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COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1628.

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND
ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF
BASUTOLAND, 1932

*(For Report for 1930 see No. 1527 (Price 1s. 0d.) and for
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ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF BASUTOLAND FOR THE YEAR 1932.

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MAP.

CHAPTER I.

GEOGRAPHY, INCLUDING CLIMATE AND HISTORY.

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 territory to the east, were in former years reserved entirely as cattle posts, but owing to the increase 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, which used to abound some thirty years ago, and the gradual elimination of the smaller buck and all species of wild fowl.

The climate is good for Europeans and natives alike. The high altitude and pure atmosphere prove most invigorating. *Phthisis pulmonalis* is little known except among Europeans who have come to the country on account of this disease, and if they come in the early stages of the disease they improve at once. Persons suffering from malaria fever or its results are benefited greatly by a short residence in Basutoland.

The range of temperature is approximately from a maximum of 93° F. to a minimum of 11° F. The average annual rainfall is 30 inches, the total recorded at the Mafeteng Inland Barometric Station during 1932 being 23·16 inches.

In 1818 the first Paramount Chief of Basutoland, Moshesh, gathered 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 575,000, 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 day as a public holiday, known as "Moshoeshoe's Day." In 1871, the Territory was annexed to the Cape Colony, and, after various disturbances, the Government of the Cape, in April, 1880, extended the provisions of the Cape Peace Preservation Act of 1878 to Basutoland, which included a clause 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.

CHAPTER II.

GOVERNMENT.

The Territory is now governed by a Resident Commissioner under the direction of the High Commissioner for South Africa, the latter possessing the legislative authority, which is exercised by Proclamation promulgated in the *Official Gazette*.

For fiscal and other purposes the country is divided into seven districts, each of which is under an Assistant Commissioner, namely, Maseru, Leribe, Berea (or Teyateyaneng, as it is sometimes called), Mafeteng, Mochales Hoek, Quthing, and Qacha's Nek. These districts are sub-divided into wards presided over by the hereditary chiefs and those allied to the Moshesh family, who are responsible to the Paramount Chief in all matters relative to native law and custom.

CHAPTER III.

POPULATION.

No census has been taken since 1921. The following figures indicate the racial distribution of the population at the last census:—

<i>District.</i>	<i>Europeans.</i>	<i>Bantu.</i>	<i>Coloured other than Bantu.</i>
Leribe	260	107,794	211
Berea	132	56,674	136
Maseru	612	99,378	266
Mafeteng	262	67,279	221
Mochales Hoek	159	60,568	281
Quthing	115	38,051	96
Qacha's Nek	63	66,193	30
Totals	1,603	495,937	1,241

Besides the population as enumerated above, 47,141 Basuto were stated to be absent at various labour centres outside the Territory when the census was taken.

The following is a comparative statement of the density of the population (other than Europeans) at the censuses of 1904, 1911, and 1921:—

	1904.	1911.	1921.
No. of persons per square mile ...	33.78	38.97	48.30
No. of acres per head of population ...	18.94	16.42	13.25
No. of occupied huts per square mile...	8.42	10.86	16.99
No. of persons to each occupied hut ...	4.01	3.61	2.84

There is no compulsory registration of births and deaths, nor of marriages according to native custom. Marriages according to Christian rites numbered 944 during the year under review, as compared with 643 during 1931, and 740 during 1930.

Every native entering or leaving the Territory must be in possession of an official pass.

CHAPTER IV.

HEALTH.

A perusal of the comparative table of communicable diseases given hereunder indicates that the general health of the Territory during 1932 was not as satisfactory as in previous years:—

<i>Description.</i>	1931.	1932.
Influenza	550	1,485
Typhoid	247	258
Dysentery	161	135
Typhus	118	238
Whooping Cough	337	948
Measles	119	142
Smallpox	1	1
Scarlet Fever	2	3
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	261	390
Anthrax	1	3
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1,797	3,603
	<hr/>	<hr/>

The death-rate of cases of typhoid treated in the various hospitals was slightly less than last year, being 15 out of 99 as compared with 18 out of 93 treated in 1931. But the death-rate as the result of typhus amongst in-patients is very distressing, being 34 out of 85 cases admitted as compared with 5 out of 21 for the previous year. It is generally accepted that the severity of the disease is one factor accounting for the high death-rate, but general poverty and lack of water are also predisposing causes.

Venereal trouble still accounts for a large number of cases. There were 366 more cases reported than in the previous year, but as there was an increase of 5,642 attendances at the dispensaries it is hoped that the natives are beginning to realize the seriousness of this disease.

There were no cases of plague, although the Union Rodent Inspector was of the opinion in October last that some rodents inside the border had died of it.

As regards general diseases, there is nothing worthy of comment except that cases of malignancy have fallen off somewhat. Wounds by stabbing and cutting instruments still remain up—630 in 1932 as compared with 620 in 1931.

At the hospitals and dispensaries useful and effective work has been carried out as heretofore. The number of out-patients treated was 65,249; of these 44,382 were first and 20,867 subsequent attendances. This shows an increase of 9,473 over last year. 2,827 cases were treated in the various hospitals, including 91 patients carried over from the previous year. There were 241 deaths, which is 62 more than in 1931; but against this there were 163 more cases. 1,384 operations were performed.

The following table gives details of the hospital and dispensary work in each district :—

District.	In-Patients.	Out-Patients.	Subsequent Returns.	Vaccinations.	Revenue. £
Maseru	814	8,806	6,485	—	614
Leribe	610	6,961	3,253	600	396
Maleteng	408	8,689	4,859	—	494
Mohales Hoek	337	4,485	1,542	—	208
Quthing	237	7,177	1,698	430	279
Qacha's Nek	250	3,211	1,269	—	109
Teyateyaneng	80	5,053	1,761	—	162
Totals	2,736	44,382	20,867	1,030	£2,262

It is with pleasant relief that one notes that there has been no outbreak of disease that could be assigned to insanitary conditions, as the lack of rain has had rather a bad effect on the water supplies throughout the Territory. There was a slight outbreak of intestinal trouble among the prisoners in Maseru, but the Medical Officer, after investigation, found that these men had been surreptitiously drinking river-water.

Leprosy Settlement.

On 31st December, 1931, the population of the Leprosy Settlement was 699, composed of 325 males and 374 females. On 31st December, 1932, the population was 714, of which 348 were males and 366 females, showing an increase in males of 23 and a decrease in females of 8. It is interesting to note that in the past two years there has been an increase in males of 56 and a decrease in females of 7.

The following comparative table denotes the numbers of admissions, etc. :—

	Admitted.		Re-Admitted.		Died.		Deserted.		Discharged.	
	1931.	1932.	1931.	1932.	1931.	1932.	1931.	1932.	1931.	1932.
Males	99	70	11	22	42	30	14	29	21	10
Females	71	63	11	17	47	40	6	22	28	26
Totals	170	133	22	39	89	70	20	51	49	36

One trusts that the falling off in the number of admissions is indicative of good work done by the Leprosy Health Inspectors, who may be on the verge of a gleaning process; and there would seem to be hope that such is the case when it is seen that the early cases are now so much in predominance over the late variety. Only a small proportion of the patients accepted adequate treatment, the inadequacy being chiefly due to irregularity in attendance for injections. The treatment has been becoming more and more unpopular from year to year, most of the patients having lost faith in the value of the injections.

A detailed Annual Report on Health is published separately.

CHAPTER V.

HOUSING.

Basutoland is a purely native Territory. There are no factory or industrial undertakings and the problem of the proper accommodation of workers has not therefore arisen.

The natives live in villages under tribal authority and their huts are, on the whole, healthy if primitive. These huts are invariably built of sods or stone, with a mud floor and a thatched roof; and from the figures taken at the 1921 census the average number of persons to each hut occupied was 2·84.

The small European population consists of civil servants, missionaries, and traders, and is, as a rule, well housed in buildings of cut stone or brick.

CHAPTER VI.

PRODUCTION.

There are no fisheries; and no mining operations are carried out in Basutoland.

Production is dealt with under two heads, Agriculture and Animal Husbandry.

Agriculture.

No land in Basutoland is cultivated by Europeans with the exception of a few fields in the vicinity of mission stations, which are used for demonstration purposes; these are held under the same land tenure system as those of the natives. Cultivation is, in the main, carried out by individual native agriculturists who are given lands by the chiefs on which to grow food for themselves and their families. It is estimated that approximately one-fifteenth of the country is under the plough.

The chief products of the Territory are maize, kaffir corn, and wheat. Peas, beans, barley, oats, pumpkins, potatoes, and other

vegetables are also grown, but not to any appreciable extent. Maize and kaffir corn form the staple diet of the natives, and therefore only a very small percentage of these commodities is exported.

Maize.—It was thought that there would again be a very grave shortage of this crop during 1932, as a smaller area was planted with maize than has been the case in the past. In spite of this, however, a better harvest than was thought possible was reaped, as frost did not make its appearance until late in May and all the later mealies ripened. Insect pests, outworm and mealie-stalk-borer were much less troublesome than usual; a late drought when many of the mealies were in bloom was, however, responsible for spoiling the yield of many of the earlier planted fields. It is estimated that from approximately 181,000 acres of land under cultivation 450,000 bags of mealies were reaped, of which some 2,000 bags were exported. It is interesting to note that the yield was 36,000 bags short of that of 1931.

Kaffir Corn.—Owing to a very dry spring, much of the kaffir corn was planted too late. In consequence of the season being exceptionally long, however, and of the fact that kaffir corn is much more drought resistant than maize, an excellent crop was reaped. Out of approximately 81,000 acres under cultivation, 276,907 bags of kaffir corn were reaped, and of this number some 7,000 bags were exported. The acreage under cultivation was the same as in 1931, but there was an increase in the yield of some 34,000 bags.

Wheat.—In the lowlands, wheat is used for food only by the more advanced natives; those living in the higher altitudes consume a considerable quantity, as the growing of other crops for food is more or less impossible. Although the majority of the wheat is floor-threshed and is often very dirty, it has always found a good market owing to its excellent qualities for blending. The crop reaped in the 1932 harvest totalled roughly 346,134 bags out of approximately 123,000 acres under cultivation in 1931.

On the advice of Mr. Thornton, Director of Native Agriculture in the Union of South Africa, the Government purchased 200 bags of Rooi Klein Koring wheat seed for trial in the Territory, with the object of improving the type of wheat grown in the mountain areas. This seed was issued to good native agriculturists through the demonstrators, the idea being that it should be refunded after the harvest. It was unfortunate that the past season was such a drought-stricken one, or undoubtedly this wheat would have done better. About 75 per cent. will be returned, and this will be re-issued on the same terms at the 1933 planting season.

Owing to a serious crop shortage in the Mookotlong district, the Government granted a sum of £300 as a guarantee for bad debts to the traders, on the understanding that they gave out seed wheat

on credit to deserving natives, to be repaid at harvest time. Owing to the extreme drought conditions in the Mokhotlong district, however, it is feared that the scheme will not be as successful as it was hoped. Particulars of the result will not be available until the 1933 report.

Peas and Beans.—The Basuto were beginning to show a keener interest in the growing of these crops, which was an excellent thing, as it helped to restore fertility to some of the poor lands. Unfortunately the grave drop in price will greatly deter them from planting these crops in the future. 3,845 bags were exported during the year.

Other Crops.—Barley and oats are very little grown, and are mainly consumed within the Territory.

Pumpkins and potatoes are grown to some extent, and afford a useful supply of food to the natives before the other crops ripen. The Agricultural Department is doing its utmost to induce the Basuto to take an interest in vegetable gardening, and is being helped in this project by the mission schools and the demonstrators. There are many places throughout the Territory where the water could be led from small streams or dammed up dongas on to small plots ideal for growing vegetables.

General.—It is estimated that some 1,002,000 bags of mixed grain, chiefly maize, were consumed in Basutoland during the year under review; of this amount, roughly 102,000 bags were imported to cover local shortages. In normal years the Territory produces sufficient for local consumption.

Forestry.—There are very few varieties of trees indigenous to the Territory, and nothing in the nature of a forest exists. Young trees propagated in the nurseries situated in each of the Camps are available for distribution free of charge to natives and Europeans throughout Basutoland. Every facility is given to the Basuto agriculturists to encourage them to undertake tree planting on a bigger scale, but the communal land tenure system and the consequent inability of the individual to fence his tree plantation accounts to a great extent for the apathy displayed towards this department of agriculture.

Many trees have died on the reserves and all over the country owing to the prolonged drought. The best drought-resisting trees have been found to be *cedrus deodara*, *pinus halepensis*, and *eucalyptus sideroxylon*. Great mortality has taken place among all the cypress, *pinus insignis*, and *pinaster*.

Demonstration.—The native is being assisted to improve his methods of agriculture by the appointment of Native Agricultural Demonstrators, who now number 24, eight new men having been employed during the year to work in the mountain districts. They are all young men who have passed the Agricultural Diploma of one

of the recognized Native Agricultural Schools in the Union of South Africa, and are distributed in each district and sub-district in the Territory. They are also stationed at Roma, Morija, and Leloaleng Training Institutions and the Lerotholi Technical School at 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 ordinary lands worked by the natives themselves. In a good season a demonstrator works from 25 to 30 lands and may obtain an increase of from 50 to 100 per cent.

Experimental work carried out with superphosphate fertilizer continues to be most beneficial, a land thus fertilized yielding an increase of in the region of 100 per cent. over an unfertilized land which has otherwise been treated in the same manner. Nitrate of soda plots have been disappointing.

Agricultural Societies.—Every endeavour is still being made to foster and encourage the growth and formation of agricultural societies and associations throughout the Territory, with an appreciable amount of success, as a few fairly strong societies are now in operation in different parts of Basutoland, especially at Teyateyaneng, Leribe, and Mhales Hoek. It is, however, unfortunate that it is so difficult to get the Basuto to co-operate: constant help and talks are necessary to keep them together.

Soil Erosion.—A very grave evil to both agriculture and animal husbandry which the Agricultural Department has to combat in Basutoland is the erosion of the soil. Many thousands of tons of the richest soil of Basutoland are estimated to be washed away annually by the torrential summer rains, and the steady yearly increase in erosion in the lowlands and the mountain areas has caused the Department much concern. Every effort is made by the demonstrators by way of propaganda to check the increase of this evil, but it is feared that so long as land is held communally little success will attend their efforts. It is the old case of where it is every one's duty to prevent it it is no one's duty.

One of the chief factors in the increase of erosion is the steady migration of the natives from the lowlands to the mountain areas, and the consequent change in the nature of the hinterland from a purely pastoral to a semi-pastoral, semi-agricultural aspect, necessitating as it does the natives ploughing on the mountain slopes. The Paramount Chief has now appointed men in the various districts to keep an eye on this, and it is hoped that the more discriminate choice of sites for ploughing will greatly alleviate the denudation which exists to-day.

Animal Husbandry.

This department of production has, in the past, been the most important economically in the Territory, the principal factors being sheep and goat breeding for the production of wool and mohair, and cattle raising. Horses have also in the past played their part in the economic development of the Territory.

Sheep and Goats.—In order to avoid deterioration in the breeding of sheep as a wool-producing industry, legislation was issued prohibiting the importation of Persian and bastard rams, and from time to time a good stamp of Merino ram has been introduced by the Government for distribution amongst certain of the more progressive breeders. The efforts of the Veterinary Department have, however, until some two or three years ago, been mainly concentrated on the eradication of scab. Over a period of 9 years, 202 dipping-tanks have been erected in all parts of Basutoland and, owing to the untiring efforts of the Principal Veterinary Officer and his staff, by the end of 1932 Basutoland was practically clear of scab. Owing to financial stress, drastic reductions in the staff of the Scab Division have been necessary, but it is hoped that the reduced staff will be able to maintain the present position. Seventeen outbreaks of scab occurred during the year, and all have been satisfactorily dealt with. During the year under review, 4,625,833 sheep and goats have been table-inspected and 15,761,943 sheep and goats have been field-inspected; these figures clearly reflect the energetic work done by the staff.

Owing to the unprecedented drought associated with the lowest prices on record for wool and mohair, the Basuto have been through a very trying time. The ruling price for wool in the autumn was from 1d. to 2d. per lb., and in the spring from 2d. to 3½d. per lb. This slight increase in the spring assisted the sheep-owner very considerably in his economic troubles. Unfortunately, the mohair market continued to slump and, except for the very best, mohair was unsaleable. Mohair that was worth 20d. per lb. three years ago has been sold this year from 2d. to 3d. per lb., and the outlook for the Angora goat breeder is dark indeed. All this has proved a big blow to the economic condition of the Territory, whose prosperity has always depended so much on wool and mohair.

Economic adversity has driven the Basuto to an abnormal consumption of his small stock as a source of food, and on taking a census of the sheep and goats in the Territory it was found that sheep and goats had been reduced to the extent of 737,756 and 152,533 respectively during the year. The estimated number of sheep and goats in the Territory at the end of 1932 was 1,991,478 and 724,602 respectively.

So long as the Basuto carry out this consumption with discretion it must react favourably on the overstocked condition of the pasturage. Extensive propaganda work has been carried out in this

direction by all the Veterinary staff, urging the natives to select for killing only those sheep which show signs of kemp and as far as possible to eat goats in preference to sheep. The only thing that will stop this consumption of small stock is a rise in the price of wool and lambs (wethers), combined with a return to normal production of grain crops.

Basutoland is considered to have the best natural sheep and goat pasturage and climate in South Africa, and there is no doubt that if the sheep-owner was only capable of bringing more intelligence and effort to bear on their production, some of the best fine Merino wool and mohair could be grown.

In order to ascertain whether something more could be done to improve the marketing of Basutoland wool, four bales were sent to the Empire Marketing Board, as it was thought that if better methods of clipping and handling were introduced the markets might be extended. A six months and twelve months clip, properly shorn and baled, was most favourably reported on by the Bradford Wool Research Institute, and there was every inducement on these reports to ascertain if it was not practicable to put these better methods into practice. The co-operation of the sheep-owners and traders over a small area of the Territory was enlisted, and every effort made to see that the sheep were properly classed and shorn and that the wool was carefully packed. Though valuable information was obtained, the experiment was not successful, mainly for the reasons that many of the sheep-owners were averse to moving their flocks to the different centres where supervision was being exercised over the shearing, and many of the traders did not allow sufficient discrimination in the prices offered for wool shorn under supervision and that shorn in the customary manner.

Cattle.—Pasturage deterioration resulting from overstocking associated with progressive years of drought and no effort on the part of the owner to breed from his best animals have undoubtedly lowered the standard of the cattle, and it is hoped that some constructive education on this matter will be put into force in the near future. Economically, practically the whole of the domestic and tribal laws of the Basuto are centred in cattle, and the wealth of the average native is indicated by the number of stock possessed. The question of improving the breed seldom occurs to him, inasmuch as in his view a beast is a beast and can be used for practically any domestic transaction such as payment of dowry and compensation or for fines imposed in the native courts. It is perhaps for this reason that he is generally apathetic to any advice on the subject.

It is unfortunate that no census of cattle has been taken since 1921, and it is doubtful whether they have appreciably increased since then. It is estimated that there are approximately 550,000 head in the Territory to-day.

Anthrax is practically the only epizootic of a serious nature among the cattle in Basutoland. During the year under review, 15 outbreaks were reported and were all successfully treated, 60,443 doses of Onderstepoort vaccine being issued for the purpose.

Horses.—Basuto ponies were at one time much sought after throughout the whole of South Africa, being of sturdy build, sure-footed, and hardy. During the South African War the Territory was largely depleted of its best types for remount purposes, and as a result of this there has been considerable deterioration of the breed. Many years ago a Government Stud was introduced in an attempt to improve the stamp and to check further deterioration. The original policy was to introduce Arab blood, but later this was changed and thorough-bred stallions were substituted. During the year under review, 104 mares were served. 62 mares proved pregnant from the previous season, and there is clear evidence that both "Vibration" and "Landing" are capable of siring excellent stock if given the opportunity.

A recent census shows a large decrease in the number of horses in the Territory. In 1921 the equine population was 152,325; in 1932 it was 91,573. This has been brought about to a large extent by the pasturage deterioration and the progressive years of drought, coupled with a steady annual mortality from hepatic cirrhosis due to the invasion of the Malutis by the plant *senecio latifolia*, which continues to be a real menace to the horses. Equine mange continues to give considerable trouble, and the adverse year of drought has rendered equines particularly susceptible to infection. During the year, 1,676 horses were dressed for mange; this duty is carried out by the dip supervisors stationed to the various tanks throughout the Territory.

Donkeys.—The only animal that has appreciably increased since 1921 is the donkey, largely due to the constant import from the Union, where they are of no value whatever. In 1921 the census indicated 5,383 donkeys; to-day it is estimated that there are 16,650 in the Territory. As the donkey is recognized as the worst type of pasturage despoiler, legislation to prohibit further importations is now under consideration.

CHAPTER VII.

COMMERCE.

The following is a comparative statement of the imports and exports by general traders during the last three years:—

Imports.

Description.	1929		1930		1931		1932	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Merchandise	—	£ 669,008	—	£ 431,534	—	£ 389,237	—	£ 404,041
Live Stock :—	No.		No.		No.		No.	
Horses, Mules, etc.	251	501	12	34	12	70	16	67
Cattle	2,428	6,351	645	1,526	436	996	349	793
Sheep and Goats	149	207	312	163	344	144	838	275
Grain :—	Bags.		Bags.		Bags.		Bags.	
Wheat and Wheat Meal	5,415	8,837	5,179	6,760	4,917	7,529	3,894	6,386
Maize and Maize Meal	25,049	17,398	61,416	30,318	139,901	63,302	95,718	41,880
Kaffir Corn	4,315	3,030	10,828	7,080	1,374	1,015	1,983	1,291
Other Produce	—	1,084	—	524	—	440	—	378
Total Imports	—	£706,416	—	£477,949	—	£462,733	—	£455,111

Exports.

Description.	1929		1930		1931		1932	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Live Stock :—	No.		No.		No.		No.	
Horses, Mules, etc.	104	534	58	330	178	717	308	1,218
Cattle	1,496	6,678	3,617	14,121	8,337	27,616	5,668	15,947
Sheep and Goats	26	25	1,103	552	2,420	497	1,456	29
Grain :—	Bags.		Bags.		Bags.		Bags.	
Wheat and Wheat Meal	72,103	64,408	131,308	105,330	103,706	90,888	196,873	168,015
Maize and Maize Meal	87,404	42,144	6,061	2,169	295	168	1,908	765
Kaffir Corn	37,056	21,334	4,032	2,374	10,247	6,821	6,500	3,461
Barley	90	50	224	63	89	22	97	38
Beans and Peas	4,312	5,461	5,873	4,233	4,119	2,214	3,845	1,805
Wool and Mohair :—	lb.		lb.		lb.		lb.	
Wool	12,937,198	436,083	9,729,169	156,601	9,325,140	98,304	11,832,391	105,435
Mohair	1,961,746	94,352	942,725	21,837	1,241,743	21,442	1,033,863	10,136
Skins and Hides :—								
Skins	365,039	8,327	359,767	3,747	119,619	679	43,778	203
Hides	445,286	15,126	371,620	6,044	186,015	2,013	102,730	770
Miscellaneous	—	272	—	225	—	45	—	192
Total Exports	—	£694,794	—	£317,626	—	£251,427	—	£308,278

All exports are made to the Union of South Africa, and imports are as a general rule made through the same channel. The past few years have been chiefly characterized by the low prices obtaining for wool and mohair, the staple products of the Territory, on the value of which the main purchasing power of the native depends. With the fall in purchasing power, there is little prospect at present of further development of trade with Great Britain. The principal articles of United Kingdom manufacture for which there exist definite possibilities of further development in trade are blankets, native truck, and agricultural implements (excluding steam or motor driven machinery). The blanket factory started some years ago in Harrismith in the Orange Free State takes an increasingly large portion of the blanket trade which was formerly given to manufacturers in the United Kingdom.

It is unfortunate that British motor-cars have been unable to compete successfully with United States makes in this Territory ; and it is interesting to note that out of a total of 371 private cars and taxis registered in Basutoland during 1932, 354 were of American and 13 of British make. The British commercial vehicle is slightly more popular, however, and from a total of 90 registered during the year, ten were of British make, the balance being American.

CHAPTER VIII.

WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

There are no factories or industrial undertakings in the Territory, and there is only one mile of railway, which is owned and operated by the South African Railway Administration.

Salaries and wages earned by Europeans vary from £200 to £850 per annum in the case of Government servants and from £120 to £500 per annum in the case of employees of trading concerns. These figures are in respect of normal times and it is probable that during 1932 they would have been generally reduced by 10 per cent.

Native wages vary from £24 to £204 per annum in the case of Government employees ; and from £15 to £48 per annum in the case of store-boys, etc., employed by traders.

The average cost of living for single natives is estimated at £1 *per mensem*, and for married natives £3 *per mensem*. The cost of living of Europeans varies considerably and is in a great measure dependent on the social or official position of the person concerned.

CHAPTER IX.

EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

Education in Basutoland is mainly in the hands of the three Missions, the Paris Evangelical Mission Society, the Roman Catholic Mission, and the English Church Mission, who receive grants-in-aid from the Government. These Mission schools are scattered over the country fairly equally in proportion to the density of the population, and it is probable that there are very few children who are not within reach of a school.

The chief aim of educational policy in Basutoland is to study the interests of the vast majority of children who only have a short school life, more or less irregular, for three or four years. To this end the education in the lower classes is almost entirely in the vernacular so that the child becomes literate in his own language and is not taken out of his environment. The country unfortunately is not well suited to the teaching of indigenous arts and crafts owing to the lack of available material, but wherever possible sewing is encouraged amongst the girls and gardening or other manual work amongst the boys.

There are 542 aided elementary schools, taught mainly through the vernacular, although English is started in the upper classes. Primary intermediate instruction is given in 39 schools, of which three are Government schools, managed by committees, the rest being Mission schools. Finally there are ten institutions which give specialized training, e.g., academic, normal, industrial, or agricultural. Apart from the three intermediate schools, the only other Government school is the Lerotholi Technical School at Maseru which is under its own Director.

The total roll of all schools for the year 1932 was 59,103 pupils, with an average attendance during the year of 44,359 pupils. The estimated expenditure from the Native Education Fund for the year 1932-33 is £45,310.

In addition to the above-mentioned schools there are 251 schools registered by the three Missions, but not drawing grants, with a roll of 8,468 pupils. The majority of these belong to the Roman Catholic Mission, and when the financial position improves it is hoped that these schools will receive Government aid.

No fees are charged in elementary or intermediate schools nor is attendance compulsory. Home duties and agricultural and pastoral work interfere with the regularity of the work and school attendances, but on the whole Basuto children show wonderful keenness in attending school. A written examination for Standard VI is open to pupils from all parts of the country. Approximately six bursaries are awarded each year, so that a child of exceptional ability can continue his education at one of the institutions. University education is provided at the South African Native College at Fort Hare in the Union of South Africa, to which the Administration contributes £300 per annum, besides providing an annual bursary

for a promising Mosuto student. Thus it is possible for even the poorest child to proceed from his village school to the South African Native College.

Although the missions are chiefly concerned with mission and educational work there is no doubt that indirectly they do a great deal to promote public welfare. Each mission station is undoubtedly a centre of civilization with its various branches radiating around it, so that there are very few parts of the Territory which do not feel their influence.

Recreation is encouraged in every school, but owing to the scattered nature of the population and the domestic work required of the children it is difficult to arrange regular competitions. At certain camps and missions in the Lowlands, however, sports meetings have been held and have aroused much enthusiasm. In all the camps the older inhabitants have formed sports clubs, tennis, cricket, and football being the popular games.

Pathfinder and Wayfarer bodies have been started in several centres with, as far as it is possible to say in so short a time, every prospect of success.

At most mission centres annual singing competitions are held and are very popular with students, teachers, and the general public alike.

A detailed Annual Report on Native Education is published separately.

European Education.—There are nine small schools in the Territory, managed by local committees and supported by the Government, which provide elementary education for the children in the camps. For education beyond the elementary stage, children are sent to schools in the Union. The Government provides annually one bursary (for children under thirteen years of age) of £25 for two years; and for some time past now, through the generosity of Frasers' Ltd., a second bursary of £50 per annum for two years (also for children under thirteen years) has been instituted.

CHAPTER X.

COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Railways.

The Territory is linked with the Union of South Africa railway system by a short branch line—one mile of which is in Basutoland—from Maseru to Marseilles on the Bloemfontein-Natal main line. This South African railway system, however, follows closely the boundaries of the Territory and goods are transported by road to the nearest railway station across the border.

Roads and Bridle Paths.

The greater part of Basutoland is exceptionally mountainous and in this area all transport is effected with the use of pack animals. The Government undertakes repairs to a few of the main bridle paths.

On the western side of Basutoland where there is an agricultural strip of country stretching from north to south, a fairly good road system has been developed. The main roads traverse the whole distance of this strip with branches leading west to the principal points of exit. In nearly all cases the roads are gravelled and allow for motor or ox-waggon traffic in all weather. There are, however, a number of unbridged rivers and spruits which during flood periods often delay travelling for some hours.

During 1932 regravelling and reshaping of the roads has been carried out systematically to the extent of the funds available. Practically no construction work has been undertaken, but more than 100 culverts have been erected and much work has been done on improvement to road drainage.

From the main roads a number of feeder roads lead towards the interior. By-roads to trading stations, missions, etc., connect with these feeder roads, traversing still further into the interior, but although several roads now cross the first range of mountains none has yet penetrated to the second range. Feeder roads are maintained by the Government, and although a slight improvement in them can be recorded, they are still of a disappointingly low standard. During the year under review a few additional culverts have been constructed on them, and when funds are available to extend this practice they should gradually improve.

The by-roads are in many instances unsuitable for any type of traffic except ox-wagons. They are maintained by traders and others to whose stations they lead, assisted by annual Government grants on the £ for £ principle.

On the eastern side of Basutoland in the Qacha's Nek district a short system of roads similar to that described above exists, and the standard reached is more or less the same as that obtaining on the western side of the Territory.

The road policy of the Government has been to build up and gradually improve the existing roads, and all expenditure goes towards maintenance and betterment and does not provide for the carrying out of a constructional programme. During the year, however, a survey was carried out in the Quthing and Qacha's Nek districts for the construction of a road connecting Mt. Moorosi, the most southern point on the western system of roads, to Sekake's, the most western point on the eastern road system. The ground traversed was exceptionally mountainous. The road, if built, would be 59 miles in length and would pass through good agricul-

tural country. It would also provide a link between the Government stations at Quthing and Qacha's Nek. No immediate steps are being taken to carry out this construction, the estimated cost of which is £25,000.

Unfortunately, it has been found necessary to reduce further the funds for road work during the year and this has meant that the condition of the roads has slightly deteriorated. Light maintenance road graders have been tried with success and their extended use during 1932 has off-set in some degree this reduction in the Road vote.

The funds allocated during the last three years for the maintenance of roads, bridges, ponts, etc., of which 98 per cent. is used for roads, are given below :—

1930 ...	£21,000	1931 ...	£17,000	1932 ...	£13,500
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The following is a classification of the class and mileage of roads in the Territory :—

Concrete, asphaltic bituminous surface, nil.

Water-bound macadam surface tarred, nil.

Gravel, 320 miles main road and 62 miles feeder road.

Earth, 40 miles main road, and 70 miles feeder road.

CHAPTER XI.

BANKING, CURRENCY, WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

There are no agricultural or co-operative banks within the Territory. The Standard Bank of South Africa, Limited, has a branch at Maseru, as also has the Bloemfontein Board of Executors and Trust Company, Limited. The latter Company was placed under judicial management in July, 1932, in order to protect the investors and depositors.

Changes in connexion with currency in Basutoland were effected during the year by Royal Proclamation of 10th June, 1932, and by High Commissioner's Proclamations Nos. 44, 53, and 57 of 1932 and No. 2 of 1933. Proclamation No. 44 of 1932 regulated the introduction of silver coin (other than that of the Union of South Africa) into the Territory, and on 18th November United Kingdom silver coin was withdrawn from circulation and ceased to be legal tender with effect from 15th January, 1933. A penalty was imposed by Proclamation No. 57 of 1932 for making monetary payments to natives except in the legal currency of the Territory.

The issue by the Standard Bank of gold coin was suspended as from 28th December, 1932. Up to this date, natives working on the Witwatersrand mines in the Union were paid out in gold, and a certain amount of this was brought back to Basutoland and deposited at the Bank at the rate of from £500 to £750 per month, a like amount probably passing through each of the Assistant Commissioner's offices in the Territory. During the year, the Maseru

Branch of the Standard Bank exported £6,000 gold, £5,150 silver and £30 copper. It is estimated that not more than from £17,000 to £22,000 in South African Reserve Bank notes and £5,000 in coin is at present in circulation in the Territory.

The weights and measures in common use in the Territory are the British Imperial.

CHAPTER XII.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Owing to the continued financial stringency the activities of the Public Works Department were again curtailed during 1932.

The main work done by the Department during the year was the maintenance of Government buildings and water schemes throughout the Territory. These have all been kept in good repair.

CHAPTER XIII.

JUSTICE AND POLICE.

Justice.

The laws in force in Basutoland are the same as were in force in the Cape of Good Hope up to 18th March, 1884, except where repealed or altered by Proclamation of the High Commissioner, who is empowered to make by Proclamation such laws as may be necessary for the peace, order, and good government of the Territory.

The Basutoland Courts of Law consist of :—

(a) *The Resident Commissioner's Court*, which constitutes the supreme Court of Basutoland, and from which an appeal lies to the Privy Council. Under Proclamation No. 10 of 1928, as amended, the constitution of the Resident Commissioner's Court was altered, and provision made for the appointment of a judicial officer. The Court is now constituted by the Resident Commissioner or, when deputed by him thereto, the Deputy Resident Commissioner or the Judicial Commissioner sitting alone or together; and there may be associated with the Court not more than two officers of the Administration, appointed by the Resident Commissioner for the purpose by notice in the *Gazette*. The Resident Commissioner when present and, in his absence, the Judicial Commissioner is President of the Court, and the judgment of the Court is the judgment pronounced or approved by the President.

The power conferred on the Resident Commissioner to review and correct the proceedings of Courts or officers may be exercised also by the Judicial Commissioner, and any decision recorded or action taken by the Judicial Commissioner in the course of such review or correction shall be of the same force and effect as if it had been recorded or taken by the Resident Commissioner.

(b) *Courts of Assistant Commissioners*, who are empowered to impose sentences not exceeding two years' imprisonment with hard labour or fines not exceeding £50, with jurisdiction in civil cases up to £500. These Courts have no jurisdiction, however, to try summarily any person charged with treason, murder, attempt to murder, culpable homicide, rape, attempt to commit rape, or sedition. In these cases and other serious crimes preparatory examinations are held.

These Courts are situated in each of the seven districts and in the sub-district of Butha Buthe. Police officers have been given minor jurisdiction in the Courts of Assistant Commissioners to try minor offences, with power to impose sentences not exceeding 6 months' imprisonment with hard labour and fines not exceeding £10. Detached courts are held in the sub-districts of Peka and Mokhotlong presided over by Police officers exercising minor jurisdiction.

(c) *Chiefs' Courts*.—Under Proclamation No. 2B of 1884 the Paramount Chief and other native chiefs of Basutoland were authorized to continue to exercise jurisdiction according to native law and custom in civil and criminal cases within such limits as may be defined by any rules established by the authority of the Resident Commissioner, subject to a proviso that no suit, action, or proceeding whatsoever to which any European shall be a party, either as plaintiff or complainant, or as defendant, shall be adjudicated upon by any such chief, save by the consent of all parties concerned. An appeal lies from the decision of any chief to the Court of the Assistant Commissioner of the District within which such chief exercises jurisdiction.

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

<i>Nature of Crime.</i>	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.
In Magisterial Courts—					
Offences against the person ...	438	213	219	190	351
Offences against property ...	253	221	282	299	373
Offences against liquor laws ...	42	57	47	41	20
Other crimes ...	1,429	1,313	1,968	2,406	2,729
In Resident Commissioner's Court.					
Murder ...	1	6	10	11	10
Culpable homicide ...	20	30	23	14	62
Attempted murder ...	4	5	—	3	5
Rape ...	2	5	2	9	6
Other offences against the person ...	2	1	6	9	1
Offences against property with violence to the person.	4	33	52	50	214
Other offences against property ...	3	14	31	17	33
Other crimes ...	—	—	—	1	1

Police.

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

It is a matter for regret that the continued financial stringency has not permitted the re-opening of the Training Depot which was closed down in 1931. It is hoped, however, that when conditions improve, it will be reopened even for a period to allow for refresher courses, in order that the efficiency of the Force may not be permanently impaired.

Finger-print work is carried out by a Warrant Officer attached to the depot. This branch continues to perform valuable service in supplying the Courts with the previous criminal history of accused persons whose finger-prints are sent in for identification. During the year under review 1,233 finger-prints were received and recorded.

Establishment.—The establishment of the Force on 31st December, 1932, was as follows :—

<i>Europeans—</i>				<i>Native Police—</i>			
Staff Officer	...	...	1	Sergeant-Major	...	...	1
Inspectors	...	...	5	Sergeants	...	...	14
Sub-Inspectors	...	...	6	Corporals	...	...	15
Warrant Officer	...	...	1	Privates	...	...	264
				Saddlers	...	...	4
			—				—
Total	...	...	13	Total	...	...	298
			—				—

During the year, the native personnel was again reduced by 25 to make provision for the establishment number of 264 Privates. To effect this, existing and subsequent vacancies were not filled.

Distribution and Strength.—Mounted detachments of the Force are stationed in Maseru and in the various districts of the Territory, under the command of 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 following table shows the distribution of the strength as at 31st December, 1932 :—

Station.	Officers.	Warrant Officers.	Non-Commissioned Officers.	Men.	Remarks.
Butha Buthe ...	—	—	3	25	—
Leribe ...	1	—	4	21	—
Peka ...	1	—	1	7	—
Teyateyaneng ...	1	—	2	19	—
Maseru ...	3(a)	1(b)	3	38	(a) 2 seconded to Secretariat temporarily.
Depot ...	1(c)	—	2(b)	1	—
Mafeteng ...	1	—	4	25	(b) Seconded to Maseru Detachment while Depot closed.
Mohales Hoek ...	1	—	2	27	(c) Staff Officer.
Quthing ...	1	—	3	36	
Qacha's Nek ...	1	—	4	45	
Mokhotlong ...	1	—	2	18	
Totals ...	12	1	30	262	

The conduct and health of the Police have been uniformly good throughout the year. There were six dismissals during the year, five being for unsuitability, and only two deaths.

Crime.—During the year, 695 deportees were accepted from the Union after their claims to Basutoland birth had been established. This is an increase of 260 persons compared with last year, and in most cases their absence from the Territory had been upwards of twenty years and their records were bad. This influx of criminals into the Territory has already had a marked effect on the increase in crimes of storebreaking and theft.

The number of cases reported to the Police for investigation during the year amounted to 4,481, of which 3,291 were brought before the Magisterial Courts, 1,186 were not proceeded with for want of evidence or handed over to the Native Courts, and four were outstanding at 31st December, 1932. There was an increase of 329 cases brought before Magisterial Courts. As a result of these investigations, 4,271 persons were proceeded against, 154 of this number being females; 4,059 persons were arrested and 212 summoned to attend the Courts. The following table gives comparative statistics for the past two years of the persons dealt with in summary courts :—

	1931.	1932.
Convicted Summarily ...	2,936	3,473
Committed for trial ...	203	367
Discharged—		
For want of prosecution ...	10	83
On the merits of the case ...	519	348
Total persons proceeded against ...	3,668	4,271

There was an increase in convictions of persons for homicide crimes of 94 in 1932 as compared with 1931. This, of course, includes convictions in the Superior as well as Magisterial Courts.

Patrols, etc.—During 1932, 10,259 patrols were sent out and covered approximately 240,957 miles. Whilst the distance traversed is not so great as in 1931, there is a big increase in the number of patrols.

Apart from the ordinary Police routine, members of the force were called upon to perform extraneous duties in assisting in the collection of hut tax and of wool export duty, in providing prison guards, clerical assistance in various district offices, and services in the Medical and Veterinary Departments.

Prisons.

There are gaols at the Headquarter Camp of each of the seven districts into which the Territory is divided and in the sub-districts of Butha Buthe, Mokhotlong, and Peka.

Buildings.—All gaol buildings are of stone with iron roofs and cement floors: the inmates, however, are supplied with bed-boards on which to sleep. The majority of cells are built to contain on the average 8 to 10 prisoners, but there are usually one or two smaller ones for violent or dangerous inmates, or for occasional European convicts. Attached to each prison is an exercise yard and cement baths with water laid on. The cook-house is in the yard, and a daily scale of ration as laid down by statute is provided. As no special accommodation exists in the district gaols for female or European prisoners, they are invariably transferred to Maseru to serve sentence, etc.

Health.—The health of the prisoners during 1932 has, on the whole, been good, the daily average on the sick list being 13. Fifteen deaths and two executions were recorded during the year. All prisoners are medically examined on admission, and the Medical Officers make regular visits to the gaols, apart from the weekly inspection when they accompany the District Administrative Officer in charge. Prisoners reporting sick are taken to the Government Dispensary, and if necessary are admitted to hospital where they are put into the ordinary public wards and treated on similar lines to other patients.

Discipline.—During 1932 there have been more breaches of prison discipline, and more escapes of prisoners have been reported, than has previously been the case; but on the whole the conduct of the prisoners has been good. Until 1929 the large majority of convicts were stock thieves, and persons committed for public violence in connexion with land disputes, with, of course, a large percentage of tax defaulters and persons convicted for offences against the other revenue laws. For the most part they were not the habitual criminal type, and gaol discipline was therefore more or less easy to maintain. Unfortunately during the past three years there has

been an influx of the more criminal type owing to the deportations of bad characters from the Union, and this policy has already made itself felt in the gaols throughout the Territory to the detriment of discipline.

Labour.—During the year under review the policy commenced in 1931 of utilizing convicts to a greater extent on road construction and maintenance in the vicinity of the various camps has been maintained. But, as a general rule, where possible they are trained to become useful members of society on release, by instruction in such trades as masonry, carpentry, building, and other kinds of manual labour.

Sentences.—The majority of offenders are given the option of a fine or imprisonment with hard labour, but for the more serious offences sentences of imprisonment only are imposed. Provision has been made under Proclamation No. 55 of 1921 for the punishment of offenders in certain cases under which the Court may in its discretion :—

(a) postpone for a period not exceeding six months the passing of sentence, and release the offender on one or more conditions ; or

(b) pass sentence but order the operation of the sentence to be suspended for a period not exceeding three years on such conditions as the Court may specify in the order ; or

(c) pass sentence of a fine or, in default of payment, imprisonment, but suspend the issue of a warrant for committing the offender to a gaol in default of payment until the expiry of such period not exceeding twelve months as the Court may fix for payment, in instalments or otherwise, of the amount of the fine or until default has been made.

Suspended sentences are invariably awarded in cases of default of payment of tax and similar offences against the revenue laws.

Good conduct remission up to one-fourth of the sentence is allowed on all sentences of imprisonment for six months or more.

Statistics.—During the year under review 4,334 persons passed through the various gaols in the Territory, and of these 2,598 were committed to penal imprisonment. The corresponding figures for 1931 were 4,025 and 2,552 respectively.

Juvenile Offenders.—It has been the practice for several years to transfer all juvenile prisoners of from 15 to 20 years of age, whose sentences are over three months, to serve their sentences at the Peka Gaol in order to prevent contact as far as possible with adult offenders. At Peka these juveniles are under the close supervision of the officer-in-charge, and they are taught stone-cutting, masonry work, road-making, repairs to buildings, and gardening. The gaol

is visited weekly by the Medical Officer from Teyateyaneng. Parents of these youths are allowed to visit them on Sundays, and religious services are held fortnightly by a native minister. The average daily number in this gaol during 1932 was 33, of which 16·5 were juveniles. Of the juveniles, the average daily on the sick list was 0·52.

CHAPTER XIV.

LEGISLATION.

The following legislation was issued during 1932 by proclamation in the *Gazette* :—

(1) No. 2.—Customs (Primage) Proclamation, 1932. (Amending Proclamation No. 19 of 1925.)

(2) No. 6.—Basutoland Pensions Further Amendment Proclamation, 1932.

(3) No. 19.—Basutoland Trading (Amendment) Proclamation, 1932, (amending No. 28 of 1928).

(4) No. 20.—Basutoland Reformatories and Prisoners and Juvenile Offenders Removal Proclamation, 1920 (Amendment) Proclamation, 1932.

(5) No. 25.—Customs Tariff (Amendment) Proclamation, 1932.

(6) No. 37.—Providing for the payment of contributions from Basutoland Funds towards the pension and gratuity of C. L. O'Brien Dutton.

(7) No. 42.—Basutoland Appropriation (1932-33) Proclamation, 1932.

(8) No. 44.—Silver Coin Currency Control (Basutoland) Proclamation, 1932. Regulating the introduction of certain silver coin to Basutoland.

(9) No. 47.—Amending further the Basutoland Stock and Produce Theft Repression Proclamation, 1921.

(10) No. 48.—Basutoland Income Tax Proclamation, 1932.

(11) No. 53.—Basutoland Currency Proclamation, 1932.

(12) No. 57.—Basutoland Currency (Payments to Natives) Proclamation, 1932.

CHAPTER XV.

PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

Revenue and Expenditure.

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

Head.	REVENUE.				
	1927-28	1928-29	1929-30	1930-31	1931-32
	£	£	£	£	£
Native Tax	137,744	141,719	136,237	125,665	116,783
Customs and Excise	92,201	96,072	95,564	77,810	80,842
Posts and Telegraphs	8,466	9,181	9,377	8,883	9,964
Licences	8,938	9,206	9,141	8,068	7,821
Fees of Court or Office	956	1,094	1,083	810	1,042
Judicial Fines	2,629	2,515	2,039	1,445	976
Income Tax	12,843	16,022	10,732	5,929	3,957
Fees for Services Rendered	1,159	1,296	1,387	1,105	1,165
Interest	2,275	3,670	5,101	4,033	3,997
Wool Export Duty	17,918	33,976	32,187	25,436	19,265
Miscellaneous	7,913	10,055	8,943	8,654	8,040
Education Levy	13,357	15,103	14,885	13,963	13,017
Totals	£306,399	£339,892	£326,676	£281,501	£266,869

Head.	EXPENDITURE.				
	1927-28	1928-29	1929-30	1930-31	1931-32
	£	£	£	£	£
Resident Commissioner	12,532	13,099	12,724	12,783	12,789
District Administration	13,619	14,118	14,926	15,333	15,121
Police	39,160	38,357	38,678	37,600	35,455
Administration of Justice	12,379	11,764	12,087	13,306	13,255
Posts and Telegraphs	11,118	11,568	13,494	12,004	11,027
Public Works Department	5,147	5,239	5,276	5,322	5,761
Public Works Extraordinary	3,671	2,747	3,597	5,168	345
Public Works Recurrent	23,044	29,502	30,521	29,774	20,516
Medical	26,121	25,676	26,832	28,202	25,394
Education	54,871	58,596	57,105	53,235	49,734
Lerotholi Technical School	6,566	6,658	6,674	5,772	5,541
Agriculture—					
Veterinary	30,874	39,178	37,104	39,140	23,630
Agricultural			5,911	6,849	5,751
Allowances to Chiefs	12,002	12,562	14,260	13,754	11,628
National Council	1,641	1,762	1,777	1,634	1,613
Leper Settlement	19,558	19,238	20,077	21,501	20,317
Pensions	11,797	11,828	14,291	12,726	11,242
Miscellaneous	6,970	7,998	8,468	7,225	6,758
Capital Expenditure	3,804	6,687	10,060	1,090	4,312
Totals	£294,874	£316,577	£333,862	£322,418	£280,189

Debt.

The Basutoland Administration has no Public Debt, but its liabilities in connexion with the "Guardian's Fund" and the "Native Education Fund" were at 31st March, 1932, £25,171 and £8,127 respectively.

Assets.

The assets at 31st March, 1932, were as follows:—

	£
Standard Bank of South Africa, Limited.—	
" Current Account "	23,067
" Deposit Account "	10,000
Crown Agents for Colonies—	
" Current Account "	188
" Deposit Account "	17,000
Balances with Sub-Accountants	14,674
On loan to Swaziland Administration	37,000
Advances recoverable	6,490
Stores Suspense	9,610
	<hr/>
Total	£118,029
	<hr/>

Description of Main Heads of Taxation.

Native Tax.—The collection under this head for the year ended 31st March, 1932, was £116,783. Fuller details as regards the method of collection, etc., are given on page 31.

Customs and Excise.—Under the Customs Agreement entered into with the Union of South Africa in 1910, the Basutoland Administration receives annually 0·88575 per cent. of the total Customs revenue of the Union, less payments to Northern and Southern Rhodesia and South West Africa. The amount received for the twelve months ended 31st March, 1932, was £79,186.

In addition to the above, a duty is levied on importations of Union manufactured spirits and beer into Basutoland, and the amount received in this connexion for the above period was £1,656, making the total Customs revenue for the Territory, £80,842. The rates of duty on spirits and beer are governed by Part III of the Schedule to Proclamation No. 64 of 1921.

Licences.—Trades and businesses are subject to annual licences in terms of the Schedule to Proclamation No. 28 of 1928, which consolidated and amended the laws relating to the carrying on of businesses in Basutoland. A duty at the rate of $\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. is charged upon the purchase consideration in the case of the transfer of a General Trader's Licence. Labour Agents' and Motor Vehicle Registration Licences are governed by Proclamations Nos. 27 of

1907, as amended, and 7 of 1926, respectively. Assistant Commissioners are responsible for the collection of all licence fees in their districts.

The following table gives the chief classes of licences and the amount collected in respect of each, for the past two years :—

	1931.	1932.
	£	£
General Traders	4,725	4,788
Hawkers	548	350
Labour Agents	292	247
Labour Runners	168	49
Commercial Travellers	543	433
Miscellaneous	644	697
Motor Registration	1,048	1,159
Motor Drivers	72	44
Transfer Fees	27	54
	—	—
Totals	£8,067	£7,821
	—	—

Income-Tax.—The collection of income-tax is governed by the Basutoland Income-Tax Proclamation No. 52 of 1920, as amended. The general provisions of the Principal Proclamation apply each year to the determination of the taxable amount on which the tax is to be levied and the collection of the amount payable in respect of that taxable amount, but the actual rates to be levied are fixed by Proclamation each year.

The taxes imposed for the year 1931 were : (i) Normal Tax, (ii) Super Tax ; and the rates were fixed as follows :—

(i) Normal Tax :—

(a) In the case of companies, for each pound of the taxable amount, two shillings and sixpence.

(b) In the case of persons other than companies, for each pound of the taxable amount, one shilling and as many two-thousandths of a penny as there are pounds in that amount, subject to a maximum rate of two shillings in every pound.

(ii) Super Tax :—

(a) When the amount subject to super tax does not exceed twenty-four thousand pounds, for each pound of such amount, one shilling and as many five-hundredths of one penny as there are pounds in that amount.

(b) When the amount subject to super tax exceeds twenty-four thousand pounds, for each pound of such amount, five shillings.

The amount collected for the income-tax year ended 30th June, 1931, was as follows :—

						£
Arrear Tax	...	...	...	...	...	100
Current Tax	...	...	...	...	...	3,857
						<hr/>
Total	...	...	...	...	...	£3,957
						<hr/>

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 collection with the previous year.

<i>Source.</i>	1930-31	1931-32	+ or -
	£	£	£
General traders	2,464	650	- 1,814
Civil servants	1,216	1,287	+ 71
Employed persons	262	221	- 41
Others	1,015	934	- 81
Non-residents	972	865	- 107
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals	£5,929	£3,957	-£1,972
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

The number of incomes for current tax and the total amounts of taxable incomes in the various categories were :—

<i>Number.</i>	<i>Category.</i>	<i>Taxable Income.</i>
	£	£
36	500 and under	14,244
32	501 to 750	19,991
30	751 to 1,000	25,490
25	1,001 to 2,000	30,048
5	2,001 and over	16,155
		<hr/>
<hr/>		£105,928
		<hr/>

Wool Export Duty.—The imposition and the collection of the duty on wool and mohair exported from the Territory are governed by the Wool and Mohair Export Duty Proclamation No. 14 of 1923,

as amended. This duty was originally imposed to help to defray the expenses of the costly campaign inaugurated to eradicate scab among sheep and goats which was at that time very rife throughout Basutoland.

The duty levied during the first half of the financial year ending 31st March, 1932, was at the rate of one halfpenny upon every pound of wool or mohair exported; but from 1st September, 1931, owing to the continued slump in the prices obtaining for wool and mohair, the duty was reduced to twopence for every twelve and a-half pounds exported. The total receipts for the year amounted to £19,265.

Education Levy.—In accordance with Proclamation No. 13 of 1927, every adult native male domiciled in Basutoland has to pay a levy of three shillings per annum, and the total amount collected each year is credited to a special fund known as the "Basutoland Native Education Fund," and is devoted solely to purposes of native education. For purposes of convenience this levy is collected in conjunction with the hut tax, and both are embodied in one receipt which is superscribed, "Hut Tax, £1 5s. 0d.; Education Levy, 3s."

Customs Tariff.

In accordance with the Customs Agreement entered into with the Union Government in 1910, Basutoland maintains a Customs tariff similar to that which exists in the Union of South Africa.

Excise and Stamp Duties.

Stamp duties are imposed in terms of Proclamation No. 16 of 1907 as amended, and are mostly chargeable in respect of the following instruments, acts, etc., arbitrations and awards, bills of exchange, bonds, courts of law, acts and deeds of donations, leases, transfers, and in respect of duties performed by the Master of Court.

Hut Tax.

Hut tax is imposed by the Basutoland Native Tax Proclamation, 1911, (as amended). Every adult male native domiciled in Basutoland is liable for the payment of a tax at the rate of twenty-five shillings per annum and in addition, if such native has more than one wife according to native custom, a further sum of twenty-five shillings for every such additional wife. No native, however, is liable to pay in respect of himself and his wives more than three pounds fifteen shillings in any one year. A native inhabitant of the Union who resides in Basutoland for twelve months becomes liable to taxation in respect of that year, unless he is able to prove payment of tax in the country of his permanent residence.

Assistant Commissioners are empowered to exempt from the payment of tax, for any one year or more, any native who is incapacitated by extreme old age, personal infirmity, or other causes from earning a livelihood.

The Assistant Commissioners are in charge of the collection of tax in their districts, which duty they carry out through the chiefs and headmen who are nominally responsible to them for the collection in their respective wards. Paid native collectors operate in each district under the supervision of the Assistant Commissioners, and in conjunction with the chiefs to whose wards they are appointed. To encourage the chiefs to interest themselves in this very important part of their duties they are paid annual gratuities based on a percentage of the yearly collection in their respective wards. Facilities also exist, and are largely used both by individuals and by labour recruiting agencies, for the payment of tax at the Government offices situated in each of the camps and at the more important ports of exit. Members of the Basutoland Mounted Police are invariably employed towards the end of each financial year to patrol the districts, accompanied by chiefs' messengers, to give a stimulus to the collection and to bring in defaulters.

An officer of the Administration was stationed temporarily in Johannesburg during the year, with a staff of five native clerks, for the purpose of collecting arrear and current tax from Basutoland natives working on the gold mines along the Reef. Upwards of 30,000 Basuto are always employed on the mines, and at the time operations commenced many natives had been away from Basutoland for four or five years. The collection was a great success, and when once the initial difficulties had been overcome the natives appeared to be keen to pay. £17,300 was collected during the period 1st April to 31st July, 1932, at which date the collection was closed. A further collection was started on 1st January, 1933.

CHAPTER XVI.

LABOUR.

The gold mines play an increasingly large part in the economic position of the Territory, by employing annually large numbers of Basuto. Undoubtedly they have been a very great stand-by during the present depression as providing practically the only well-paid field for labour. It is estimated that there are upwards of 35,000 Basuto on the mines at present and that over one million pounds is annually paid out to Basutoland natives. Many of them remit money through the Native Deposit and Remittance Agency to their families in Basutoland, and a big majority of them defer a portion of their monthly wage in order that they may collect it on their return home.

During 1932 £37,814 was paid out in remittances and £50,165 in deferred pay.

The following table gives the number of passes issued during the year and indicates the purpose for which the natives left the Territory :—

A. Labour. Mines :—

Gold	...	...	25,642
Coal	...	...	47
Diamonds	...	...	62

Total Mines ... 25,751

25,751

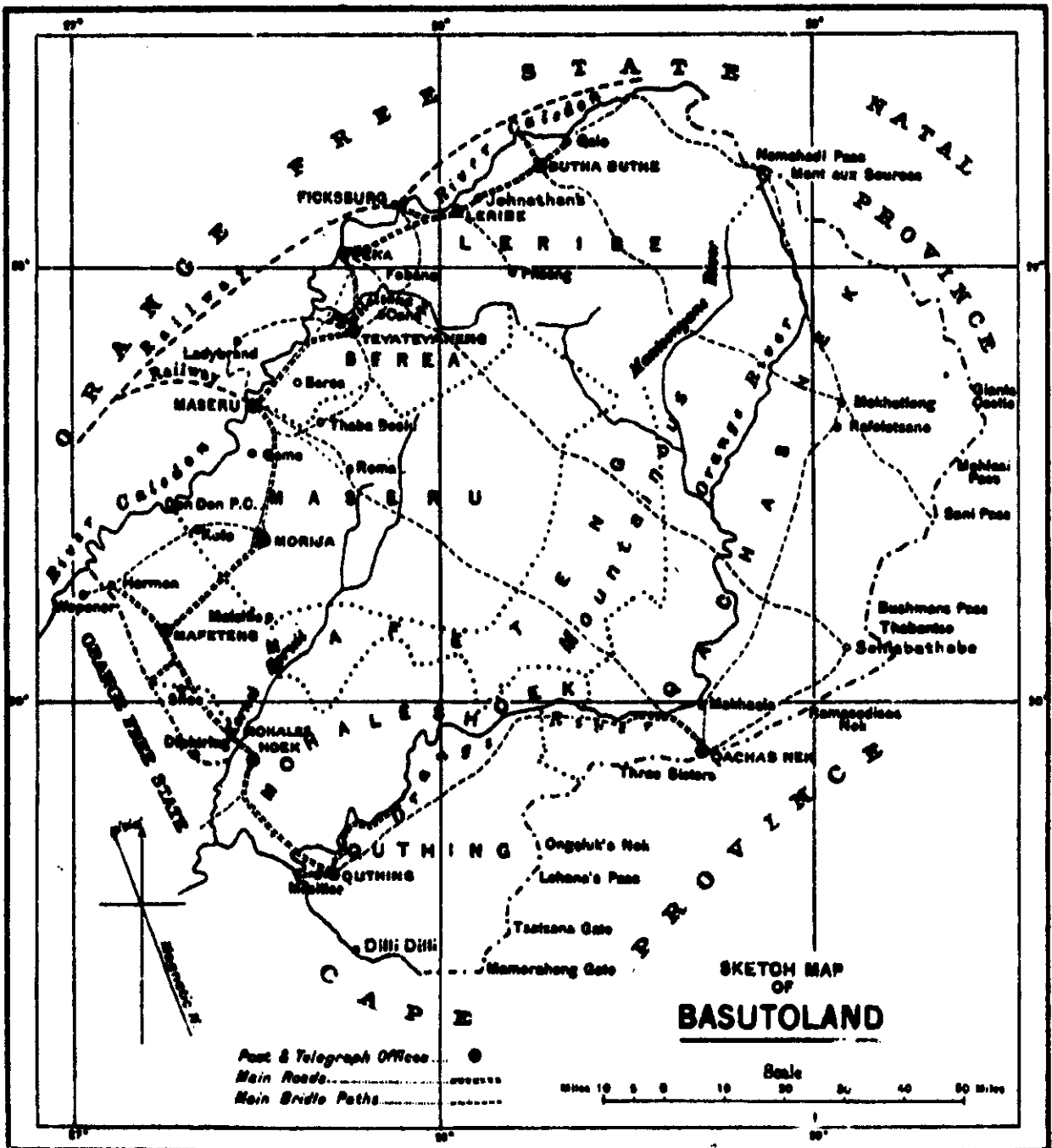
Agriculture 12,678

Miscellaneous 19,628

Total Labour 58,057

B. Visiting 38,010

Total 96,067



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