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No. 954.

UGANDA.

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REPORT FOR 1916-17.

(For Report for 1915-16 see No. 914.)

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Presented to Parliament by Command of His Majesty.  
*February, 1918.*

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1918.

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## (c) EXPORTS.

6. The increase in domestic produce of £134,112 was due partly to the greater value of commodities, such as ginned cotton, which, despite a reduction in the quantity exported, showed a rise in value of £109,397, and partly to the additional output from plantations, which should continue to show steady improvement as time progresses.

## (d) DIRECTION OF TRADE.

7. Imports from the United Kingdom are valued at £413,705, an increase on 1915-16 of £154,677 and on 1913-14 of £33,656. Imports from foreign countries have decreased by £19,949—the decline from the year 1913-14 being £178,422. During the year under review imports from foreign countries represented only 24·67 per cent. of the total import trade.

8. Imports from British Possessions amounted to £652,702, of which 63·38 per cent. came from the United Kingdom and 31·26 per cent. from India, Burma, and Ceylon.

## (e) TRANSIT TRADE.

9. The transit trade shows an increase of £47,997 and the total value of goods entered for transit was £346,205.

## III.—AGRICULTURE.

10. Climatic conditions were favourable except in the Eastern Province where the cotton crop suffered severely from abnormal rains. The continuance of war, however, handicapped agricultural development in consequence of the absence of many European planters on active service, the heavy drain on the local labour supply by the military authorities, as well as the limited facilities for shipment of produce from East Africa.

11. There are 128 European estates (exclusive of Mission plantations) with a total acreage of 19,690 under cultivation.

12. 2,750,910 acres is the estimated extent of native cultivation in the Protectorate, but this does not take into account the cultivated areas in the Rudolf Province or the Gulu and Chua districts of the Northern Province, for which even approximate figures are not available. Native agriculture in administered districts is fostered by a body of native instructors, who have specialized in the cultivation of the particular crops adapted to the several districts (such as cotton in Teso, coffee in Bugishu, wheat in Toro, rice in Bunyuli, rubber and cacao in Mengo), and are under the supervision of the European staff of the Agricultural Department. They receive their training on one of the five Government plantations established in Buganda, and in the Eastern and Western Provinces which are proving not only useful centres for agricultural experiments, but also practical object lessons of scientific cultivation.

13. Cotton, for which native cultivation is alone responsible, forms the most important economic product. Uganda cotton is the progeny of "American Upland" seed, imported in 1910, of which "Allen's

long staple" and "Sunflower" have been retained as the most suitable varieties for local cultivation. The area under this crop, of which more than three-fourths lies in the Eastern Province, is estimated at 129,833 acres as against 92,127 in the previous year and 118,778—the former record—in 1914-15. Wet and cold weather were responsible for the lowest yield per acre yet experienced and for a greater percentage of second and third quality pickings.

14. It is satisfactory to note that local ginneries are handling practically the whole output. There are now 23 ginneries in the Protectorate,—15 in the Eastern Province, 7 in Buganda and 1 in the Northern Province. New ginneries have been erected at Kalaki in the Lango District and Kidongole in the Teso District of the Eastern Province, whilst others are in process of construction in various parts of the country. Cotton markets were opened in the Buganda Province for the first time during this year.

15. Uganda cotton is of a high standard American grade when marketed in clean condition and elicits a keen demand from Lancashire spinners. Transport difficulties during the last two years, however, have diverted a quantity of the crop to the Bombay market.

5,460 tons of cotton-seed were exported as against 5,225 tons in the previous year.

16. *Coffee* maintains its position as the principal crop on European plantations, and, although the yield obtained on some estates has been rather low owing to the prevalence of insect and fungoid pests, general prospects appear distinctly promising. The greater part of the coffee is now hulled before shipment and the local curing factory is proving of considerable assistance to planters for this purpose.

17. Experiments are being conducted by the Agricultural Department with many varieties of coffee from all parts of the world, but the majority of these as yet have not come into bearing. *Coffea Arabica* is so far the favourite with planters though it is possible that with the progress of time *coffea robusta*, a hardier indigenous species, will meet with greater popularity in the more humid areas of the Protectorate.

18. *Rubber*.—This product ranks next in importance after coffee and, as it suffers little from pests and diseases, should become of considerable importance. Ceara has not proved a great success and is being replaced to a considerable extent by the Para variety.

19. *Cacao*.—The cultivation of cacao is making some progress and small shipments are of regular occurrence. Exports for the period under review amounted to 257 cwts.

20. Interest is being taken also in tea, sugarcane, and tobacco by European planters, whilst chillies, rice, wheat, sim-sim, and ground-nuts are being more widely planted by natives.

#### LIVESTOCK.

21. The number of horned cattle in the Protectorate is estimated at 682,321, and the number of sheep and goats at 1,116,733. These figures do not take into consideration certain areas of the Eastern, Western, Northern, and Rudolf Provinces, where no basis for a trustworthy census is available, though the number of livestock in these regions is known to be considerable.

22. Exports of hides amounted to 19,703 cwts., valued at £52,420, showing an increase in quantity of 1,573 over the previous year, but a reduction in value of £11,047. Restrictions on export and shortage of steamer accommodation depreciated local buying prices.

23. *Rinderpest*.—Outbreaks occurred in many places in the Eastern Province and in the Gulu and Chua districts of the Northern Province. The repeated outbreaks of this disease with its high mortality are causing some anxiety.

24. *Trypanosomiasis*.—Losses from this source were not so serious amongst native herds in the Buganda and Western Provinces as in previous years. The infection, however, in many cases is spread to healthy herds in fly-free areas by contact with cattle from "tsetse" districts through the agency of other flies. This danger should be reduced materially as the "tsetse" zones become more accurately defined, and the control of stock routes in consequence can be carried out with greater efficacy.

25. *East Coast Fever*.—This disease is endemic throughout the Buganda Province and in the greater portion of the Eastern Province, but it is hoped by more regular dipping of cattle and the mapping out of non-endemic areas to restrict the spread and severity of the fever.

26. *Foot and Mouth Disease*.—Foot and mouth disease was more than usually prevalent in the Western Province. A particularly severe outbreak occurring at Mbarara in Ankole where a high percentage of the infected cattle succumbed. Mild outbreaks visited Kampala in February and March. No cases have as yet been seen in any animals except cattle.

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#### IV.—FORESTRY.

27. The saw-mill at Tero was dismantled and transported by canoe to Sango Bay prior to re-erection on Busungwe Island at the mouth of the Kagera River. Work was commenced on a new road to connect the forest with the river, as it is intended to float logs downstream to the new site of the saw-mill.

28. The exploitation of the Nambigiruwa Forest was continued but difficulties were experienced in transporting logs owing to the condition of the road. The restocking of the forest is being undertaken with *Entandrophragma* sp. and *Maesopsis berchemoides*, Engler, two of the best timber-yielding species in Uganda.

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#### V.—LAND AND SURVEY.

##### (a) SURVEY.

29. *Topographical*.—No further progress was made with the general topographical survey of the Protectorate and no maps of importance were published during the year.

30. *Cadastral*.—Theodolite observations in connexion with the survey of native estates in the Buganda Province were completed over an area of 260 square miles, a decrease of 923 square miles from the aggregate for the previous twelve months. Detail was completed

over an area of 295 square miles compared with 719 square miles in the year 1915-16. The total area within which all native-owned land has been surveyed up to the 31st March, 1917, is approximately 6,713 square miles. The total net area surveyed for the year on European plantations was 13,073 acres, of which 65 acres were in the Eastern Province, 6,121 in the Western Province (Toro), 6,430 in the Northern Province (Bunyoro), and 456 acres in Buganda.

31. Six new townships were finally demarcated in the Eastern Province.

(b) LAND.

32. The number of grants and leases of land during the period under review was 138, divided as under :—

	Leases.	Grants.
Township plots .. ..	74	—
Agricultural land .. ..	37	27

33. The area of Crown land sold for agricultural purposes was 6,092·07 acres and the average price realized was 4s. 7d. an acre as against 3s. 3d. in the previous year. In addition 3,999·39 acres of native land were transferred to non-natives for a similar purpose at an average price of 8s. 7d. an acre, and a further area of 112·12 acres was leased to non-natives.

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## VI.—COMMUNICATIONS.

### (a) RAILWAYS AND MARINE.

34. Both railway lines were well-maintained during the year and free from serious accident.

35. The Busoga Railway Marine service showed some irregularity in its calls at certain ports in consequence of the abnormal rise of the Lake level. Many of the existing piers and warehouses were either wholly or partially submerged on this account. Navigation towards the end of the year was further complicated owing to the blocking of certain channels by masses of floating papyrus and vegetation which had been lifted by the rising waters from their original anchorage on the Lake bottom and had drifted down with the current. It has proved impracticable to push a steamer channel to Agu without the assistance of dredgers, but connexion with the steamers is effected by means of lighters and barges. During the cotton season a number of punts and canoes are provided by private enterprise to supplement the Government transport facilities.

#### *Lake Albert Marine Transport Service.*

36. There has been an appreciable increase in traffic during the twelve months under review, 2,986 passengers and 587 tons of cargo having been carried against 2,676 passengers and 474 tons of cargo in the preceding year.

## (b) WHEELED TRANSPORT.

37. A fleet of twelve Government motor vans is employed on the under-mentioned routes :—

- (a) Kampala and Entebbe.
- (b) Kampala and Bombo.
- (c) Kampala and Matiri, a point 161 miles on the road to Fort Portal (Western Province Headquarters).
- (d) Masindi Port (Lake Kioga), Masindi (Northern Province Headquarters) and Bukumi—roadhead 7 miles from the port of Butiaba on Lake Albert.

The freight carried by the motor service totalled 1,613 tons, a decrease of 412 tons under last year's figure.

38. Private motor lorries ply on the Jinja-Iganga-Mbale road in the Eastern Province and supplement the Government service between Kampala-Mubendi-Matiri. The increased activities of private enterprise in this direction during war-time is a hopeful augury for the future.

39. The freight carried by the bullock wagons of the Transport Department amounted to 2,466 tons, an increase of 567 tons over the traffic handled by this method during the year 1915-16.

40. Motor vehicles, hamali carts, and ox transport gradually are replacing human portorage on the more frequented roads throughout the Protectorate, and it is satisfactory to note that the number of carriers employed in the Eastern Province in connexion with the conveyance of cotton and travellers' loads is decreasing.

## (c) ROADS.

41. Owing to the conditions caused by the War very little progress could be effected in the programme under the Loan for improving communications in the Eastern Province, only some six miles of road being completed on the various sectors during the year. The total length of road constructed since the inception of the scheme in 1912-13 amounts to 167 miles at a total cost of £45,608 or an average cost of approximately £273 per mile.

## VII.—POPULATION AND HEALTH.

## (a) POPULATION.

42. The population of the Protectorate in March, 1917, was estimated as 2,954,861. This total includes 809 Europeans, of whom 254 are females, 3,548 Asiatics, comprising 2,843 males and 705 females. The native population in those areas where reliable statistics are obtainable has been returned at 1,274,879 males and 1,525,625 females, or a total of 2,800,504, whilst that in the Rudolf Province and the unadministered portions of the Eastern Province is calculated approximately at an additional 150,000. The gross native population, therefore, may be reckoned at 2,950,504, compared with 2,840,469, the aggregate calculated at the census held in March, 1911.

(b) PUBLIC HEALTH.

43. The statistics in this section refer to the calendar year 1916, when the conditions of general health were satisfactory. The number of cases treated in Government hospitals and dispensaries amounted to 75,537 cases with 553 deaths, as against 77,467 cases with 206 deaths in the preceding year, the increased mortality being due mainly to plague epidemics at Kampala, Port Bell, and Jinja, which accounted for an aggregate of 270 deaths. Cases treated at the Field Dispensaries of the Northern Garrison and at the Military Hospital at Bombo are not included in the general statistical tables.

*Europeans.*

44. The total number of European officials resident during the year was 484, amongst whom occurred 480 cases of illness and one death, as compared with 599 cases and no deaths during the year 1915. Of the total admissions to hospital 138 were due to malaria and 97 to digestive complaints.

45. 329 Europeans, as against 191 in 1915, were admitted for treatment to the Central Hospital of the Church Missionary Society at Namirembe and eight to the Society's Hospital at Fort Portal.

46. The diseases which call for special attention in connection with the native population are plague, cerebro-spinal meningitis, sleeping sickness, small-pox, and venereal diseases.

47. Epidemics of plague, attended with comparatively heavy mortality, broke out at Kampala and Port Bell towards the end of September and at Jinja at the beginning of October. Up to the 31st December, 213 cases with 193 deaths were recorded in Kampala Township and environs, whilst 25 with 23 deaths were registered at Port Bell and 63 cases with 54 deaths at Jinja. The disease was introduced probably through the medium of infected rats in cargoes of seed-cotton from the endemic plague areas of the Eastern Province. Immediate preventive measures were instituted by the sanitary authorities, including inoculation of the inhabitants of the affected areas with Haffkine's serum. Pickets were posted also on all roads radiating from the epidemic centres to control the movements of travellers and merchandise. The precautions taken were instrumental in confining the incidence of the epidemic, and, except for sporadic cases, the outbreak was overcome before the close of the year. It was possible also to keep the large number of troops and military porters who passed through the infected ports entirely free from plague. Diagnosis showed that the disease contracted was, in most instances, of the septicaemic type, though a few cases of pneumonic plague occurred during the Jinja outbreak.

48. *Sleeping Sickness.*—The number of cases and deaths under this head have dwindled almost to a negligible quantity. The clearings made to exclude the tsetse fly (*Glossina palpalis*) from ferries and ports on recognised water-ways have been maintained but opportunities for independent research with reference to this disease have been nullified in consequence of the seconding of all available Medical Officers for military duty.

49. *Small-pox.*—Two epidemics outbreaks occurred during the year, one in the Eastern Province in a remote part of the Busoga District, and the other in the Ankole and Kigezi districts of the Western Province.

54,686 vaccinations were performed in 1916, as compared with 128,689 during the previous year.

#### (c) SANITATION.

50. The local Sanitary Boards, whose functions have been extended considerably by recent legislation, exercised control of municipal sanitation in the various townships with satisfactory results. Anti-malarial gangs have rendered valuable assistance in removing stagnant water and rubbish near residential quarters.

51. Extensive reclamation of swamp land has been undertaken at Soroti and Kampala. The drainage of swamps has been maintained and improved at most stations, but the abnormal rise in level of the Nile and Lake Kioga has caused an unavoidable extension of the marshy areas in some districts, notably at Butiaba.

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### VIII.—JUDICIAL.

52. The statistics detailed in this section refer to the calendar year 1916.

53. The number of criminal cases brought before the High Court and the British subordinate Courts amounted to 1,014 as compared with 1,216 cases in 1915. The number of persons involved in the charges was 1,415, a decrease of 396 on the corresponding figures for the preceding year. Of those charged, 1,158 were convicted, 200 acquitted and 53 discharged for want of evidence.

54. Civil cases dealt with by the British courts aggregated 529, a decrease of 410 over the total for the previous twelve months. The number of cases of serious crime rose from 98 in 1915 to 113 in 1916. Of these eight were tried by the High Court and the remainder by District Courts.

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### IX.—EDUCATION.

55. There are no Government schools, but a large number of native children are educated at the schools of the three Missionary Societies, whose efforts receive limited financial support from the Administration. The Societies maintain elementary schools at their more important stations with a few higher-grade and normal establishments for the training of clerks, teachers, and interpreters. In addition to the above numerous village schools of a more primitive character are conducted by native teachers.

56. Small fees are paid at the higher-grade schools by those pupils who can afford to do so, but a large number of the more intelligent children of the peasant class receive their education free. Boys trained in these schools find little difficulty in obtaining employment

as interpreters or clerks to planters and commercial firms. Qualified natives are also engaged by the chiefs in the more advanced districts for clerical duties.

57. *Technical Education.*—Several agricultural schools are maintained by the Missions. Instruction is afforded also at some centres in various handicrafts, such as carpentry, brick-making, weaving, and masonry, whilst the Church Missionary Society and White Fathers Mission each control a printing press. Promising results have been achieved amongst the Nilotic tribes by the artizan school established for the Gulu and Chua districts by the Verona Mission.

58. *Government Subsidies.*—Out of the Government grant of £1,250 for educational purposes:—

The Church Missionary Society receives . . . . .	£850
The White Fathers of Algeria (Roman Catholic)	£300
The Mill Hill Mission . . . . .	£100

59. The absence of many missionaries on active service both in Europe and East Africa during the year has prevented any appreciable extension of educational facilities to new areas, but the repeated requests by the military authorities for natives, more especially from the Buganda Province, as interpreters, artizans, motor drivers, and ambulance workers testify to the soundness of the educational system, and the results attained are extremely creditable to the Missionary Societies.

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#### X.—NATIVE AFFAIRS.

60. Active administration now extends over the whole of the Protectorate with the exception of the Rudolf Province and the districts of Karamojo and Lolor in the Eastern Province. Apart from certain native raids on the northern frontier and unsuccessful attempts to undermine European authority in the Kigezi District of the Western Province, there have been no important disturbances in outlying districts. In the settled areas the chiefs, without exception, gave ready assistance in complying with all military demands for labour, supplies of food, and maintenance of roads—a testimony of loyalty which reflects the popularity and confidence inspired by British administration.

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## 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.
919	Nyasaland .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	1915-1916
920	Nigeria .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	1915
921	East Africa Protectorate ..	..	..	..	..	..	1915-1916
922	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	..	..	..	..	..	"
923	Hong Kong .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	1916
924	Weihaiwei .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	"
925	Zanzibar .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	"
926	Fiji .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	"
927	Turks and Caicos Islands, ..	..	..	..	..	..	"
928	Cayman Islands .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	1915-1916
929	Seychelles .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	1916
930	Trinidad and Tobago .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	"
931	Gibraltar .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	"
932	Bahamas .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	1916-1917
933	St. Helena .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	1916
934	Ceylon .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	"
935	Malta .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	1916-1917
936	Gambia .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	1916
937	British Guiana .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	"
938	Falkland Islands .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	"
939	Sierra Leone .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	"
940	Straits Settlements .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	"
941	Cyprus .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	1916-1917
942	Grenada .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	"
943	Jamaica .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	"
944	Somaliland .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	"
945	Swaziland .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	"
946	Nigeria .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	1916
947	Basutoland .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	1916-1917
948	Gold Coast .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	1916
949	Ashanti .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	"
950	Bechuanaland Protectorate ..	..	..	..	..	..	1916-1917
951	Barbados .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	"
952	Leeward Islands .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	"
953	St. Vincent .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	"

## 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.
85	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.