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GOLD COAST

REPORT FOR 1927-28.

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58-1418
# Gold Coast

## Annual General Report

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</table>

*Appendix "A."

**Official Publications**

*Appendix "B."

**Maps of the Gold Coast**
The Gold Coast Colony with Ashanti, the Northern Territories, and the British mandated territory of Togoland is situated on the Gulf of Guinea between 3° 7' W. long. and 1° 14' E. long., and is bounded on the west by the French colony of the Ivory Coast, on the east by the French mandated territory of Togoland, on the north by the French Soudan and on the south by the sea.

The area of the Colony is 23,490 square miles, of Ashanti, 24,560, of the Northern Territories, 30,600 and of the British mandated territory of Togoland, 13,040.

The Colony is inhabited by a large number of native tribes, whose customs and forms of government are of a more or less similar character. Each tribe has its own head chief and every town or village of the tribe a chief or headman.

The head chiefs and chiefs form the council of the tribe, and assist in dealing with matters affecting its general welfare. The succession to the chiefs’ stools is for the most part hereditary by the female side, the heir to the stool being the son of the occupant’s eldest sister, or, failing male offspring by his sisters, his brothers according to seniority and back from them to the male offspring of his aunts on the father’s side.

The principal sea coast tribes are the following:—Apollonia, Ahanta, Shama, Komenda, Elmina, Cape Coast, Fanti, Winneba, Assin Gomoa, Ga, Adangme, Awuna, Agbosome and Aflao.

In the interior of the Colony the principal tribes are:—Aowin, upper and lower Wasaw, Sefwi, upper and lower Denkera, Tufel, Assen, Esikuma, Adjumako, Akim Abuakwa and Akim Kotoku, Akwapim, Eastern and Western Krobo, Akwamu, Krepi, Shai and Ningo.

A number of different languages and dialects are spoken, the principal being Twi, Fanti, Awuna and Ga; but the use of English is widespread.

For the purposes of administration the Colony is divided into three Provinces, each presided over by a Provincial Commissioner. These Provinces are further divided into districts presided over by District Commissioners. Most of these officers perform judicial duties as magistrates in addition to being in administrative charge of their districts. The districts are as follows:
1. Western Province:—Districts—Axim, Ankobra, Tarkwa, Sekondi-Dixcove, Sefwi and Aowin.

2. Central Province:—Districts—Cape Coast, Saltpond, Winneba and Western Akim.

3. Eastern Province:—Districts—Accra, New Juaben, Akwapim, Volta River, Keta-Ada, Birim, (Akim-Abuakwa), Birim, (Kwahu) and Ho (Togoland).

It is said that as early as the reign of Edward I. (1272-1307) English navigators made voyages to the Gold Coast, and that a hundred years later French adventurers reached the coast, who, about 1364, built several lodges or forts, one being at Elmina, parts of which are supposed to have been subsequently incorporated in the present castle there. No definite evidence, however, exists to support these claims, although it is quite possible they are both correct; indeed, the natives until quite recently used to point out a hill near Takoradi as the site of a French fort built there many years ago. For our earliest knowledge of the Gold Coast we are indebted to the Portuguese navigators of the later years of the 14th and first part of the 15th centuries. They had been slowly extending their voyages down the West Coast of Africa, and it is recorded that in 1471 Juan de Santerem and Pedro d' Escobar traded for gold in the neighbourhood of Elmina and Chama. They made the first European settlement eleven years later, when an expedition under Diego d'Azumbuja built and garrisoned the fort San Jorge da Mina (Elmina), the materials for which he brought with him from Portugal. Several other settlements were founded, and the country was claimed for the King of Portugal by virtue of a Papal Bull granted in 1430, which gave to Portugal all the islands already discovered and all future discoveries in Guinea. This Bull was confirmed a few years after the foundation of Elmina by Pope Sextus IV. The Portuguese remained in undisputed possession for over fifty years until British merchant adventurers commenced trading on the coast, the earliest voyages of which records remain being those of Thomas Windham and Antóni Anes Pinteado, in 1553. John Lok, in 1554, and William Towson, in 1555, 1556 and 1558. The British made no settlements at this time and their trade soon lapsed altogether until the early years of the 17th century. The Dutch, however, who made their first appearance on the coast in 1595, rapidly became serious rivals of the Portuguese and practically terminated the latter's occupation by capturing Elmina in 1637, and Fort St. Anthony at Axim in 1642. After the activities of the Elizabethan sailors and merchant companies had come to an end, the English connexion with the
Gold Coast was by the efforts of a series of merchant companies, the first of which, called the "Company of Adventurers of London trading into Africa" was founded in 1618, but did not enjoy a successful career. Another company was formed in 1631, which established the first British fort on the coast at Kormantin, and lodges at several other places. This company was engaged in the slave trade, as were also the other European nations. Its charter was renewed in 1651, but in 1661 a new company was incorporated as the "Company of Royal Adventurers of England trading to Africa." Settlements were formed at Anomabu, Accra, and at Cabo Corso (Cape Coast), at which place the castle was built about this time by the English, although the Portuguese probably had a lodge there earlier. Three other European nations succeeded in acquiring territories on the Gold Coast, viz.:—The Swedes, the Brandenburghers, and the Danes. The first-mentioned built the fort of Christiansborg, near Accra about 1645, but were driven out by the Danes in 1657, and retired from the Coast. The Brandenburghers established "Fort Great Fredericksburg" at Prince's River in 1682, and "Fort Dorothen" at Akwida in 1682, but their enterprise does not seem to have been prosecuted with much vigour, and was finally abandoned in 1720, their possessions falling into the hands of the Dutch. The Danes, however, after first selling the fort at Christiansborg to the Portuguese, and re-buying it three years later, rapidly improved their position, building forts at several stations to the East of Accra, as far as Ada and Keta, and exercising a kind of Protectorate over Akwapim, and the Volta River district.

The third English Company was not successful. The Dutch traders spared no efforts to get rid of their rivals, and in consequence of their aggression an expedition was sent by Charles II. in 1664 under the command of Captain Holmes, which recaptured Cape Coast, taken the previous year by the Dutch, and all the other Dutch forts, with the exception of Elmina and possibly Axim. In the following year, however, the Dutch Commander de Ruyter recaptured all the lost Dutch forts, with the exception of Cape Coast; and the Treaty of Breda, 1667 left affairs in the Gold Coast in this condition. The fourth English Company was incorporated in the year 1672 under the name of the "Royal African Company of England." Under its influence English interests steadily advanced and forts were established at Dixcove, Sekondi, Komenda, Anomabu Tantamkweri, Winneba and Accra. The abolition of the exclusive privileges which the Royal African Company enjoyed led to its decline and eventual dissolution in 1752. By the Acts of Parliament
23 George II., c. 31, and 25 George II., c. 40, a fifth trading Corporation called the "African Company of Merchants" was formed, the membership of which was open to all British traders on payment of a fee of 40s., compensation being paid for its charter and property to the Royal African Company. An annual subsidy was granted by Parliament to the newly-formed Company until 1821, when by the Act 1 and 2 George IV., c. 28, the Company was dissolved and its possessions vested in the Crown, and placed under the Government of the West African Settlements, the seat of government being at Sierra Leone.

In 1824 the Governor of Sierra Leone, Sir Charles Macarthy, on visiting Cape Coast Castle found the neighbouring country of the Fantis in possession of the Ashantis. He formed the resolution of inciting the Fantis against their oppressors and led an army of them with a few disciplined soldiers against the Ashantis at Insamankow where, on the 24th January, 1824, he was killed, and his force totally routed. The war which ensued was ended by the victory of the English at Dodowa, near Accra, in 1826. Peace was formally concluded by a tripartite Treaty in 1831, between the English, the Fantis, and the Ashantis.

In the meantime, Her Majesty's Government had inclined to the policy of retiring from the Coast altogether, and after the peace they actually transferred the government of the forts to the local and London merchants interested, who secured as their Governor, Mr. George Maclean, a man of marked energy and capacity. This gentleman, with a force of no more than 100 men at his command, and with a Government subsidy of only £4,400 a year, contrived to extend and maintain the influence of his Government over the whole tract of country now known as the Gold Coast. In 1843, it having been suspected that the Merchant Government connived at the slave trade, the control of the forts was resumed by the Crown, and a Lieutenant-Governor was appointed. Mr. Maclean was continued in the direction of native affairs under the title of Judicial Assessor to the Native Chiefs, which post he held until his death in 1847.

Hitherto the forts of the various nations were intermixed with each other, and there was no defined limit as to where the influence of one or the other began or ended. The imposition of Customs duties was rendered difficult, if not impossible, by the existence of the free ports of a rival nation within a stone's throw, as it were, of the duty ports. On the 24th of January, 1850, by Letters Patent, the Settlements on the Gold Coast ceased to be dependencies of Sierra Leone, and in the same year, by the purchase
of the forts and protectorate of the Danes, the coast line from Christiansborg to Keta and the districts of Shai, Eastern and Western Krobo, Akwapim, Akwamu and Krepi were acquired by England. By a Commission dated the 19th February, 1866, the Gold Coast Settlements were reunited to the Colony of Sierra Leone under one Governor-in-Chief. In 1867, a convention was made with the Dutch by which the portion of the Coast lying to the west of the Sweet River, which flows into the sea between Cape Coast and Elmina, was allotted to Holland, England taking all the territory to the east of the river, and a customs union between the two nations was established. The Dutch, however, found many difficulties in the way of their occupation of the forts and possessions received from the English in exchange for those of their own lying to the East of the boundary line. The native tribes refused to recognise their authority, and the prospect before them was that of a long series of petty wars with no reasonable hope of profit to be gained in the future. The result was the convention made between England and Holland in 1871, by which the Dutch transferred all their forts and possessions on the Coast to the English and Great Britain obtained at last the sole sovereignty and control of the territory from Half-Asini to Aflao. The forts were transferred on the 6th of April, 1872. The present extent and limits of the colony are defined in the Order in Council of 1906.

At the conclusion of peace in 1874, measures were taken to place the government of the Gold Coast upon a footing of efficiency and security.

A new charter was issued, dated the 24th of July, 1874, separating the settlements of the Gold Coast and Lagos from the government of the West African Settlements, and erecting them into one colony under the style of the Gold Coast Colony under a Governor-in-Chief with an Administrator at Lagos. There was one Executive Council and one nominated Legislative Council for the two settlements and one Supreme Court. The charter of 1874 was superseded by Letters Patent dated the 23rd of January, 1883, and the 13th January, 1886 respectively. By the latter instrument Lagos was separated from the Gold Coast and formed into a distinct colony. Provision was made for an Executive and Legislative Council, the members of both being nominated by the Crown. Four unofficial members were appointed to the Legislative Council.

By Royal Instructions dated 20th September, 1916, under Letters Patent of the same date, all previous Instructions were
revoked and the Executive and Legislative Councils were re­
constituted. The Executive Council was constituted by the Colonial
Secretary, the Attorney-General, the Treasurer, the Director of
Medical and Sanitary Services and the Secretary for Native Affairs
with the Governor as President. The Legislative Council was
constituted by the members of the Executive Council and, in
addition, the Comptroller of Customs, the Director of Public Works,
the General Manager of Railways, and the Commissioners of the
Eastern, Central and Western Provinces, as ex-officio members,
and such unofficial members as might be appointed by the Crown.
By an Order in Council dated 8th April, 1925, Letters Patent and
Royal Instructions dated 23rd May, 1925, the Legislative Council
was reconstituted. It is now composed of the Governor, fifteen
Official Members and fourteen Unofficial Members. The newly-
constituted Legislative Council for the first time contains an elective
element; provision having been made for the election of six Head
Chiefs as Provincial Members of the Council, three Municipal
Members to represent the towns of Accra, Cape Coast, and Sekondi,
respectively, a Mercantile Member and a Mining Member.

The currency in use consists of British Bank and Treasury
notes and coin, all of which are legal tender as well as West African
Currency Notes (value £1 and 10s.) and Coin (value 2s., 1s., 6d.,
3d., 1d., ½d. and 1/10d.). The English system of weights and
measures is followed.
CHAPTER I.—GENERAL.

1. The remarkable prosperity of the Gold Coast continues and there was an appreciable increase in value in both Imports and Exports, the total value of external trade being £28,120,877 compared with £22,390,676 in 1926. The value of Exports was the highest on record in the history of the Gold Coast,* and it exceeded the value of Imports by £570,793.

2. The staple product of the country is cocoa. The value of this commodity exported in 1927 was £11,727,566, which figure represents no less than 81.72 per cent of the total value of the Exports. Compared with 1926 there was an increase in value of £3,546,331 but a decrease in quantity of 20,930 tons.

3. The political atmosphere in the Colony during this period, particularly as regards the relationship between the educated and the illiterate communities and between some of the Sub-Chiefs on the one hand and some of the Paramount Chiefs on the other, was rather strained. There was considerable opposition to the activities of the Provincial Councils of the Eastern and Central Provinces which were formally inaugurated in May, 1926 under the provisions of “The Gold Coast Colony (Legislative Council) Order in Council, 1925.” Notwithstanding this opposition, however, these Provincial Councils continued to do valuable work, and the results of their first labours assumed a tangible form in the Native Administration Ordinance which was passed by the Legislative Council in April, 1927. In the Western Province the people were much slower to realise the usefulness and the significance of the Provincial Councils, and it was not until April of the current year that a Provincial Council was formed in that Province.

4. The Native Administration Ordinance was devised to arrest the decay which in a progressive country like the Gold Coast is sure to manifest itself in Native customs and institutions. Its introduction afforded an opportunity to those persons who were unfavourably disposed to certain Paramount Chiefs to engineer an agitation in their Divisions, and for some time many of the Paramount Chiefs found themselves in difficulties. At the end of the year, however, the situation was much improved. The Provincial Councils give the Paramount Chiefs and their Councillors an opportunity to unite for the purpose of preserving natural institutions and customs; to consult together on subjects affecting the common welfare of their people; and to examine and advise Government on any proposed legislation. From the first the Provincial Council of the Eastern Province has been the strongest and the most generally supported. That of the Central Province has now fully recovered from the attacks which at one time seriously interfered with its proper working.

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* Gold Coast includes the Gold Coast Colony, Ashanti and the Northern Territories.
5. In Ashanti an Ordinance was enacted by the Governor in July, 1927, providing for the establishment, constitution and management of Stool Treasuries. Under this Ordinance the Governor is empowered to make regulations for the setting up by Head Chiefs of Stool Treasuries, and it is proposed to make a start in certain divisions, selected by the Chief Commissioner, which show a disposition to adopt a system of sound finance. The reconstitution of the Kumasi Division under Prempeh, the ex-King of Ashanti, who after thirty years of exile in the Seychelles was permitted to return to Ashanti as a private person in 1925, has proved in every way satisfactory.

6. In the Northern Territories no political events of outstanding importance occurred during the year.

7. The Government of the Gold Coast was administered by Brigadier-General Sir Frederick Gordon Guggisberg, K.C.M.G., D.S.O., from the 1st of April to the 23rd of April, 1927, when he sailed for England on the expiration of the term of his appointment. After his departure Sir James Crawford Maxwell, K.B.E., C.M.G., Colonial Secretary, administered the Government until the 5th of June, 1927, when he left the Colony to assume duty as Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Northern Rhodesia. Mr. John Maxwell, C.M.G., Chief Commissioner of Ashanti, administered the Government from the 6th of June, to the 18th of July, 1927. The Governor, Sir Alexander Ransford Slater, K.C.M.G., C.B.E., arrived in the Colony on the 19th of July, 1927, and administered the Government from that date until the end of the Financial Year.
CHAPTER II.—FINANCE.

Note.—The financial year is from the 1st April to the 31st March.

The following table gives the Revenue and Expenditure for the past five years:—

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Revenue</th>
<th>Expenditure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1923-24</td>
<td>£3,742,834</td>
<td>£4,105,938</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1924-25</td>
<td>£3,971,187</td>
<td>£4,632,633</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1925-26</td>
<td>£5,871,556 (a)</td>
<td>£4,255,126</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1926-27</td>
<td>£4,365,327</td>
<td>£4,328,159</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1927-28</td>
<td>£4,127,523 (b)</td>
<td>£3,618,831 (b)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(a) Inclusive of a reimbursement of £1,755,114 from Loan Funds in respect of the amounts advanced in 1923-24 and 1924-25 and charged as Expenditure in the accounts of those years.

(b) The figures of revenue and expenditure for 1923-24, 1924-25, 1925-26 and 1926-27 include gross totals of railway revenue and expenditure. Owing to the separation of railway accounts from the general accounts of the Colony, the figures for 1927-28 include the net railway profit on the working of that year only. Had the revenue and expenditure for 1927-28 been calculated on the same basis as in former years, which included gross railway figures, the revenue would have amounted to £5,217,639 and the expenditure to £4,714,947.

2. The year's working may be summarised as follows:—

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Revenue</th>
<th>Expenditure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Excess of Assets over Liabilities on 1st April, 1927</td>
<td>£4,121,523</td>
<td>£502,692</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transferred to Reserve</td>
<td>£3,618,831</td>
<td>£241,457</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excess of Assets over Liabilities on 31st March, 1928</td>
<td>£2,287,869</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. Of the total revenue in 1927-28 the sum of £3,181,481 was derived from Customs Duties, £224,114 from other indirect taxation and £582,331 from non-taxation revenue.

4. In addition to the above balance of assets amounting to £2,287,869, the Reserve Fund and the Supplementary Reserve Fund aggregate £1,387,272, of which amount £1,245,632 has been transferred from surplus Revenue, the balance representing accrued interest. There is a further amount of £334,497 standing to the credit of the Railway Renewals Fund, which is in effect another Reserve Fund, although earmarked for a special purpose.
5. On 31st March, 1927, the amount of the Public Debt was £11,791,000, and the amount of the Sinking Funds for its amortisation was £1,112,466.

6. Expenditure on Loan Works to 31st March, 1928, was as follows:

| Amount realised from the loans making up the Public Debt | £11,181,224 |
| Amount voted from Revenue | 840,653 |
| Amount advanced from Revenue (recoverable from next Loan) | 177,806 |
| **Total** | **£12,199,683** |

Expended on:
- Railways: £7,958,886
- Harbours: £3,770,426
- Waterworks: £470,371

**Total:** £12,199,683
CHAPTER III.—PRODUCTION.

Agriculture.

Cacao.

Although there was a decrease in export of 20,930 tons compared with the previous year, which was the highest annual export on record, the Gold Coast easily maintained its position as the premier cocoa growing country in the world, producing about one-half of the world’s supply. Prices were satisfactory throughout the year.

The percentage of the total quantity exported, as contributed by each Province, is given below, the percentage in the previous year being given for comparison.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Province</th>
<th>1927-28</th>
<th>1926-27</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Eastern Province of the Colony</td>
<td>35.9</td>
<td>47.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Province of the Colony</td>
<td>16.9</td>
<td>16.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ashanti and Western Province of the Colony</td>
<td>47.2</td>
<td>35.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Steps to improve the quality of local cocoa are under consideration.

Kola Nuts.

2. The crop was about normal, but there was a decrease in maritime export of 986,716 lbs. This decrease is ascribed to exports overland through the Northern Territories, of which no record is kept.

Oil Palm Products.

3. The improvement in this industry has not been maintained, exports having fallen by 1,776 tons compared with 1926. Although merchants are willing to buy at a fair price, the quantity of oil offering is small, greater attention being paid to products which are easily prepared for market. Increasing quantities of palm oil are reported to be used for domestic purposes in the place of the cheaper kinds of lard substitutes.

Copra.

4. There is a well-established coconut industry in the Keta District. There was, however, a slight falling off in the export of copra.

Rubber.

5. Owing to the low prices prevalent throughout the world, the export of this commodity fell from 1,418,250 lbs. in 1926 to 711,288 lbs in 1927.

Cotton.

6. The planting of cotton is still in the experimental stage. The yield was slightly higher than that of the previous year.

Food Crops.

7. In general food crops were plentiful and up to average.
Sisal.

8. The output of the Government factory near Accra was 135 tons of fibre in 93 running days as against 459 tons in 274 running days during the previous year. Unfavourable weather conditions accounted for this large decrease.

Veterinary.

9. Tamale in the Northern Territories is the headquarters of the Department, and all the work of the Department is carried out in that Protectorate. The establishment consists of a Principal Veterinary Officer, four Veterinary Officers, one Inspector of Livestock and five African Veterinary Assistants. In addition to this staff, 41 non-commissioned Officers and Constables seconded from the Northern Territories Constabulary carry out Cattle patrol duties.

10. There is a Veterinary School at Tamale for the instruction of Africans who, after a course of four years, may qualify as African Veterinary Assistants and be employed by Government.

11. The following are the functions of the Department:
   (a) To guard the indigenous stock and imported live stock caravans from contagious and infectious disease.
   (b) To suppress any outbreaks of disease when they occur.
   (c) To instruct the stockowners in practical Zootechny.
   (d) To improve the indigenous breeds of live stock.
   (e) Treatment of sick domestic animals.
   (f) Research work in connection with animal diseases and feeding of live stock.
   (g) Breeding experiments.
   (h) To collect the import tax on live stock.

12. The cattle trade is mostly in the hands of Gold Coast Africans, but a few French subjects and Syrians also take part in it. During the past year owing to cattle plague in French Territory there was a slight decrease in trade done.

13. The number of stock passing through the quarantine stations was:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stock Type</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Tax</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cattle</td>
<td>42,167</td>
<td>4s.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheep</td>
<td>50,887</td>
<td>6d.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goats</td>
<td>10,561</td>
<td>6d.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horses</td>
<td>639</td>
<td>5s.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

and the revenue collected at these stations was £10,129 7s. 6d.

14. There has been a great increase in the supply of locally bred cattle. All the stock has to pass through one of the five quarantine stations for inspection. These stations are on the main caravan routes from French Territory. Cattle are quarantined for nine days and other stock for 24 hours.
15. Serious epidemics of cattle plague occurred. 6,678 head of cattle died and 1,226 recovered and were branded as immune. 7,333 cattle were inoculated by the Serum-alone method and 996 by the Sero-vaccine method. The question of inoculating all young cattle with a view to making them immune from plague is receiving attention. There was also a slight epidemic of trypanosomiasis in one of the Government stock farms which was promptly arrested.

16. The experiment of issuing half and quarter bred English bulls to the Chiefs has resulted in the improvement of their cattle, and the importation of pure bred stock from the United Kingdom continues.

Forestry.

17. Forest policy in the Gold Coast is directed primarily to the preservation of a sufficient area of forest covered land so distributed as to ensure the maintenance of the humid forest type of climate which is an essential factor in the growth of cocoa, kola and other crops on which the prosperity of the Colony largely depends.

18. For this reason and because the natural forests of the country are in native ownership the Forest Department is not directly concerned with exploitation of the forests which is carried on entirely by private enterprise.

19. The mahogany export trade during the year has been normal and undisturbed by serious fluctuations in prices on the Liverpool market. These conditions have made evident the difference in value between good and inferior quality logs. The former are always saleable at reasonably remunerative prices while the latter are not. The following table gives the quantity and value of mahogany exported during the past five years:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Cubic Feet</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1923</td>
<td>1,714,340</td>
<td>171.015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1924</td>
<td>2,126,404</td>
<td>206.835</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1925</td>
<td>1,772,683</td>
<td>222.258</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1926</td>
<td>1,591,703</td>
<td>174.076</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1927</td>
<td>1,239,721</td>
<td>120.348</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The following quotation from the Timber Trade Journal of January 7th, 1928, will be found of interest in connection with the above figures:

"The demand for the better class of logs is still very strong, and wood showing character is eagerly competed for at every sale, whereas the poorer grade logs are difficult to sell, even at low prices. Fortunately, shippers are becoming more particular as to the class of logs they are now shipping from West African ports, and there is a smaller..."
"percentage of low-grade wood being sent forward now than was the case a couple of years ago. This is making conditions more favourable regarding prices, and gives buyers a truer insight into the real value of mahogany; whereas previously there was a totally wrong impression as to the trend of market prices, because large quantities of inferior grade logs were shipped here, which nobody would buy, eventually being disposed of at ruinous prices to the shipper."

20. Complete and reliable figures are not available to show the quantities of native timbers used within the country, but there are clear indications that a wider use is being made of these. This is a satisfactory tendency since every plank of native timber used represents money kept at home instead of being spent abroad on the purchase of foreign timber. From a wider point of view it effects an economy in consumption of the diminishing world stock of soft woods.

21. Forest Reserves aggregating 393 square miles were constituted by Chiefs during the year bringing the total area of Forest Reserves to 700 square miles, while a further 646 square miles have been demarcated and await constitution.
CHAPTER IV.—TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

(The Trade Figures in this Chapter are in respect of the Calendar Year 1927.)

Customs Revenue.

1. The gross receipts for the year, £3,070,954, are the highest on record and are £826,325 in excess of the gross revenue receipts for 1926.

2. Although the quantity of cocoa exported during the calendar year 1927 was 20,930 tons less than in 1926, the value was greater by £2,546,331. The increased purchasing power of the people accounts in a great measure for the considerable increases under every sub-head of the customs revenue.

3. There was an increase of £97,879 in revenue derived from goods subject to ad valorem duty, and an increase of £746,540 in revenue from goods which pay specific duties.

4. There was an increase of £595,306 in the revenue collected from importation of wines, spirits and malts. The total revenue collected on account of these was £1,622,461, which represented 53 per cent of the total net revenue receipts.

Imports.

5. The value of all imports for the year amounted to £13,770,542, being an increase of £3,484,666 on the previous year, but less by £1,381,603 than the value of the imports during the boom year of 1920.

6. The chief contributors to the increase of £1,562,008 in the value of articles subject to the ad valorem rate of duty were cotton piece goods, artificial silk goods, silk goods, iron and steel goods, apparel, cotton goods, perfumery, medicines and drugs and woollen goods.

7. The value of the 1927 imports of articles subject to specific duty, other than wines, spirits and malt liquors, was £560,857 in excess of the value of such imports for 1926. The chief increases were in meats—canned and bottled, fish—canned or preserved, cigarettes, cement, motor spirit, sugar and soap—common. The increase in meats—canned and bottled and fish of all kinds can be ascribed to the fact that, when he has the money, the labourer employed on the cocoa farms, at Takoradi Harbour, at the gold and diamond mines and on other development works in the Colony, prefers " European " food. The importation of motor spirit was not affected by the import duty being raised from 3d. to 6d. a gallon as from the 12th September, 1927, and the increased importation testifies to the great development in motor transport as a result of the constant addition to the mileage of motorable roads in the Gold Coast.

8. The value of the imports of spirituous liquors was greater by £335,895, the principal contributors to the increase being gin, malt liquors, wine (still,) and whisky.
9. The value of the imports of commercial free articles was greater by £995,644. Increases appeared under motor cars and lorries, corrugated iron sheets, coin, beef and pork (pickled and salted), and spare parts for motor vehicles. Of the total importation of 2,914 motor lorries and cars the United States of America supplied 2,261, while the United Kingdom supplied only 290. The United Kingdom supplied 212 motor-cycles out of 223, and 4,863 bicycles out of 5,331 imported.

Exports.

10. The total value of the exports for the year ended 31st December, 1927, was £14,350,335, being £2,245,555 or 18.55 per cent greater in value than the exports for 1926. This total value is the highest on record. The following table gives particulars of the quantities, values and destinations of the principal articles exported in 1926 and 1927.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Articles</th>
<th>Quantities</th>
<th>Values</th>
<th>Principal countries to which exported</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1926</td>
<td>1927</td>
<td>1926</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cocoa (raw)</td>
<td>tons</td>
<td></td>
<td>£</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>230,840</td>
<td>209,910</td>
<td>9,181,235</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diamonds</td>
<td>carats</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>299,835</td>
<td>460,959</td>
<td>362,833</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fibre (sisal hemp)</td>
<td>tons</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>436</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>18,195</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gold (raw)</td>
<td>ozs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>229,099</td>
<td>189,571</td>
<td>850,042</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rubber</td>
<td>lbs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1,418,850</td>
<td>711,388</td>
<td>53,473</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manganese ore</td>
<td>tons</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>344,933</td>
<td>359,905</td>
<td>684,852</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Copra</td>
<td>tons</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1,513</td>
<td>1,454</td>
<td>33,482</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kola Nuts</td>
<td>lbs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>13,474,028</td>
<td>11,487,312</td>
<td>259,479</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palm Kernels</td>
<td>tons</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7,059</td>
<td>6,543</td>
<td>125,556</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palm Oil</td>
<td>tons</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1,725</td>
<td>1,090</td>
<td>22,283</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mahogany</td>
<td>cub. ft</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1,880,456</td>
<td>1,239,721</td>
<td>213,928</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

11. The value of the exports of domestic products and manufactures, excluding bullion, was in excess of that for the previous year by £2,459,618 or 22.36 per cent, but the value of gold produced during 1927 was less than the 1926 output by £122,860.

12. The value (£11,727,566) of the cocoa exported represented 81.72 per cent of the total value of the exports in 1927. The statement hereunder shows the destination of the cocoa exported.
GOLD COAST, 1927—28.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tons</td>
<td>£</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States of America</td>
<td>60,529</td>
<td>3,284,495</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>48,288</td>
<td>2,847,234</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>44,040</td>
<td>2,440,655</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holland</td>
<td>38,953</td>
<td>2,227,821</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>7,287</td>
<td>408,785</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other countries</td>
<td>10,813</td>
<td>518,576</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>209,910</td>
<td>11,727,566</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

13. The import trade with all parts of the Empire represented 63.56 per cent of the total import trade and is less by 3.44 per cent than similar trade for the year 1926. The share of the import trade appropriated by the United Kingdom was 57.9 per cent, being 2.05 per cent more than in the former year. Imports from British West Africa fell from 9.31 per cent to 3.3 per cent, a decrease of 6.01 per cent on similar imports in the previous year. The United States of America, France and Germany again increased their share of the import trade with the Colony. Holland's share of the import trade again shows a decrease. In 1926 it was 7.08 per cent and in 1927 it was 6.48.

Trade Channels.

14. The channels by which British manufactured goods reach the African consumer are:
   (a) Direct from manufacturer to consumer, chiefly by parcel post.
   (b) From manufacturer through indent houses in Great Britain to the consumer by freight and parcel post.
   (c) From manufacturer through parent houses in Great Britain of trading firms having branches in West Africa, thence through the branches to the consumer. This is the channel of the largest trade and represents the bulk of steamer freights to the coast.

15. The method of sale adopted is by means of small stores, owned by the various firms, in the towns and villages. The firms have larger stores in the bigger centres and these and the smaller ones are usually in charge of African storekeepers under the supervision of Europeans. In addition there are various stores owned by Africans themselves, who buy their goods from the larger importers, or in some cases import direct. There are great opportunities of direct trade with the African trader, but due enquiries should be made as to his financial standing. Goods are often consigned through the banking houses.

16. Africans also import large quantities of goods for their own personal use through the medium of the parcel post. These
goods are usually ordered from catalogue descriptions and payment is made with order or the goods consigned through one of the banking houses. There are opportunities for developing this trade, but it is necessary that goods should be of the type and quality stated. Advertisements in the local papers will produce quantities of applications for catalogues.

MINES.

Gold.

ABBONTIAKOON MINES, LIMITED.

17. This mine had to close down in December, 1927 owing to the breaking of a crank shaft with resultant loss to the mining community in the Tarkwa District.

TAQUAH AND ABOSSO MINES, LIMITED.

18. This Company was registered in 1927 as a reconstruction of Taquah and Abosso, Limited, and is working three mines on the blanket reef namely Tarquah, Abosso and Adjah Bippo.

New machinery is in course of erection.

ARJSTON GOLD MINES, LIMITED AT PRESTEA.

19. Production has not yet commenced but a thorough reconditioning underground is being carried out.

AKOKO MINE.

20. The Akoko Gold Mines, Limited went into liquidation and a new company “New Akoko, Limited” took over the assets and resumed work but closed down in July.

BIBIANI MINE.

21. Bibiani 1927, Limited, acquired from the New Bibiani, Limited, the Bibiani mine and timber concessions and is expected to have a good future now that the motor road from Dunkwa has reached the property.

ASHANTI GOLDFIELDS CORPORATION, LIMITED.

22. This Company is still the premier gold producing property of the Gold Coast, the value of the Gold produced being £436,385.

Manganese.

23. The African Manganese Company working the deposit at Nsuta is the only exporter, the value of the 369,205 tons exported being £682,962.

Diamonds.

24. The African Selection Trust and the West African Diamond Syndicate are still the main producers. 460,959 carats valued at £512,159 were exported during the year.

Labour.

25. No labour was indentured from other Colonies. All those employed at the Mines were engaged locally. The health of mine labourers was good throughout the year.

26. There was again a falling off in the export of raw gold which was counterbalanced by a large increase in the quantity of diamonds exported. The manganese ore industry maintained its importance.
CHAPTER V.—COMMUNICATIONS.

Shipping and Harbours.

1. There was a satisfactory increase in the number and tonnage of shipping which entered and cleared during 1927 as compared with 1926. 900 vessels, representing an aggregate net registered tonnage of 2,458,570, entered the ports of the Colony during the year, and 891 vessels of a total net registered tonnage of 2,437,830 cleared for overseas in the same trade period. In 1926 the vessels entered inwards totalled 867, representing a net registered tonnage of 2,407,509, and 865 vessels cleared outwards with a total net registered tonnage of 2,406,927.

2. The following statement shows the nationality of shipping which entered the ports of the Gold Coast during the year 1927:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nationality</th>
<th>Steam and motor vessels</th>
<th>Sailing Vessels</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nos.</td>
<td>Net registered tonnage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>British</td>
<td>492</td>
<td>1,421,905</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>German</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>214,964</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>298,658</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dutch</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>238,357</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>138,855</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norwegian</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>89,589</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italian</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>36,161</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Danish</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>14,151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanish</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4,823</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>899</td>
<td>2,457,463</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note.—The above figures are in respect of the calendar year 1927.

Takoradi Harbour.

3. Rapid progress was made with the works during the year with the result that the ceremonial opening of the harbour took place on the 3rd of April, 1928.

4. The two breakwaters were substantially completed by the end of September and the wharf by the end of February.

5. Approximately 8 miles of railway track were laid, principally in sidings and in the Harbour area, and 2 miles of tarmacadam road, 20 feet wide, have been constructed.
6. Six new 2-ton electric portal cranes have been installed on the Main Wharf, and three 3-ton electric portal cranes and two 4-ton steam gantry cranes have been transferred from Sekondi Harbour and erected on the Lighter and Timber Wharves.

7. In addition to the 3 sets of steamer moorings laid down during the previous financial year, 20 sets of moorings for tugs and lighters have been fixed in the harbour. One of the two harbour tugs, the "Sir Gordon," arrived at Takoradi in January, 1928, the second, the "Sir Ransford," arrived just after the end of the year under review on 20th April, 1928.

8. Navigation lights and a fog bell have been erected at the extreme ends of the breakwaters, and a lighted whistle buoy has been fixed approximately 2 miles south east of the end of the main breakwater, to serve as a turning-in point for vessels making the harbour during foggy weather.

Railways.

9. The Central Province Railway was completed and taken over by open lines during the year, and the total mileage open for railway traffic in the Gold Coast is now 493.

10. The main line runs in a northerly direction from the port of Sekondi to Kumasi in Ashanti, thence to Accra in a south-easterly direction, a total distance of 362 miles.

11. The branch lines (3' 6" gauge) operated from the Sekondi-Juaso Section are (i) the Inchaban branch which runs in an easterly direction taking off the main line at 44 miles from Sekondi, and having a length of 4 miles; (ii) the Tarkwa—Prestea branch which runs in a north-westerly direction taking off the main line at Tarkwa, 39 miles from Sekondi, and having a length of 18 miles; and (iii) the Central Province branch which runs in a north easterly direction from Huni Valley, 53 miles from Sekondi, to Kade, a distance of 99 miles.

12. The only branch operated from the Accra Section is the Weshiang branch (2' 6" gauge) which runs from Accra in a westerly direction to Weshiang, a distance of 10 miles.

Finance.

13. The total capital expenditure on the 31st March, 1928, was £8,432,831.

14. The gross revenue amounted to £1,229,713, an increase of £73,260 as compared with the gross revenue for the year 1926-27.

15. The gross expenditure was £1,096,116. This amount includes a contribution of £95,866 to the Renewals Fund; a sum of £7,995 in respect of additional services rendered by other Departments, and a sum of £3,588 in respect of preliminary expenses in connexion with Takoradi Harbour.
The transactions of the year resulted in a net profit on account of the railway of £133,597 which was paid to the credit of the general revenue of the Colony.

Traffic.

17. The number of passengers conveyed during the year was 1,728,493, an increase of 275,578 over the previous year.

18. Two additional passenger trains were started between Kumasi and Obuasi on July 25th, 1927, and satisfactory results were obtained.

19. A Sentinel Cammell rail coach was put into service between Nsawam and Accra on March 19th, 1928. It is being well patronised, and it is hoped that the use of this type of coach will be further extended.

20. Kensere Station was opened on July 25th, 1927 and booked 9,482 passengers.

21. The total tonnage of goods traffic (exclusive of live stock) carried during the year 1927–28 was 750,153 a decrease of 55,074 tons compared with the 1926–27 figures.

The principal decreases were:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Commodity</th>
<th>Tons carried</th>
<th>Decrease</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Coal, Coke and Patent Fuel</td>
<td>11,073</td>
<td>7,469</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cocoa</td>
<td>131,517</td>
<td>17,672</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manganese</td>
<td>337,526</td>
<td>56,553</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The principal increases were:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Commodity</th>
<th>Tons carried</th>
<th>Increase</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Firewood</td>
<td>116,419</td>
<td>8,989</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building materials</td>
<td>20,667</td>
<td>7,503</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Imported food staples</td>
<td>15,445</td>
<td>2,736</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Machinery</td>
<td>1,117</td>
<td>517</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mining materials</td>
<td>3,021</td>
<td>1,145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timber</td>
<td>11,583</td>
<td>2,045</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Central Province Branch.

22. The remaining portion of this branch from Oda to Kade, 18 miles, was opened on December 12th, 1927. The total number of passengers booked from Wenchi and Kade stations to the end of the year was 2,557 and 6,620 respectively. An improved Time Table came into force on March 19th, 1928, giving connections to and from all stations on this branch to the main line stations between Sekondi and Kumasi and to the Prestea Branch.

Locomotives and Rolling Stock.

23. Twelve locomotives received heavy repairs and 25 locomotives second class repairs. 475 Vehicles received general overhaul. 342,160 super. ft. of timber were cut in the Sawmill.

Working Costs.

24. The working figures of the Locomotive Branch for the year 1927–28 compared with 1926–27 are as follows:
Locomotive cost per engine mile  33.19d.  31.62d.
Running cost per engine hour    13s. 9d.  13s. 4d.
Running Cost per Engine Mile  21.97d.  21.42d.
Engine Miles per Engine Hour  7.47d.  7.47d.
Engine Miles per Enginemen's Hour  6.02d.  5.78d.
Carriage and Wagon Cost per 100 Vehicle Miles  122.89d.  127.82d.

New Electric Power Scheme.
25. In order to cope with the ever increasing demand for electric light and power in Sekondi and to fulfil the requirements of Takoradi Harbour and Township the construction of a larger power station at Sekondi with a sub-station at Takoradi Harbour was commenced in April, 1927. The work is being carried out departmentally and was about two-thirds completed at the end of the year. It is estimated that the whole scheme will cost £140,500.

Railway Surveys.
26. The preliminary survey of the Northern Territories western route was completed at the end of June, 1927, the distance surveyed being 155 miles. The projected location together with final reports and the estimated cost of construction for both the eastern and western routes were prepared, and full particulars are now available.
27. A preliminary survey was begun on December 20th, 1927, at three points, Tarkwa, Prestea, and Sefwi Bekwai. At the end of March 115 miles had been surveyed, 65 of which have been adopted. The chief reason for this survey is to determine whether it is possible to provide transport facilities for the exploitation of the extensive bauxite deposits near Sefwi Bekwai at a cost which would be economically acceptable both to Government and to any company which undertook the development of the deposits. Such a railway would, moreover, open up the at present scantily developed Western Province of the Colony.

Roads and Motor Transport.
28. The road system of the Gold Coast is constructed entirely with a view to its use by motor cars and lorries fitted with pneumatic tyres. Solid tyres are prohibited by law. The mileage of motor roads is 5,343 of which about one-third may be classified as good, and the remainder as fair. The principal stretches of the more important main roads are completed by a process known as "tarmetting," i.e., about four inches of metal bound with sand and gravel and tar-sprayed. The improvement of the surface owing to this method of construction is most marked and must result in reduced running costs, while in the towns the adoption of this form of construction greatly reduces the dust nuisance. All roads can be and are used continually by cars of the lightest makes as well as heavy vehicles.
29. With the exception of six places, where regular pontoon ferries are established, the roads are adequately bridged, and the necessity for driving through a drift is exceptional.

30. 1,100 cars and 4,250 lorries were licensed during the year, an average of one motor vehicle to each mile of road.

31. The increase in native-owned motor vehicles continues to be remarkable. It is possible to arrange transport for any kind of goods for long or short distances by these vehicles on all the roads of the Colony and Ashanti and on the Kumasi-Tamale road. The traffic in passengers is large.

32. 1,637 motor drivers' certificates of competency were granted during the year.

33. An excellent service of motor omnibuses is working in Accra under the Accra Town Council.

**Posts and Telegraphs.**

34. The number of Post Offices in the Colony, Ashanti, and the Northern Territories open at the end of the year was 214. Of these 151 were Postal Agencies. There were 120 Telegraph Offices open at the end of the year.

35. The number of cablegrams dealt with in conjunction with the Eastern Telegraph Company was 27,147 as compared with 22,418 in 1926-27.

36. A new Wireless Station is under construction at Takoradi and it will be equipped for communication with other West African Colonies and to link up with the nearest stations of the main Empire Service.

The new Station will be equipped for broadcasting.

37. The extensive telephone trunk line construction programme is nearing completion and practically every town of importance and a number of the larger villages are connected with the telephone system. The number of telephone Stations is now 54.

38. All the old telegraph lines in the Colony have been rebuilt and an extensive and reliable service is now in operation.

39. Owing to the extension of motorable roads the abolition of mail service by head loads is now practically complete and mails are distributed to all principal towns and villages by motor transport.
CHAPTER VI.
JUSTICE, POLICE AND PRISONS.

Justice.

The Law of the Colony is the Common Law, the doctrines of equity, and the statutes of general application in force in England on the 24th July, 1874, modified by a large number of local Ordinances passed since that date. The Criminal Law was codified in 1892, and the civil and criminal procedure are regulated by the Supreme Court and Criminal Procedure Ordinances both passed in 1876.

2. The jurisdiction of the Supreme Court is limited to the Colony. In Ashanti and the Northern Territories there is a Circuit Judge, who presides over the sittings of the Courts of the Chief Commissioners, with practically the same jurisdiction in civil and criminal cases as the Judges in the Colony.

3. The Full Court, which is the Court of Appeal, must consist of not less than two Judges.

4. The Supreme Court consists of Divisional Courts at Accra, Cape Coast and Sekondi. At Accra there are two Divisional Courts, the Chief Justice presiding over one and a Puisne Judge over the other. Criminal Assizes are held at the above mentioned towns quarterly.

5. The Gold Coast (Privy Council Appeals) Order-in-Council lays down the procedure and rules to be observed in appeals from the Full Court to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council.

6. Police Magistrates and District Commissioners are ex officio Commissioners of the Supreme Court, the former with powers, in criminal cases, of imposing a sentence of imprisonment for one year or a fine of £100, and with jurisdiction in civil cases where the amount in dispute does not exceed £100. The latter's powers in criminal cases are limited to a sentence of six months imprisonment or a fine of £50 and in civil cases to cases where the amount does not exceed £50. Certain District Commissioners' Courts have, however, increased jurisdiction in civil cases up to £100.

7. Appeals from the decisions of the Police Magistrates and Commissioners lie to the Divisional Court. All cases tried by the lower Courts are revised by the Judge of the appropriate Province who has power to reverse any of their judgments.

8. The Chief Law Officer and head of the local Bar is the Attorney-General who is assisted by a Solicitor-General and three Crown Counsel. The Chief Justice has power to admit as Barristers and Solicitors of the Supreme Court any admitted Barrister or Advocate of Great Britain or Ireland and any person who may have been admitted as a Solicitor or Writer to the Signet in any of the Courts at London, Dublin or Edinburgh or as law
agents in Scotland. Every Barrister so admitted is entitled to practise as a Solicitor as well as a Barrister. Barristers and Solicitors are not allowed to practise before the Courts in Ashanti or the Northern Territories.

9. During the period under review 54 cases were disposed of by the Full Court and 506 civil actions were brought in the Divisional Courts. More than half of the actions were for debt and the total shows a considerable increase on that of previous years.

10. In the Superior Courts there were 103 convictions in criminal cases which is slightly below the average of the last three years. In the Courts of Summary Jurisdiction there were 16,769 convictions, an increase of over 4,500 on the previous year. This may be attributed largely to the increased number of prosecutions under the Public Health and Motor Traffic Ordinances.

11. Several volumes of Law Reports have been printed and copies are obtainable from the Crown Agents for the Colonies.

Police.

12. The Gold Coast Colony, Ashanti, and the British mandated sphere of Togoland are policed by the Gold Coast Police with headquarters at Accra.

13. The Northern Territories of the Gold Coast has a separate force in the Northern Territories Constabulary.

14. The Gold Coast Police is divided into three branches, viz.:

   Escort Police; General Police; Marine Police.

15. The Escort Police are mostly natives of the Northern Territories and many of them have served with the Gold Coast Regiment. They are chiefly employed on guards, escorts and patrols and are particularly useful when dealing with any unusual disturbance.

16. Thirty per cent. of the whole force are literate and they are chiefly employed in dealing with the keeping of criminal records, issuing various licences and all other police duties which cannot be carried out by illiterates.

17. The Marine Police are employed at the various ports and are required to carry out their work either on land or water.

18. The Criminal Investigation Department is now well established and over 16,000 criminal finger prints have been filed since 1923. During the past year 855 accused have been identified by this method as having been previously convicted.

19. There has been no specially marked increase in crime, but more minor offences in contravention of the Motor Traffic Laws have been brought before the courts owing to Police activity.

20. The Police Department keeps a register of Domestic Servants. This registration is now compulsory in the Colony and Ashanti.
21. The Department also keeps a Register of all Europeans and Asiatics entering and leaving the Colony, and full particulars of all aliens and of their movements are recorded.

Prisons.

22. The Prisons of the Gold Coast are emerging gradually from a system of negative prevention to a system of training and reformation. Some years ago it was considered sufficient to catch the law breaker and, by keeping him secure under lock and key, to prevent his preying upon the community for a definite period. The object aimed at during recent years is to provide such training during imprisonment as will give the criminal both the means and the incentive to lead the life of a decent law abiding citizen on release.

23. The prisons are divided into two classes (a) the central or convict prisons and (b) the local or small outstation prisons.

24. The convict prisons are supervised by experienced European Officers and are equipped with workshops and staffed by trained instructors. To these prisons are sent all persons sentenced to terms of imprisonment exceeding six months. The following trades are taught:—tailoring, masonry, carpentry shoe-making, furniture-making, cloth and mat weaving, string and rope making.

25. The local Prisons are supervised by the Political Officer of the District in which they are situated and are used for the detention of persons sentenced to terms of imprisonment up to six months. The prisoners in the local prisons are employed on conservancy work.

26. The daily average population of the prisons for 1927-28 was 1,701. The health was good.
CHAPTER VII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The most important public works in progress during the year were the construction of the Prince of Wales' School and College at Achimota which is well ahead of schedule time and should be completed by November, 1928. The lay-out of Takoradi Township has proceeded apace. Amongst other items 30 European bungalows, 94 quarters for African Officials, 325 quarters for artisans and the first of the two cocoa sheds and the bonded warehouse have been completed, and work on the Port, Medical, Police and Immigration Offices, the Public Works Department Yard, Police Barracks and Post and Telegraphs Yard is well in hand.

2. Forty-five bungalows for Officials have been built in other stations during the year.

3. New Police Barracks at Mampong (Akwapim), Kibi, Twifu, Odâ and Bekwai were erected and those at Koforidua considerably extended.

4. An Infant Welfare Clinic is in course of construction at Kumasi.

5. Plans for new Law Courts to be erected at Accra have been prepared and have been approved.

6. The pipe borne water supplies at Accra, Winneba and Sekondi have been satisfactorily maintained and extensions to the systems have been carried out.

7. The construction of the Cape Coast waterworks is well in hand and should be completed and in operation during the next financial year.

8. Investigations are being carried out in connection with a Water Supply for Kumasi.

9. There are electric light and power supply plants now in the following towns, Accra, Sekondi, Kumasi and Koforidua and also at Aburi.

10. £102,775 was spent on road construction, and the cost of maintaining roads was £70 per mile as against £63 in 1926-7

11. The cost of buildings erected during the year was £594,017. The figure for the previous year was £384,878.
CHAPTER VIII.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

The climate, though hot and damp, is cooler than that of most tropical countries situated in the same latitude. It is not in itself unhealthy; but an evil reputation has been earned for it in the past by the prevalence of mosquito-borne diseases, against which all possible precautions have constantly to be taken.

2. The Gold Coast is peculiarly free from many of the discomforts associated with tropical countries. Hot nights and intense heat by day are the exception rather than the rule, while insects are comparatively unobtrusive.

3. The efforts of the Medical and Sanitary authorities in promoting the treatment of disease and the knowledge of general hygiene, continue to exercise a beneficial effect on the general health.

4. The rainfall varies with the configuration of the country and is highest in the mining Districts of Tarkwa, Upper and Lower Wasaw, etc., and also at Axim. The first rains, or rainy season proper, begin in March and end in July; the later rains are spread over the months of September and October. The rainy season is marked by a considerable fall in temperature, which is found to be refreshing to many Europeans, but proves trying to some. The Harmattan season begins in December and ends in February.

5. Registration of births and deaths is carried out only in twenty-six towns and generally speaking it is admittedly incomplete and inaccurate. At the census of 1921 the total population of the Gold Coast was approximately 2,112,000. No general death rate, birth rate, or infant mortality rate can be worked out, nor can an accurate estimation be made of the more important causes of death, its age incidence or its distribution.

6. From the areas where registration is carried out 5,574 births and 4,884 deaths were reported for the calendar year 1927. The number of deaths under one year old was 679. The population of these registration areas is approximately 245,000.

7. The most common causes of death amongst adults as far as can be ascertained are due to diseases of the respiratory system, e.g., pneumonia, bronchitis and phthisis. Amongst infants the commonest causes in descending order of frequency are marasmus (including inanition), premature birth, diarrhoea (including enteritis, gastro-enteritis, etc.), convulsions, bronchitis (including broncho-pneumonia) and malaria.

8. The most important means to combat these diseases are the improvement of the housing conditions, provision of good water supplies, surface drainage, latrines, anti-mosquito work and disposal of refuse.

9. There are four Infant Welfare Clinics (including one to which a hospital is attached) in which attempts are made to cope to some extent with the infant mortality. The attendances at the...
clinics during 1927 were as follows:—

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Town</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accra</td>
<td>11,021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christiansborg</td>
<td>5,521</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sekondi</td>
<td>4,584</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kumasi</td>
<td>9,769</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. The general sanitation of the larger towns may be regarded as fairly satisfactory. 426,647 houses were inspected during eleven months with an average larval index of 1.14 per hundred. There were 3,791 prosecutions under the Destruction of Mosquitos Ordinance and 12,908 for insanitary conditions during the same time. The measures detailed in paragraph 8 are being carried out in all the large towns and as far as possible in the surrounding villages. Town planning is actively being carried on.

11. The most serious outbreak of disease was one of yellow fever which was characterised by the wide area over which cases were discovered. This disease was reported from Elmina to Accra along the coast line, up to Obuasi on the Sekondi-Kumasi railway, up to Nsawam on the Accra-Kumasi railway, in Akuse, Late and Sra and in Kpeve, Ho and as far north as Kpando, which last three towns are in the Mandated Area of Togoland. The following table gives the number of cases and deaths:—

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>African</th>
<th>European</th>
<th>Syrian</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cases</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deaths</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

12. There have been a few sporadic cases of small-pox, chiefly in the Northern Territories. Vaccination is carried out at various centres. All the deck passengers landing at the large ports are examined and vaccinated if necessary. 221,373 vaccinations were carried out.

13. A small epidemic of cerebro-spinal fever occurred in a bush village in the Obuasi district of the Eastern Province of Ashanti. Fortunately it was stamped out before the infection was conveyed to the larger centres.

14. In Suhum, an important village near Accra on a main road, thirty-two cases of Relapsing Fever with one death were reported. One non-fatal case was reported from Keta early in the year.
CHAPTER IX.—EDUCATION.

1. Education in the Gold Coast is voluntary and is mainly in the hands of Government and various missionary bodies of which the most important are the Presbyterian Church, the Ewe Presbyterian Church, the Wesleyan Mission, the Roman Catholic Mission, the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Mission and the English Church Mission. There are several undenominational schools and one assisted Mohammedan school.

2. Schools are officially recognised as of two kinds, assisted and non-assisted. An assisted school is one which has attained a certain standard of efficiency and receives a Government grant, while a non-assisted school receives no grant, generally because of the low standard of the work and the unsuitability of the buildings and equipment for scholastic purposes. Grants are awarded for general efficiency. They are calculated as a percentage of the expenditure on the salaries paid to teachers.

3. It was felt that Government ought to exercise a closer supervision over the non-assisted schools, so that the standard of work done might be raised and the buildings and equipment improved. Accordingly, the Education Ordinance No. 21 of 1925 was passed. By its provisions the Education Department can exercise some control over the staffing of these schools. Section 5 says "No person shall teach in any Government, assisted or non-assisted school unless he is registered on the Register of Teachers or on the Provisional List as may be prescribed." On the Register of Teachers are the names of those who have some definite qualification. The Provisional List is an emergency measure to prevent the wholesale closing of schools through the scarcity of trained or efficient teachers. On the Provisional List are placed for a limited period the names of those teachers whose qualifications are not good enough to entitle them to registration, but who were engaged in teaching before a certain date. If such a teacher proves himself capable, his name will be transferred to the Register. Gradually these teachers on the Provisional List will be replaced by teachers in the Register, and in the course of a few years the Provisional List should automatically disappear. By the application of the Ordinance a number of non-assisted schools have closed down through lack of staff. These are no loss to the Colony as the standard of work was so low that they did not deserve to be classed as schools.

4. In the Colony and Ashanti there are 17 Government Primary Schools having an enrolment of 3,693 boys and 1,040 girls with a total average attendance of 4,237. Five of these schools are in the Western Province, three in the Central Province, five in the Eastern Province and four in Ashanti. These schools are entirely supported and equipped from Government funds, and the total staff of teachers is 180, nearly all of whom hold
teachers' certificates. The staff of these schools is African except at two of the Girls Schools where a European mistress is in permanent charge.

5. The number of Mission assisted schools in the Colony and Ashanti is 235. The number of known non-assisted schools is 417.

6. The African Methodist Episcopal Zion Mission has two assisted Schools in the Central Province, four in the Trans-Volta district and one in Ashanti. The Presbyterian Church has eleven assisted schools in the Central Province, 67 in the Eastern Province five in the Trans-Volta district and 17 in Ashanti. The schools of the Ewe Presbyterian Church are all situated in the Trans-Volta district. The English Church Mission has three assisted schools in the Western Province, a boys' secondary school at Cape Coast in the Central Province, one school in the Eastern Province and two schools in Ashanti. Seven Roman Catholic Mission Schools (assisted) are situated in the Western Province, ten in the Central Province, eleven in the Trans-Volta district and four in Ashanti. The Wesleyan Mission has nine assisted schools in the Western Province, 18 primary and one secondary in the Central Province, 17 in the Eastern Province and five in Ashanti.

7. There is one undenominational school in Accra on the assisted list, and one Mohammedan school at Saltpond.

8. In the primary schools, in addition to the three R's, special attention is given to the teaching of hygiene, nature study and some form of handwork. The form which the handwork takes depends on the locality. In Government schools woodwork is often taught, while in rural schools attention is paid to mat-weaving, basket-making, brush-making, netting, etc. In girls' schools increasing attention is being paid to domestic science and child welfare. In the past parents showed a great reluctance to having their girls educated, but this antipathy is dying out. There is an increasing demand for education for girls, and several new schools are being built, and plans are being made for the erection of others. At present there are eleven schools in the Colony which are devoted solely to girls. In addition girls attend the ordinary primary schools and take practically the same course as the boys.

9. There are only two secondary schools in the Colony, viz., Mfantsipim of the Wesleyan Mission and St. Nicholas Grammar School of the English Church Mission. Both of these schools are in Cape Coast. They are always full and cannot accept all the applicants for admission. They are partly boarding schools and partly day schools. The curriculum is based on the requirements of the Cambridge School Certificate.

10. There is an increasing demand for technical education and this is entirely in the hands of the Government. The Accra Technical School provides a three years' course (practical and theoretical) in engineering and carpentry. This is the only school of its kind in the Colony and the demand for admission is so great that only a small percentage of the applicants can be admitted.
Plans are being made for extension so that more pupils may be admitted and the scope of the work increased.

11. To give a more elementary form of technical education four Junior Trade Schools have been built, one at Kibi in the Eastern Province, one at Assuantsi in the Central Province, one at Mampong in Ashanti and one at Tamale in the Northern Territories. At present there are 222 pupils in residence at these schools, of whom 71 are being trained in woodworking, 50 in masonry, 48 in agriculture and 53 in metalwork. These trades are taught along with the pupils' primary education, the time devoted to literary subjects being one-third of that spent in practical work. Specially promising pupils are given the opportunity of completing their technical training at the Accra Technical School. The object of these schools is to provide a preliminary training for boys who desire to become skilled artisans, but the main aim is the training and development of character and a sense of responsibility in the individual.

12. There are three training colleges for teachers in the Colony, viz.: The Government Training College at Achimota, the Presbyterian Church Training College at Akropong and Wesley College at Kumasi. The Government College trains teachers for its own schools and for any Mission or undenominational body, while the Presbyterian Church Training College and Wesley College train teachers for their own Missions only. At the three training colleges there are 446 students in residence. Students are admitted on completion of their primary school education and undergo four years of training. Education is free and each student is under bond to teach for at least five years in a Government or assisted school. All training colleges are subject to Government inspection.

13. A beginning was made last year with evening classes which may be described as successful. Africans are slowly beginning to realise that their education is not complete when they leave school, and that if they are to be successful in their careers further training is necessary. Literary and technical classes were arranged and a fair number attended. Arrangements are being made to extend the scope of these classes. Employers give their staff every facility to attend. Games, especially Association Football, continue to increase in popularity. Hockey is played regularly at some of the schools. Cricket is not so popular, possibly because of the expense of keeping up equipment, but it is encouraged in all Government Schools. Kibi Junior Trade School has begun to play Rugby football with considerable enthusiasm and success.

14. Girls attending the larger schools are becoming keener on games than they were a few years ago, and are beginning to realise that school is not merely a place for "book learning."
Prince of Wales' School and College, Achimota.

15. This Institution is designed to provide a continuous course of primary and secondary education, special attention being paid to training in character. Accommodation will eventually be available for 750 pupils.

16. Good progress is being made with the School buildings. The Class-Room blocks, the Science and Engineering blocks and four of the Dormitory blocks are now completed.

17. A great deal of progress has been made in laying out the grounds and the playing fields attached to the Institution. The College farm, which was started with a view to raising poultry and stock and for agricultural experiments generally, is being rapidly developed.

18. During the year 1927–28 there were 120 children (boys and girls) in the Kindergarten and Lower Primary classes. These classes are being taught in their own vernaculars and they are also learning conversational English. It is hoped to open the Secondary School in January, 1929. A large number of applications for admission have already been received.

19. In January, 1928, the Accra Training College for Teachers was removed to Achimota. There are 134 students in residence.

20. The Library has grown considerably, and is being increasingly taken advantage of by teachers throughout the country.

21. The College sustained a great loss in the death of Dr. Aggrey, Assistant Vice Principal in America, on July 27th, 1927.
CHAPTER X.—LAND AND SURVEYS.

LAND.

The cardinal principle adopted by Government in framing its land policy is that all land in the Colony belongs, or did originally belong to the native, and that all land has an owner. That it is not easy to translate this theory into practice is evidenced by the number of law suits relating to the boundaries of land that annually come before the Courts for decision.

2. A more detailed account of the native system of land tenure and the divisions recognised by Native Customary Law will be found on pages 275 to 279 of the "Gold Coast Handbook."

3. Government has power under the existing law, when land is required for public purposes, compulsorily to acquire it upon payment of compensation.

4. When land is required by individuals or companies for mining, agricultural or arboricultural purposes, it is necessary in certain cases to proceed under the Concessions Ordinance, which empowers the Court to impose such conditions upon the tenants as may seem desirable and just in the interests of the native land owners.

5. When land is required merely for building and such purposes it is usual to acquire in accordance with English conveyancing practice. The cost of land is heavy but varies a great deal according to locality.

6. A special Lands Department is at present in course of formation and will take over the duties hitherto performed by the Lands Branch of the Survey Department. This Department, which will be responsible for the conduct of land matters in the Colony in so far as they affect Government, will eventually have branch offices at Takoradi and Kumasi.

7. A Registry of Deeds is attached to the Supreme Court, but the duties of this office will be taken over in due course by the Lands Department. The revision of the present system of registration, with a view to promoting security of title to land is under consideration, and it is hoped by the completion of Key Maps to facilitate transactions in regard to land.

SURVEYS.

8. The Survey Department is divided into four main branches:

   (a) Headquarters and Printing.
   (b) Cadastral Branch.
   (c) Topographical Branch.
   (d) Survey School.

9. The Printing Branch undertakes the printing of maps, including diagrams, etc., required for various departmental reports.
and publications. It has also undertaken the printing of cadastral plans and topographical maps for the Sierra Leone Survey.

10. The Cadastral Branch is concerned with the production of town surveys, large-scale plans and plans required for acquisition or other purposes by the Lands Department. It consists of a Headquarters, Drawing and Computing offices and five Provincial Sections—one for each Province and Ashanti and one for work in the Accra District. In addition there are special temporary parties for the survey of the boundaries of forest reserves and the survey of a rigid framework for the Colony.

11. Town survey sheets on the 1/1250 scale are available for most of the larger towns including Accra, Sekondi, Kumasi, Nsawam, Koforidua, Dunkwa, etc., and during the year the field work was completed on the town surveys of Cape Coast and Axim. The surveys of 16 forest reserves were also completed. This makes a total of 30 reserves surveyed up to date. The Special Framework Party also completed in the field 100 miles of primary traverse but the whole of this had not been computed by the end of the year. This party, however, was short-handed for the greater part of the year.

12. The Topographical Branch is concerned with the topographical survey of the Colony, the work being published on the 1/125,000 and 1/62,500 scales. By the end of March, 1928, 22 sheets had been published on the former scale and 90 on the latter. The total area surveyed to date is about 56,850 miles including 10,000 square miles surveyed in the Northern Territories before the war.

13. During the year under review the Printing Department has carried out a large amount of work for other Departments, and in addition it produced eight field sheets on the 1/62,500 scale and two standard sheets on the 1/125,000 scale. It also undertook the publication of an "Atlas" of the Gold Coast, a book containing 24 maps and graphs of various kinds.

14. The greater portion of the personnel of the Topographical Branch was engaged on the two International Boundary Surveys. Good progress was made on these and it is anticipated that the survey of the Western Frontier will be completed about July, 1928, but the Eastern Frontier will not be finished until about June, 1929.

15. The Kintampo, Banda, Navrongo and Tumu sheets, which were in hand last year, were completed, and a revision of the Accra standard sheet was commenced.

16. The Survey School exists for the training of African surveyors for the Survey Department, and it also undertakes the training of a certain number of African Building Inspectors for the Public Works Department. During the year eight pupils completed their course as surveyors and seven building inspectors, while a new class of 24 pupils commenced work in January, 1928. The School, which had previously been housed at Abetifi in buildings
lent by the Scottish Mission, moved in January, 1928, to new and up-to-date buildings erected for the purpose on the Dodowa Road, Accra.

**GEOLOGICAL SURVEY.**

17. For the first two months of the year under review the Director and three Geologists were engaged in field work in the Northern Territories in districts through which pass the surveyed alternative routes of the proposed Northern Territories railway.

18. The examination of the deposits of bauxite, discovered in the Yenahin district west of Kumasi, Ashanti, in 1923 was resumed and traverses made through the country between Yenahin and the Tano River.

19. Geological examinations and reports on the locality about the site of the proposed reservoir for the permanent water-supply of Kumasi were made, and also of the Koforidua locality with a view to the discovery of supplementary domestic supplies of water for that town.

20. The general results of the field-work may be briefly summarised under two heads:—I. Economic; II. Scientific.

I.—Economic Results.

**BAUXITE.**

21. (Aluminium ore). A further examination of the bauxite deposits of the Yenahin district, by the sinking of shafts and general field-work, has proved them to vary in thickness from about 20 feet to 50 feet. A large proportion of the material is of high grade, and the quantity is estimated at upwards of 100 million tons.

A good deal of bauxite was also found on the northern portion of the Atiwa Range near the source of the Pusu Pusu stream. Some of it is of very good quality, but much of it highly ferriferous.

**MANGANESE ORE.**

22. A deposit of considerable extent, estimated to contain several hundred thousand tons of manganese ore, was discovered in the Yenahin district. It is associated with the deposits of bauxite (aluminium ore). A good deal of this ore is of high grade.

At numerous places in the Northern Territories manganese-bearing phyllites have been located, and deposits of manganese ore found.

**DIAMONDS.**

23. Good prospects of diamonds were found by panning at various places hitherto untested by the Geological Survey in the basin of the Birim River in the Colony. Some of these are in areas held under mining lease; others are beyond their boundaries.

**IRON.**

24. Near Pudo in the eastern portion of the Tumu District, Northern Territories an area of considerable size strewn with small lumps and coarse gravel of titaniferous haematite was found north from Basisan.
GOLD COAST, 1927—28.

PLATINUM.
25. From a dyke of ultrabasic rock north of Konchoggaw, eastern Tumu, Northern Territories a sample of rock analysed for platinum proved to contain that metal in very small quantities.

BUILDING—STONES AND POTTERY-CLAYS.
26. Many different types of highly serviceable building-stones for general engineering purposes were noted at numerous places in the Colony, Ashanti and the Northern Territories. Similarly clays of good quality for the commoner types of pottery were found.

WATER-POWER.
27. Observations and measurements of streams were made with regard to their possible value for hydro-electric purposes and irrigation.

II.—Scientific Results.
28. In the Yenahin district manganese ore has been discovered associated with bauxite.

PUBLICATIONS.
29. The publication of the Geological Map of the Gold Coast has been deferred for the incorporation in it of results of surveys in the Northern Territories connected with prospective railway extension.

Bulletin No. 3, "Report on the Gambia Colony" has been published.

Bulletin No. 4, "Report on the Microscopical Features and Chemical Analyses of Certain Representative Igneous Rocks from the Gold Coast" is in the press for publication.
CHAPTER XI.—LABOUR.

All over the Gold Coast may be found in large numbers illiterate labourers who have been attracted from the French territory to the north by the prospect of good work and wages. These, with the natives of the Northern Territories who have been led to travel southward by the same inducements, form the bulk of the unskilled labour supply. As workers they are reliable and strong and fairly adaptable without being conspicuous for intelligence; they are chosen for preference by European employers on most works involving manual labour. Wages average 1s. 6d. per day for men, and 1s. for women and boys.

2. The work on the farms and native buildings is done mainly by the owners and their families. Immigrant labourers are also employed, however, especially in gathering cocoa.

3. The demand for skilled labour is met by artisans trained by the various Government or Mission institutions and as apprentices in the Government Departments. Carpenters, blacksmiths, masons and mechanics are not difficult to obtain. They earn from 3s. 6d. to 5s. a day, or more, according to knowledge and experience.
CHAPTER XII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Legislation.

(This section deals with the calendar year, 1927).

Gold Coast Colony.

1. During the year 34 Ordinances were passed by the Legislative Council, of which the following are those of more general interest:

2. No. 8 of 1927, The Criminal Code Amendment Ordinance 1927, prohibits the publication in the press of advertisements relating to fortune telling, palmistry, astrology, and the like, such advertisements being likely to impose on members of the public.

3. No. 13 of 1927, The Forests Ordinance, 1927, takes the place of the old Forests Ordinance (Chapter 95). The old law, which related only to unoccupied lands, was never applied. The 1927 Ordinance which repeals Chapter 95 provides for the creation of forest reserves on the following areas:

   (1) Crown Land.
   (2) Tribal or Stool land.
   (3) Private land at the request of the owner.
   (4) Lands on which the destruction of forests is diminishing or is likely to diminish the water supply, or is injuring or is likely to injure the agricultural conditions of neighbouring lands, or is imperilling the continuous supply of forest produce to towns or villages on or contiguous to such lands.

4. No. 15 of 1927, The Provincial Councils (Further Provisions) Ordinance, 1927, implements the provisions of Clause XVI of the Gold Coast Colony (Legislative Council) Order in Council, 1925, which provides for the establishment of Provincial Councils of Paramount Chiefs in each Province of the Colony.

5. No. 18 of 1927, The Native Administration Ordinance, 1927, is in a large measure a consolidating Ordinance taking the place of the following Ordinances, viz.:—The Chiefs Ordinance, the Stool Property Detention Ordinance and the Native Jurisdiction Ordinance. At the same time it introduces a number of important changes in the law relating to native administration, viz.:

   (1) Under the Native Jurisdiction Ordinance the Native Tribunals had jurisdiction over natives who were members of a native community of the Gold Coast, Ashanti or the Northern Territories. Under the new Ordinance their jurisdiction extends, subject to certain exemptions, over persons of African descent who are natives of West Africa, or persons of African descent ordinarily residing within any of the above-mentioned territories.

   (2) Recognition is given to the position of the State Councils in the native constitution. Provision is made for
the exercise by these Councils of important functions in connexion with the installation, abdication and deposition of Paramount and Divisional (subordinate) Chiefs. They are also given jurisdiction to deal with certain offences of a political nature.

(3) The Supreme Court ceases to exercise jurisdiction in cases touching political or constitutional disputes between native authorities, or in land cases arising between Paramount or Divisional Chiefs belonging to different States. Jurisdiction in such land cases is transferred to the newly constituted Provincial Councils, which are also empowered to deal with certain disputes of a constitutional nature, as well as with questions, matters or disputes referred to them by the Governor.

(4) The jurisdiction of the Tribunals is increased in many respects, that of the Paramount Chiefs' Tribunals now becoming considerably larger than that of the Divisional Chiefs' Tribunals.


7. No. 34 of 1927, The Takoradi Harbour Ordinance, 1927 which, as its name connotes, provides for the management of the new Harbour.

Ashanti.

8. During the year 1927 sixteen Ordinances were enacted with respect to Ashanti.


10. Of the rest the only Ordinance requiring special notice is No. 10 of 1927, The Stool Treasuries Ordinance, 1927, which provides for the establishment of Stool Treasuries, and enables the Governor to make regulations, and the native authorities by-laws, in relation thereto.

Northern Territories.

11. Of the seven Ordinances passed with respect to the Northern Territories of the Gold Coast, the following are of special interest:

12. No. 1 of 1927, The Land and Native Rights Ordinance. By this Ordinance all lands in the Northern Territories, with certain exceptions, are declared to be public lands, and are placed under the control and made subject to the disposition of the Governor for the common use and benefit of the natives. A title to the occupation and use of land is to be termed a right of occupancy, and it is lawful for the Governor to grant such right
to natives and non-natives on terms for which provision is made in the Ordinance. The Ordinance does not affect mining rights or interests, which remain subject to the Mineral Rights Ordinance, 1904.

13. No. 2 of 1927, The Land Disputes (Executive Settlement) Ordinance, 1927, empowers Commissioners of the Protectorate in their executive capacity to hear and determine disputes between natives relating to land. Disregard or defiance of a decision or settlement made under the Ordinance is to be deemed an offence. But the provisions of the Ordinance do not extend to the settlement of disputes in connexion with the Mineral Rights Ordinance, 1904, or with the Land and Native Rights Ordinance, 1927.

British Sphere of Togoland.

14. During the year 1927 two Ordinances were enacted with respect to the British Sphere of Togoland.

15. No. 1 of 1927, The Land Ordinance, 1927, excludes from operation with respect to the Northern Section of the British Sphere of Togoland the Northern Territories Ordinance entitled The Land and Native Rights Ordinance, 1927, and in effect applies to the former territory the provisions of the Northern Territories Ordinance entitled The Land Disputes (Executive Settlement) Ordinance, 1927.

Banking.

16. The Government banks with the various branches of the Bank of British West Africa and Barclay's Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas).

17. The Bank of British West Africa, which commenced business in Accra on the 1st January, 1897, has opened branches at Axim, Sekondi, Tarkwa, Kumasi, Cape Coast, Saltpond, Winneba, Bekwai, Koforidua, Nsawam and Dunkwa, and agencies at Obuasi, Prestea and Half Assini.

18. The Colonial Bank, now Barclay's Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas), established in Accra on the 24th February, 1917, has branches at Sekondi, Winneba, Kumasi, Koforidua and Nsawam.

19. A Government Savings Bank conducted by the Treasury was established in 1888. The business was transferred to the Post Office in 1905, and is rapidly increasing. The amount standing to the credit of depositors on 31st December, 1927 was £72,617, an increase of £5,693, over last year.

20. Penny Banks in connection with the Post Office have also been established in the principal Government Schools.

Imperial Institute.

21. Showcases have been installed in the new site for the Court in the North Gallery, and specimens of products illustrating the more important industries have been arranged therein.

22. A series of exhibits illustrating the manufacture of cocoa and chocolate has been presented by Messrs. Cadbury and is on exhibition in the Court.
23. A number of photographs illustrating Cocoa, Sisal, Lumbering, Diamond and Manganese Mining have been enlarged and are shown with their related exhibits in the Court.

24. Samples of Gold Coast rubber were included in the special display of Empire rubber at the Rubber Exhibition which was held at the Imperial Institute in December.

25. Progress has been made with the dioramas which are to be installed in the Court.

26. The Gold Coast Court was visited by Their Majesties the King and Queen on November 16th and by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales on January 12th.

27. Lectures on the Gold Coast and Gold Coast products have been given to school parties and others by the Guide Lecturers.

28. Specimens of Gold Coast products have been sent to enquirers and have also been included in the collections for use in school museums.

29. Pamphlets relating to the Gold Coast have been distributed from the Central Stand, where picture postcard views of the Gold Coast are on sale.

30. In July, 1927 a Cinema was installed at the Imperial Institute, funds for the construction and maintenance of which are provided by the Empire Marketing Board.

31. Two hundred and thirty-six showings of West African films have been made since the opening of the Cinema in July until 31st December, 1927. The total attendance in the Cinema during the period mentioned amounted to 135,545 persons, including 1,291 parties of children from colleges and schools in and near London.
### Appendix A.

**List of certain publications, prices thereof and where they may be obtained.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Publication</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>From whom obtainable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Address by the Governor on Estimates.</td>
<td>1/-</td>
<td>Colonial Secretary's Office, Accra, Gold Coast Commercial Intelligence Bureau, London.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blue Book.</td>
<td>15/-</td>
<td>Colonial Secretary's Office, Accra, Gold Coast Commercial Intelligence Bureau, London.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civil Service List.</td>
<td>1 6d.</td>
<td>Colonial Secretary's Office, Accra.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gold Coast Review.</td>
<td>2/-</td>
<td>Colonial Secretary's Office, Accra, Commissioner of Western Province, Sekondi, Commissioner of Central Province, Cape Coast, Gold Coast Commercial Intelligence Bureau, London.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Customs Import and Export Lists.</td>
<td>2/-</td>
<td>Colonial Secretary's Office, Accra.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Customs Tariff and Customs House Guide.</td>
<td>3/-</td>
<td>H.M. Customs, Accra.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## APPENDIX A—continued.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Publication</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>From whom obtainable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Road Guide.</td>
<td>2/-</td>
<td>Colonial Secretary's Office, Accra.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Gold Coast: Some Consideration of its Structure, People and Natural History.</td>
<td>1/-</td>
<td>Colonial Secretary's Office, Accra.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## APPENDIX B.

### AGENTS FOR THE SALE OF GOLD COAST MAPS.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Maps</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>From whom obtainable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>General Map of Colony and dependencies—Size 31 x 21 inches. Scale 1:1,000,000.</strong></td>
<td>Folded 8/- Flat 4/-</td>
<td>Edward Stanford, Ltd., 12–14, Long Acre, London, W.C.2.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Standard Map.—Scale 1:125,000, or nearly two miles to the inch.</strong></td>
<td>Folded 4/- Flat 2/-</td>
<td>Sifton Praed &amp; Co., Ltd., 67, St. James Street, London, W.C.1.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*In Great Britain.*
**GOLD COAST, 1927—28.**

**AGENTS FOR THE SALE OF GOLD COAST MAPS.—contd.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Maps</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>From whom obtainable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>In Great Britain.</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town Plans.—Accra, scale 1/1,250.</td>
<td>2/-</td>
<td>Philip, Son &amp; Nephew, 20 Church Street, Liverpool.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>do. Scale 1/350, in two sheets.</td>
<td>2/- each Folded 8/-</td>
<td>J. E. Cornish, Ltd., 16, St. Ann’s Square, Manchester.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>do. Kumasi, scale 1/6,250, in two sheets.</td>
<td>2/- each Folded 8/-</td>
<td>Surveyor-General, Cantonments, Accra.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>do. Scale 11,250.</td>
<td>2/- per copy</td>
<td>African &amp; Eastern Trade Corporation, Ltd., Accra and branches.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Topographical Map.—</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scale 1/62,500, or nearly one inch to one mile.</td>
<td>Folded 4/- Flat 2/-</td>
<td>Wesleyan Methodist Book Depot, Cape Coast, Kumasi and Sekondi.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Road Map.—1/500,000.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shows all motor routes with official numbers of sections.</td>
<td>Folded 8/- Flat 4/-</td>
<td>do.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

N.B.—The address of the Colonial Secretary’s Office is P.O. Box No. 140, Accra, Gold Coast.

The address of the Gold Coast Commercial Intelligence Bureau is Abbey House, 8 Victoria Street, Westminster, S.W.