making progress.

Lokoja.—There is accommodation here in six wards for 12 European patients. Each ward is provided with a mosquito proof room. At the Native Hospital there are two large buildings, a portion of one being reserved for the treatment of women.

Kano.—The European Hospital has two wards, one of which is mosquito proof. It will accommodate six patients. The Native Hospital consists of three wards, with accommodation for 30 patients.

Zungeru.—The hospital for Europeans has been almost dismantled, but the one for native patients is still in use and comprises two large and three small wards, with accommodation for about 40 persons.

Zaria.—The Native Hospital consists of a brick building with floor space for 16 beds.

At Maiduguri, Sokoto, and Bauchi there are small native hospitals, each of which affords accommodation for about 10 patients.

The following is a general summary of patients treated at the various hospitals and dispensaries in the Northern Provinces during the year :—

				Out-Patients.	In-Patients.	Invalided.	Died.
Europeans	..	..	{ 1917	1,237	267	54	19
			{ 1918	2,192	308	139	36
Natives ..	..	..	{ 1917	24,343	7,364	1	256
			{ 1918	38,760	9,439	1	487

Southern Provinces.—The principal European and native hospitals are at Lagos, Calabar, Warri, Ibadan, Onitsha, Forcados, Sapele, and Port Harcourt. New native and European hospitals are being constructed at Port Harcourt. The European hospitals are all mosquito-proofed, the native hospitals being only partially protected. There are native hospitals in addition to the above at most out-stations. In some cases the buildings are constructed of brick, wood, and iron, in others they are merely "bush" houses.

The following table shows the total number of cases treated and deaths.

				In-Patients.	Out-Patients.	Deaths.
Europeans	..	..	1916	450	2,704	13
			1917	434	2,488	11
			1918	487	3,040	25
Natives	..	..	1916	13,121	105,972	724
			1917	18,353	111,603	880
			1918	21,368	106,016	1,635

The total number of attendances at dispensaries was 664,548, and the number of surgical operations performed 1,842. (In 1917, 973,582 and 2,122 respectively.)

The above figures, from the Public Health point of view, compare unfavourably with those for 1917, but the fact that the country was visited by the great influenza pandemic must be taken into consideration. There were 25 deaths and 94 invalidings among Europeans. Of the twenty-five deaths recorded in Europeans, influenza accounted for twelve, blackwater fever for four, and yellow fever for one.

SAVINGS BANK.

The decrease in the Savings Bank business recorded in 1915, 1916, and 1917 continued in 1918, and the withdrawals again exceeded the deposits. The amount to the credit of depositors decreased from £41,400 at the end of 1917 to £39,483 at the end of 1918.

JUDICIAL.

CRIMINAL.

The total number of persons brought before the Magistrates increased from 13,311 in 1917, to 13,591 in 1918, and the number of persons summarily convicted increased from 11,377 to 11,688.

In the Provincial Courts 7,386 persons were brought before the Court in 1918, as compared with 6,516 persons in 1917, and 4,842 were convicted as against 4,087 in the previous year.

The number of persons convicted in the Supreme Court increased from 75 in 1917 to 170 in 1918 (out of a total of 293 persons brought before the Court). These include 67 homicide cases resulting in 20 convictions and 32 acquittals, 15 being convicted of other offences. Of the 293 persons above mentioned, 161 were arrested on charges connected with the Egba rising, resulting in 85 convictions and 76 acquittals.

POLICE.

Southern Provinces and Colony.—The authorised strength of the force was 24 Europeans and 1,595 native ranks (inclusive of 26 Supernumeraries). The War continued to cause a shortage of officers, nine of whom were seconded for military service. Of this number one died and one resigned on restoration to his British Regiment.

The Inspector-General of Police retired from the force on pension and two other officers were permanently invalided, while a European Superintendent died of influenza. With this greatly depleted staff it has been exceedingly difficult to carry on, and every officer has had extra duties to perform and been compelled to remain overtime for varying periods.

An escort of 85 rank and file under the command of an Assistant Commissioner was sent to Abeokuta Province on the 12th of June at the commencement of the Egba rising, the operations being subsequently taken over by the military. The Police met with considerable resistance and 9 N.C.O.'s and men were wounded. Seven of the latter were with a Police escort guarding specie on the Railway, consisting of 1 N.C.O. and 11 men, who for a day and a night defended the train against great odds and finally succeeded in driving off the rebels and thereby saving some £8,000 of Government money.

Northern Provinces.—The Government Police in the Northern Provinces consisted of 16 Europeans and 926 natives at the end of the year. They are distributed amongst the Provinces, with the exception of Sokoto and Bornu, in addition to detachments at Káduna and Lokoja. The average strength of each detachment is 77 rank and file. They have been reported on favourably by residents, and are efficient as regards the constabulary work which they are called upon to perform.

Patrols were carried out in two Provinces, *i.e.*, Nassarwa and Munshi. Opposition was encountered but there were no casualties amongst the Police. The objects of the patrols were achieved.

The Special Railway Police continue to do useful work in suppressing the theft of merchandise from railway wagons, etc.

 PRISONS.

The number of prisoners admitted to Government Gaols in the Northern Provinces during 1918 was 1,761, as compared with 1,698 during 1917, and the daily average was 903 as against 823 in 1917. Of those committed 1,673 were males, 86 females, and 2 juveniles. Of these 4 were incarcerated for debt, 211 were placed in safe custody for want of security, and 1,546 were sentenced to penal imprisonment. There were previous convictions against 50 of the number committed as follows :—34 once, 12 twice, and 4 thrice or more.

Of the total number of offenders serving sentences of penal imprisonment there were 815 for terms under six months, 318 for terms of six months up to two years, and 413 for terms over two years.

The average daily cost of food per prisoner was 1·6 pence. The maximum cost being 2 pence a day in the Munshi Province and the minimum 1 penny at Zaria. The discipline of the prisoners was good ; and their health was fair. There were 139 deaths of which 55 were judicial executions.

The total value of prisoners' labour during the year was £5,170. The actual cash earnings from prison industries was £466 of which sum £150 was realised from the sale of farm produce and vegetables.

The Native Administrations maintain 49 gaols at the principal centres in which prisoners convicted by the Native Courts are confined. The daily average of prisoners was 2,481, as against 2,509 in 1917.

Southern Provinces.—Five convict establishments and 39 local prisons were maintained. There were 6,829 prisoners in confinement on January 1st, 1918, and 28,702 were admitted during the year as against 37,043 in 1917. The daily average prison population was 6,953, as compared with 7,060 in 1917.

Of those committed, 26,022 were males, 2,655 females, and 25 juveniles. Of these, 114 were incarcerated for debt, 8,837 were placed in safe custody for want of security, and 19,751 were sentenced to penal imprisonment.

Of the total number of offenders serving sentences of penal imprisonment, there were 15,121 for term of six months and under, 3,647 for terms of over six months but under two years, and 983 for terms of two years and over. The total cost of the prison establishments and lock-ups was £86,967, while the total earnings of the prisons amounted to £56,527, of which £3,718 was in cash.

The number of prison days numbered 2,537,845 as against 2,576,900 in 1917, and 1,964,065 in 1916.

The average daily cost per Government prisoner was approximately 7·63*d.* as against 6·66*d.* in the previous year, due to increased cost of food and stores. There were 738 deaths amongst the inmates of the various prisons, of which 124 were judicial executions.

VITAL STATISTICS.

In the Northern Provinces it was estimated that there were about 989 Europeans at the end of 1918, of whom about 495 were officials. In the Colony and Southern Provinces there were about 2,000 Europeans with about 1,250 officials. The European population of Nigeria may therefore be estimated at about 2,989, of whom about 1,745 are in the employment of the Government.

The native population of the Northern Provinces is estimated at 8,537,369, and of the Southern Provinces and Colony at 7,856,000—a total of about 16 millions. The average density in the Northern Provinces would therefore be about 33 to the square mile and in the Southern Provinces and Colony about 98.

The total estimated population of the Colony and Southern Provinces is based on the census of 1911, and is as follows:—

Africans	..	..	..	..	7,856,000
East Indians	..	..	..	..	99
Mixed and Coloured	..	..	..	..	487
Total	..	..	..	..	<u>7,856,586</u>

PUBLIC HEALTH.

Northern Provinces.—There has been a considerable increase in the number of resident Europeans compared with last year (see under Sanitation).

The invaliding rate is not as high as might be expected with the very much increased length of the individual tours of service. The death rate shows an increase due to the very serious outbreak of influenza which equally affected Europeans and natives, 19 out of the 36 deaths being caused by this complaint. There were no cases of yellow fever. The number of deaths from other causes was about the same as last year.

	1917.	1918.
Average European Population	779	989
Number of deaths	19	36
Death-rate per 1,000	24·3	36·4
Number invalided	54	53*
Invaliding rate per 1,000	69·3	53·5

Southern Provinces.—The Returns show a decrease in the number of cases treated at the various hospitals, namely, 130,909 as compared with 132,878 in 1917, or a difference of 1,969 cases, and this in spite of the fact that the country was visited by the great influenza pandemic which accounted for 16,735 cases; so that the cases treated would really have been less by 18,704 if influenza is excluded. This falling off cannot be ascribed to an improvement in the general health of the community, since the death-rate has risen from 6·8 per 1,000 in 1917 to 7·5 for the year under review, exclusive of deaths caused by influenza; or if influenza is included to 12·8 per 1,000. The decline in the incidence of all diseases with a rise in the death-rate as shown by the returns is difficult to account for. Depletion of the staff cannot be assigned as the reason since in 1917, with a depleted staff also, there was a proportionately larger increase over 1916 in cases treated; and the more so as a reference to the returns from large stations like Lagos and Calabar, where the staff has been constant, shows a decline in the cases treated. There has been, however, an increase of 190,966 attendances at the dispensaries. On the whole the general health of the community compares unfavourably with previous years.

* The total number invalided is 139. The numbers given for preceding years represent those invalided before completing their tours, and the 53 shown above is comparable with them.

Among the native population the most prevalent diseases, excluding influenza, were affections of the digestive system, the total number of which amounts to one-sixth of all other ailments. The mortality from these causes is low, .8 per cent.; diseases of the respiratory system about one-tenth of all others and from which the mortality is .4 per cent. Infective diseases (excluding influenza) about one-ninth and a mortality of .3 per cent.; venereal disease at a little over a sixtieth of all diseases treated gives but a very inadequate idea of its prevalence. The bulk of the balance is made up by rheumatic and skin affections.

Anaemia is the most prevalent and is responsible for a great deal of ill-health and invaliding. Gout among both Europeans and natives is fairly common. Nine cases were recorded in the former and fifty-seven in the latter.

There were only 9,506 cases of malaria in 1918 as compared with 11,804 in 1917. The case mortality was 30 deaths as compared with 21 in 1917.

Two cases of yellow fever occurred, one European and one native. Both were fatal.

One case of trypanosomiasis in a European was treated at Ibadan and one at Lagos. The Ibadan case was imported from the Northern Provinces where it was first observed. The Lagos case was an old one which had been under treatment in England.

There were 29 cases of blackwater fever in Europeans with 4 deaths, as against 22 cases with 11 deaths last year. One native had this disease and recovered.

2,231 cases of chicken pox, which is endemic and from time to time epidemic, were recorded with 10 deaths—a high rate of mortality for this disease.

There were 439 cases of small-pox with 74 deaths, or a case mortality of 168.0 per 1,000. There were small epidemics of small-pox throughout the country, principally in the Agbor-Ishan country, as occurred last year. Nothing approaching a serious outbreak of the disease occurred. The incidence of small-pox is principally confined to the dry season.

Influenza.—The great pandemic reached Nigeria towards the end of September, raged during October, and declined rather abruptly in November. Imported into Lagos by sea from the Gold Coast, in spite of unremitting efforts on the part of the Sanitary Authorities, it was but a matter of time till the disease had spread all over the country. Calabar was the last to suffer owing to the infrequency of the shipping service between there and ports to windward, and the epidemic was at its height there when it had practically died out in Lagos. The epidemic did not present any features different from those observed in other parts of the world, unless it was in its severity. Gastro-intestinal types were noted, but in the great majority of the cases the brunt of the disease fell upon the respiratory system. All the deaths among Europeans were due to septic broncho-pneumonia. It is difficult to estimate either the incidence of the disease or the mortality. In Lagos where there is a properly organised Health Department and where registration is compulsory, it is possible to

arrive at a vague estimate. From statistics taken from such sources as prisons, Police Force, West African Frontier Force, and Government employees, a case incidence of 50 per cent. with a mortality of 5 per cent. would probably be a low estimate. Among the poor and intensely ignorant both the incidence and mortality must have been very much higher. It is estimated, from the Register of Deaths and a comparison of the death rate during the epidemic with the same periods in previous years, that 1·5 per cent. of the population of Lagos died of influenza.

418 Europeans came under treatment of whom 15 died, a mortality of 3·5 per cent. This is, however, a very low estimate of the incidence of the disease, as many suffered in remote districts where medical aid was not available. Influenza was the cause of invaliding of 9 European Government officials and the death of 12. 5,887 natives of all classes were treated for it as in-patients at the hospitals with a mortality of 11 per cent.

Dysentery is for the most part of the amoebic variety. Among Europeans the case incidence is practically the same as last year. 40 cases are recorded, but this gives but a low estimate of the number who are carriers of the amoeba. Emetine and *Alcresta Ipecac* have given good results in the treatment. In natives 920 cases are recorded with a mortality of 16·3 per cent. against 1,059 with a mortality of 11·2 per cent. in 1917.

SANITATION.

Northern Provinces.—The limitations incidental to the state of war persisted throughout the year: and the wide incidence of small-pox, which had been feared, was experienced in many regions.

The return of the Nigerian troops, together with their numerous special service officers and non-commissioned officers, from overseas resulted in a very material increase of the official European community; and this led to a heavy incidence of European sickness, for many of the Europeans alluded to lacked the personal experience necessary to safeguard their health adequately in this country.

Southern Provinces.—This report covers the sanitary work conducted during the last year of the War. Of the four officers forming the sanitary staff one was lent to the Lagos Town Council as Medical Officer of Health and another to the Medical Branch for the whole year.

The Public Health Ordinance and Rules were, during the year, made applicable as a whole, or in part, to the various Townships. This will prove of great advantage in the sanitary interests. Various Regulations were also framed under existing Ordinances which will also promote the cause of sanitation.

Various segregation plans for townships were passed by the Sanitary Authorities. Building regulations for townships laid out on model lines are receiving attention.

In Lagos, under recent byelaws enacted under the Public Health Ordinance, new wells cannot be dug without permission from the Medical Officer of Health, nor can they be dug within the radius of 100 yards from an available standpipe or water main of the public water supply.

Sanitary Inspectors are trained in Lagos by the Medical Officer of Health who delivers lectures, holds demonstrations, and defines their routine duties for practical work in the native town. The teaching of elementary hygiene and sanitation is conducted in the majority of schools under Government inspection and fair progress is being made in schools in the large towns. Lectures are given by Sanitary Officers when on tour.

The Senior Sanitary Officer now holds the post of Principal Registrar for both the Northern and Southern Provinces under the Births, Deaths and Burials Ordinance, 1917. So far the Ordinance only applies to the registration of births and deaths of non-natives of the Northern and Southern Provinces, but in Lagos the births and deaths of both natives and non-natives are registrable. In Lagos owing to the large number of private practitioners the number of certified deaths is not only comparatively large but it is steadily increasing, and the observations on vital statistics are of very great value from the public health point of view, more especially at times when epidemics threaten or undue high mortality calls for special enquiry and special measures.

In natives in Lagos the birth-rate was 30·6 (per 1,000 population) and the death-rate 39·3 (per 1,000 population). The infantile mortality amounted to 330·1 (per 1,000 births). 30·4 per cent. of the deaths registered were certified by medical men.

METEOROLOGY.

Complete meteorological observations have only been made at sixteen stations in the Northern Provinces owing to the lack of Medical Officers.

The rainfall in 1918 (at the places where it was recorded) was less than that of 1917 by 13·59 inches. Exceptional rainfall was recorded in Naraguta during June, and the rainfall generally throughout August was excessive.

The following figures are of interest :—

	Reading.	Date.	Station.
Highest Shade Temperature ..	115·00°	12th Apr., 1918	Maiduguri
Lowest Shade Temperature ..	41·00°	11th January, 1918	Kano
Highest Mean Monthly Temperature	108·2°	April	Maiduguri
Lowest Mean Monthly Temperature	49·2°	January	Kano
	ins.		
Maximum Total Rainfall	66·50	Jan. to Dec.	Naraguta
Minimum Total Rainfall	31·79	Jan. to Dec.	Sokoto
Maximum Rainfall on one day ..	4·97	17th July, 1918	Zungeru
Greatest Range of Temperature ..	48·00°	May	Nafada
Highest Mean Monthly Relative Humidity	88·3%	August	Kaduna
Lowest Mean Monthly Relative Humidity	25·0%	March	Capital Sokoto

Southern Provinces.—The smallest rainfall ever recorded at Lagos occurred in 1918, following on a phenomenally large rainfall of the previous year. This was by no means characteristic of the whole of the Southern Provinces, as Forcados and the coast ports to the east show records considerably larger than the average.

The maximum temperature throughout the Southern Provinces was 103° at Ubiaja in January, and the minimum temperature 48° at Ikom in February.

POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS.

The total revenue of the Department, not including free services, was £47,451, including reimbursements from the Railway, an increase of £5,330 as compared with 1917. The amount transmitted through the post by means of money and postal orders was £210,249, an increase of £161. The decline in the postal order business due to the introduction of currency notes continued, but money order business increased, principally due to the introduction of a money order system between Dahomey and Lagos.

The Revenue derived from telegraphs and telephones shows an increase of £2,758, or 16·7 per cent. The increase from telephones was £263. The total expenditure of the Department was £103,783 (£99,932 in 1917), which includes £4,230 spent in the Cameroons and £898 spent in the extension of telegraphs and telephones in Nigeria.

MILITARY OPERATIONS, 1918.

The outstanding feature of the year was the rising in the Egba district. Operations commenced with the despatch of a Company of the 1st Battalion from Kaduna as a precautionary measure. In the middle of June the rising assumed such a grave appearance that the General Officer Commanding the Service Brigade assumed control, and the whole of the 2nd Service Battalion from Zungeru and the 4th Service Battalion from Ede, reinforced by a party from the 4th Training Centre at Ibadan and subsequently by a Company of the 1st Service Battalion from Zaria, were employed in quelling the rising. Major F. H. Hawley, the West Yorkshire Regiment, Commanding the 2nd Service Battalion, assumed command of the operations. Severe fighting took place during June and July and active operations finally came to an end by the 1st of August.

Excluding these operations, 9 patrols and 16 escorts were carried out, involving the employment of 36 officers, 15 British N.C.O.'s and 1,381 native rank and file of the Infantry, and 1 officer and 30 native rank and file of the Artillery. 6 of these patrols were in the Northern Provinces, and 3 in the Southern.

The more important of these were the Ekwi patrol in the Abakaliki district, and the Udi-Okigwi patrol. The latter patrol remained in the field from the 2nd April till the 1st November, when the ravages of influenza checked its activities.

Casualties incurred in these operations were, 4 native rank and file killed, and 8 wounded. There were no European casualties.

RAILWAY.

The capital expenditure at the end of 1918 stood at £9,049,834, with interest charges estimated at £406,611 per annum and sinking fund charges estimated at £67,443, a total of £474,054. The net receipts (£511,963) covered these charges and left a small surplus of £37,909.

The gross receipts (£1,252,647), were the largest in the history of the Railway and exceeded those of the combined divisions during the previous year by £144,012, while the working expenditure at £740,684 exceeded that for 1917 by £100,927, due very largely to the increased war bonus paid the staff.

Revenue earnings have been generally good and show a substantial advance. The freights on coal from the colliery to Port Harcourt show an increase from £47,167 to £132,181, due to the larger quantity carried, and to some extent to a revision of rates. The percentage of net receipts to gross earnings in 1918 was 40·87.

The actual tonnage of goods (exclusive of coal) hauled during 1917 and 1918 was 415,519 and 434,888. Principal increases took place in the following commodities:—Gari, guinea-corn; ground-nuts, kola-nuts, palm-kernels, palm-oil, and timber, and decreases in cocoa, cotton goods, ginned cotton, raw cotton, gin, &c., hides, salt, shea nuts, skins, tin ore, and yam flour.

Though actually fewer passengers were carried in 1918 than in the previous year (the numbers being 1,166,298 and 1,180,681 respectively), the receipts for the former show an increase of £22,129, or a profit in 1918 of 7·4 pence per vehicle mile.

Capital expenditure increased by £35,099, principally in respect of expenditure incurred on the Eastern Division in the construction of 500 feet of quay wall at Port Harcourt, and on the Western Division in ballasting.

The earnings of the Motor Transport Service for the year were £15,109, or an increase of £544 on the previous year. Expenditure was £11,721 against £11,534, showing an increase of 2·46 pence per mile, due principally to war conditions, increasing prices, and wages. The total tonnage handled amounted to 13,748, as compared with 15,604 tons last year. The van mileage shows a reduction of 20,000, the figures being 148,193 and 168,285 miles respectively. The number of passengers carried has also decreased slightly, only 6 services being maintained as against 7 during 1917, that between Zaria and Maska having been discontinued.

Sir John Eaglesome, K.C.M.G., Director of Railways and Works, who was directly responsible for the construction of the Northern and Eastern Sections of the Railway, retired on December 31st. Mr. E. M. Bland, general manager of the Gold Coast Railway, was appointed to the Nigerian Railway in a similar capacity on the 1st November in the place of Mr. (now Brigadier-General) Cooper, C.B., C.M.G., who resigned the position in 1917.

LAGOS HARBOUR WORKS.

The West Mole was extended to 4,090 feet, of which 412 feet were constructed during 1918. The training bank was extended to 2,516 feet, of which 490 feet were constructed during 1918. The bar draught has improved throughout the year. At the end of 1917 the draught was 20 feet, which was increased to 21 feet on the 28th October, 1918.

MARINE SERVICES.

The Lagos-Sapele service was re-started in January, 1918, and ran throughout the year. A modified service only was maintained on the Cross River and between Forcados and Warri. The Niger service was increased during 1918 by one tug and three barges.

Dredging operations were carried out on the Lagos Harbour and outer harbour, owing to which the official bar draught was maintained at 20 feet until October, when it was raised to 21 feet.

The extent of swamp land reclaimed at Apapa was 36 acres. Reclamation was also effected at the back of both the old Customs Wharf and the extension thereto. The amount of spoil pumped up from the inner harbour and then pumped on shore at Apapa was 892,060 tons, and at the Customs 54,000 tons.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Southern Provinces.—Owing to continuation of hostilities only absolutely essential works were undertaken.

The European Hospital, Port Harcourt, was nearly completed in spite of the delay in obtaining materials from England. A first-class and a second-class officers' Rest House, and a house for the executive engineer were also erected at Port Harcourt. A first-class officers' Rest House was erected at Bonny. At Enugu, quarters for Medical Officer and District Officer, Posts and Telegraphs Office and District Office were built.

The Customs Wharf extension, built in ferro-concrete and measuring 401 feet 6 inches, was completed, and piles were driven for the foundation of the transport shed to be erected on the wharf.

The manufacture of local tiles was continued with success and lime burning at Enugu from the limestone deposit found in that district. This lime proves to be of excellent quality, and is now being used for all buildings in the Southern Provinces. When the Eastern Railway is extended about 10 miles to the deposit, lime will be sold at Enugu at about 3s. 6d. per cement cask, which will mean a very considerable saving as against cement.

Northern Provinces.—The following additional buildings were commenced at Kaduna :—European Hospital, Native Hospital, quarters for Senior Medical Officer, quarters for Nursing Sisters, quarters for

Clerks (9 blocks). Of these buildings the Native Hospital was completed, and the remaining buildings were well advanced at the end of the year. Various buildings were also erected at Bauchi and Kano.

Lime burning was commenced at Elebu in the Ilorin Province, and at Itobe on the Niger, south of Lokoja, and lime of good quality is being produced.

GENERAL.

The Expeditionary Force sent by Nigeria to German East Africa returned in March, and received an enthusiastic welcome. In view of the fine reputation which officers and men had made for themselves it was decided to reorganise the Force on a larger scale for service in a new sphere. The new Force was constituted on June 1st, and was ready to proceed overseas when the influenza epidemic broke out and delayed its departure. The Armistice followed and the Force ceased to exist on the 31st December, the Nigeria Regiment being brought up to its pre-war strength by the absorption of a portion of the personnel of the Service Brigade, as the new force was called, the remainder being demobilised. Nigeria contributed during the year a sum of £50,000 towards the cost of the Expeditionary Force which it sent to East Africa, and a sum of £84,000 towards the cost of the Service Brigade during its training.

Owing to the number of officers seconded for active service or lent for other work in connection with the War, and the vacancies which it was impossible to fill, the Civil Service remained depleted throughout the year by about one-third of its normal numbers. The work thrown on the remaining staff has consequently been heavy and has only been met by prolonged residence in Nigeria, regardless of health. All members of the staff have responded cheerfully to the call, for although every man of military age was eager to join the fighting forces, he was equally eager to do everything in his power to enable another to go if he could not himself be spared from his duties.

The year has been a fairly peaceable one in Nigeria, with the exception of the serious disturbances in the Egba country which broke out in June. This rising was very sudden and there were signs that it had been organised by persons of education and intelligence. Sections of the railway and the telegraph lines were scientifically destroyed and railway property was wrecked and burnt in the most effective manner. The stores of the merchants at the various railway stations were looted, and one European agent was brutally murdered, while many other employees, Europeans and natives, barely escaped with their lives. A large number of troops was required to restore order, as stated in a previous paragraph, and had to be kept in the field and guarding the railway line until late in August.

The system of direct taxation started in the previous year in the Oyo Province, as explained in the report for 1917, has been most successful and is being extended in the Yoruba country amongst tribes who have willingly accepted it.

There were one or two outbreaks both in the Northern Provinces and the Southern Provinces, but at the end of the year there was no sign of trouble anywhere. The Emirs in the Hausa States and Bornu have done all in their power to testify their loyalty, and during the War prayers were constantly offered in the Mosques for the success of His Majesty's Arms. When asked whether his Native Treasury would desire to make a donation to the Red Cross Fund, the Sultan of Sokoto replied that he and his chiefs preferred to subscribe from their own private purses.

The voluntary private contributions collected in Nigeria in aid of War funds and charities amounted in all to £149,000. In addition, the Native Treasuries in the Northern Provinces contributed £9,000 towards the Red Cross Fund and the Government of Nigeria contributed £1,500 towards King George's Fund for Sailors. The Native Administrations in the Northern Provinces have contributed a sum of £98,000 towards the expenditure incurred by Nigeria in connection with the War, and have offered the Imperial Government a further sum of £51,600. The total cost of the War to Nigeria to the end of 1918 is estimated at £1,495,000.

During the year the approval of the Secretary of State was given to start work on the wharves at the new railway terminal at Apapa, the construction of 800 feet of wharfage being sanctioned. Owing to the magnitude of the works it was decided to place the construction of the wharves and dock in the hands of consulting engineers, instead of carrying out the work departmentally, as at first proposed; and it has not yet been found possible to start the work.

The question of the pay of Government officers and employees became somewhat acute during the year owing to the enormous rise in the cost of living. An increased war bonus was approved by the Secretary of State, but its amount and the conditions under which it was granted did not satisfy the Service. As a result, a Special Commissioner was sent out by the Secretary of State to enquire and report, and new scales of bonus were sanctioned for both Europeans and natives.

A. G. BOYLE,
Acting Governor.

6th August, 1919.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., 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.
998	Gold Coast	1917
999	Weihaiwei	1918
1000	Zanzibar	"
1001	Hong Kong	"
1002	Somaliland	1917-1918
1003	Cayman Islands	"
1004	Ma ta	"
1005	Seychelles	1918
1006	Fiji	"
1007	Ceylon	"
1008	Nigeria	1917
1009	Turks and Caicos Islands	1918
1010	St. Helena	"
1011	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
1012	Ashanti	"
1013	East Africa Protectorate	1917-1918
1014	British Guiana	1918
1015	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1918-1919
1016	Basutoland	"
1017	Falkland Islands	1918
1018	Trinidad	"
1019	Bermuda	"
1020	Swaziland	1917-1918
1021	Somaliland	1918-1919
1022	Gibraltar	1918
1023	Grenada	1918-1919
1024	Jamaica	"
1025	Cyprus	"
1026	British Honduras	1918
1027	British Solomon Islands	1918-1919
1028	Straits Settlements	1918
1029	Gold Coast	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907-8 and 1908-9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.