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No. 1921

Annual Report on the Social and Economic
Progress of the People of

SWAZILAND, 1938

(For Report for 1936 see No. 1831 (Price 1s. 0d.) and
for Report for 1937 see No. 1884 (Price 6d.).)

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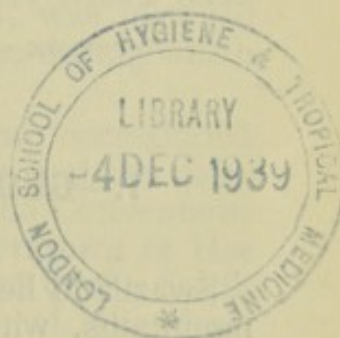
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I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE AND HISTORY.

Geography.

Swaziland lies between the eastern slopes of the Drakensberg mountains, which form the eastern border of the Transvaal, and the low-lying lands of Northern Zululand and Portuguese East Africa.

It is bounded on the north, west and south by the Transvaal and on the east by Portuguese territory and Tongaland, now part of the Natal Province, and is about the size of Wales, its area being 6,704 square miles. A little more than one-third of the territory is native area and the remainder is owned by Europeans and the Crown.

The territory is divided geographically into three longitudinal regions, roughly of equal breadth, running from north to south and known locally as the high, middle, and low or bush veld. The high veld portion adjoining the eastern Transvaal consists of mountains, part of the Drakensberg range. These mountains

rise in parts to an altitude of over 5,000 feet. The middle veld is about 2,000 feet lower, while the bush veld, bounded on the east by the Ubombo mountains, has a height of from 300 to 1,000 feet.

Climate.

Both the rainfall and the temperature vary considerably with the altitude of the meteorological stations, which are under the control of the Chief Meteorologist of the Union Government. The average rainfall at two stations was:—

Mbabane (3,800 feet) 53·24 inches over 36 years.

Bremersdorp (2,175 feet) 34·41 inches over 35 years.

The mean maximum and minimum temperatures were 71·4 and 52·2 respectively at Mbabane and 79·4 and 56·8 respectively at Bremersdorp. Figures of temperature are given in degrees Fahrenheit.

History.

The Swazis are akin to the Zulu and other tribes of the south-eastern littoral. Up to about 100 years ago they occupied the country just north of the Pongola River, but a hostile Chief in their vicinity forced them further north, and under Chief Sobhuza they then occupied the territory now known as Swaziland. This Chief, who died in 1839, was succeeded by Mswazi II. The further order of succession has been Ludonga, Mbandeni and Bhunu, whose son, Sobhuza II, was installed as Paramount Chief in 1921 after a long minority, during which his grandmother, Labotsibeni, acted as Regent.

The many concessions granted by Mbandeni necessitated some form of European control, notwithstanding that the independence of the Swazis had been guaranteed in the Conventions of 1881 and 1884 entered into between the Government of Her late Majesty Queen Victoria and the Government of the South African Republic. In 1890, soon after the death of Mbandeni, a Provisional Government was established representative of the Swazis, and of the British and South African Republic Governments. In 1894, under a Convention between the British and the South African Republic Governments, the latter was given powers of protection and administration, without incorporation, and Swaziland continued to be governed under this form of control until the outbreak of the Boer War in 1899.

In 1902, after the conclusion of hostilities in the Transvaal, a Special Commissioner took charge, and under an Order in Council (1903), the Governor of the Transvaal administered the territory through a local officer until the year 1907, when under an Order in Council (1906), the High Commissioner assumed control and established the present form of administra-

tion. Prior to this, steps had been taken for the settlement of the concessions and their partition between the concessionaires and the natives. The boundaries of the mineral concessions were also defined and all monopoly concessions were expropriated. Title to property is therefore now clear. In this connexion a case brought by the Paramount Chief was dismissed, on appeal, by the Privy Council (1926).

II.—GOVERNMENT.

By an Order in Council dated 1st December, 1906, Swaziland was placed directly under the control of the High Commissioner for South Africa (now styled the High Commissioner for Basutoland, the Bechuanaland Protectorate and Swaziland), and a Proclamation was issued in March, 1907 (the Swaziland Administration Proclamation, 1907), providing for the appointment of a Resident Commissioner, a Government Secretary, and Assistant (now District) Commissioners, and the establishment of a Police Force.

The Resident Commissioner exercises such administration and control, and is invested with all such powers, authorities, and jurisdiction as are conferred upon him by the said Proclamation, or any other law, or by the terms of his commission, subject always to the directions and instructions of the High Commissioner.

Advisory Council.

An elected Advisory Council, representative of the Europeans, was established in 1921, to advise the Administration on European affairs. The Territory is divided into two electoral divisions, one north and the other south of the Great Usutu River.

The seventh Council was elected in November, 1938, and consists of five members for South Swaziland, and four members for North Swaziland. Meetings of this Council are held at least twice a year.

A committee of the Council, consisting of four members, two from each electoral division, meets whenever convened by the Resident Commissioner himself or by him at the request of any two members. This Committee advises on any important matters which may arise from time to time between the usual meetings of the Council.

Native Council.

The Council is composed of the Indunas of the nation under the presidency of the Induna of the Paramount Chief's kraal. They advise the Paramount Chief on administrative and judicial affairs of State. Meetings of the Council with the Resident Commissioner are held from time to time.

Meetings of District Officials with Native Chiefs.

The regular monthly meetings between District Officers and Native Chiefs and their followers give an opportunity for discussing difficulties and have established a good understanding between the Administration and the natives.

Urban Area Advisory Committees.

Meetings of these bodies are held monthly. The Committees are elected by the owners of stands in the various townships. The District Commissioner or Assistant District Commissioner presides.

School Advisory Committees.

Members are elected for any public school by parents residing in Swaziland who, at the time of election, have one or more children on the roll of such school. When convenient one committee may be elected to represent two or more schools situated in the same district. The committees have certain powers and duties in connection with compulsory education under Proclamation No. 7 of 1920.

School Boards.

The members of these Boards consist of members of school committees in the district, each school committee having the right to elect one of its members to be on such a Board. The District Commissioner or Assistant District Commissioner of the district is the chairman. The duties of Boards are laid down in the Compulsory Education Proclamation (No. 7 of 1920). They advise the Administration on all matters connected with the provision of schools and school accommodation in each district and on other educational matters affecting Europeans.

III.—POPULATION.

A census of the population was held in May, 1936. The figures were:—

	Numbers.	Percentage increase on 1921 Census.
Europeans	2,740	24·26
Natives (Bantu)	153,270	38·96
Coloured (other than Bantu)	705	56·31

About 83 per cent. of the Bantu population reside in native areas, and about 17 per cent. on European-owned land.

No statistics are available with regard to the nationality of the European races.

There is no registration of births or deaths of the Bantu population. Registration of native marriages was introduced in October, 1934, but not under any law.

The following table shows the population of Swaziland classified on the basis of employment. The figures are approximate and are compared with the previous year:—

CLASSIFICATION OF POPULATION ON BASIS OF EMPLOYMENT.

	<i>Europeans.</i>		<i>Others.</i>	
	1937.	1938.	1937.	1938.
Government Employment	150	155	860	880
Agriculture	650	600	2,700	2,500
Trade and Industry	125	100	700	700
Domestic Service	—	—	500	450
Employment in Union of South Africa (including recruits for mines)	—	—	10,000	9,000

Amongst the European population, estimated on the 31st December, 1938, at 3,000, there were:—

	<i>Per 1,000.</i>
(a) Births	54 or 18·00
(b) Marriages	22 or 7·33
(c) Deaths	17 or 5·67
(d) Infantile Mortality (Death-rate under one year)	1 or 0·33
(e) European Emigrants	197 or 65·67
(f) European Immigrants	384 or 128·00

IV.—HEALTH.

The European Medical staff of the Administration consists of the Principal Medical Officer, three Medical Officers, three Hospital Assistants and Dispensers, seven European Nurses. Two mission doctors, two mission nurses and one Red Cross Society nurse are subsidized by the Government.

Hospitals.

There are two Government hospitals—one at Mbabane in the Northern District and the other at Hlatikulu in the Southern District. In the former there is accommodation for five European and twenty Native in-patients, while at Hlatikulu accommodation is available for 12 Europeans and 36 Natives. The number of in-patients exceeds the number of beds available at both institutions throughout the greater part of the year. One medical outpost was opened during the year bringing the total to seven. These medical outposts are serving a very useful purpose throughout the Territory, and it is particularly gratifying to find that the native women are calling for the services of the nurses in their confinements more and more, and it is proposed to provide accommodation for a few maternity cases at certain of these outposts.

The following table gives figures of in-patients and out-patients treated at hospitals and dispensaries during 1937 and 1938:—

	<i>In-Patients.</i>		<i>Out-Patients.</i>	
	1937.	1938.	1937.	1938.
<i>Government Institutions :—</i>				
Mbabane Hospital	1,004	825	11,145	10,162
Hlatikulu Hospital	861	779	8,798	2,541
Mankaiana Dispensary	81	99	5,301	4,274
Goedegun Dispensary	—	—	2,229	1,582
<i>Mission Institutions :—</i>				
Bremersdorp Hospital	1,511	1,234	16,577	17,721
Ndingeni Dispensary	235	199	4,535	5,062
Pigg's Peak Dispensary	122	94	3,625	2,000
Stegi Dispensary	121	105	4,535	3,705
St. Philip's Dispensary	—	—	—	1,069

The falling off in numbers of patients, as far as the Mbabane and Hlatikulu hospitals are concerned, was largely due to the number of changes of Medical Officers which took place during the year, though the decrease in the amount of malaria accounts to some extent for the fewer attendances.

Public Health.

Owing to climatic conditions the incidence of malaria throughout the Territory was very much less than in 1937, but a disquieting feature is the fact that a few cases have been consistently reported from the bush-veld area during winter months. As a rule malaria ceases in June or July, and cases are not again reported till January or February of the succeeding year.

Syphilis does not appear to be decreasing judging by the attendance at clinics, but a possible explanation for this state of affairs is the increasing readiness with which natives come to hospitals and dispensaries for treatment of all disorders, when numbers of cases of syphilis come to light.

Schistosomiasis is very prevalent over the greater part of the Territory.

Prisons and Asylums.

There is no provision for the treatment of mentally deranged persons in the Territory and cases requiring institutional treatment are sent to the Union of South Africa. At the end of the year there were three Europeans and twenty-five Natives in such institutions.

Epilepsy is a common disease among the natives, and it is remarkable how many sufferers from this complaint one can find among prisoners in the gaols throughout Swaziland.

The health of prisoners has on the whole been good, and no epidemic diseases have occurred. The diet of prisoners appears to be satisfactory, since nearly all of them put on weight while in gaol.

V.—HOUSING.

(a) URBAN AREAS.

The Europeans are mainly civil servants and traders and generally speaking are well housed in brick buildings, which have in recent years replaced the older type of wood and iron houses. The position with regard to the housing of officials leaves a great deal to be desired and compares unfavourably with the average housing conditions in the Colonial Service.

Eurafricans and educated natives are fairly well housed but in this respect there is room for improvement, as well in the type of accommodation provided for domestic servants, gardeners, etc.

Sanitary arrangements are being gradually improved as circumstances permit.

(b) RURAL AREAS.

The Europeans are for the most part farmers and missionaries, and though their houses are generally speaking not of a high standard they are not inadequate.

The natives live in huts constructed of a reed or wattle framework and thatched. The floors are earthen and are polished and impervious to damp. In the beehive type of hut there are no windows but these huts are used primarily for sleeping purposes; the thatch affords sufficient ventilation. There are no sanitary conveniences, and efforts are being made to overcome this defect. In the case of a serious outbreak of disease, the whole kraal site is moved to another locality and new huts erected. There is no overcrowding.

Natives recruited for labour on the mines in the Union are comfortably accommodated, whilst in the territory, at rest camps. Natives employed on mines are in well-organised compounds.

There are no factories or industrial undertakings in the territory, nor are there any Building Societies.

VI.—NATURAL RESOURCES.

It is estimated that about 75 per cent. of Swaziland is used for grazing purposes; approximately 10 per cent. is cultivated, whereas about half the country is capable of cultivation and afforestation. Each year the natives cultivate larger areas.

Except for the extensive operations at the Havelock Asbestos Mine in the Pigg's Peak Sub-district mineral development has only taken place in the alluvial tin-bearing areas in the vicinity of Mbabane. No geological surveys were carried out during the year. A considerable area of the territory is open to prospecting under the Crown Mineral Areas Proclamation, 1912,

and the Mineral Concession Areas Proclamation, 1927. During 1938, 173.9 long tons of tin valued at £33,129 were produced and 1,246 oz. of gold valued at £9,035.

An afforestation investigation took place during the year.

Land in Swaziland is held under freehold title subject to the mineral servitudes. Registration of land is effected in the Swaziland Deeds Office, Pretoria, and surveys are controlled by the Surveyor-General for the Transvaal. All land and mineral concessions and the native areas were surveyed during the years 1904 to 1908.

Agriculture.

The year has been a good one for agriculture. Good rains enabled the ploughing and planting to be carried through early and, on the whole, crops of a little above the average were harvested. Hail did great damage to the tobacco crop. There was no food shortage amongst the natives.

The number of Native Demonstrators is being increased yearly, and thus a larger area is being cultivated by natives under improved conditions. There were 24 employed at the end of the year.

Selected seed of maize, kaffircorn and peanuts was distributed to the natives, who readily took advantage of the good seed.

The Creamery in Bremersdorp is a great asset to the territory and has developed considerably during the year. It opened in October, 1937, and to the end of that year the quantity of butter-fat was 12,112 lb. (Europeans 7,935 lb. and Natives 4,177 lb.).

During 1938, the quantity of butter-fat was 224,565 lb. (Europeans 100,935 lb. and Natives 123,630 lb.), valued at £11,763.

It will be noticed that the increase in the Native supplies is considerable. At the end of the year 1936 Native Separating Stations were in operation, and the natives are so pleased with the results that applications for stations to be opened are being received from all parts. In opening new cream stations the question of available transport facilities arises; this will be overcome gradually. The Native Separating Stations are all under the supervision of the Government. The cash income the natives derive for their milk is something quite new to them and is much appreciated.

With this income and the increase and improvement in their agricultural methods, whereby they grow practically all the foodstuffs they require, the Swazis are becoming quite a prosperous tribe.

After separating the cream from the milk the separated milk is returned to the natives, who make "Maas" (sour milk) with it and mix it with their porridge. Only the milk from the morn-

ing milking is separated, so that the afternoon milking is available for their own use. To replace the fat taken out of the milk they are increasing their production of legumes.

Seed cotton produced was practically nil. A smaller acreage was planted and a drought at a critical time did considerable damage. The decrease in cotton production is attributed to the increase in food crops.

The tobacco produced during the year amounted to 322,020 lb. valued at £9,181.

The plantings for the coming year promise a considerable increase. Other crops, such as leguminous crops, show a definite increase.

Cattle.

The year was a good one for cattle. The excellent rains that fell in the early part of the year provided good grazing throughout the winter, and the cattle in the lowlands kept in good condition throughout the year, whilst on the highlands they did not lose so much condition as is usual during the winter months. Diseases were not serious, the prevailing diseases being Anthrax and East Coast Fever, as in former years. Two hundred and fifty-one cattle dipping tanks (145 Government-owned and 106 privately-owned) were in use at the end of 1938.

There were 73 deaths from East Coast Fever, as against 283 in 1937. There were no new outbreaks.

At the beginning of the year there were 18 infected dipping tank areas and during the year 10 were released from quarantine. Several new tanks were constructed, two of them within the infected areas, to reduce the number of cattle being dipped in any one tank. This means that the number of infected tanks at the end of the year was 10.

Number of infected tanks January, 1938	...	...	...	18
Released from Quarantine	...	...	...	10
				—
				8
New dipping tanks in infected areas	...	...	...	2
				—
				10
				—

The position at the end of the year was very favourable.

There have been comparatively few cases of Anthrax and only 24 deaths during the year under review. Cattle at all heavily infected dips have been re-inoculated at nine months' intervals and where cases (mostly in young calves born since the last inoculation) have occurred the infected and in-contact herds have been re-inoculated at short intervals.

Owing to outbreaks of Foot and Mouth disease in the Komati Poort area of the Union and in Portuguese East Africa the export of cattle from the northern part of Swaziland to Johannesburg was suspended until July, when export of cattle by motor

bus to Breyten and thence by rail to Johannesburg, was commenced. In spite of the increased transport charges by this route, the good prices realized on the cattle, which arrived at the market in better condition, almost made up for the extra transport charges. Previously, when cattle had to travel on foot to Komati Poort to be trucked, there was a loss of approximately 100 lb. per head, which was saved when the cattle were loaded on the buses on the farm.

No cases of Foot and Mouth disease have been discovered in Swaziland. The Portuguese East Africa-Swaziland border has been fenced and a strict cordon established along the full length of the border. The Transvaal-Swaziland North-Eastern border has also been fenced; this fence connects with that along the Portuguese border.

The number of cattle in the Territory was approximately 407,460, of which about 62,535 belonged to Europeans. The numbers exported were as follows:—

To Johannesburg	...	...	863
To Durban	...	...	5,817
			<hr/>
Total	...	...	6,680
			<hr/>

The 863 head of cattle exported to Johannesburg were conveyed by motor bus from the farms to railhead at Breyten in the Eastern Transvaal.

Approximately 26,000 head were slaughtered in the Territory for human consumption.

The work on the improvement of the native owned cattle is being carried on. This has been made possible by a grant from the Colonial Development Fund.

VII.—COMMERCE.

By an agreement with the Union of South Africa dated the 29th June, 1910, Swaziland is dealt with for Customs purposes as part of the Union, and a fixed percentage of the total collections in the Union is paid to Swaziland annually. Payments are assessed on the proportion which the average amount of the collections of the Territory for the three years ended 31st March, 1911, bore to the average amount of the Customs revenue of the Union during the same period.

The imports consist principally of maize, flour, groceries, wearing apparel, kaffir truck, hardware, machinery, building materials, spirits, petrol, oil, etc., most of which are imported from the Union of South Africa, through wholesale firms established there. Prices of foodstuffs were moderate during the year.

The following tables give the amounts received by Swaziland under the Customs Agreement, the amounts collected locally in respect of duty on spirits and beer, and the principal exports with their values.

Amounts received by Swaziland under the Customs Agreement and collected locally in respect of duty on beer and spirits for the three years ended the 31st March, 1938.

	1935-36.	1936-37.	1937-38.
	£	£	£
Received from Union	18,490	20,167	20,598
Collected locally	1,332	1,363	1,366
	<u>£19,822</u>	<u>£21,530</u>	<u>£21,964</u>

The following is a summary of the products, quantities in pounds and values, exported during the five years ended 31st December, 1938:—

Slaughter Stock.

(Live Weight).

	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.
lb.	6,079,400	5,747,400	8,620,000	8,010,900	6,346,000
£	40,536	38,316	57,468	55,000	43,420

Tobacco.

lb.	374,952	261,794	282,735	200,789	234,058
£	10,433	6,542	9,441	6,191	8,174

Cotton (Seed).

lb.	295,800	200,068	124,750	103,550	Nil.
£	2,048	1,459	950	640	Nil.

Hides and Skins.

lb.	451,850	496,471	600,000	537,600	264,320
£	6,200	8,449	15,000	12,000	5,132

Wattle Bark.

lb.	300,000	939,200	598,080	1,391,040	1,644,160
£	536	1,825	1,335	4,002	4,115

Wool.

lb.	18,638	20,000	22,000	10,000	25,000
£	536	750	825	260	800

Butter-Fat.

lb.	29,073	24,820	68,000	67,846	224,565
£	1,072	1,055	3,825	3,474	11,763

Bullion.

£	2,608	2,130	3,866	16,873	9,035
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Metallic Tin.

lb.	362,380	406,963	409,248	345,945	389,536
£	37,356	39,628	39,351	37,158	33,129

The approximate value of Imports during 1938 were:—

	£
General Merchandise	91,000
Groceries, meal, flour, etc. ...	69,000
Motor Cars	25,000
Petrol, Oil, etc.	23,000
Miscellaneous	56,000
	<u>£264,000</u>

During the winter months June to August, a considerable number of tourists from the Union of South Africa pass through the territory by motor-car on visits to the Kruger National Park Game Reserve and to Lourenço Marques in Portuguese East Africa.

VIII.—LABOUR.

The gold mines in the Union of South Africa play an increasingly large part in the economic life of Swaziland. The following tables show the number of recruits sent to the mines by the Native Recruiting Corporation, Ltd., the amount of money circulated in the country through this concern, the number of travelling passes issued to natives to visit the Union for various purposes, and the approximate figures relating to local employment.

It has not been possible to divide the numbers of recruited and non-recruited labourers into their different categories of mining occupations, but it is safe to say that all recruited natives and those on the Assisted Voluntary System go to the Witwatersrand, while a large number of natives who leave Swaziland seeking work find employment in the gold mines around Barberton, and on the farms and coal mines of the Eastern Transvaal and Natal.

Labourers numbering 785 in 1938 on the tin mines are not required to do any underground work. During the year 148 Europeans and 1,555 Natives were employed at the Havelock Asbestos Mine. Labourers in Government employ are mainly road labourers, cattle guards and police.

NATIVE RECRUITING CORPORATION, LIMITED.

Particulars relating to natives from Swaziland employed on the Witwatersrand Gold Mines for the year 1938:—

Number of contracted recruits	...	...	...	...	...	6,153
Number of recruits on the Assisted Voluntary System	...	...	...	...	...	1,877
						<hr/> 8,030

Monetary transactions undertaken by the Native Recruiting Corporation on behalf of recruited natives and those on the Assisted Voluntary System. Also capitation fees paid.

						£
Deferred pay payments	...	...	...	...	...	42,509
Capitation fees	...	...	...	...	...	8,600
Advances to recruits	...	...	...	...	...	19,000
Native remittances to Swaziland	...	...	...	...	...	8,500
						<hr/> £78,609

Particulars of Travelling Passes issued to Swazis to enter the Union of South Africa.

Recruited by Native Recruiting Corporation	...	...	...	8,030
Seeking work on own accord	...	...	...	2,515
Visiting and on private business	...	...	...	3,401
				<hr/> 13,946

Particulars relating to Swazi natives in local employ.

Employed by the Administration on various works	...	...	880
Employed on gold, tin and asbestos mines, etc.	...	...	2,340
Employed by Europeans and Eurafricans in agriculture	...	...	2,500
Employed in domestic service (estimated)	...	...	500
			<hr/> 6,220

IX.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

With the exception of civil servants and police, the wages and hours of work of Europeans employed by the Government on agricultural and veterinary services, public works, and by the South African Railways Administration on the road motor services, were as follows:—

<i>Type of Employment.</i>	<i>Salary.</i>	<i>Hours worked per week.</i>
Drivers on road motor services.	£9 to £25 per month with quarters in some cases	60
Road overseers	£15 to £21 per month with free quarters	54
Stock inspectors	£240—15—£360 per annum	54

Europeans were engaged in civil employment as farm managers and labourers, builders, mine managers and miners. Their wages and hours of work were as follows:—

<i>Type of Employment.</i>	<i>Salary.</i>	<i>Hours worked per week.</i>
Farm managers and labourers	£5 to £25 per month with free quarters and share of crops valued at £40—£80 per annum	60
Builders	15s. to 20s. per day	48
Mine managers	£35 to £50 per month	50
Mine overseers...	£30 per month	50
Prospectors and miners	£20—£25 per month	50

The cost of living for Europeans varied from £10 to £15 per month in the case of unmarried men, to £30 to £40 per month in the case of married men, according to the size and age of their families.

Natives were employed by the Government on public works, and in the Police, and Veterinary and Agricultural Departments. Native police are provided with free quarters, while

cattle guards in the Veterinary Department and agricultural demonstrators are given neither quarters nor food.

The rates of pay and hours worked per week were as follows:—

<i>Type of Employment.</i>	<i>Salary.</i>	<i>Hours worked per week.</i>
Public works labourers ...	27s. 6d. to 40s. per month with quarters and food ...	54
Police ...	From £36 to £84 per annum ...	60
Cattle guards and agricultural demonstrators.	From £30 to £120 per annum ...	60

Natives in civil employment were engaged in agriculture, mining and domestic service. In all cases free quarters and food were provided. The rates of pay and hours of work were as follows:—

<i>Type of Employment.</i>	<i>Salary.</i>	<i>Hours worked per week.</i>
Agricultural labourers ...	15s. to 40s. per month ...	60
Mine labourers ...	8d. to 2s. per day ...	50
Domestic servants ...	10s. to 70s. per month ...	50

X.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

There is a Department of Education the headquarters staff of which consists of a Superintendent of Education, a Lady Clerk, a Native Clerk, and four Supervisors of Native Schools. In addition to the administrative work of the Department, the Superintendent of Education is responsible for the periodical inspection of controlled schools in the Territory.

The expenditure on education during the five financial years ended the 31st March, 1938, was as follows:—

Financial Year.	Amount spent from General Revenue on native mission schools.	Totals spent on education generally.		
		From General Revenue.	From Swazi National Fund.	Total.
	£	£	£	£
1933-34 ...	3,056	10,343	1,637	11,980
1934-35 ...	3,367	10,647	2,288	12,935
1935-36 ...	3,520	9,602	2,637	12,239
1936-37 ...	4,070	10,506	2,993	13,499
1937-38 ...	4,543	11,987	2,976	14,963

European Education.

During the year a small school was opened at the Havelock Asbestos Mine in the Pigg's Peak sub-district. There are now nine Government schools for European children where primary

education is given, one of which, the Goedgegun School in South Swaziland, does in addition work of a secondary type.

Full primary and secondary courses are also given at St. Mark's School, Mbabane, which is aided by an annual grant from the Government, on a *per capita* basis. The school is controlled by a Council and is inspected by the Superintendent of Education.

Certain commercial subjects are taught in addition to those subjects which are usually included in the secondary school course leading up to the Matriculation examination of the Joint Matriculation Board.

At Bremersdorp the Dominican Order has established a well-equipped and well-staffed school with both primary and secondary departments, but it receives no financial aid. The work done at this school is mostly of a primary nature but a few pupils are also prepared for secondary examinations of the University of South Africa and the examinations conducted by the College of Preceptors in England. Candidates are also prepared for the Commercial Certificate Examinations of the Union Education Department.

Hostel accommodation for a limited number of pupils is provided at the Driefontein and Goedgegun Government schools. It is the Department's policy to achieve centralization if possible at one centre, both as regards board and lodging and the provision of better educational facilities.

The average attendance at the nine Government schools for European children during the last four years was:—321 in 1935, 273 in 1936, 252 in 1937 and 244 in 1938.

The average enrolment of St. Mark's School for 1938 was 94 and the average enrolment at the Dominican Convent, Bremersdorp, was 35.

Standard VI (School Leaving Certificate) examinations are held annually. Twelve candidates passed out of a total of eighteen entrants.

The Boy Scout and Girl Guide movements are being fostered throughout the Territory and at several schools there are troops of both kinds.

Eurafrican Education.

There is in existence in the Southern district an institution called the " Florence Coloured School " which provides primary education for Eurafrian children. The school receives a grant-in-aid from the Administration. Very excellent boarding facilities exist for both girls and boys. The average attendance in 1938 was 42.

The Roman Catholic Mission has also established a coloured school in the Southern district, which, however, does not receive Government assistance. The attendance in 1938 was 39.

A third coloured school at Bremersdorp, under the aegis of the Church of the Province of South Africa, was opened. This school supplies the education needs of the coloured population of the Central and Northern districts and receives a small measure of Government assistance. The average attendance was 50.

Coloured children in other parts of the Territory attend native schools.

Native Education.

There are in all 278 schools in the Territory for natives, which fall into the following divisions:—

Three Government native schools under the supervision of a European Principal; 104 controlled native mission schools which are in receipt of Government aid and under Government supervision; 171 non-controlled native mission schools under the direct supervision of various mission societies of which there are 23 operating in the Territory.

There are four Supervisors of native schools who visit the controlled native schools for the purpose of instructing the teachers in improved methods of teaching.

The Board of Advice on Native Education which is composed of Government officials, representatives of the European Advisory Council, missionaries and native members met once during the year.

It is stated that the help which mission societies have been receiving from overseas is gradually being curtailed.

The subsidized native schools are divided into three classes:—

Class I (Elementary Vernacular Schools) which provide teaching up to and inclusive of Standard II. Class II schools where the work taught is up to and inclusive of Standard IV. Class III schools where the teaching is confined solely to Standards V and VI. At the end of each year an examination is held by the Education Department for the Sixth Standard, and students who have obtained the Sixth Standard or School Leaving Certificate are able to secure admission to colleges and institutions in South Africa which provide courses for the training of teachers.

The satisfactory staffing of native schools is still a difficult matter. Owing to the low rate of pay, posts in Class I schools are for the most part held by teachers who are professionally unqualified. In the case of Class II and III schools only teachers who have undergone a course of training at a recognised institution are appointed.

In the case of the 171 other schools not in receipt of grants the Department supplies these schools with calendars and attendance registers and extends to them its services in so far as present circumstances allow. Evening classes are held at some of the mission institutions.

The three Government Schools are at Matapa, Zombode and Lobamba. The Swazi National School, Matapa, is the only native school in the Territory at which secondary work is being undertaken. Courses of instruction at the Swazi National School include ordinary school work from Standard IV to the Junior Certificate of the University of South Africa, a one-year teacher training course, a certain amount of training in woodwork, Agriculture and Domestic Science as well as special courses in Agriculture and general farm work.

The following table gives the total number of Africans undergoing education in Swaziland during the year:—

Number of children in controlled schools	...	...	...	5,199
Number of children in non-controlled schools	...	...	...	3,577

The examination held in connection with the native schools covers amongst other subjects, craft work, needlework, agricultural work, the vernacular and oral English.

The following table sets out the number of entrants for the examinations, which were held in December, 1938, and the number of passes obtained:—

	<i>Entries.</i>	<i>Passes.</i>
Standard VI (School Leaving (Certificate Examination)...	103	46
Junior Certificate Examination	7	5

XI.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Roads.

All transport, both into and out of the Territory, is by road, and connects on the south, south-west, west, north, and north-east with railheads in the Union of South Africa at Gollél, Piet Retief, Breyten, Hectorspruit and Komatipoort, respectively. The main road from Johannesburg to Lourenco Marques runs through Swaziland from west to east.

There are approximately 400 miles of main roads and the same mileage of secondary roads in the Territory.

Railways.

There are no railways or tramways in Swaziland.

Motor Transport.

The motor transport services of the South African Railways Administration and the Portuguese East African Administration, carrying both goods and passengers, operate between Swaziland and the railheads in the neighbouring territories.

The cost of maintaining these services is borne entirely by the Administrations operating them, and the revenues derived therefrom are retained by the respective Administrations.

The following tables show the traffic handled during the past five years:—

SOUTH AFRICAN RAILWAYS MOTOR TRANSPORT.

Year.	Passengers carried.		Goods handled.	Cream carried.
	Europeans.	Natives.	Tons.	Gallons.
1934 ...	5,164	44,740	9,297	19,728
1935 ...	5,418	45,969	11,589	18,887
1936 ...	6,338	50,735	11,831	18,870
1937 ...	5,984	52,995	13,467	23,578
1938 ...	5,741	67,221	13,826	43,276

The vehicle mileage covered during 1938 was 578,864.

PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT MOTOR TRANSPORT.

(Depot at Goba.)

Year.	Passengers carried.		Goods handled.
	Europeans.	Natives.	Tons.
1934 ...	300	3,736	2,254
1935 ...	237	3,574	2,230
1936 ...	161	4,333	2,218
1937 ...	133	2,828	2,852
1938 ...	85	3,176	2,282

The charges by both motor transport services are the same, namely, passenger fares at 2d. per mile for Europeans, and 1½d. per mile for natives; charges for goods carried are on a sliding scale and according to classification, namely, at from 3d. for 5 miles to 2s. 6d. for 100 miles per 100 lb.

MOTOR VEHICLES.

The following motor vehicles were registered in the Territory as at 31st December, 1938:—

	British (including Canadian) makes.		Other makes.	Total.
Private cars	91	379	470
Commercial vehicles	40	85	125
Motor cycles	36	4	40
				<hr/> 635 <hr/>

Postal.

The postal, telegraph, and telephone services continue as formerly, to be controlled by the Postmaster-General of the Union of South Africa. The expenditure is met from, and the revenue paid into, Swaziland funds.

There are 382 miles of trunk lines on the metallic circuit system connecting all district offices with the Administration headquarters at Mbabane. Communications with the Pigg's

Peak Office is through Barberton in the Transvaal. Telegraphic communication is available both between Bremersdorp and Mbabane with Johannesburg, Pretoria and other centres.

In South Swaziland a telephonic service only is provided, and the Hlatikulu district is connected up with Piet Retief in the Transvaal as well as with headquarters at Mbabane. A telephonic trunk line connects Gollel, which is the Swaziland border terminus of the Natal North Coast Railway Line, with Bremersdorp and Hlatikulu, passing agencies at Nsoko, Maloma and Kubuta. A branch line from Hlatikulu runs to the Mooihoek Valley.

Lines between Mbabane and Mankaiana and between Stegi and Goba (Portuguese East Africa) have been constructed.

The cost of running the postal service and the revenue derived therefrom for the five years ended the 31st March, 1938, are as follows:—

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Expenditure.</i>	<i>Revenue.</i>
	£	£
1933-34	4,667	5,486
1934-35	4,194	5,605
1935-36	5,849	9,406
1936-37	6,066	8,222
1937-38	7,396	17,366

There are no wireless stations in the Territory.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

Roads and Bridges.

The remaining 13 of the 37 low-level bridges provided for under the Colonial Development Fund in 1937 were completed during the year. A fresh application for a grant of £18,700 for the construction of a further 34 bridges was submitted and approved. Material for these bridges has been ordered, and work will be commenced as soon as it arrives.

The construction of culverts under a Colonial Development Fund grant was continued satisfactorily.

Towards the end of the year exceptionally heavy rains fell, resulting in several bridge approaches being washed away, and the work of repair disorganised the road party programmes for a month or more. The possibility of constructing additional spans to those bridges most affected is at present receiving consideration.

Buildings.

Two new houses at Mbabane were completed, one for the Principal Medical Officer and the other for the Principal Veterinary and Agricultural Officer.

At Hluti, in the Southern District, a dispensary, school, and school hostel were completed.

New offices were constructed at the Aird Government Experimental Farm, and work was commenced on a new house for the Agricultural Officer, Bremersdorp, and single quarters for the Police at Mbabane.

Water Supplies.

Work commenced on dam construction in Native Areas under the Colonial Development Fund Grant of £16,000 and is proceeding satisfactorily.

Contracts were given out and work started on pure water supply schemes for Stegi and Goedgegung. A scheme for Mbabane is under consideration.

Staff.

The Technical Staff now consists of the Director of Public Works, two Assistant Engineers and an Inspector of Roads and Works. One European and three natives constitute the clerical staff.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE AND PRISONS.

Administration of Justice.

The Roman Dutch Common Law, "save in so far as the same has been heretofore or may from time to time be modified by statute" was declared to be in force in Swaziland under section 2 (1) of the Swaziland Administration Proclamation, 1907. All statute laws of the Transvaal in force at the date of this Proclamation were declared to be in force. Subsequent laws have been promulgated by the High Commissioner under the authority of Orders in Council of 1903, 1906 and 1909.

SPECIAL COURT OF SWAZILAND.

In 1912, a Special Court which has the powers and jurisdiction of a Superior Court was established, with an Advocate of the Transvaal Provincial Division of the Supreme Court as President. In 1934 a member of the English and Irish Bars was appointed President.

The other members consist of the Resident Commissioner, the Deputy Resident Commissioner, and the District Commissioners.

The Court holds sessions twice a year. By virtue of Proclamation No. 23 of 1935, one or more native assessors, appointed by the Paramount Chief, may be called to the assistance of the Court. When in session the Court consists of three members sitting without jury. It has jurisdiction in all civil and criminal cases. When the Court is not in session, the Resident Commissioner or Deputy Resident Commissioner, as a member of the Court, has power to exercise the civil jurisdiction of the Special Court in all motions and applications for

provisional sentence. The power of reviewing the proceedings of and hearing appeals from any inferior Court in Swaziland lies in this Court. When not in session the President of the Special Court, or, if so deputed, the Resident Commissioner or the Deputy Resident Commissioner reviews criminal cases.

Death sentences are carried out by the special warrant of the High Commissioner. There is a right of appeal to the Privy Council against any final judgment of the Special Court when the matter in dispute is of the value of £500 or upwards. By Proclamation No. 30 of 1935 an Attorney-General for the High Commission Territories was appointed who prosecutes for crimes and offences before the Special Court.

COURTS OF DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS.

Courts of District Commissioners were established under section 9 of the Swaziland Administration Proclamation, 1907. These Courts have jurisdiction in all civil proceedings in which neither party is a European, and in all criminal proceedings in which the accused is not a European; but District Commissioners do not have jurisdiction to try summarily any person charged with treason, murder, attempt to murder, culpable homicide, rape, attempt to rape, or sedition. In the last cases mentioned and in other serious cases, the District Commissioners hold preparatory examinations, and if a *prima facie* case is made out the accused persons are committed for trial before the Special Court.

In civil cases in which any party thereto is a European, and in criminal cases where the accused is a European, District Commissioners have the jurisdiction conferred on Courts of Resident Magistrates in the Transvaal, or the jurisdiction established by any special Proclamation.

All sentences of imprisonment exceeding three months, or a fine of £25, or whipping, are subject to review by the Special Court.

There are three District Commissioners in charge of districts, and six Assistant District Commissioners, three of whom are in charge of sub-districts. Assistant District Commissioners have the same jurisdiction as District Commissioners.

At the end of the year three Proclamations were promulgated, all taking effect on the 1st January, 1939, viz., No. 65—The Swaziland High Court Proclamation, No. 66—The Swaziland Subordinate Courts Proclamation and No. 67—The Criminal Procedure and Evidence Proclamation.

NATIVE COURTS.

The Paramount Chief and other native Chiefs continue to exercise jurisdiction according to native law and custom in all civil disputes in which natives only are concerned. An appeal lies to the Special Court, whose decisions are final.

CIVIL CASES.—SPECIAL COURT.

Civil cases tried in the Special Court of Swaziland during the last five years were as follows:—

	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.
At sessions of Special Court ...	2	1	—	—	1
Before Judge in Chambers ...	10	18	13	17	12

Police and Prisons.

The Swaziland Police force was established under the Swaziland Administration Proclamation, 1907, and the personnel consists of:—

European.—One Chief of Police and 24 non-commissioned officers and men.

Native.—One hundred and nine non-commissioned officers and men.

The Swaziland Prison Department consists of three European gaolers stationed at Mbabane, Bremersdorp and Hlatikulu, and 27 Native warders and one wardress. Temporary wardresses are engaged as occasion arises.

The principal prison is at Mbabane, where there is a European gaoler, 13 warders and one wardress, and there are prisons at Bremersdorp, Hlatikulu, Stegi, Mankaiana and Pigg's Peak. There are no reformatories in the territory.

During 1938, 1,332 persons were sentenced to imprisonment, comprising 1,205 males and 127 females. The age groups were:—

Under 15 years	...	...	...	...	2
15 to 20 years	...	...	...	...	120
20 to 25 years	...	...	...	...	284
25 to 50 years	...	...	...	...	873
Over 50 years	...	...	...	...	53

These prisoners belonged to the Swazi tribe, and approximately 90 per cent. were Pagans. 1,165 were first-timers and 167 recidivists. The length of sentences were:—

Under one month	...	...	...	...	533
One month to six months	...	...	...	...	687
Six months to two years	...	...	...	...	85
Over two years	...	...	...	...	27

The daily average in prison was 246. There were no deaths. The daily average number of prisoners set to work was 232, the hours in the summer being 9½ and in the winter 8½. They were occupied in road and public works, sanitary and general. The pecuniary value of an average prisoner's work is 1s. per day.

The prison offences during the year numbered 15; the sentences imposed being short periods of additional imprisonment and loss of 7 to 14 days' statutory remission. One case of corporal punishment—six strokes with a cane—was imposed.

There were no reports against members of the prison staff. The execution of three natives took place at Mbabane Gaol.

Prisoners awaiting trial are kept apart from convicted prisoners and in separate cells. On Sundays services are conducted by local missionaries and their native evangelists, and they are allowed all reasonable opportunities of communicating with the prisoners.

Prisoners are disciplined and put to work on various types of manual labour. No means for special industrial training exist, but the rudiments of building construction and other similar work are picked up by the men.

Young offenders are separated from the older and sleep in different cells; no special arrangement for training exists.

Recidivism is not on the increase. First-timers and recidivists are kept separate at night and only come in contact in the presence of a warder.

It is only in the case of the recidivists that there is any need to help a prisoner on discharge. The man is persuaded to accept regular employment, preferably in the public works department.

Juvenile Offenders.

Provision is made for the detention of juvenile offenders in separate cells and they are isolated from adult prisoners. During this year 210 juvenile offenders were tried in the Courts of District Commissioners for the following offences:—

Culpable homicide	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Housebreaking with intent to steal and theft	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Malicious injury to property	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Stock theft...	...	...	...	...	...	...	53
Theft	...	...	...	...	...	...	78
Assault	...	...	...	...	...	...	34
Other offences	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
							<hr/>
							210
							<hr/>

Health of Prisoners.

The Principal Medical Officer reports that the health of prisoners was good.

Remission of Sentences.

Under Gaol Regulations No. 167 (High Commissioner's Notice No. 180 of 1934) every prisoner whose sentence is six months or more is allowed a remission of one-fourth of his sentence, provided that every conviction for a breach of discipline shall cause a loss of as many days towards mitigation as may be decided on. An amendment of this regulation is under consideration.

Criminal Statistics.*Persons proceeded against on charge of crime.*

During the year 6,096 persons were proceeded against in Courts of District Commissioners for the following crimes:—

Culpable homicide	...	...	...	...	...	41
Other offences against the person	...	...	...	...	...	1,512
Offences against property	...	...	...	...	...	849
Other crimes	...	...	...	...	...	3,694

Persons dealt with in Summary Courts for crimes and offences.

In the District Commissioners' Courts 5,481 persons were convicted summarily, and were sentenced as follows:—

Imprisonment	...	...	...	...	...	1,466
Whipping	...	...	...	...	...	214
Fine	...	...	...	...	...	3,170
Bound over, cautioned or discharged	...	...	...	...	...	631

Persons for trial in the Superior Court.

Forty-three persons were committed by District Commissioners for trial in the Special Court of Swaziland. Of these, 32 were indicted by the Attorney-General for the crimes shown in the following table; three were discharged and the remaining 29 convicted:—

Murder	...	...	...	...	...	6
Culpable homicide	...	...	...	...	...	15
Other offences against the person	...	...	...	...	...	8
Offences against property	...	...	...	...	...	—
Other crimes	...	...	...	...	...	—

COMPARATIVE TABLE.

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

The number of summary convictions in Courts of District Commissioners.

	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.
Offences against the person	752	795	927	1,368
Malicious injury to property	56	50	40	24
Other offences against property	603	541	614	667
Other crimes	677	572	746	940
Offences against Master and Servant Laws	58	70	67	73
Offences against Revenue Laws, etc.	2,272	1,193	1,494	1,655
Miscellaneous minor offences	423	653	385	754
<i>Totals</i>	<u>4,841</u>	<u>3,874</u>	<u>4,273</u>	<u>5,481</u>

Number of convictions in Superior Courts (Special Court of Swaziland).

	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.
Murder	5	3	5	6
Culpable homicide	3	9	7	15
Attempted murder	1	—	—	—
Rape	—	1	5	5
Unnatural crime	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the person ...	2	2	2	3
Other offences against property ...	3	3	2	—
Other crimes	1	—	1	—
	—	—	—	—
<i>Totals</i>	15	18	22	29
	—	—	—	—

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

The principal legislation during 1938 consisted of the following:—

(a) *Proclamations:—*

No. 46.—The Swaziland Sedition Proclamation.

No. 65.—The Swaziland High Court Proclamation.

No. 66.—The Swaziland Subordinate Courts Proclamation.

No. 67.—The Swaziland Criminal Procedure and Evidence Proclamation.

No. 68.—The Criminal Liability of Intoxicated Persons (Swaziland) Proclamation.

(b) *High Commissioner's Notices:—*

No. 129.—The Commercial Agreement between Mozambique and High Commission Territories.

XV.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Banking.

There are two banks in the Territory, namely, Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas) with three branches and one agency, and the Standard Bank of South Africa, Limited, with one branch and one agency.

The amount at fixed deposit at Barclays Bank on 31st March, 1939, was £9,554 and the amount on current account amounted

to £55,232. At the Standard Bank of South Africa, Limited, the amounts were £486 and £5,670 respectively. The deposits in the savings departments of these two banks were £11,736 and £1,073 respectively.

There are no agricultural or co-operative banks in the Territory. Loans to settlers are granted under the provisions of the Swaziland Land and Agricultural Loan Fund Proclamation, 1929. The Swaziland Co-operative Tobacco Company, Limited, in the Southern District, is a limited liability company registered under the Co-operative Societies (Swaziland) Proclamation, 1931. It was financed by the Administration to the extent of £2,000 as a capital loan expended upon buildings and plant, and to an amount not exceeding £10,000, as a seasonal loan for the payment of working expenses and for making advances to growers upon the delivery of their tobacco. In these respects the practice in the case of similar societies in the Union of South Africa was followed. The above-mentioned loans were granted on conditions laid down in the Loan Fund Proclamation No. 34 of 1929, as amended by Proclamations Nos. 13/1930, 7/1931, 34/1936 and 1/1937.

Currency.

Proclamation No. 55 of 1932 provided that both United Kingdom and Union coins should be current in Swaziland but that United Kingdom silver coinage should be withdrawn by the 15th of January, 1933, on which date it ceased to be legal tender.

Weights and Measures.

With the following exceptions, Imperial weights and measures are in use:—

Dry measure—

1 ton (short) = 2,000 lb.

1 ton (long) = 2,240 lb.

Linear measure—

1 rood = 12 Cape feet.

1 Cape foot = 1.033 English feet.

Liquid measure—

1 leaguer = 2 hogsheads.

Surface or land measure—

1 morgen = 600 square roods.

1 square rood = 144 square feet.

1,000 Cape feet = 1,033 English feet.

1,000 morgen = 2,116½ English acres.

1,000 yards = 914 metres.

1,000 Cape feet = 314.855 metres.

1,000 metres = 1,093.62 yards.

1 morgen = 0.8565 hectares.

XVI.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The following figures show the revenue and expenditure of the Territory for five years ended the 31st March, 1938:—

Revenue.

	1933-34.	1934-35.	1935-36.	1936-37.	1937-38.
	£	£	£	£	£
Native Tax	44,098	45,019	41,586	43,584	46,323
Customs and Excise ...	16,176	18,657	19,822	21,530	22,533
Posts and Telegraphs ...	5,486	5,605	9,406	8,222	17,366
Licences	6,995	8,182	9,523	9,495	10,806
Revenue Stamps	1,309	1,151	981	1,367	1,117
Judicial Fines	1,521	1,985	1,870	2,148	2,192
Poll Tax	1,719	1,661	1,584	1,755	1,591
Income Tax	1,744	3,186	3,763	2,685	3,140
Native Passes	924	1,029	1,044	1,001	957
Dog Tax	2,765	2,765	2,567	2,787	3,027
Transfer Duty	1,520	2,158	1,328	1,319	1,317
Base Metal Royalty ...	248	319	919	591	523
Concession Rents	1,758	1,765	1,653	1,883	1,662
Cattle Dipping Charges	1,085	884	764	883	563
Miscellaneous	3,146	3,884	5,026	5,986	6,740
Levy on Salaries	1,875	1,192	916	—	—
Grant-in-aid, Expenses of Administration ...	28,500	60,000	48,000	—	—
Total Ordinary Revenue	120,869	159,442	150,752	105,236	119,856
Colonial Development Fund	6,406	12,795	12,251	13,896	30,167
Sale of Crown Lands ...	1,126	1,359	389	1,179	1,087
Parliamentary Grant-in- aid	—	—	—	32,500	43,000
	<u>£128,401</u>	<u>£173,596</u>	<u>£163,392</u>	<u>£152,811</u>	<u>£194,110</u>

Expenditure.

	1933-34.	1934-35.	1935-36.	1936-37.	1937-38.
	£	£	£	£	£
Resident Commissioner	7,295	7,588	7,473	8,372	9,062
District Administration	8,315	9,250	9,133	8,673	9,314
Police	14,457	14,780	15,373	15,583	15,783
Posts and Telegraphs...	4,667	4,194	5,849	6,066	7,396
Administration of Justice	7,984	8,467	8,428	8,380	9,993
Public Works Department	2,415	3,067	2,445	2,795	3,399
Public Works Recurrent	10,192	14,471	14,574	15,714	21,758
Medical	11,969	13,827	14,545	16,558	18,837
Education	10,412	10,658	9,603	10,506	11,958
Veterinary and Agriculture	17,797	22,013	19,017	23,673	23,947
Deeds Registry and Survey Services ...	750	750	750	750	750
Interest	3,881	2,205	2,276	2,212	2,795
Sinking Fund	1,264	1,264	1,264	1,264	1,264
Allowances, etc., to Native Chiefs ...	1,599	1,557	1,583	1,569	1,618
Pensions and Gratuities	6,468	4,889	7,506	4,992	7,843
Miscellaneous	3,335	3,165	4,107	4,823	5,326
Surveys	7	37	54	54	42
Repayment of Colonial Development Fund Loans	—	—	—	61	176
Ordinary Expenditure...	112,807	122,182	123,980	132,009	151,262
Public Works Extraordinary	424	2,893	3,938	4,528	14,769
Colonial Development Fund	9,006	13,251	7,337	15,725	28,343
Purchase of House for Police	661	—	—	—	—
	<u>£122,898</u>	<u>£138,326</u>	<u>£135,255</u>	<u>£152,262</u>	<u>£194,374</u>

Public Debt.

The Public Debt of Swaziland consists of the following:—

<i>Swaziland Consolidated Loan.</i> —Bearing interest at 3½ per cent. per annum, and repayable by a sinking fund in nineteen years from 1st April, 1924. The amount standing to the credit of the fund on the 31st March, 1938, was £24,094	£	35,000
<i>Parliamentary Grants-in-aid.</i> —For expenses of Administration. From 1928-29 to 31st March, 1938		326,400
<i>Parliamentary Grants-in-Aid.</i> —For purposes of Land and Agricultural Loan Fund. From 1929-30 to 31st March, 1938		19,745
<i>Loans from the Colonial Development Fund.</i> —From 1930-31 to 31st March, 1938		83,581
		<u>£464,726</u>

Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

<i>Assets.</i>		<i>Liabilities.</i>	
	£		£
Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas)	1,191	Post Master General ...	136
Balances in hands of Sub-Accountants ...	5,386	Swazi National Fund ...	545
Advances	6,784	Swazi Nation Trust Fund	20,000
Imprests	89	Guardians Fund	674
Joint Colonial Fund ...	8,000	Prisoners' Property ...	53
Balance of Surplus and Deficit Account ...	10,295	Customs Suspense	186
		Deposit	3,765
		Native Recruiting Corporation, Ltd. ...	895
		Agricultural Loan Fund...	1,438
		Colonial Development Fund Deposits Account	3,981
		Dairy Butter Levy Fund	72
	<hr/> £31,745 <hr/>		<hr/> £31,745 <hr/>

Description of the Main Heads of Taxation.

The main heads of taxation and the amounts collected during the financial year 1937-8 are as follows:—

	£
Native Tax	46,323
Customs and Excise	22,533
Licences	10,806
Income Tax	3,140
Dog Tax	3,027
European Poll Tax	1,591

Native Tax.—A tax of 35s. per annum is paid by each adult male native who is unmarried or who has one wife. Natives with more than one wife pay 30s. in respect of each wife with a maximum tax of £4 10s. The District Commissioners of each district collected most of this tax at various camps selected for the convenience of the natives. Chiefs and Indunas are responsible for bringing in tax defaulters to the district offices.

Customs and Excise.—Under the Customs Agreement with the Union Government of 1910 (see Chapter VII), Swaziland receives a proportionate share of the total collections of the Union. The only dues collected locally are those on beer and spirits. Duty on spirits is levied at the rate of 12s. 6d. per proof gallon and on beer at 10d. per standard gallon. Local collections in respect of these beverages during the year 1937-8 amounted to £1,379.

Licences.—The revenue under this head is composed mainly of sums paid for trading, motor, labour recruiting, hotel and banking licences.

Trades and businesses are subject to annual licences in terms of the Schedule to Proclamation No. 53 of 1931. Liquor and hotel licences are controlled by the Swaziland Liquor Licence Proclamation No. 42 of 1936, as amended. Game

licences and firearm licences are governed by Transvaal Ordinance No. 6 of 1905 as amended and in force in Swaziland, and Proclamation No. 21 of 1908, respectively. Licences on mining, labour agents and motor cars are levied by authority of Proclamations No. 25 of 1912, No. 19 of 1913 and No. 26 of 1916, respectively.

The following table gives the chief classes of licences and the amount collected in respect of the four financial years ended the 31st March, 1938:—

	1934-35.	1935-36.	1936-37.	1937-38.
	£	£	£	£
Firearms... ..	202	140	126	229
Labour	579	265	469	549
Liquor and billiards	615	677	662	722
Trading	2,537	3,115	3,028	3,283
Game	538	572	513	939
Bank	150	100	150	152
Motor	2,242	2,673	3,011	3,995
Mining	1,287	1,949	1,522	846
Miscellaneous	32	32	14	27
Bicycles	—	—	—	64
	£8,182	£9,523	£9,495	£10,806

Income Tax.—The collection of income tax is governed by the Swaziland Income Tax Proclamation No. 31 of 1921 as amended. The general provisions of the Principal Proclamation apply each year to the determination of the taxable amount on which the tax is to be levied, and the collection of the amount payable in respect of that taxable amount, but the actual rates to be levied are fixed by Proclamation each year. Super tax is levied by virtue of Proclamation No. 18 of 1930.

The taxes imposed for the year 1938 were (1) Normal tax, (2) Super tax, and the rates were fixed as follows:—

(1) *Normal tax.*—In the case of companies, for each pound of taxable amount, one shilling and sixpence. In the case of persons other than companies—

(a) when the taxable amount does not exceed twenty-four thousand pounds, for each pound of taxable amount, one shilling and as many two-thousandths of a penny as there are pounds in that amount;

(b) when the taxable amount exceeds twenty-four thousand pounds, for each pound of taxable amount, two shillings.

(2) *Super tax*—

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

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

The amount collected for the Income Tax year ended 30th June 1938, was as follows:—

Arrear Tax	...	...	...	...	...	£
						457
Current Tax	...	...	...	...	...	3,069
						<u>£3,526</u>

The following table shows the sources from which taxable incomes were derived and the amount of tax paid from each source:—

<i>Source :—</i>						£
Traders	...	...	...	...	...	1,711
Civil Servants	...	...	...	...	...	192
Employed persons	...	...	...	...	...	93
Others	...	...	...	...	...	47
Non-residents	...	...	...	...	...	1,483
						<u>£3,526</u>

The following table shows the number of taxpayers and the amount of income taxed in the relative categories for the year ended the 30th June, 1938:—

<i>Number.</i>	<i>Category.</i>	<i>Taxable Income.</i>
	£	£
6	500 and under	1,683
19	501 to 750	13,731
8	751 to 1,000	7,914
8	1,001 to 1,500	9,857
8	1,501 and over	27,648
—		<u>£60,833</u>
49		

Dog Tax.—A tax of five shillings per dog per year is levied on all dogs throughout the Territory.

European Poll Tax.—A poll tax of £2 per annum is paid by every European male of the age of 21 years and upwards. This tax is also paid by those natives who have been exempted from the laws relating to passes and the payment of native tax under the provisions of the Coloured Persons Exemption (Relief) Proclamation, 1901, of the Transvaal as in force in Swaziland.

APPENDIX.

Bibliography.

<i>Title.</i>	<i>Publisher.</i>	<i>Price.</i>
Report on Financial and Economic Situation of Swaziland, 1932. (Cmd. 4114.)	H.M. Stationery Office.	2s. 6d.
(19882—48) Wt. 2381—4351 750 11/39 P. St. G. 377/7		

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