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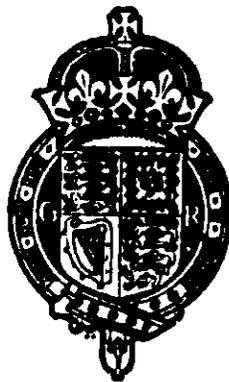
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BASUTOLAND.

REPORT FOR 1929.

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BASUTOLAND.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1929.*

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MAP OF BASUTOLAND.

PREFATORY NOTE.

History and Geography.

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, which occupy most of the country to the east, in former years were reserved entirely as cattle and sheep-posts, but owing to the increase

* The financial information given in this Report is for the financial year ended 31st March, 1929.

in population the Basuto have found it necessary to migrate there, build villages, and cultivate the land, so that to-day this more or less inaccessible area is gradually becoming as thickly populated as the low-lying country to the west. The result of this invasion into the mountain area is the disappearance of all big game, such as eland and hartebeest, that used to abound some thirty years ago and the gradual elimination of the smaller buck, and all species of wild fowl.

In favourable seasons the territory produces wheat, maize, and kaffir corn, and to a smaller extent peas, beans, and other vegetables, while horse-breeding and the raising of cattle and sheep are profitable undertakings, especially the latter; the export of wool and mohair for this year amounting to 14,898,944 pounds weight, valued at £530,500 approximately.

In 1818 the first Paramount Chief of Basutoland, Moshesh, gathered together the various remnants of tribes which had become scattered about South Africa during the wars waged by Moselekatse, the King of the Matabele, and thus founded what has become the Basuto nation. The estimated native population is 550,000, while the Europeans, as taken in the last census in 1921, numbered 1,600.

In 1852 war broke out between Moshesh and the British Government; the Basuto were defeated by Sir G. Cathcart at the battle of the Berea Mountain, and Moshesh sent in his submission and made peace. A series of wars then took place from 1856 onwards between the Basuto and the inhabitants of the Orange Free State, and it was not until 1868, when he was hard pressed by the Boers, that Moshesh appealed to the British Government for help and the recognition of his people as British subjects. This was carried into effect by a Proclamation dated the 12th March, 1868, and the event is now commemorated by observing this date as a public holiday, known as "Moshoeshoe's Day." In 1871, however, 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 for the general disarmament of the Basuto. The Basuto, however, 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 was effected by Order in Council of 2nd February, 1884, which was proclaimed and brought into force by Proclamation 75A of 18th March, 1884. Since that date the territory has been governed by a Resident Commissioner under the direction of the High Commissioner for South Africa.

Languages.

The principal languages are English and Sesuto, although in the southern and south-eastern portions, other native languages are largely spoken.

Currency.

The coin in circulation is mainly South African, but late South African Republic coins are occasionally met with. Central Reserve Bank notes are brought into the territory, but the local Bank only re-issues the notes of joint stock banks. Gold coin is unlimited but the demand is negligible. During the year the Maseru Branch of the Standard Bank of South Africa exported £18,000 gold, £2,500 silver, and £25 copper. The figures for gold and silver show a substantial increase on those given last year.

It is considered that the amount of notes and coin in circulation will not be maintained as time goes on owing to increased spending by the native inhabitants, and the larger number who have learnt to deposit with the Bank ; but the amount of coin in circulation at the end of 1929 was between £40,000 and £50,000, and notes between £100,000 and £125,000.

The Imperial Coinage Act, 1920, is in force in the territory, re-enacted under High Commissioner's Notice No. 63 of 1920.

Weights and Measures.

The weights and measures in use in Basutoland are the British Imperial, but the Colonial ton of 2,000 lb. is also used.

I.—GENERAL.

Chief Rafolatsane of Mokhotlong died in September, and there has been some discussion amongst his people as to who is to succeed him.

The succession to the Leribe Chieftainship, which became vacant on the death of Chief Jonathan in September, 1928, was disputed by members of the family of the late Chief, and the uncertainty which prevailed as to the settlement of the succession gave rise to some feeling of unrest in the area concerned among the partisans of the rival claimants.

There were no faction fights of any serious nature during the year.

Two retirements from the Service took place during the year. Mr. A. T. Bond, Assistant Commissioner, retired in September and his post was filled by Captain T. B. Kennan, M.C. Mr. R. M. Bosworth Smith, C.B.E., retired from the office of Government Secretary on the 31st December, and Mr. F. L. Foord has since been appointed to the post.

His Excellency the High Commissioner paid a semi-official visit to the territory during the month of May.

Drought.—Although most promising rains fell at the close of the winter and in the early spring, the territory suffered a severe drought towards the end of the year, and the crop prospects are not too good.

The Assistant Commissioners' Conference.—The Assistant Commissioners of the territory held their annual Conference at Maseru during October, to discuss questions of administration which had arisen during the year.

The National Council.—The Twenty-Fourth Session of the Basutoland National Council was held at Maseru from the 12th to the 30th October, 1929. The following were the more important questions discussed :—

1. Reform of Native Courts.—After formal discussion, a Sub-Committee was appointed to go through the draft regulations framed by the Resident Commissioner, with a view to discussing the draft clause by clause, and making a recommendation at the end of their session to the full Council. The sitting of the Sub-Committee lasted for seven days, and the whole draft, with the exception of a few minor regulations, was rejected.
2. Consolidation of the Scab Regulations.
3. Deferred pay system at the mines—pleasing growth of—continued efforts.
4. Improvement of the quality of wool and mohair.

II.—FINANCE.

The revenue for the financial year ended 31st March, 1929, amounted to £339,892, and the expenditure to £316,577, an excess of revenue over expenditure of £23,315.

The balance of assets in excess of liabilities at the 31st March, 1929, was £58,974, in addition to which there is a reserved surplus of £70,000 inclusive of the Swaziland loan.

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

								REVENUE.				
<i>Head.</i>								<i>1924-25</i>	<i>1925-26</i>	<i>1926-27</i>	<i>1927-28</i>	<i>1928-29</i>
								£	£	£	£	£
Native Tax	...	...	...	...	...	...	127,531	139,776	132,072	137,744	141,719
Customs and Excise	...	...	...	...	...	...	76,765	84,196	87,352	92,201	96,072
Posts and Telegraphs	...	...	...	...	...	...	8,520	8,428	7,648	8,466	9,181
Licences	...	...	...	...	...	...	7,928	7,766	8,758	8,938	9,206
Fees of Court or Office	...	...	...	...	...	...	906	1,084	933	956	1,094
Judicial Fines	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,991	3,022	1,911	2,629	2,515
Income Tax	...	...	...	...	...	...	12,997	13,759	10,784	12,843	16,022
Fees for services rendered	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,484	1,386	1,278	1,159	1,296
Interest	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,735	1,819	2,158	2,275	3,670
Wool Export Duty	...	...	...	...	...	...	17,189	15,421	17,141	17,918	33,976
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,962	4,915	4,369	7,913	10,038
Education Levy	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	13,357	15,103
Totals							<u>£261,008</u>	<u>£281,572</u>	<u>£274,404</u>	<u>£306,399</u>	<u>£339,892</u>	

EXPENDITURE.

<i>Head.</i>	1924-25	1925-26	1926-27	1927-28	1928-29
	£	£	£	£	£
Resident Commissioner	13,692	13,829	13,811	12,532	13,099
District Administration	12,791	13,091	13,690	13,619	14,118
Police	36,756	37,507	39,164	39,160	38,357
Administration of Justice	11,078	11,659	11,194	12,379	11,764
Posts and Telegraphs	10,118	10,458	11,676	11,118	11,568
Public Works Department	5,665	5,616	5,218	5,147	5,239
Public Works Recurrent	22,153	23,778	25,669	23,044	29,502
Public Works Extraordinary	2,383	8,820	6,872	3,671	2,747
Medical	22,795	21,548	22,617	26,121	25,676
Education	35,836	40,113	41,412	54,871	58,596
Lerotholi Technical School	2,429	2,486	2,508	6,566	6,658
Agriculture	22,927	28,780	27,659	30,874	39,178
Allowances to Chiefs	12,323	11,994	11,691	12,002	12,562
National Council	2,193	2,037	1,909	1,641	1,762
Leper Settlement	19,077	19,306	19,401	19,558	19,238
Pensions	6,812	7,599	10,030	11,797	11,828
Miscellaneous	6,955	9,455	6,076	6,970	7,998
Capital Expenditure	4,214	—	2,030	3,804	6,687
Totals	£250,197	£268,076	£272,627	£294,874	£316,577

INCOME TAX.

The rates of normal and super tax remained the same as during the preceding financial year, and were imposed by the Basutoland Income Tax Proclamation, 1925. The only enactment during the year under review dealing with Income Tax was the Basutoland Income Tax Proclamation, 1929 (No. 41 of 1929), which, in levying the tax for the twelve months ending 30th June, 1929, promulgated certain amendments to the Principal Law with the proviso that they should first take effect in respect of this period. The principal amendment was that the rebate in respect of children was raised to £75, and the age in respect of which the rebate could be claimed, to 21 years of age. This, however, did not affect the Income Tax collected in the financial year 1928-29, which was in respect of the twelve months ended 30th June, 1928, and was made up as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Arrear Normal Tax	591	4	6
Current Normal Tax	11,606	0	9
Arrear Super Tax	347	9	0
Current Super Tax	3,476	18	5
	<hr/>		
	£16,021	12	8

The following table shows the sources from which taxable incomes were derived and the amount of tax paid from each source, and also compares the collections with the previous year :—

Source.	1927-1928			1928-1929			+ or —			
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	
General Traders	9,803	0	9	11,853	10	4	+	2,050	9	7
Civil Servants	1,157	19	3	1,176	10	8	+	18	11	5
Employed Persons	1,012	14	2	574	3	9	—	438	10	5
Others, including Bank	467	0	4	1,246	12	9	+	779	12	5
Non-Residents	402	6	5	1,170	15	2	+	768	8	9
	<hr/>			<hr/>				<hr/>		
	£12,843	0	11	£16,021	12	8	+	£3,178	11	9

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

Number.	Category.	Total of Taxable Income. £
36	£500 and under.	13,172
52	£501 to £750	32,250
28	£751 to £1,000	24,457
33	£1,001 to £1,500	41,309
8	£1,501 to £2,000	13,744
9	£2,001 to £4,000	24,763
7	Over £4,000	67,407
<hr/>		<hr/>
173	Total taxable income of persons assessed for current tax.	£217,102

III.—PRODUCTION.

AGRICULTURE.

Locust Destruction.—There has been no invasion of Basutoland by flying swarms of locusts since 1923, nor has there been any hatching out of *voetgangers* in this territory. No solitary brown locusts, which might breed up and finally form swarms have been noticed or reported to the Agricultural Officer. The Maseru Reserve has been fairly clear of the “Elegant Grasshopper” this year.

Agricultural Shows.—An amount of £760 was provided for agricultural shows, which were held in all the districts as usual, and in addition small shows were started at Butha Buthe and Peka, which were most successful. A much keener competition has been noticeable for the past few years in the produce classes. This can, without a doubt, be attributed to the work of the demonstrators, who are creating that spirit of competition which is so necessary for the improvement of agriculture.

Donga Prevention.—The aim of the Department in this direction during the year was to endeavour to maintain the work that had already been completed. Several methods have been utilized in the past in all parts of the territory to combat the continual erosion of the soil by donga formations.

It was the purpose of the Agricultural Department to instil into the native mind the loss of the richest soil that dongas continually and increasingly caused. Unfortunately, as was the case in other agricultural matters, it was found that the natives derived little benefit from this instruction; and it was seldom that any attempt was made in their own villages to carry out the instructions. Hence, after considerable thought and in the light of experience gained, the Department made a thorough alteration in its instructional methods. Briefly, under the new plan, the native was taught better methods of agriculture viewed as a whole, in the hope that a knowledge of the whole subject would encourage and enable them to realize the real importance of donga prevention. For this purpose a number of native demonstrators have since been employed, who give lectures and ocular demonstration, so that the people may take a livelier interest in a subject of so much importance to them. They are shown the value of planting suitable trees where dongas have already formed, and the danger of careless ploughing and of having many needless cattle paths on land that is as yet free from erosion.

In spite of all this, however, there is no definite improvement to be reported, and fresh dongas are continually being formed and allowed to grow, without any effort on the part of the natives to combat their progress.

Tree Planting.—Tree nurseries are provided in the chief camps for the purpose of distributing trees free of charge to all natives and Europeans living in Basutoland. Although every facility is given

the Basuto to encourage him to undertake tree planting on a bigger scale, the response is not yet all that might be wished for. There are, however, a number of small plantations all over the territory that have been planted since the war and are now beginning to show up well.

At the close of the year there were some 157,800 trees in the various Government nurseries. During the year 53,794 trees were issued to natives and others and 9,202 trees were planted in the various Government reserves.

Agricultural Associations.—The Department is aiming to foster the formation of these associations amongst the Basuto throughout Basutoland, with the idea of teaching the natives to take an interest in agriculture, to meet together to discuss agricultural questions and to help themselves without always expecting Government assistance for every little improvement made in their agricultural methods.

Agricultural Demonstrators.—Demonstration work was first started in Basutoland in 1924 with four Demonstrators, and the number employed has gradually risen to fifteen. They are all young men who have passed the Agricultural Diploma of one or other of the recognized Native Agricultural Schools in the Union of South Africa, and are distributed in each district and sub-district in the territory. Demonstrators are also stationed at Roma, Morija, and Leloaleng Training Institutions and the Lerotholi Technical School, Maseru, where demonstration lands are worked, and where agricultural apprentices are trained and the pupils given a course of agricultural lectures.

The general work of all demonstrators is to give lectures on subjects such as the selection of seed, planting and proper cultivation of the various crops grown throughout their districts shortly before these operations take place. They also undertake the working of various native lands to show a contrast between them and the ordinary lands worked by the natives themselves. In a good season a demonstrator works from 25 to 30 lands and obtains an increase of from 50 to 100 per cent.

Experimental work is also being carried out with the use of superphosphate and nitrate of soda. The application of superphosphate has been found most beneficial, a land thus fertilized yielding an increase in the region of 100 per cent. over an unfertilized land which has otherwise been treated in the same way. Nitrate of soda plots have been disappointing. Better results have been obtained on plots thus treated than on unmanured plots, but, on the whole, the experiments have been spoilt during the last two seasons by droughts occurring when the mealies were flowering.

FORESTRY, FISHERIES, AND MINING.

There are no natural forests in Basutoland and no fisheries. No mining operations are carried on.

IV.—TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

The following is a return of the imports into, and exports from the territory by general traders during the calendar year, 1929, the figures for 1928 being given for the purposes of comparison :—

IMPORTS.

	1928		1929	
	No.	Value.	No.	Value.
MERCHANDISE	—	£ 881,767	—	£ 669,008
<i>Livestock.</i> —				
Horses, Mules, etc.	1,350	1,855	251	501
Cattle	4,772	11,239	2,428	6,351
Sheep and Goats	716	1,541	149	207
<i>Grain.</i> —				
Wheat and Wheat Meal... ..	6,920	10,460	5,415	8,837
Maize and Maize Meal	15,289	10,925	25,049	17,398
Kaffir Corn	3,399	3,124	4,315	3,030
Other Produce	—	663	—	1,084
Totals	—	£921,574	—	£706,416

EXPORTS.

	1928		1929	
	No.	Value.	No.	Value.
<i>Livestock.</i> —		£		£
Horses, Mules, etc.	32	233	104	534
Cattle	1,538	7,165	1,496	6,678
Sheep and Goats	—	—	26	25
<i>Grain.</i> —				
Wheat and Wheat Meal... ..	118,280	131,414	72,103	64,408
Maize and Maize Meal	100,774	59,295	87,404	42,144
Kaffir Corn	30,969	18,530	37,056	21,334
Oats	55	37	—	—
Barley	138	86	90	50
Beans and Peas	2,371	3,166	4,312	5,461
<i>Wool and Mohair.</i> —				
Wool	12,725,153	610,750	12,937,198	436,083
Mohair	1,921,189	139,484	1,961,746	94,352
<i>Hides and Skins.</i> —				
Hides	607,428	31,817	445,286	15,126
Skins	406,480	11,002	365,039	8,327
<i>Miscellaneous</i>	—	413	—	272
Totals	—	£1,013,392	—	£694,794

OTHER STATISTICS.

Government imports during the year amounted to £54,686 as compared with £50,059 in 1928.

The total export of wool and mohair during the year amounted to 17,037,600 lb., of which 14,898,944 lb. was exported by general traders.

GENERAL.

All imports by traders are made through wholesale firms in the Union of South Africa or by direct indent with wholesale houses overseas, and all exports are to the Union of South Africa. It is therefore impossible to give the origin of goods imported or the ultimate destination of goods exported.

With the exception of fuel, soap, motor oil and petrol, which are purchased in the Union, all Government imports are made through the Crown Agents for the Colonies in London.

V.—COMMUNICATIONS.

RAILWAYS.

There is only a small branch line on the Bloemfontein-Natal main line, from Marseilles to Maseru, only one mile of which is in Basutoland.

ROADS AND BRIDGES.

During the year re-gravelling and re-shaping work has been carried on almost continuously on the main or "A" roads. In many sections, low-lying portions have been raised, and considerable improvement to the alignment of the road has been effected. Attention has also been directed, to a greater extent than in previous years, to improving the drainage of the roads and a number of concrete pipe-drains have been built under the roads. Improvements in the side drainage have also been carried out. It will not be possible to complete the drainage of the roads satisfactorily for a number of years, but the progress made so far will be maintained and, it is hoped, accelerated in the future.

In the north, heavy constructional work, entailing considerable rock blasting, has been carried out on the Libono Road, which will be completed early during the coming year.

While it may be said that the roads of the north have improved generally during the year, the difficulty of obtaining road gravel within reasonable distance makes maintenance and constructional work slow and expensive. The roads in the south are more fortunate in this respect; yet here, too, the long leads and slow oxen transport delay constructional work to a serious extent.

The " B " or " feeder " roads are still in a bad state of repair, but an endeavour is now being made to give them more constant attention.

During December heavy rains did considerable damage to the roads and causeways, mainly in the Leribe, Berea, and Mafeteng districts. The damage has been made good as far as is possible, but it is hoped to replace some of the causeways during the coming year by the construction of large culverts.

The main road from the railway station into Maseru has now been completed in a sound and durable manner.

The bridges in the territory have been maintained satisfactorily, and during the year a new floor of ferrocrete concrete has been laid on the Peka Bridge. The drift at Caledon's Poort has been rendered impassable during the last few months by continuous rains, and the construction of a bridge over the Caledon River in this neighbourhood in the near future is under consideration.

A bridge over the Tsœlike River, 20 miles from Qacha's Nek, has been undertaken departmentally. The stone masonry abutments have been completed and now the girder-work of a span of 210 feet suspension is in process of erection.

POSTAL.

All districts in Basutoland are linked up with Maseru by telegraph and telephone lines, with the exception of Qacha's Nek which is connected by telegraph and telephone to Matatiele in East Griqualand. The systems are owned by the Basutoland Government. Both telegraph and telephones are used by the general public and public telephone call offices are attached to each post office.

There are ten telegraph offices in the territory and 154½ miles of telegraph wire. During 1929 telegraph messages numbering 59,651 were dealt with as follows :—cables, 241 ; Government telegrams, 3,692 ; ordinary, 21,173 ; transmitted, 13,764 ; received, 20,781.

There are ten central telephone offices with telephones in service. The length of local exchange wire is 84½ miles and long-distance wire 573½ miles.

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

	<i>Deposits.</i>	<i>Withdrawals.</i>
1927-28 =	1,845, value £9,187.	867, value £6,540
1928-29 =	2,218, value £9,874.	956, value £8,130

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

	<i>Issued.</i>	<i>Paid.</i>
1927-28 =	32,597, value £29,905.	47,427, value £52,377.
1928-29 =	33,231, value £29,369.	41,950, value £48,232.

VI.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.

During 1928 a Judicial Commissioner was appointed as President of the Court of the Resident Commissioner. This was promulgated by Proclamation No. 10 of 1928, which amended Proclamation No. 2B of 1884.

During the year 1929, 2,771 crimes were reported or known to the police, the number of persons proceeded against being 2,252, as compared with 2,914 and 2,737, respectively, for the year 1928. Convictions in Magisterial Courts numbered 1,804 and in the Resident Commissioner's Court 94, as compared with 2,162 and 37, respectively, in 1928.

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

<i>In Magisterial Courts.</i>					<i>1926.</i>	<i>1927.</i>	<i>1928.</i>	<i>1929.</i>
Offences against the person	...	...	...	...	97	287	438	213
Offences against property	...	...	...	...	244	272	253	221
Offences against liquor laws	...	...	...	...	52	37	42	57
Other crimes	...	...	...	...	1,409	1,484	1,429	1,313
<i>In the Resident Commissioner's Court.</i>					<i>1926.</i>	<i>1927.</i>	<i>1928.</i>	<i>1929.</i>
Murder	...	...	...	...	6	1	1	6
Culpable homicide	...	...	...	...	38	24	20	30
Attempted murder	...	...	...	...	—	1	4	5
Rape	...	...	...	...	2	—	2	5
Unnatural crime	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the person	...	...	...	...	11	4	2	1
Offences against property with violence to the person.	...	...	...	...	298	48	4	33
Other offences against property...	...	...	...	...	41	15	3	14
Other crimes	...	...	...	...	1	—	—	—

POLICE.

The Basutoland Mounted Police is maintained under the Basutoland Proclamation No. 12 of 1921. The Force is under the control of the Resident Commissioner, who is also the Commandant, with a Staff Officer resident at Maseru.

There is a training depot for all recruits at Maseru under the supervision of the Staff Officer, with a Warrant Officer as Drill Instructor, a native Sergeant-Major, and a native non-commissioned officer.

Finger-print work is also carried out at Maseru and is under the charge of a Warrant Officer qualified in this work.

Mounted detachments of the Force are stationed in Maseru, and in the various districts of the territory, under the command of the European officers of the establishment who are responsible for the general police routine being carried out within their districts and for the efficiency of their respective detachments.

The establishment of the Force is as follows :—

Europeans :—

Inspectors	...	...	6 (one of whom is Staff Officer).
Sub-Inspectors	...	...	6
Warrant Officers	...	...	2 (1 Chief Constable, 1 vacancy).
			—
			14

Native Police :—

Sergeant-Major	...	...	1
Sergeants	...	...	14
Corporals	...	...	15
Privates	...	...	309
			—
			339
			—
Total all ranks	...	...	353

Depot.—As there is no surplus strength kept at the Depot recruits are only sent there for training after vacancies have been filled. Refresher courses are undertaken from drafts from the districts sent in from time to time. During 1929, 23 recruits were passed through and 89 men reported for refresher courses.

Finger-print Work.—This branch continues to do valuable service by supplying the Courts with the previous criminal history of accused persons whose finger-prints are sent in for identification. During the year, over 700 finger impressions were received for search. In addition to ordinary criminal work, search was made on behalf of other departments to ensure that persons desirous of employment had no serious criminal conviction registered against them.

Health of Police.—During the year the health of the police has been good. It is regretted that two deaths occurred among the native staff early in the year.

Conduct of Police.—As strict discipline has to be, and is, maintained, native members of the staff who are guilty of repeated misconduct are generally dismissed. Ten discharges are recorded during the year for unsatisfactory conduct; otherwise the conduct of the police has been very good.

Condition of Troop Horses.—Considering the extensive patrol work performed by the native members of the Force, and the droughty conditions which prevailed in many of the districts, the horses have maintained their condition remarkably well. Nine deaths were reported during the year, and compensation was paid to the owners, it being the practice that horses are privately owned but fed at Government expense, each man's horse being registered for insurance purposes.

Work performed by Police.—The following is a summary of the routine work carried out during the year :—

Crimes reported to the Police	...	...	...	2,771
Persons prosecuted	...	...	...	2,252
Persons convicted	...	...	...	1,898
Miscellaneous inquiries, etc.	...	...	...	981

Apart from the ordinary routine, the Police were called upon to perform extraneous duties, such as assisting in the collection of Hut Tax, Wool Tax, providing prison guards, clerical assistance in various District offices, and services in the Medical and Veterinary Departments.

Crime.—In the year under review there were less crimes of violence dealt with than in the previous year, but there was a slight increase in the contravention of the Liquor Laws. The long section of the border, which it is impossible to police regularly, gives the smugglers ample scope, but every endeavour is being made to combat the evil.

Stock theft still continues to be a grave menace to the stock-owners, and prosecutions appear to be about the same as in previous years. Further co-operation on the part of the chiefs with the police would be a benefit in the detection of this crime.

In respect of crimes of a less serious nature, the figures for the year show a slight decrease.

A summary of criminal statistics for the year is shown under the heading, "Justice."

PRISONS.

There are nine gaols and one lock-up in the territory, and 2,643 prisoners passed through them during the year, as compared with 2,597 in 1928.

For several years past all juvenile offenders of from 15 to 20 years of age have been sent to serve their sentences at the Peka Gaol where they are under the close supervision of the officer-in-charge, who reports that their conduct and work during the year has been satisfactory.

VII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

Extensive repairs to Government buildings have been undertaken during the year at Mafeteng, Mohales Hoek, and the Leper Settlement compounds, while numerous smaller repairs and works, such as native sheep inspectors' quarters and police stabling, have been undertaken in the various camps.

Two additional rooms were built on to the existing laundry at the Maseru Hospital by the Lerotholi Technical School, and a new room has been added to the Agricultural Officer's quarters. At the Leper Settlement, additions have been made to the Medical Officer's offices and consulting room, and alterations effected to the female

dining hall and the laboratory. In Mafeteng a new up-to-date Residency has been built in stone with iron roof, at a cost of approximately £2,700.

WATER WORKS.

Owing to the difficulty experienced in maintaining adequate supplies of water in the camps during periods of drought, it was decided to put down a number of bore-holes throughout the territory, to supplement the supplies gravitated from springs outside the camps. Five holes were sunk at Berea during the year, and it is hoped that they will supply sufficient water for the needs of the camp. Holes have also been sunk at Butha Buthe and Peka, and the work will continue during next year at Maseru, Mafeteng and Mohales Hoek.

The Maseru River water pumping plant is getting very old, and it is now only possible to get a delivery of 2,000 gallons instead of 12,000 per hour. The average daily supply of water gravitated to the reservoir is 30,000 gallons.

VIII.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

During the year 1929, 2,479 patients, 99 of whom were Europeans, were treated in the various hospitals. Although this number is 147 more than in 1928, there is still a decrease as compared with 1927. Deaths amounted to 157. The surgical work was well maintained. The wife of the Paramount Chief underwent a severe abdominal operation in Maseru but made a fine recovery.

The number of cases treated in the out-patients' department was 59,565, showing a decrease of 6,525 as compared with the figures for 1928, which was probably due to the increased rainfall. 3,857 people were vaccinated against smallpox and quite a number inoculated against typhoid fever.

The revenue collected in hospital and dispensary fees was £2,646 13s. 3d. The following table details the above-quoted total :—

<i>District.</i>	<i>In-Patients.</i>	<i>Out-Patients.</i>	<i>Vaccinations.</i>	<i>Revenue.</i>		
				£	s.	d.
Maseru	899	9,212	4,314	—	870	6 9
Leribe	504	7,639	3,015	3	513	17 9
Mafeteng	374	7,789	4,620	—	471	10 6
Mohales Hoek	274	3,970	1,318	—	192	12 6
Quthing	242	5,080	2,154	870	265	4 3
Qacha's Nek	186	3,003	1,211	2,984	130	0 0
Berea	—	3,002	1,238	—	202	1 6
Totals	2,479	41,695	17,870*	3,857	£2,646	13 3

* Denotes subsequent attendance at dispensary.

The general health of the territory has been distinctly good, since there were fewer cases of epidemic disease and less patients attended the dispensaries than in former years. The cases of enteric fever totalled less than half of those reported last year, and only one case of scarlet fever was reported during 1929. There were, however, five more cases of typhus fever than in 1928; and eight cases of smallpox were treated. The figures for epidemic, endemic, and infectious diseases for the year, are as follows:—

Typhoid ...	...	...	...	...	255
Typhus ...	...	...	...	...	38
Smallpox	...	...	...	...	8
Measles ...	...	...	...	...	82
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	1
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	444
Influenza	...	...	...	...	584
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	151
Anthrax	...	...	...	...	31
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	263

There were no cases of diphtheria and, were people to bury whole instead of skinning and eating animals which have died from anthrax, there would be no incidence of this disease either. It is proposed in the future to adopt a treatment by injection for syphilis which will, perhaps, after a while diminish the number of cases of this malady.

Cyano gas has been tried for destroying rodents on the veldt in and around Maseru Camp, and has proved quite effective. It can, however, be used only over a small area.

The gaols throughout the territory, when inspected, were clean, and there has been no outbreak of serious disease among the inmates. Three executions were carried out in Maseru during the year.

The sanitation throughout the territory is satisfactory, and the conveniences therefor are being gradually increased.

An abattoir is being constructed in Maseru which should prove a great benefit.

LEPER SETTLEMENT.

On the 31st December, 1928, the population of the Settlement was 526, consisting of 243 males and 283 females. On the 31st December, 1929, there were 291 males and 338 females, making a total of 629, showing an increase of population of 103.

The changes of the population throughout the year are indicated in the following table:—

			<i>Admitted.</i>	<i>Re-admitted.</i>	<i>Died.</i>	<i>Deserted.</i>	<i>Discharged.</i>
Males ...	...	...	93	6	30	5	16
Females	...	...	91	8	19	5	20
Totals	...	...	184	14	49	10	36

The following is the corresponding table for the year 1928 :—

	<i>Admitted.</i>	<i>Re-admitted.</i>	<i>Died.</i>	<i>Deserted.</i>	<i>Discharged.</i>
Males	58	9	21	5	35
Females	57	7	14	6	20
Totals	115	16	35	11	55

The increase in the number of patients admitted was 69. There was a decrease in the number of those re-admitted of 2, an increase of 14 in those who died, a decrease of 1 in those who deserted, and a decrease of 19 in those who were discharged. The substantial increase in the number of admissions is doubtless the result of the work of the two Health and Welfare Inspectors appointed during the year, whose duty it is to travel the country looking for cases of this disease. Further, the chiefs are taking a more active part in finding and reporting cases; also legal action has been taken where it has been proved that lepers have been hidden away.

During the year the inmates of the Asylum were, on the whole, well-behaved and contented. The influence of the old residents on the large number of new-comers was good, and the latter have settled down peacefully to life in the Asylum.

IX.—EDUCATION.

Education in Basutoland is under the supervision of a Director of Education, a Senior Inspector of Schools, three European Inspectors, and four Native Supervisors.

The majority of schools are Government-aided schools under missionary control. Two Government schools, one at Maseru and one at Mafeteng, were opened during 1929 to provide for scholars in Standards IV, V, and VI. The only other school under Government management is the Lerotholi Technical School at Maseru.

The total number of Government and Government-aided schools is 547, of which 10 are Institutions (Normal, Industrial, and Agricultural), 38 are Intermediate Schools, and 499 are Elementary Vernacular Schools.

The number of pupils on the roll for 1929 was 49,468 and the average attendance was 36,759. The Education vote for the year ending 31st March, 1930, was £49,508 and the balance in the Education Fund is estimated at over £20,000.

EUROPEAN EDUCATION.

There are eight small primary schools in the territory, with a total attendance of a little over 100 pupils, to provide for the elementary education of the children in the various camps. These schools are managed by local committees and are supported by the Government.

A detailed report on Education is being published separately.

X.—LABOUR.

The following figures give the number of passes issued to natives to leave the territory for labour purposes during the last two years :—

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Mines.</i>	<i>Railway Construction.</i>	<i>Agriculture.</i>	<i>Miscellaneous Labour.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
1928	25,523	284	7,353	20,718	53,878
1929	28,705	449	13,483	32,125	74,762

The substantial increase in the number of those seeking work outside the territory, as it represents in inverse proportion the economic prosperity of the country, supports what has already been said in regard to the comparative failure of the crops during the year.

XI.—VETERINARY.

ANTHRAX.

During the year, 16 outbreaks of anthrax have occurred and 34,494 doses of anthrax vaccine have been issued. The seasonal fluctuations of outbreaks of this disease are difficult to understand, and this year there has been a gratifying decrease of 20 outbreaks ; it is very doubtful, however, if this denotes that any marked head-way has been made in the clearing up of the many infected areas.

As many of the outspans are recognized to be badly anthrax-infected areas, the inoculation of all transport oxen is rigorously enforced and, no doubt, is a helpful factor in reducing the distribution of anthrax infection. In no outbreak were any serious losses sustained, and the prompt employment of the Union Government vaccine invariably shut down the incidence of further cases.

EQUINE MANGE.

The position of equine mange has continued to improve, and, except in those mountain areas where no tanks exist or where unowned horses have gone wild, very few well-defined cases have been seen during the year.

It is now the custom for dipping supervisors of tanks to have a periodical round up of the local horses for inspection, and should there be any evidence of itching, loss of hair, etc., the owners are requested to bring their animals to the tank for treatment. During 1929, 3,796 animals were treated, as compared with 5,572 in 1928.

SHEEP SCAB.

The spring of 1929 was a very pleasant contrast to that of 1928 and, with good winter rains, sheep free from scab remained in good condition, and sheep-owners had a very good lambing. In the mountain areas, where no dipping tanks existed, however the loss

in sheep was very heavy, the wet winter and spring being apparently very favourable to the spread of the scab mite, and a number of large sheep-owners lost their entire crop of lambs owing to the ravages of scab. It is this fact that makes the erection of a tank in the mountains so welcome.

During the year there have been many setbacks to the scab eradication campaign, the outcome of the constant movements, despite all the efforts to control them, of infected sheep from un-tanked areas into clean ones. Until it is possible to ensure that no scabby sheep can be moved from one area to another there is no hope of finally eradicating scab, and this can only be brought about when the entire territory is supplied with dipping tanks. Fortunately, that desirable goal is about to be achieved.

During the year, contracts were given for the erection of 27 new tanks in the mountain areas, as follows:—11 in Mokhotlong, 5 in Leribe, 5 in Butha Buthe, 1 in Qacha's Nek, 4 in Berea, and 1 in Maseru districts. Every effort is being made to have these tanks completed before the end of the financial year. The transport of material for tanks in the Mokhotlong area has been a formidable undertaking, which will be readily understood when 1,100 pack animals were employed to transport the material for the 11 new tanks in this district.

The policy of subjecting all clean areas to a table inspection and the simultaneous dipping of all infected areas at the completion of the lambing and shearing seasons has again been enforced. 785,164 sheep and goats were subjected to a simultaneous inspection and none of these was found to be infected. During the year, 2,986,021 sheep and goats were dipped, being an increase of 664,100 on the number dipped in 1928.

All sheep in the Quthing, Mohales Hoek, Mafeteng, Maseru, and Schlabathebe areas are now under the Scab Law, and it is hoped that by next year the Berea, Leribe, Mokhotlong, and Butha Buthe districts will be in a similar position, leaving about 15 more tanks to be completed in order to bring the whole territory under the Scab Law.

During the year the shortcomings of the native staff have not decreased and there is no doubt whatever that this is the weakest spot in the scab campaign. As a rule they are unreliable, disinterested, and apathetic, and few of them show any ambition or pride in their work. Native scab inspectors were appointed to the Berea and Leribe districts during the year, and although 192 dipping supervisors are employed, very few of them show any suitability for the position of native scab inspectors.

The proposed alteration in the original Scab Law was discussed at the National Council this year, and was finally agreed to. The amended Law will, it is hoped, prove comprehensive, and a model for any native territory.

PARASITICISM IN SHEEP.

Much propaganda work has been done during the year in attempting to make the sheep-owners realize the heavy annual losses that occur through the prevalence of worms in their flocks of sheep and goats. 5,000 pamphlets on the subject were distributed, and wire worm remedy was offered at 1s. a tin sufficient to dose 150 sheep. There was, however, no marked response to these efforts.

As a result of serious complaints in regard to the quality and length of Basutoland mohair from the brokers and manufacturers, the Principal Veterinary Officer met the buyers of Basutoland mohair at Port Elizabeth, and discussed the position with them. A great effort is being made in co-operation with the Basutoland Chamber of Commerce to rectify these troubles. 5,000 pamphlets in Sesuto have been distributed throughout the territory, and the Veterinary staff lose no opportunity of talking to Angora goat breeders on this question.

GENERAL.

Owing to the apparent increase in population there has been a growing tendency in the past 20 years for natives to remove from the lowlands and reside in the Malutis. These people naturally wish to grow food, the soil and climate of the mountain area being suitable for wheat-growing, but unfortunately in many cases no judgment has been displayed in the selection of sites for ploughing purposes, and it is quite a common sight to see natives breaking up the finest sheep veld on the precipitous sides of the mountains. The result of this is that these lands often do not last for more than a few years, as heavy thunderstorms start to wash them away and dongas commence to form. Another very serious aspect of this ploughing is the destruction of the natural and legitimate grazing grounds of the sheep which are moved into other already overstocked pastures. The result is that considerable areas of the very best sheep grazing are now being invaded by inedible weeds and thus seriously reducing the sheep-carrying capacity of the country.

Strangles has been very prevalent among the horses, and the usual cases of gall-sickness and biliary fever have been successfully treated.

During the year, 2,146 professional visits and attendances were made by the Principal Veterinary Officer.

STUD.

During the season, 127 mares were covered by the Government stallions. Of the 113 mares covered in 1928, 37 proved in foal, a clear indication of the abnormally bad spring of that year. Better results are hoped for in 1930, as the mares were presented in better condition, the result of the early spring rains.

XII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

The following Proclamations were promulgated during the year :—

(1) No. 4.—Basutoland Extradition and Fugitive Offenders (South West Africa) Proclamation, 1929.

(2) No. 11.—Basutoland Pass Laws Exemption Proclamation, 1929.

(3) No. 16.—Amending Basutoland Police Offences Proclamation, No. 31 of 1928.

(4) No. 20.—Extending in certain respects the jurisdiction which may be conferred upon Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors of Police in Basutoland under Proclamation No. 1 of 1912.

(5) No. 22.—Basutoland further Appropriation (1927-28) Proclamation, 1929.

(6) No. 26.—Basutoland Customs and Excise Duties (Amendment) Proclamation, 1929.

(7) No. 30.—Amending in certain respects the Maintenance Orders (Facilities for Enforcement) Proclamation No. 75 of 1921.

(8) No. 36.—Basutoland Appropriation (1929-30) Proclamation, 1929.

(9) No. 41.—Basutoland Income Tax Proclamation, 1929.

(10) No. 42.—Basutoland Further Appropriation (1928-29) Proclamation, 1929.

(11) No. 43.—Providing for the payment of a pension to Reginald Montague Bosworth Smith.

F. FOORD,
Government Secretary.

BASUTOLAND.

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