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COLONY & PROTECTORATE
OF KENYA.

REPORT FOR 1922.

Report for 1921 (1st APRIL to 31st DECEMBER) see No. 1153.]



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No. 1188.

REPORT ON THE COLONY AND PROTECTORATE
OF KENYA FOR THE YEAR ENDING
31st DECEMBER, 1922*.

GEOGRAPHICAL AND HISTORICAL NOTE.

The Colony and Protectorate of Kenya may be described as situated astride the equator on the eastern side of the continent of Africa. Its coastline on the Indian Ocean stretches from $6' S.$ to $4^{\circ} 50' S.$ of the equator; its northern boundary lies $4^{\circ} N.$, and its western boundary runs at a general distance of 500 miles from the sea. The precise boundaries of the territory were proclaimed in the Kenya Colony and Protectorate (Boundaries) Order in Council, 1921. The southern boundary runs from the coast in a north-westerly direction, those portions of the Colony which are most suitable for European occupation lie in the highlands, from 1° to $2^{\circ} S.$ of the equator and, in the case of the Uasin Gishu Plateau, to 1° north.

The Protectorate of Kenya is a strip of territory along the equator up to the Tana River, ten miles broad. It includes the station of Kismayu, in Jubaland, with a radius of ten miles landward from that town. It is 2,200 square miles in extent and forms part of the dominions of the Sultan of Zanzibar, from whom it is leased at a rent of £17,000 a year. The Colony comprises the remainder of the territory, viz., 100,000 square miles.

From 1895 to 1920 the whole territory was administered by His Majesty's Government as a Protectorate. Until 1905 the Colonial Office directed the administration, but from that year it has been centred in the Colonial Office. In 1920 the territory not included in the dominions of the Sultan of Zanzibar was annexed by the Crown and was declared a Colony. A new Constitution was granted, under Royal Warrant of 11th September, 1920, by which the government of the Colony was vested in a Governor and Commander-in-Chief, assisted by an Executive Council of five named ex-

A sketch map will be found in the Report for 1914-15 (pp. 172-7).

officio members and such other persons, not holding office in the public service of the Colony, as the Governor may, in pursuance of instructions from His Majesty the King through the Secretary of State for the Colonies, direct. During 1922, two of the elected European and one of the nominated Indian members of the Legislative Council were appointed to be members of the Executive Council.

Legislation in the Colony and Protectorate is enacted, subject to the assent of His Majesty the King, by a Legislative Council which is composed of ten ex-officio members and a number not exceeding seven, of officials in the public service of the country, one of whom is specially appointed to represent the interests of the Arab community, together with eleven elected European and two nominated Indian members. On 11 February, 1922, the number of Indian members was raised by Order in Council to four.

Sir Robert Thorne Coryndon, K.C.M.G., was appointed to be Governor and Commander-in-Chief in succession to Major General Sir Edward Northey, K.C.M.G., C.B., with effect from 19th August, 1922. He assumed duty on 1st September.

I. GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

It is made clear in the subsequent sections of this report that the dominant activity of the year 1922 was an effort to combat the tide of depression by economy in Government expenditure and by the encouragement of increased production. The depression which overshadowed the country during the preceding year and a large portion of the year under review affected all sections of the community and contributed in some measure to discontent amongst certain native tribes, in particular among their younger members. Mention was made in the report for 1921 of the formation of native political associations. The most important of these was the Kikuyu Association. A secession from that association, led by a certain Harry Thuku, started an agitation which was supported by a Young Kavirondo Association. It was found necessary to order the deportation of Thuku to Kismayu. This action by Government was welcomed by the responsible native authorities, to whom Thuku's attitude and ascendancy had afforded grave concern.

The policy of the Government in the administration of the native tribes is to govern through the Native Councils of Elders, the Chiefs and the Headmen, and eventually, in proportion as they proved worth, to entrust these Councils with a measure of local financial responsibility and authority.

MEASURES FOR IMPROVEMENT OF CONDITIONS AMONGST THE NATIVES.

During 1922, native interests have been served in the economic sphere by the dissemination of printed instructions.

in the preparation of ghee, hides, beeswax; by the distribution of 28 tons of seeds of grains, cotton and rice, and by a nucleus of paid agricultural supervisors, instructors and apprentices, whose duty it is to interpret by practical demonstration the advice offered in the pamphlets and in the Government native newspaper *Habari*.

Particular attention has been devoted to the development of cotton and maize. In the Nyanza Province, near the lake, four ginneries will, it is hoped, be ready to handle the ensuing cotton crop, and assistance is given to natives to market their maize and other crops in good condition and to the best advantage. The trade figures, which are given later in this report, attest the success of these activities.

The pastoral tribes present greater difficulties. The question of cattle preservation has received thorough consideration during the year. Unfortunately, there is still no market for frozen or canned meat from this Colony—the expenses of any systematic campaign against disease and for the improvement of types of native-owned stock are very great. A beginning was made with the inoculation on a fairly large scale of native-owned stock against rinderpest and pleuro-pneumonia, but after 25,267 head had been treated with rinderpest serum and 56,677 head with pleuro-pneumonia serum, there was considerable difficulty in obtaining payment of rinderpest inoculation fees. It was found necessary temporarily to suspend these veterinary measures, and attention was diverted towards instruction in the art of preparing ghee.

The ghee trade has great possibilities. In 1920-21 £40,986 worth of ghee (8,137 cwt.) was imported into Kenya, and there is no reason why locally-prepared ghee should not oust the imported article. Local production has been fostered by the imposition of 1s. per lb. customs tariff on imported ghee, and the value of ghee imported in 1922 dropped to 4,557 cwt. (value £15,523). As a conservative estimate puts the number of native-owned cattle at two and a half millions, it is manifest that a trade both local and export of considerable magnitude may be established.

Native stock-owners are also being taught how to treat hides for marketing. The removal of the export duty on hides gave an immediate stimulus to this trade, and efforts are centred on improving the quality.

The literary and technical education of natives is discussed later in the general review of education in the Colony. In spite of the economy and staff retrenchment which was perforce practised this year, medical services in the native reserves were not extensively curtailed, though the closing down of some out-district dispensaries was inevitable. The feature of the medical work was the perfection of an effective and inexpensive substitute for the costly drug novarsenobillon (the relative cost is one-tenth of a penny as compared with three shillings per dose) and the

treatment with it of over 24,000 cases of yaws, with remarkable success. The most deplorable aspect of native life is the infant mortality which, from test surveys, is estimated in some districts at not less than 400 per 1,000 live births, and must be attributed to insanitary conditions of life as regards both housing and feeding.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

There was happily no outbreak of any epidemic in 1922. Immediate treatment was accorded to sporadic cases of plague, and the rat destruction campaign was efficiently maintained. The general public health has been satisfactory, but there is, naturally enough in a young and growing community which finds itself at the moment financially embarrassed, ample scope for improvement.

The problem of native housing in the towns is acute, but the year has seen an effort to deal with it. In Nairobi a native location has been laid out under municipal auspices, and at the end of 1922 fifty huts were in course of construction. The scheme will be extended in 1923 and will serve as a model for the other towns. Sanitary inspection is performed by Sanitary Inspectors in Nairobi, Kisumu and Mombasa. For the island of Mombasa a town plan has been prepared and will be submitted to Government in the early part of 1923; while at the port the central board of health has promulgated far-reaching port health rules.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The registration of births and deaths is not compulsory save for Europeans, and it is therefore impossible to furnish reliable figures of the birth- and death-rates amongst Asiatics and Africans. Such figures as there are serve to show that in Mombasa the crude death-rate is 16·7 per 1,000 and in Nairobi 21 per 1,000. The Nairobi rate is capable of analysis and reveals crude death-rates for Europeans, Asiatics and Africans of 12·4, 15·6 and 27·9 per 1,000 respectively. Over the whole country the number of European births and deaths was 261 and 89, giving crude birth- and death-rates of 27·04 and 9·04 per 1,000. The basis of the calculation of these rates is the 1921 census, and it may safely be assumed that owing to trade depression the numbers of non-natives have not increased.

The figures of that census are repeated as of interest :—

Europeans	...	...	...	...	9,651
Indians	...	...	...	...	22,822
Goans	...	...	...	...	2,431
Arabs	...	...	...	...	10,102
Others	...	...	...	...	627
Total ...					45,633

The native population is estimated at two and a half millions.

IMMIGRATION.

In 1922, 10,491 persons of alien origin entered the Colony Protectorate. European immigration decreased by 1,210, was 8,088. There was also a decline in Asiatic immigration, 5,966, as against 6,490 in 1921. Unclassified immigrants, as Seychellois, Cingalese and Africans, increased by 100 to 7.

There is no machinery for the collection of emigration statistics but shipping figures show that 3,260 Europeans and 7,184 Africans left Mombasa Port during the year.

II. GOVERNMENT FINANCE.

The financial position of the Colony over the last six years is set out in the following table:—

	Revenue. £	Expenditure. £	Surplus Revenue. £	Expenditure in excess of Revenue. £
Surplus as at 1.4.17			578,538	
18	1,368,329	1,490,571		122,242
19	1,548,703	1,570,705		22,002
20	1,726,435	2,024,861		298,426
				<u>442,670</u>
Net Surplus as at 31.3.20				135,868
			578,538	<u>578,538</u>
Surplus as at 31.3.20 converted at 10 to the £ on 1.4.20			203,802	
21	2,978,788	2,976,960	1,826	
(9 months)	1,891,679*	1,666,785	224,894	
... ..	1,649,032	1,972,212		323,180
Net Surplus as at 31.12.22				<u>107,342</u>
			<u>430,522</u>	<u>430,522</u>

The Colony's finances thus clearly shared in the ill-effects of the trade depression. The tax-paying resources of all sections of the community were heavily strained and relief was imperative. In the exercise of rigorous economy the sum of £532,765 was saved in departmental expenditure. Large retrenchments in personnel also were made, but, owing to commitments in salaries, leave pay and pensions, the immediate effect was not so great; and a further reduction was made in the local allowance payable to the European staff. The abolition of the income tax was considered essential to the revival of production, and a reduction in the native hut and poll tax was demanded by the shortage of ready money in the reserves. These inevitable increases in revenue were further increased by the considerable

This includes an appropriation of £600,000 from the £5,000,000 Reserve Funds.

drop in the estimated value of the import trade, reflected in customs duty which, until September, was on a complete *ad valorem* basis. There was also a decrease in postal revenue.

Fortunately, unexpected increases in other sources of revenue reduced the total deficit of the year to £323,180. The Colony's assets include certain unrealizable items, such as unallocated stores, and the surplus has been denuded to such an extent since the end of the War that it was found necessary to borrow from loan funds to finance the Colony's current needs. By the end of 1922 a total sum of £1,304,715 had been borrowed, of which £425,656 represents the amount of 1922 borrowings.

CURRENCY.

It should be noted that on 1st January, 1922, the shilling currency came into effect.

III. TRADE.

At the opening of the year business conditions in the Colony were distinctly bad. A reaction had set in from the boom period which immediately followed the War and traders were forced to face the necessity of securing fluid capital by realizing accumulated stocks of imports even at a heavy loss, and of reorganizing their businesses on a less expensive basis. Producers also were being cramped by a fall in the European market in the prices for their principal exports, by the currency change which had in many cases swelled debtor obligations by 50 per cent., and by the apparent cessation of the flow of capital into the country for development purposes. In spite, however, of these difficulties the reorganization of trade and production was undertaken carefully and generally, and the position had vastly improved by the end of the year. The heavy drop in prices reduced the value of the import trade of Kenya and Uganda to £2,871,240, and of the export trade of domestic produce to £2,780,998. The comparative figures for the broken period of nine months from April to December, 1921, were, imports £2,370,269, exports £2,111,151. The volume of trade was, however, maintained; the adverse balance of trade at the close of the year was but 3 per cent.

The general current of trade sets to and from the Empire. The ratio of the trade between the Empire and Kenya and Uganda, and between foreign countries and Kenya and Uganda is as 2 : 1 for imports and 4 : 1 for exports. Within the Empire the value of the import trade was £1,968,800, of which goods to the value of £1,253,130 came from the United Kingdom and to the value of £548,618 from India. In the export of their domestic produce Kenya and Uganda shipped produce to the value of £1,158,125 to the United Kingdom and of £944,393 to India and Burma out of a total Empire export of £2,269,037.

A second point of interest is the prominence which Japan has been securing in local markets. She is the largest foreign

consumer inasmuch as she buys £173,614 out of £260,410 worth carbonate of soda which is one-third of the total foreign export trade of domestic produce; and since 1919 she has made large strides in the unbleached cotton piece goods trade to Kenya and Uganda. This is the principal component of the cotton piece goods trade and, in 1922, 49 per cent. of it came from Japan as against 9 per cent. in 1919. It would appear that Japan has secured this trade at the expense of Indian manufacturers, though it is the case that a large proportion of imported Japanese "Americani" is purchased in the Bombay markets. Of the total imports of cotton fabrics it is of interest to observe that 23 per cent. comes from the United Kingdom, 26 per cent. from Japan, 23 per cent. from India and Burma and 10 per cent. from America. This trade represents one-fourth of the total export trade and three-fourths of these goods are purchased by Africans.

The year witnessed three changes in the customs tariff. In May and June, as means for the assistance of local production, protective tariffs were placed on rice, grains, timber, ghee, butter and cheese, and to increase revenue tariffs were raised against wines, distilled liquors, tobacco, provisions and motor cars and accessories. In September, as the result of a Customs Conference, specific duties were levied on definite articles and the *ad valorem* rates chargeable on articles not so named were revised and consolidated. Export duties were abolished. Further Customs Ordinances were passed to admit free of duty the produce of Tanganyika Territory and to revise the basis on which customs revenue should be divided between Kenya and Uganda. The net customs revenue for the year was £575,595— including sundry collections such as warehouse, transit fees, crane and pier dues, of which Kenya's share was £387,530.

IV. AGRICULTURE.

The general position of agriculture afforded special concern, and a representative committee, presided over by the Colonial Secretary, Sir Charles Bowring, K.B.E., C.M.G., was appointed by Government in March to advise on the means whereby production and exports could be fostered and increased. The principal steps taken by Government on the recommendations of that committee were the abolition of income tax, the imposition of which was considered to be restricting the free flow of capital into the country; the revision of customs tariffs on a protective basis; the encouragement of the cultivation of low-priced produce (maize), by special reductions in railway freight, which were rendered possible by a Government subsidy to the railway; and the remission to soldier settlers of the purchase price of their farms, in order that they might have a negotiable title on which to raise advances for development. The export duty on hides was abolished, and in September all export duties disappeared.

The action taken to effect enhanced production by natives has already been narrated. Amongst the European colonists the acreage of all the principal crops except flax was increased. In acreage planted, maize still leads with 75,444 acres, followed by coffee with 43,359 acres, and sisal with 37,118 acres. During 1922, 10,593 acres of wheat were harvested, but the yield was poor—nine bushels per acre. It is, however, notable that locally-grown flour is now on the market, and a steady effort to oust imported flour is being made; 1,966 tons of local wheat and wheat flour were carried on the Uganda Railway during 1922. Coffee suffered from drought, and the growing of flax has received a considerable set-back owing to the slump in European markets, although the year's export shows an apparently thriving trade: the increased export was due to a decision by growers to sell for what it would fetch the flax which they had held up in the hope of a rise in the market.

The general state of the livestock industry has not altered since 1921. The glut in the markets for frozen and canned meat continued. Efforts to induce the big canning firms to set up factories in Kenya have not hitherto succeeded. There is, in consequence, evidence of greater attention to dairying. The export of butter and cheese is growing, but must retain modest proportions until factories are established.

The recovery in the wool trade has made the rearing of wool-bearing sheep profitable, and in 1922 the export of wool rose to 5,660 cwt. giving a value of £30,111. The quality of wool is being steadily improved by the use of merino rams, and future effort must be directed towards systematic mating. The generous gift for public purposes by Sir Northrup McMillan of the Scott Sanatorium buildings and some ten acres of land is recorded. The buildings have been converted into the Scott Agricultural Laboratories and it has been possible to continue there some of the work previously done at the Kabete Experimental Farm. For reasons of economy, that farm, the Naivasha Stock Farm and the Mazeras Experimental Station were closed down.

V. LAND.

The alienation of land was held up throughout the year pending a settlement of the Indian question. Figures prepared since the end of the year, but applicable in the main to 1922, may be quoted to show the extent to which land has been alienated and the possibilities of future development. Areas surveyed into farms amount to 11,859 square miles; 7,487 square miles have been alienated and there thus remains an area of 4,372 square miles for future alienation. At the end of 1922, 5,944 square miles were under actual occupation by 1,380 Europeans who had brought under cultivation 214,709 acres, and were grazing 172,397 head of cattle, 139,015 sheep and goats, 16,121 pigs and 4,120 horses, mules and donkeys. These figures are eloquent of the scope for new capital.

In normal circumstances leases of land surveyed into farms are put up to auction at an upset price. Leasehold is granted for 999 years, and for the purposes of rent that term is divided into periods. The first period expires on 31st December, 1945, and during it rent at the rate of twenty cents of a shilling per acre is payable. The second period closes on 31st December, 1975, and the rent payable within it is at the rate of 1 per cent. on the unimproved value of the land assessed in 1945. The third period ends on 31st December, 2005, and for those thirty years rent at the rate of 2 per cent. on the unimproved value of the land assessed in 1945 is charged. Thereafter periods terminate on 31st December of every thirty years to the end of the term and rent at the rate of 3 per cent. on the unimproved value of the land, assessed every thirty years, becomes due.

Present land values differ in every part of the Colony and little guidance can be given.

Mineral development plays no great part in the affair of the Colony. Gold has been found in the Masai Reserve; good assays are reported, but at the end of the year it was not established whether the project would definitely prove to be a paying concern. A revision of the mining law of the Colony is under consideration. Some interest was shown in the manufacture of salt at Mombasa and Lamu, but no practical steps were taken.

The Magadi Soda Company exported 48,710 tons of carbonate of soda as compared with 34,980 tons in the broken period, April to December, 1921, and 12,829 tons in the year April, 1920, to March, 1921. It has already been recorded that Japan is the largest consumer of this commodity. The year's export was the largest since 1919 and pointed to an increasing development of this branch of the domestic export trade, but since the end of 1922 the Company has gone into liquidation. Negotiations for reconstruction are, however, in progress. The Magadi Railway, which serves the soda industry, was run at a loss of £260 on the year's working.

FORESTS.

The forest area of Kenya has not yet been accurately computed, but at an approximation the ratio of forest area to total land area is 2.08 per cent. By comparison with most other countries this ratio is very small and although the industrial use of timber in the Colony will never compare with that of highly industrialized countries, the strict conservation of existing forests and reforestation of denuded areas is necessary to the processes of normal development. The policy of Government for the exploitation of its forests is to submit to tender the right of extracting timber on payment of the prescribed royalties and, in 1922, 851,104 cubic feet of timber and 8,651,678 cubic feet of wood fuel were cut in forest reserves. These reserves cannot, however, be systematically worked and conserved until proper

working plans are prepared. At the beginning of the year there were no working plans and there are no funds for the employment of special officers for this work. The existing staff is, however, attacking the task, and by the end of the year had completed a detailed survey of 127·2 square miles of forest. Reafforestation proceeds each year; during 1922, 1,873 acres were planted, including 290 acres in the almost treeless Ulu Native Reserve.

The commercial timbers of the Colony are cedar (*Juniperus procera*), camphor (*Ocotea Usambarensis*), Musharagi (*Hochstetteri*) and Podocarpus (*Podocarpus gracilior* and *Podocarpus milanjanus*), but their great defect for building and domestic purposes is that they are put into use before they have been properly seasoned. This defect is being diminished by the use of creosoting and may be eradicated if the ozone process proves successful. Growing attention is being paid to the use of cedar for pencil manufacture. Slats to the quantity of approximately 125 tons—or half the total export of timber in 1922—were exported, and it is considered that with strict conservation and proper management the cedar forests of Kenya Colony should be able to provide large and perpetual supplies of wood for pencils. Kenya cedar pencils are now in use and will be on view at the Empire Exhibition in 1924. Considerable quantities of furniture are being made of local timbers, and local trade has been encouraged by the imposition of a protective tariff of 50 per cent. *ad valorem*. There was, however, imported during 1922 timber to the value of £12,567 and the quantity of 1,836 tons.

VI. BANKS.

Four banks operate in the Colony and transact every description of banking business. They are the National Bank of India Limited, with branches at Mombasa, Nairobi, Nakuru and Kisumu; the Standard Bank of South Africa, Limited, with branches at Mombasa, Nairobi, Nakuru, Kisumu, Eldoret and Nyeri; the National Bank of South Africa, Limited, with branches at Mombasa, Nairobi and Eldoret; and the Bank of India, Limited, at Mombasa.

On 31st December, 1922, the Government Post Office Savings Bank had deposits in hand amounting to £31,021—the depositors numbering 1,050 Europeans, 1,819 Asiatics, and 431 Africans.

VII. LEGISLATION.

Mention has already been made of the enactment of customs ordinances and of the repeal of the income tax. A further extension for one year of the restrictions imposed on the entry of former enemy aliens was enacted and, as a corollary, provision was made for the compulsory use of passports by travellers—the aim of which was to effect the least possible interference with

personal freedom compatible with the exclusion of ex-enemy aliens. The principle of extending court judgments from the United Kingdom to Kenya and vice versa was followed in the passing of the Reciprocal Enforcement of Judgments Ordinance, 1922, and the Maintenance Orders Enforcement Amendment Ordinance, 1922. Better provision for the regulation of the ports of the Colony and Protectorate was made by a Port Ordinance passed in the main on the Indian Ports Act of 1908. An important feature of this ordinance is that all vessels of the measurement of 200 tons net register and upwards are required, when entering or leaving Mombasa Port, to have on board a Government pilot unless especially exempted by the port captain. Power was also taken in the Specific Loan Ordinance, 1922, to raise a further loan of £3,000,000 for harbour and railway development. The loan was, however, not issued by the close of the year.

VIII. EDUCATION.

There are under the control of the Education Department three Government and three assisted schools for European children; two Government and thirteen assisted schools for Indian boys and girls; two Government schools for Arabs and two Government and eleven assisted vocational schools for Africans.

European children can be educated up to the standard of a middle-grade school in England. The schools at Nairobi, Nakuru and Eldoret are combined day and boarding schools and are attended by 312 children. On the Uasin Gishu Plateau there are also some farm schools at which 74 children, mostly Dutch, receive elementary instruction; and the three assisted schools, two of which are kindergarten, have an average attendance of 58. The net cost to Government of educating these 444 children is £14,105.

The type of education offered meets the present requirements, but indicates that pupils do not remain long after they enter their teens. The main reason for this is that they are removed by their parents to complete their education in England. One passed in the London Matriculation and ten in the Cambridge Junior Local Examination were obtained. There is, however, a growing number of parents who cannot afford an English education for their children who will therefore very soon form the nucleus of a Kenya European clerical service and will fill similar positions in commercial firms.

Indians display an increasing desire for the education of their children, and those who become markedly proficient prefer to sit for English public examinations rather than for those of Indian universities. The whole question of staffing the Indian schools with trained and experienced teachers is under consideration. In 1923 a trained staff will be selected after the inspection

visit of the adviser on Indian education to the Indian Education Department. On 1st January, 1923, the Allidina Visram High School was opened. This, as its name denotes, was a gift to Indian education and is the best school building in the country. In Mombasa and Nairobi 526 Indian children attend the Government schools which, with the assisted schools, cost £8,650 net in 1922.

The total cost of Arab and native education in 1922 was £24,420, but Arabs do not appear to have taken advantage of the educational facilities provided for their benefit. At Mombasa the roll showed a decrease of three and at Malindi attendance dropped from forty-eight to thirty-six. In the 1921 census the Arab population appeared as 10,102, of which number 3,466 represent children under 16 years of age, and it is a matter for serious consideration that no more than 135 Arab children receive regular instruction.

The vastly preponderating numbers of Africans present the greatest educational problems. Vocational training is the practice in the two Government schools and in the eleven assisted schools, which in all train in various handicrafts a total of 928 boys. Technical instruction outside the scope of the Education Department is afforded to fifty-eight Africans in the Public Works Department apprentice school, and to a larger but indefinite number in the workshops of the Uganda Railway nor must the successful training at Maseno and in Post Office schools of African telegraphists for the Post Office and of clerks at the Church Missionary Society, Nairobi, be overlooked.

The present policy of Government as regards native education is co-operation with mission societies, between whom in 1922 the sum of £10,896 was distributed for literary and technical education. The figures quoted above refer to regularly apprenticed boys receiving vocational training, but it is estimated that by the ramifications of mission out-schools some 50,000 natives are given at least rudimentary literary instruction. Results of these forms of education are seen in the growing number of clerks in business offices and in Government service, which will in the near future be extended to incorporate an African Civil Service branch; and of artisans employed by contractors on farms and by the Public Works Department. In 1923 the Colonists' Hall will be built entirely by African labour.

IX. COMMUNICATIONS.

RAILWAYS.

The railroad system of Kenya comprises at present the main line of the Uganda Railway from Mombasa to Kisumu and two branch lines, one from Magadi Junction to Lake Magadi and the other from Nairobi to Thika. In the near future the system will be extended in two further directions. Of these the Uasin

Gishu Railway has been under construction throughout the year, and at the end of December, 28.66 track miles and 2.38 miles of sidings had been completed. This line takes off at Nakuru and will tap the forests of Mount Londiani and the great latent sources of the Uasin Gishu Plateau. It will eventually be continued and form the main trunk line from Uganda to the coast. The second work, viz., the extension of the Thika branch through the Kikuyu Native Reserve to Nyeri has only reached the stage of reconnaissance surveys.

Further corroborative evidence of the beginning of a general trade recovery is afforded by the financial position and traffic record of the Uganda Railway at the end of 1922. After all charges had been met there was a net profit of £56,785, as compared with a net loss in 1921 of £8,870. The increase in downward traffic was due to large importations of construction material for the Uasin Gishu Branch. Downward traffic, however, discloses an encouraging increase from 156,107 to 183,724 tons; and while it is of interest to record that 42,066 tons of maize and maize-flour, 12,239 tons of coffee, and 46,802 tons of soda were carried to the port for export, it is also a significant sign of latent future downward traffic that 940 tons of rice and 2,473 tons of sugar and 2,383 tons of wheat-flour were this year conveyed up-line.

It may be repeated that from April, 1921, the Uganda Railway, as a financial entity, was divorced from the Colony and now bears all losses and retains all profits on its working and is responsible to the Colony's exchequer for the payment of loan charges on new construction and betterment of present lines. The profit of £56,785 has been carried to a Renewals and Betterment Fund.

Throughout the year work was in progress on the construction of a deep water pier at Kilindini.

SHIPPING.

Reviving trade attracted more shipping to Kenya ports. Making a comparison over corresponding periods of nine months in 1921 and 1922 it is seen that the gross tonnage of steam vessels entered rose to 1,098,667 from 841,495 tons and the number of ships from 240 to 312. The major lines which serve the Colony from England, India and South Africa are the Union-Castle Steamship Company, Limited, the British-India Navigation Co., Ltd., the Messageries Maritimes, the Clan-Ellerman Harrison and the Holland East Africa Lines.

Coastal trade is carried by two Indian steamship lines controlled by Messrs. Cowasjee Dinshaw Brothers and Messrs. A. M. Jeevanjee and Co., respectively. There are also very numerous dhows plying up and down the coast during the south-west monsoon.

ROADS.

It is possible to motor from Nairobi to Kisumu, Eldoret and Kitale, and to the northern frontier through Fort Hall, Nyeri, Meru, Archer's Post, Wajir and Moyale, and up the coast from Mombasa to Malindi. Outside the towns the roads are earthen roads, and travel during the rainy seasons is precarious.

The general condition of these trunk roads has deteriorated during the year because of the urgent need for economy and consequent heavy reductions in funds voted for upkeep. The total mileage of roads and tracks open to motor traffic is 3,544 miles. This figure does not include the many hundreds of miles of roads in native reserves cut by administrative officers and made usable by the natives under their supervision. At the end of 1922 the total number of motor cars and cycles for which licences have been issued was 2,695, of which 417 were issued during 1922.

POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS.

The Postal and subsidiary services of Kenya show a profit of £10,282 on the year's working, which includes as revenue the value of free services for state purposes. Actual expenditure is, however, in excess of actual revenue by £23,821. Revised rates came into force on 1st January, and though no decrease in the minimum charge for letters was made the unit of weight was raised from half-ounce to one ounce in order to conform to international standard. In spite of trade depression a slight increase in postal revenue of £464 may be cited in support of the thesis that diminished rates will produce increased revenue.

Money order traffic is heavy between Kenya and India. £111,175 was remitted to India by money order in 1922, though this amount represents a considerable decrease on normal traffic. A telegraphic money order system internally and reciprocally with the United Kingdom was introduced this year which permits on payment of 1s. to and from United Kingdom and 50 cents of a shilling in Kenya in addition to the usual charges, the conduct of speedier remittances. £24,578 was thus remitted but the great bulk of the traffic was internal.

The general activities of the Post and Telegraph Department may best be illustrated by a few figures. The number of letters, postcards, book-packets, samples and circulars handled in 1922 was 6,542,303, of which 2,941,329 came from overseas. A total of 219,245 inland telegrams in Kenya and Uganda, 72,368 cablegrams and 5,113 radio telegrams for Kenya was dealt with. Telephones in use in Kenya and Uganda number 1,196, and during 1922, 1,317,279 exchange calls were made. The most remote stations are served with postal communication, and the range of the telegraph system is shown by a wire mileage of 5,330½ miles.

Special mention should be made of the use of Africans in this department. At the end of this year there were seventeen stmen and seventy-seven telegraph learners. The latter undertake skilled manipulative telegraph duties. It is also the common practice in Government and business offices to employ Africans telephone operators.

A new issue of stamps and stationery in the shilling currency was placed on sale on 1st November, 1922, and the old rupee issue was withdrawn from sale on 31st October.

X. CLIMATE.

This review of the activities of Kenya Colony may fittingly be brought to a close with a brief mention of the climatic conditions in which they are practised.

On the coast the year 1922 will live in the memory as the wettest year on record. In Mombasa 41.08 inches were registered in the one month of May. Heavy washaways occurred in the coast section of the railway, and visits to various portions of roads torn up by floods in Mombasa formed for a time a popular diversion. In ordinary years the coast is fairly healthy for the tropics. The heat is a damp heat and never compares with the fierce heat of India.

The long rains fall in the months of April to June and short rains during October, November and December. The hot season is from January to March. In rainfall the Colony is divisible into three parts. In the Northern deserts, in Jubaland and in parts of Tanaland the rainfall does not reach 20 inches in a year. The coastal strip, the Nyanza and Kikuyu Provinces have between 40 and 80 inches and the remainder of the country from 20 to 40 inches.

In the Highlands the heat is seldom oppressive; during the rains fires are welcome at night and the climate generally is temperate, though the heat of the sun compels the wearing of helmets or terai from 8 a.m. to 4.30 p.m.

COLONIAL REPORTS, Etc.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page.

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, etc.	Year.
1150	Sierra Leone	1921
1151	Uganda .. .. .	..
1152	Somaliland .. .. .	..
1153	Kenya Colony and Protectorate .. (April-December)	..
1154	Gold Coast .. .. .	..
1155	Nigeria	1922
1156	Nyasaland	1921
1157	Falkland Islands .. .. .	..
1158	Weihaiwei	1922
1159	Cyprus .. .. .	..
1160	Gambia .. .. .	..
1161	New Hebrides	1921 & 1922
1162	Nyasaland	1922
1163	Zanzibar .. .. .	..
1164	St. Helena .. .. .	..
1165	Sierra Leone .. .. .	..
1166	Trinidad and Tobago .. .. .	..
1167	Bermuda .. .. .	..
1168	Grenada .. .. .	..
1169	St. Lucia .. .. .	..
1170	Leeward Islands	1921-1922
1171	Fiji	1922
1172	Ceylon .. .. .	..
1173	Gibraltar .. .. .	..
1174	British Guiana .. .. .	..
1175	Barbados	1922-1923
1176	Basutoland .. .. .	..
1177	St. Vincent .. .. .	..
1178	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1922-1923
1179	Mauritius	1922
1180	Swaziland .. .. .	..
1181	British Honduras .. .. .	..
1182	Uganda .. .. .	..
1183	Federated Malay States .. .. .	..
1184	Unfederated Malay States .. .. .	..
1185	State of Brunei .. .. .	..
1186	Straits Settlements .. .. .	..
1187	Falkland Islands .. .. .	..

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, etc.	Subject.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oil-seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlements.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	Report on a Visit to the Islands by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.