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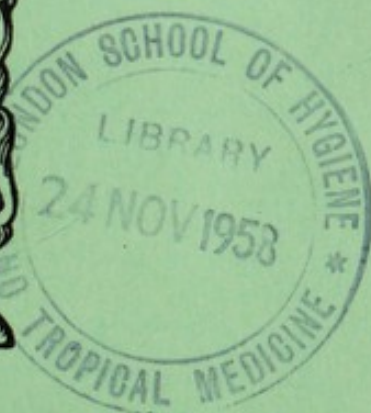
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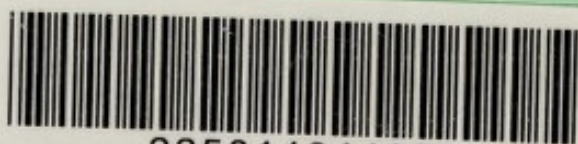
COLONIAL REPORTS

Basutoland


1956

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HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

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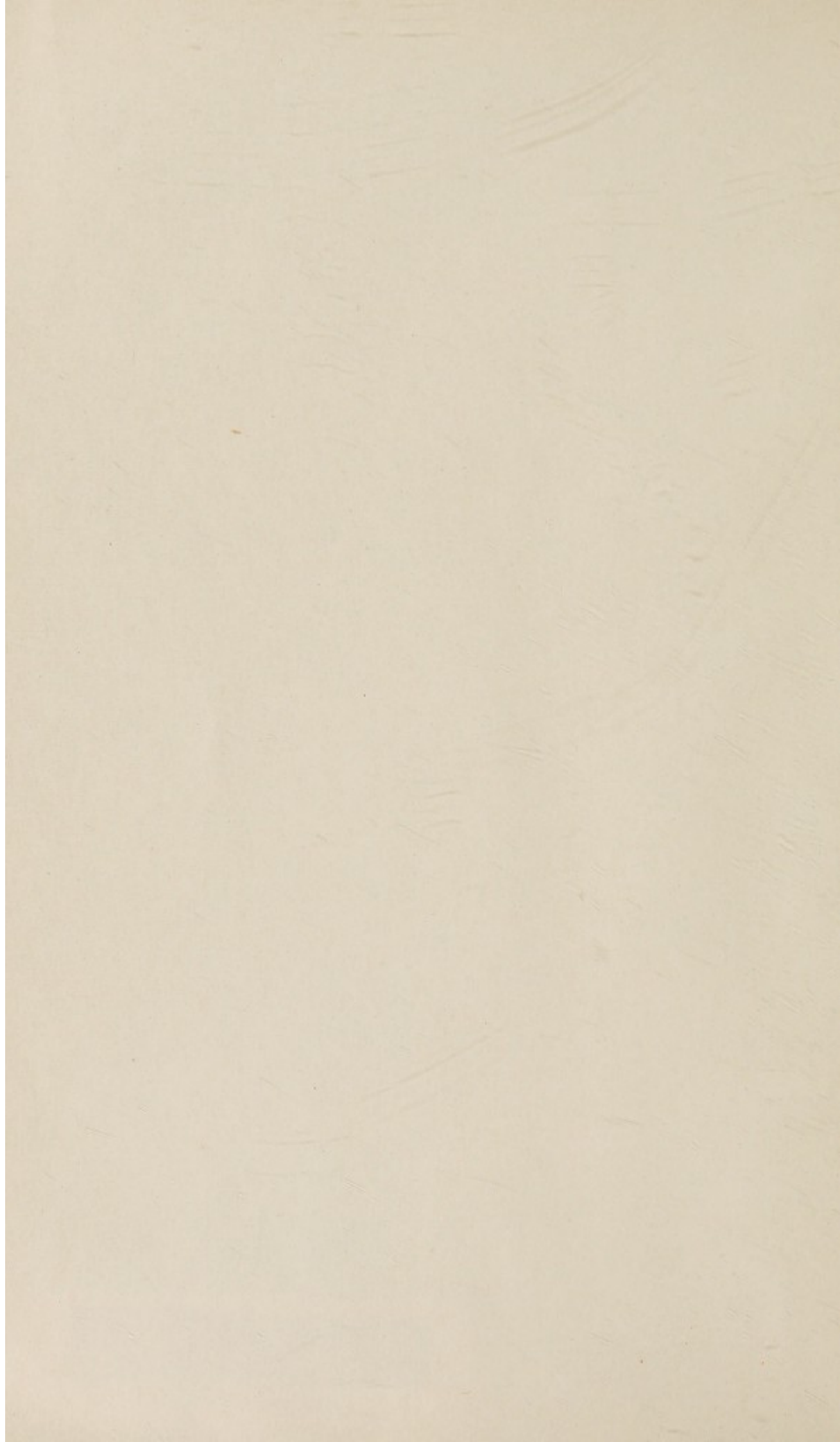


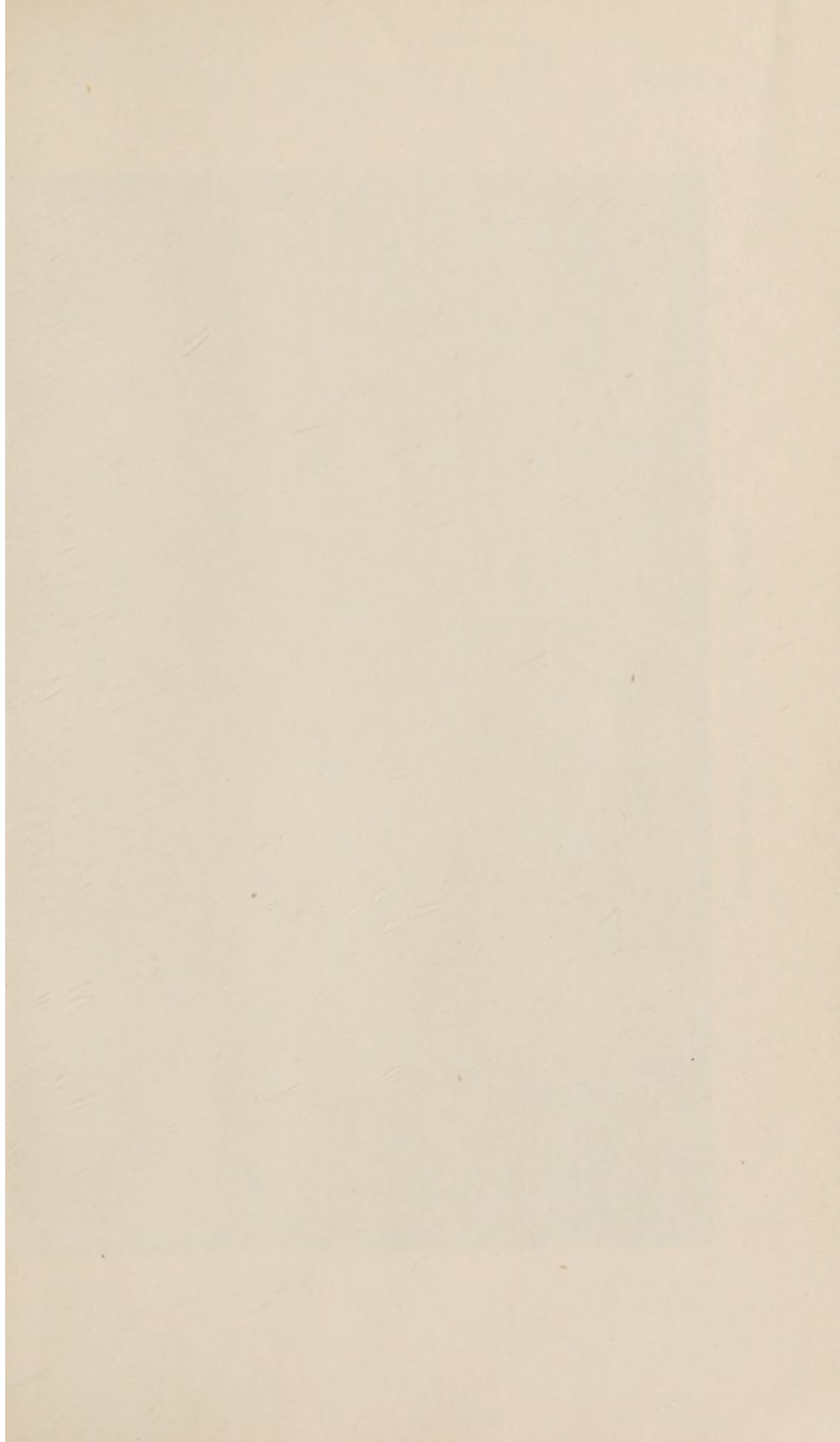
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Scene from the New Mountain Motor Road

COMMONWEALTH RELATIONS OFFICE

ANNUAL REPORT
ON
BASUTOLAND

FOR THE YEAR

1956

LONDON
HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
1958

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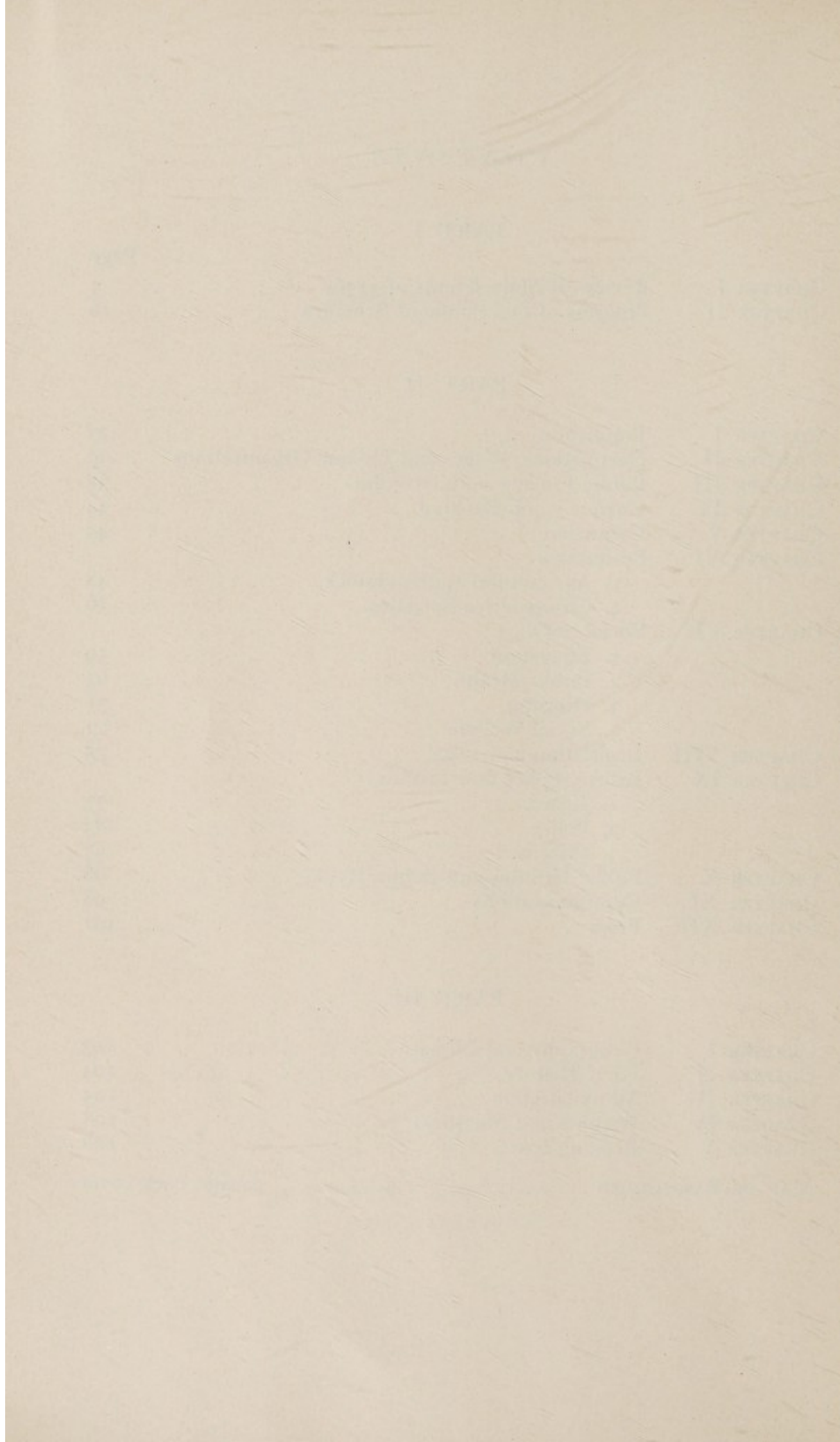
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PART I

CHAPTER ONE

REVIEW OF THE MAIN EVENTS OF 1956

I. ADMINISTRATION AND GENERAL

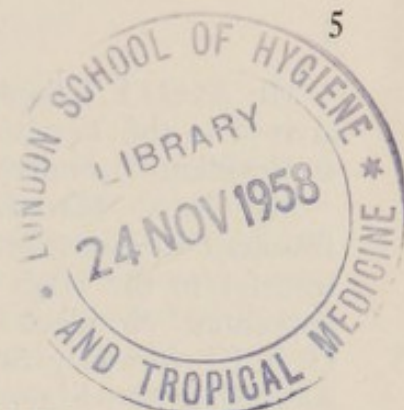
During May a special session of the Basutoland Council was convened to discuss the Reports of the Graded Tax and Medicine Murder Committees.

In the course of the session the Secretary of State's reply to the 1955 Council resolution asking for legislative powers in all internal matters was handed to the members. The reply and this resolution had arisen out of Council's rejection, in March, 1955, of the Moore Report proposals for administrative reform. The Secretary of State's reply came up for discussion in Council in September of the year under review, and it was then decided that a special Committee of Council should be appointed to make proposals regarding constitutional reform for the consideration of the Secretary of State in the light of his reply. At the same time another powerful Basuto Committee had already been appointed by the Council to consider the functions of the Chieftainship and make proposals regarding general administrative reforms. This last Committee had, by the end of the year, heard much oral evidence at public sessions in two of the nine Districts in the Territory which it is visiting.

When the two Committees have completed their separate deliberations they will hold joint sessions in Maseru to prepare their Report, which it is hoped will be ready for discussion by District Councils towards the end of 1957 or early in 1958. Thereafter the Report will be presented to the Basutoland Council for debate.

His Excellency, the High Commissioner, Sir Percival Leisching, G. C. M. G., K. C. B., K. C. V. O., was welcomed by the inhabitants of the Qacha's Nek district when he paid a brief visit to this area during November. Included on the itinerary was a visit to the new Administrative Centre between Mashai and Sehonghong, situated in the heart of the mountains, which is served by an excellent air strip.

Mr. E. P. Arrowsmith, C.M.G., who had been Resident Commissioner of Basutoland since May, 1952, left the Territory in September to take up an appointment at the Commonwealth Relations Office. Mr. Arrowsmith has subsequently been appointed Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Falkland Islands.



Mr. A. G. T. Chaplin, C. M. G., formerly Colonial Secretary, Bermuda, arrived in the Territory in September, 1956, to take up his appointment as Resident Commissioner in succession to Mr. Arrowsmith.

Mr. B. A. Marwick, C. B. E., Government Secretary and Deputy Resident Commissioner since 1953 left Basutoland in January, 1956, on transfer to the High Commissioner's Office and has subsequently been appointed Resident Commissioner, Swaziland. Mr. G. M. Hector, O. B. E., formerly Secretary to the Government of the Seychelles, has succeeded Mr. Marwick as Government Secretary and Deputy Resident Commissioner of Basutoland.

Mr. H. M. L. Shearer, First Assistant Secretary since 1954 left Basutoland in May to take up an appointment with the East African High Commission, Nairobi. Mr. F. G. Muirhead, O. B. E., succeeded Mr. Shearer.

On the 23rd October, 1956, a calamitous storm demolished the stone built P. E. M. S. Mission station at Thaba Bosiu, together with many huts in the neighbouring villages. This was the first Mission established in Basutoland and dates back to 1834. It is situated at the foot of Thaba Bosiu Mountain where the Paramount Chief Moshesh had made his stronghold. The church, school and house of the evangelist were razed to the ground, and the roof was blown from the Mission house. Five persons in all lost their lives when they were buried by falling masonry and a number of others were injured.

The Paramount Chief Designate, Bereng Seeiso, who is attending school at Ampleforth College, England, spent a month of his summer vacation in Basutoland before returning to England to continue his studies.

Diamond prospecting was continued in the mountain areas of the Butha Buthe and Leribe District, but results have so far proved inconclusive. The jeep track over the Moteng Pass, to Kau, which enables the prospecting company to transport heavy equipment to the main prospecting areas, was nearing completion by the end of the year.

2. FINANCIAL AND ECONOMICS

Despite excess collection of revenue over the estimates in respect of, Native Tax, Customs and Excise, Wool and Mohair Export Duty, and miscellaneous items, a deficit of £164,561 resulted for the year 1955-56. This was due to steadily increasing expenditure on essential services. The accumulated surplus balance as at 31st March, 1956, was £466,199.

Wool profits again declined and owing to keener competition among traders resulting from a freer supply of consumer goods the collection of income tax fell below the estimate.

Approval in principle was given during the year to the raising of a loan of £500,000 to be spent over a four year period on urgent Capital Works - mainly for quarters for Police and other Basuto staff.

3. AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PRODUCTION

Soil conservation in its widest sense, and an increase in production of foodstuffs and quality of livestock products remain the important features of departmental activities. Much of the purely mechanical side of soil conservation work has been completed, and more effort is now being directed towards an improvement in farming methods which will give permanency to anti-erosion works. For extension work reliance is placed on the field staff of 113 demonstrators. The regular annual out-turn from the Agricultural School of young men trained in modern agricultural methods, most of whom will be absorbed into the Service, should go far towards improving the quality of this. (The first 16 students will be ready for posting in June, 1957.) A Forestry Officer has been appointed, and during the year considerable progress has been made in the establishment of nurseries for the growth of young trees, with the ultimate object of supplying firewood, in place of animal manure which at present is practically the only fuel available for domestic use. A considerable increase in the use of D.D.T. as a control for maize stalk borer, one of the limiting factors in production, is to be reported, and the value of phosphatic fertilizer, particularly in the northern districts, is becoming more generally recognized. The fact that crop yields are unsatisfactory has been recognized by the Basutoland Council who have appointed a committee to report back on the subject. Soil and crop research, and investigations at Pilot Project and into mechanized farming possibilities continue and are discussed at greater length in Chapter II, Part I.

Every year a considerable proportion of the maize and sorghum crops is damaged to a degree by frost before maturity to be associated with late planting of these crops. Field operations are almost exclusively powered by oxen, and much depends on the condition and available numbers of these for the timely execution of planting. In most lowland areas the balance between arable land and grassland (on which working oxen subsist) has been upset, and it seems that mechanization is the only immediate answer to this problem. But in the meantime thought is being given to the wider aspects of the proper integration of livestock and arable farming. During the year under review conditions for growth and maturation of summer crops were satisfactory. The maize harvest in June was good, largely on account of the late arrival of the first frosts. The standing maize crop planted in October-November shows very little promise on account of unfavourable weather conditions.

Exports of sorghum were much lower than usual. Stands generally were indifferent as much of the seed used had been frosted before maturity and failed to germinate.

The winter wheat crop harvested in December was affected to a degree by the very dry winter and sprouting in stalks before harvesting. Exports to the Union of South Africa were higher than for many years past, and in excess of the imports of wheaten products by a very substantial margin.

The pea harvest was most satisfactory. A ready market for peas grown in the Territory is available in Natal.

The year 1956 was a good one for the livestock industry of the Territory. Excellent and sustained rains during summer and early autumn ensured a sufficiency of grass and all livestock wintered well. Although the spring rains did not arrive until mid-October grazing is in excellent condition and livestock, except in isolated pockets, are in very good condition.

The get up of the wool clip was satisfactory, wool inspectors, brokers and buyers at the Coast agreeing that it met with requirements. During the year 7,292,626 lb. of wool were exported to the value of £1,024,614 the overall average price of all types exported being 33.72 pence per lb.

The total quantity of mohair exported during the year was 1,068,082 lb. valued at £341,163 at an overall average price of 76.66 pence per lb.

In pursuance of the policy of wool improvement 305 selected Merino rams were imported from the Union of South Africa. These together with a carry-over of 259 from 1955 were readily disposed of to flock owners. 206 Angora rams were also introduced during the year for resale to flock owners.

4. CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES

For the co-operative movement 1956 was a year of review and consolidation, rather than expansion. Three principal factors restrained development on a larger scale or along new lines.

First, the policy, organization and staffing of the co-operative department have been closely examined and reviewed by Government in the light of the recommendations made by the Secretary of State's Adviser on Co-operation, following his visit to Basutoland in October, 1955, and in the light of proposals submitted by the Registrar of Co-operative Societies for the establishment of a co-operative credit organization, and for the closer integration of co-operative development with the general economic and agricultural policies of the Administration.

Second, the available departmental staff could not, under existing conditions, provide adequate supervision and audit for a greater number of societies than were already registered. The Registrar returned from six months leave in January, 1956. In February, the Assistant Registrar went on long leave, and subsequently resigned in order to take up an appointment at the Co-operative College, at Loughborough. During March and April, the Audit Clerk was engaged on a training course in East Africa. Considerable difficulty was experienced in filling the two additional posts for inspectors, established as from April, 1956, and it was not until December that suitable candidates were obtained.

Finally, it seems that a number of societies – especially marketing societies – are reaching the limits of self-finance. Declining wool prices, rising costs, and intense trade competition have, over the past few years, made it extremely difficult for them to accumulate the capital necessary for further expansion. Capital is required to finance the co-operative marketing – on any considerable scale – of agricultural produce other than wool, mohair, hides and skins.

The main pre-occupation of the department during the year has been to improve the qualifications and efficiency of the staff, to give greater responsibility to the African inspectors, and to improve the general efficiency and especially the book-keeping systems of the existing societies.

The Audit Clerk attended a training course arranged at Kabete by the Secretary of State's Adviser on Co-operation. Two inspectors passed correspondence courses in book-keeping provided by the Education Department of the Co-operative Union Limited. The mobility of inspectors has been improved by the acquisition of two light motor-cycles.

At the end of 1956 there were 44 registered societies. Although this is three less than the number registered at the end of 1955, the latest figures available (for the nine months ending on June 30th, 1956) suggest that there has been no corresponding decline in the total membership, share capital and turnover for all societies.

The societies registered comprise 13 producers' (wool and mohair marketing) societies, 10 Consumer societies, 7 agricultural or farmers' societies, 11 mechanized farming societies, two thrift societies, and one passenger transport co-operative. This last was the only society registered during the year. One mechanized farming society, two agricultural societies, and one wool and mohair marketing society were liquidated.

The marketing of wool and mohair remains the most important co-operative trading activity, although there has been a serious decline in the volume of wool marketed during 1956 as compared with that marketed in 1955.

On the other hand there has been an appreciable increase in the value of agricultural requisites, such as fertilizers and implements, handled by producers' and farmers' societies. Two producers' societies have extended their activities to include livestock marketing, and now send cattle to abattoirs in the Union. Despite their reduced number, the agricultural or farmers' societies have shewn a considerable increase in membership and turnover. The fortunes of the consumer societies have shewn little change over the year. The operations of the mechanized farming societies are described in Chapter II Part I of this Report.

5. BASUTO ADMINISTRATION

During the year the Basuto Administration sustained the loss of two senior chiefs. Chief Moeketsi Mokhele, the Chief of Taung, died in September and Chief Jacottet L. Theko, the Chief of Thaba Bosiu, in October. Both chiefs were succeeded by adult sons who have taken over the administration of the respective wards.

The building programme of the Basuto Administration which was referred to last year has continued. Three Building Supervisors have been employed on a three-year contract to expedite the work with the object of providing in the shortest time possible court offices and quarters for court staffs. Progress has been satisfactory since the appointment of

the Supervisors, and it is hoped that most of the courts if not all of them will be completed within the specified time.

It was again found necessary to hold a Special Session of the Basutoland Council in May, 1956, which, *inter alia*, made recommendations for the introduction of a Graded Tax. At the ordinary session in September the Basutoland Council approved the Graded Tax proposals, and also appointed two committees to deal with Chieftainship and Constitutional Reforms.

The audited accounts of the Basuto National Treasury shewed a satisfactory year's working with Revenue standing at £173,534 and Expenditure at £161,138. The accumulated surplus at 31st March, 1956, was £133,310 whilst the Special Reserve remained at £60,000. The total investments at that date were £151,130 of which £87,130 was with the Crown Agents. There was in addition an amount of £69,000 invested on behalf of the Higher Education Fund.

6. EDUCATION

The total enrolment in African schools increased very considerably during the year from 104,509 to 110,911 giving an increase of 6,402. Of these 6,139 pupils were in Primary Schools, 103 in Secondary Schools, 103 in Teacher Training Schools, and 96 in Technical and Vocational Schools. Territorial finance permitted only ten additional teachers on the grant-in-aid list, and to cope with the increase in pupils, the voluntary agencies – particularly the Roman Catholic Mission – are paying a larger number of unaided teachers. Out of 2,173 teachers in the primary system, 346 are unaided. However, 113 of these unaided teachers are, in fact, teaching in aided schools. The teacher pupil ratio in the primary schools continues to be about 1 : 50.

In the course of the year further improvements in the salaries of certain grades of primary teachers were approved.

During the year new secondary schools were opened at St. Monica in Leribe District, and at Emmaus in the Mafeteng District with the assistance of privately paid teachers. These schools will be aided in 1957.

In September Miss Freda Gwilliam, Assistant Educational Adviser to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, visited the Territory. In a brief visit Miss Gwilliam was conducted over a number of girls' institutions and schools to enable her to gain an insight into some of the financial and educational problems of Basutoland.

At its eleventh annual meeting in April the Central Advisory Board on Education recommended the establishment of six new junior secondary schools, and the separation of secondary and teacher training classes at the combined centres at Roma, Morija and Eagle's Peak. The capital cost of this development, £107,300, is to be financed from Colonial Development and Welfare Funds. The Board also recommended revised rules for the opening and maintenance of Higher Primary Schools. These rules have now been adopted. Certain changes in the terms and conditions

of employment of teachers have also been adopted on the recommendations of the Board.

In the course of the year twenty-five Basuto have successfully completed the course for the Higher Primary Teachers' Certificate, and ninety nine, the Primary Teachers' Certificate.

Two Senior Service posts of Education Officer and Woman Education Officer were filled by Basuto during the year. Both these had been vacated by European officers.

7. MEDICAL

The total accommodation in the nine Government hospitals is 417 beds which is an increase of 19 beds as compared with the previous year. During the year 11,203 patients were admitted and 3,944 operations were performed, an increase of 690 and 163 respectively as compared with the figures for 1955.

Although the main block and the surgical block of the new 232 bed hospital in Maseru have been completed and the equipment purchased, the installation of electrical, water and other internal fittings was unavoidably delayed. Further funds have been made available for the additional buildings required to complete the hospital including the medical block, tuberculosis and isolation block and staff quarters. The work is progressing favourably, and it is hoped that the move to the new hospital will be possible in 1957.

The construction of the buildings comprising the Health Centre at Semonkong in the mountain area was completed towards the end of March, 1956, and has been fully functional since then.

The construction of the Health Centre at Marakabei and the mountain dispensary at Mphaki's in the Quthing District are expected to be completed during the first half of 1957.

The mountain dispensary at Patlong in the Qacha's Nek District was completed by the end of the year and will be opened during 1957 when the equipment has been delivered. Additional funds have been made available under Colonial Development and Welfare Schemes to establish a new hospital at Mokhotlong, maternity, children's and isolation wards at those hospitals where there are none at present, and tuberculosis wards at the hospitals at Maseru, Leribe, Mafeteng, Quthing and Qacha's Nek.

With the assistance of the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund, a mass diphtheria and whooping cough immunization campaign was started on the 1st June, 1955. A second interim report by Dr. A. C. Jaques, medical officer of health, who has been in charge of the campaign since June, 1956, on the progress made, under most difficult conditions, since the campaign was started, is published in the Annual Report of the Medical Department, 1956, as Appendix II.

On account of shortage of staff it was not found possible to re-establish the pre-existing blood donor service in Maseru. Blood serum, however, continues to be available at all Government hospitals and blood when

required is obtained from the Bloemfontein branch of the South African Blood Transfusion Service.

The smallpox vaccination campaign which was started in October, 1955, among infants, children and adolescents is progressing favourably.

With the assistance of World Health Organization, a nutrition survey was started during the early part of the year and is expected to last for a minimum period of two years. Dr. K. Martin, Regional Public Health Officer and Dr. T. Evans Deputy Regional Director, World Health Organization, visited the Territory during September and October respectively in connection with the work and progress of the survey and to discuss preliminary details for a tuberculosis survey which is expected to begin in March, 1957.

Dr. R. J. Pitchford of the South African Institute for Medical Research visited the Territory during March, 1956, to carry out bilharzial survey at the request of World Health Organization.

Dr. C. S. Darke, Consulting Physician to the City Hospital, Sheffield, visited the Territory during September-October as a member of the Colonial Panel of Medical Visitors. His visit was much appreciated and proved both instructive and stimulating.

The health inspector was awarded a World Health Organization fellowship to attend the special training course for sanitary inspectors at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine which began in October, 1956.

The X-ray plant for Teyateyaneng Hospital for which a grant of £3,153 had been received from the Board of Control, Deferred Pay Interest Fund, is to be installed during February, 1957. The building had been completed and all equipment delivered by the end of the year.

A supply of poliomyelitis vaccine sufficient to administer the first dose to those children up to the age of six years and to the children of doctors, nurses, teachers and health officials up to the age of 16 years, whose names had been registered, was made available by the Poliomyelitis Research Foundation Laboratories in the Union of South Africa.

No case of plague or smallpox occurred during the year.

One isolated case of typhus, confirmed serologically occurred in the Teyateyaneng District.

Both the incidence of and the mortality rate in diphtheria was markedly lower than the previous year.

8. POLICE

The Commissioner of Police Lt. Col. D. R. Owens, O. B. E., went on leave pending retirement on 31st March, 1956. He was replaced by Lt. Col. P. H. Kitson, formerly Deputy Commissioner of Police.

Major P. C. Temple assumed duties as Deputy Commissioner of Police on 23rd November, 1956, on transfer from Swaziland.

Nine mountain stations have operated during the year. Sehonghong (Mashai) was reopened early in the year. These mountain stations are

manned by 12 Non-Commissioned Officers and 39 Troopers. They continue to serve the public in the remoter areas and are of great assistance in the suppression of stock theft.

Four murders were reported during the year which are alleged to be connected with *liretlo*.

Convictions for all crimes in 1956 totalled 4,808, an increase of 415 compared with the previous year's figures.

During the year 53 Police recruits completed their training and were posted to districts. In addition to the Training Courses for Recruits, 7 other courses were held for a total of 117 Non-Commissioned Officers and other ranks. These covered Refresher, Promotion and Veterinary Courses.

A Training Reserve Platoon consisting of 26 Non-Commissioned Officers and other ranks underwent a 6 months' intensive course of training in Law, Police Duties, Musketry, Riot Drill and Physical Training. A further Reserve Platoon of 24 Non-Commissioned Officers and men had completed part of its training by the end of the year.

Districts have maintained the volume and efficiency of their work. The increased *tempo* of training will constitute an important factor in efficiently combating the increased volume of crime reported.

9. PRISONS

Good progress was made during the year with the building programme at the Maseru Central Prison. An administrative block was completed outside the fence at the main entrance. A new double barbed wire fence twelve feet high was erected around the prison. The entire prison was electrically wired internally and the condemned block was completed. Condemned prisoners are now housed at the Central Prison.

Improvements were made and additional buildings were erected at certain of the district gaols.

Warder Masupha received the British Empire Medal for his prompt action in assisting to quell the riot at the Maseru Central Prison in November, 1955.

10. POST OFFICE

Alterations to the Maseru Post Office were completed late in 1956. Public demand has necessitated the opening of a fifth counter position. Mail traffic continues to increase and present accommodation at the Post Office is proving insufficient to meet the increase.

A telephone line from the Mohatlane's postal agency to the headquarters of the Pilot Project in the Tebetebeng Valley was constructed. Two Missions and six new local subscribers were connected to the Teyateyaneng telephone exchange by underground cable to the new Post Office.

Eight new subscribers were connected to the Roma Mission telephone exchange.

The Postal Training School at the Maseru Post Office was completed and training was started on 1st May, 1956, under the guidance of a Postal Officer on contract for three years. Nine Africans are enrolled at the School and are making satisfactory progress.

It is anticipated that the new Post Office at Sehonghong in the Qacha's Nek District will be opened in May, 1957. When this office is opened full postal facilities will be available to the inhabitants of a densely populated and remote mountainous area.

11. PUBLIC WORKS

The Consulting Civil Engineer's report on the Regional Development of the Water Resources of Basutoland was published and reveals the possibility of economically attractive schemes for the development of hydro-electric power and water supply from the headwaters of the Malibamatšo River in the North sector of Basutoland. A grant of £32,761 from Colonial Development and Welfare funds was approved for the detailed investigation of the Ox-Bow Lake Scheme, the first of three complementary schemes in the Region.

The completion and opening of the new High Court building designed and constructed by the Department was the most outstanding accomplishment of the Building Section.

Work on the construction of the new Mountain Road into the interior continued and the bridging of the Senqunyane River marked the completion of an important stage of this project.

12. APPOINTMENT OF BASUTO TO HIGHER POSITIONS IN THE GOVERNMENT SERVICE

The following Senior Service appointments were made during 1956 :

Dr. K. J. S. Nkuebe, M. B., CH. B. : Medical Officer
Miss L. Mokhehle, N. D. S. D. : Female Education Officer
Mr. A. S. Ralebitso, B. A., (S. A.), T. C. (Birmingham), P. L. C.
(Cape) : Education Officer

The following appointments were made on the higher grade scale :

Mr. W. N. Nchee : Clerk, Treasury
Mr. V. S. Letlala : Clerk, Treasury
Mr. P. Ramakatane : Revenue Clerk
Mr. E. Lesoli : Assistant Agricultural and Livestock Officer
Mr. Z. J. Peko : Clerk, Secretariat
Mr. J. L. S. Mohase : Clerk, Secretariat
Mr. S. Moshabesha : Postmaster
Mr. I. Makole : Postmaster
Mr. R. Moeketsi : Postmaster

Mr. S. Thamae : Postmaster
Mr. C. C. Masithela : Postmaster
Mr. S. Khutšoane : Postmaster
Mr. M. E. Sello : Clerk, Secretariat

13. HONOURS

The following Honours were bestowed on residents of Basutoland :

O. B. E. (Civil Division)

Mr. S. A. Germond
Mr. C. G. Damant

O. B. E. (Military)

Colonel D. R. E. Owens

M. B. E. (Civil Division)

Miss A. Adam
Mr. E. G. Hittersay
Mr. V. Gillett
Mr. G. R. Chalmers

B. E. M. (Civil Division)

Mr. Duty Lekena
Mr. David Masupha
Mr. E. B. Ramaqabe

Colonial Police Medal

Senior Inspector S. M. Seboko

Colonial Police Medal for Gallantry

Inspector T. D. N. Molefe

Certificate of Honour and Badge

Mr. A. K. M. Liphoto

CHAPTER II

PROGRESS OF DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES

The table below shows expenditure on schemes financed from the Colonial Development and Welfare Fund. The ten year period 1945-55 for which funds were voted under the 1945 Act, was completed in 1955 and a further five year period to 1960 has been embarked upon. This provides for existing schemes to be completed and for the financing of new schemes of a capital nature which cannot be undertaken from the ordinary revenues of the Territory.

<i>No. of Scheme</i>	<i>Title of Scheme</i>	<i>Initiated during financial year</i>	<i>Total Expenditure to 31.3.56. £</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
D.603A/B	Soil Conservation, Maseru	1946-47	371,098	
D.684	Water Supplies, Maseru .	1946-47	68,000	
D.692	District Water Supplies .	1946-47	11,357	
D.758	Education	1947-48	80,862	
D.842	Medical and Health	1948-49	98,543	
D.1025	Improvements to Main Roads	1949-50	29,366	
D.1025A	Orange River Bridge	1950-51	6,346	
D.1050	Mountain Road	1949-50	286,072	
D.1436	Mountain Dispensaries . . .	1950-51	3,670	
D.1479	Scholarships.	1950-51	3,682	
D.1488	Topographical Survey . . .	1950-51	25,805	
D.1504	Orange River Survey . . .	1950-51	1,506	
D.1765	Pilot Project Scheme . . .	1952-53	44,821	
D.1845	Experiment Station. . . .	1952-53	27,616	
D.2180	Survey of Orange River . .	1953-54	8,590	
D.2197	Agricultural Training Scheme	1954-55	11,162	
D.2204	Pilot Project.	1954-55	13,215	(1)
D.2204 (a)	Pilot Project.	1955-56	14,095	(2)
D.2205	Mechanized Group Farming	1954-55	6,964	(3)
D.2205 (a)	Mechanized Group Farming	1955-56	7,375	(4)
D.2707	Soil Conservation	1955-56	53,578	(5)
D.2834	Agricultural Training School	1955-56	1,629	(6)
R.495	Soil Fertility Worker . . .	1951-52	5,826	
			£1,181,178	

Remarks: Continuation of the following Schemes :

(1) D.1765 (2) D.2204 (3) D.1765 (4) D.2205 (5) D.603A/B (6) D.2197.

The following summaries indicate progress made during 1955 :



Village scene in Basutoland

I. AGRICULTURE

Soil Conservation – Scheme D.603 A and B

The scheme is primarily concerned with anti-erosion measures in the form of contours, dams, tree planting and fencing, as the initial step towards soil stabilization. This, the preliminary stage, is rapidly drawing to a close, and it is estimated that finality should be reached in two to three years. There is only one major catchment area in the Mafeteng District which has still to be protected. Buffer stripping in the mountain areas is virtually complete.

There are nine tractor gangs operating in the lowlands, under the direct supervision of two Senior Conservation Foremen – one in the north and one in the south – who are directly responsible to the Assistant Soil Conservation Officer for work in their region.

The progress made during the year in the principal sections of the work is summarized below :

<i>Measure</i>	<i>Prior to 1956</i>	<i>During the year</i>	<i>Totals to Dec. 1956</i>
Area terraced lowlands (acres)	430,548	19,356	449,904
Length of terraces (miles) .	24,598	970	25,568
Buffer strips (acres). . .	670,941	15,337	686,278
Diversion Furrows (miles) .	3,935	15	3,950
Dams constructed . . .	482	30	512
Trees planted	1,012,552	75,124	1,087,676
Dongas beacons (miles) .	5,345	23	5,368

15,337 acres were covered with 2,621,241 yards of buffer strips during the year at a cost of £432. 15s. 8d. This is considered to be most satisfactory progress, particularly as in some districts work was completed before the end of the season. The system of having the strips marked by the farmers themselves has largely been responsible for increased production.

The sum of £16,018. 4s. 3d. was spent on laying out terraces in 19,356 acres of lowlands involving over 1,706,360 yards of completed terrace. This works out at less than £1 per acre which is considered to be satisfactory. Frequent breakdown of tractors has held up work appreciably, and has involved the scheme in heavy expenditure on repairs. However it is hoped that as gangs are reduced the present machines will be replaced by the new models purchased this year.

Work on diversion furrows has tailed off during the last two years as it is thought that further diversion furrows should not be constructed until proper disposal facilities, in the form of meadow strips, have been provided. However, 1,009 acres were protected by 15 miles of furrow costing £243. 19s. 6d.

30 dams with a total capacity of 36,023,256 gallons were constructed this year, at a cost of £2,811. 2s. 7d. These dams were of rather larger size than usual and, being on perennial streams, are related to flood control and development of water resources.

The secondment of an African Development Officer as Forestry Officer marks a step forward in developing tree planting in the territory. Forestry has now virtually become an entity on its own and will be run under an independent organization but in closest contact with the soil conservation programme. Central nurseries have been organized in eight districts and the planting of seeds and cuttings in these nurseries is satisfactory. Full production will be achieved in about two years' time. This year 75, 124 trees, mostly suckering varieties of poplar, have been planted out in the field.

Grass planting was effected in dongas and on the banks of newly constructed dams at a cost of £325. 17s. 5d.

As districts completed buffer stripping, operations were switched to meadow stripping. This consists of closing arable land to cultivation in the vicinity of water courses or by the edges of streams. The object is to stabilize the main drainage lines in the mountains and to provide adequate disposal for diversion works laid out above arable land. So far 70,000 yards of meadow strips have been beaconsed.

Donga beaconing still continues but meets with varied success depending largely on co-operation from individual land owners. So far in this work a rule of thumb method – beaconing dongas to a width equal to their depth – has been used. It is felt that in many cases this is not sufficient, and areas in excess of this width have been demarcated where it is thought necessary, for example in the case of meandering streams a system of parallel beaconing is used, by which means land projecting into stream bends is removed from cultivation. This year 23 miles of dongas were beaconsed at a cost of £105. 10s. 6d.

New earth moving units were purchased, including a complete D6 dozer and scraper unit and scrapers and dozers to fit to certain of the new model D4 tractors. Three concrete mixers and one rock crusher were purchased. These units are not in full operation as yet as insufficient rock has been crushed in the districts. However, concrete construction operations have commenced in Leribe and sites for weirs have been selected in other districts.

Pilot Project – Scheme D. 1715 and D. 1104

A description of the aims and of work in progress has been given in the previous Annual Reports on this Scheme.

With regard to Agricultural Extension Work it is difficult to assess the effects of the agricultural staff's touring, demonstrations etc. on the peasants' farming practice, especially as the past season was a good one. But they may fairly share the credit for the increasing use of farm manure and fertilizers, planting of wheat, beans and peas, winter farrowing, purchase of carts and insecticides. The latter in particular are encouraging developments which are also spreading in other parts of Basutoland.

Construction of stone silt barriers in gullies and on denuded slopes and planting of kikuyu grass have continued. There are now 17 dams with a capacity of eight million gallons. Many of these have silted up and are being planted with grass or reeds.

The estimated number of trees planted since 1st April, 1953 and surviving at 31st September, 1956, are :

Deciduous	42,000
Coniferous	1,700

The figure for deciduous trees includes 38,000 poplars in gullies by local people under a "village grant" scheme which has proved successful. There is a steady demand for trees from the nursery, some species of seedlings, particularly fruit trees, being distributed to other parts of the territory.

During the year Pilot Project Staff and a representative of the Ward Chief toured the area and agreed on plans for taking out of cultivation many lands on steep slopes, and for moving villages whose situation prevents effective soil conservation and grazing control, to specially planned sites. It remains to be seen how effectively the Basuto Authorities will enforce and carry out these orders. In one particularly badly eroded area all concerned have agreed to the closing of existing lands between gullies, opening of old lands elsewhere in suitable blocks well protected against erosion, fencing for tree planting and additional dams.

Various types of cart are available for resale and on instalment plan or on loan to selected Africans. 48 carts have been sold through this scheme in the last year bringing the total to 126. Of these the greater number are Zebra carts from Southern Rhodesia, a type which has proved better than any so far made in the Union. A recent imposition of a 25 per cent import duty and the high railage charges will severely reduce sales of this cart and attempts are being made to get suitable carts made in nearby Union towns.

The five brown Swiss bulls at stud on the Pilot Project are as far as possible confined to closed herds ; i.e. under the control of selected local headmen. Each runs with a single herd, from which stock bulls are excluded. This results in more crossbred progeny than under the previous system whereby heifers had to be brought to the bull, which was over zealously guarded by its custodian.

The third season in co-operative mechanized farming ended in June-July, 1956 with satisfactory harvests in the four mechanized groups, due partly to the good season, but partly also to timeliness in ploughing and planting thanks to the tractors, and to greater care in weed and pest control by the members. The average yield in group lands was again substantially greater than in adjoining lands as the following figures show :

Maize yields (in bags-200 lb.-per acre)

<i>Group</i>	<i>1953-54</i>		<i>1955-56</i>	
	<i>Group lands</i>	<i>Non-Group lands</i>	<i>Group lands</i>	<i>Non-Group lands</i>
Mesapela . . .	2.21	1.75	5.62	2.12
Thaba Chitja . .	6.35	?	11.78	9.55
Rampepes . . .	9.13	6.99	9.96	9.55
Malimong . . .	4.23	2.03	8.91	3.98

These results and the improvement in the work of secretary-managers and drivers show that co-operative mechanized farming is capable of making a real contribution to Basutoland's economy. Unfortunately the majority of Basuto farmers, whilst ready enough to acknowledge the tractor's advantages and to demand its services are slow to understand and accept the system which has been offered to them. Few grasp that the tractor must work large compact blocks if cost per acre is to be kept to the minimum and there is little zeal or aptitude for co-operative management. These difficulties might, however, be overcome if most farmers could be induced to pay their charges for the next season in cash or in kind at harvest time and by the re-allocation of land in such a way as to bring the more progressive farmers together, in one block. The possibility is being considered by the Chiefs. The Co-operative Society, with 94 members, plays a small but potentially useful part in the life of the local community. Schools have continued to set an example in their small way by the planting of poplars in gullies, planting of grass, and one school with a certain amount of help from pilot project sources, built an extension to the school which will also serve as a Church and a Community Centre. Re-Grouping of villages in order to conserve soil and grazing continued. Villages in unsuitable positions are moved to well-placed sites, and to make these more attractive and healthy new hut sites have been laid out on the contour, gardens are marked out, conservation and irrigation furrows provided, tree plantations, orchards, small gardens, etc. started. There is a genuine demand for village planning, though it often loses its force when it comes to active help for example, in fencing and tree planting.

During the year more than 600 Basuto visited the scheme. The great majority in parties which came largely of their own initiative. Correspondence and enquiries from other parts of Basutoland and the interest aroused by photographs and other forms of publicity show that the more energetic and enlightened Basuto throughout the Territory are anxious for guidance and help and that some are ready to make real efforts.

Mechanized Group Farming - Scheme D. 205

In addition to the four groups in the pilot project there are now seven mechanized groups operating in the Berea and Leribe Districts. Three have completed two seasons, and four groups have ended their first season.

The Group Committees are to a degree now organizing and running groups affairs, ordering and paying for their fuel and fertilizer, paying their drivers and planning the work in the field, under the general direction of the Agricultural and Livestock Officer in charge. It is now clear that collection of charges is the biggest obstacle to the success of group farming, but this is being partly overcome by the collection of payment in kind. This problem arises largely from the belief of some members that the Scheme would carry on even if full payments were not immediately forthcoming. To overcome this it has been decided that no further work will be done to a member's land unless he has paid in full for the coming year in cases where societies have been in operation for two seasons. This is in line with the policy which has been reported under the mechanized farming and pilot project. The chances of successful survival of groups vary greatly.

Soil Fertility Research - Scheme R. 495

This scheme consists of a programme of field experimentation into problems of soil fertility and includes a search for optimum varieties in relation to ecological regions. The work is carried out on the central station in Maseru and on a set of 10 small district sub-stations scattered through the Territory, and on farmers' holdings. A certain amount of research in Swaziland is carried out from the Maseru station.

The deficiency of phosphate in lowland and foothill soils dominates the soil status picture and responses to added phosphates have been shown to be good in all crops in all areas of these regions. The conclusion is drawn that the general annual use of relatively small quantities of phosphatic fertilizer (or of manure or manure ash) by farmers would make the territory more than self-sufficient in food production. In the first season of such a general application an increase in maize production of at least 47 per cent might be brought about or in terms of an annual maize acreage in these zones of 375,000 an increase in territorial food supplies of 580,000 bags of grain.

Rock phosphates, after the second successive year of application are better than superphosphate for maize in the lowlands.

The soils of Basutoland still contain adequate supplies of available potash.

No final conclusions can as yet be drawn on the question of nitrogen manuring of cereals. Few responses to nitrogenous fertilizers have been recorded and the question is receiving increased attention.

Liming has been shown to be profitable in acid red soils rich in iron while on the common grey-brown sandy loams of the lowlands liming does not improve yields and may be dangerous through the induction of trace element deficiencies.

Kraal manure has large direct beneficial effects and substantial residual effects on crop yields. Manure in the phosphate deficient Basutoland lowlands has, however a relatively low content of phosphate (0.015, 0.020 per cent) and large dressings need to be applied.

No trace element deficiencies have been discovered and dry soil and

foliar spray applications of various trace element salts have not precluded the occurrence of "yellowing" in maize in two cool wet seasons.

Further information has been accumulated on the performance of various crop varieties in the three ecological regions.

Maseru Experiment Station - Scheme D. 1845

Good progress was made during the year on capital development concerned with buildings, fencing, field works and drainage.

The production and distribution of pigs and poultry continued satisfactorily, three month old birds and weaner pigs are being sold. The demand for stock continued to exceed the available supply.

7,500 young deciduous trees and 17,000 boxed evergreen transplants were produced for issue to the soil conservation division and to farmers.

100 tons of superphosphate, purchased under an advance account, were sold to farmers. The small fertilizer sale scheme is operated on a "pump priming" basis and it is hoped that now that a considerable demand for fertilizers has been built up in the Territory the trade will take over distribution of fertilizers. As it is, the quantity sold by Government was supplemented by many tons sold by traders, co-operative societies and farmers' associations.

A quantity of vegetable seeds was purchased in bulk and made up into small packets, of which 60,000 were sold to householders.

Further information on the comparative merits of overhead spray and flood irrigation for lucerne was accumulated from the 25 acre irrigation project and present indications are that the latter is more economic. A 24 H.P. tractor with an initial delivery head of 50 feet from the river to the top of the bank has been used and has required two pumpings for the spray irrigation.

Satisfactory progress has been made in the development of stable arable and grazing rotation systems for the farm, and production from the school vegetable garden has been increased.

Agricultural Training - Scheme D. 2197

Steady progress has been made in developing the training at the Agricultural School along sound lines.

At the beginning of the year the second intake of 20 young men started their studies at the school, bringing the total roll for the 2½ year diploma course to 36.

The students are trained in general agriculture, the course of training being aligned with the pattern of agriculture in the Territory. Major subjects are thus Crop Production, Animal Husbandry, Wool and Mohair and Soil Conservation. Practical training is obtained on the various station sections, on four small agricultural units run on differing farming systems by the students themselves, and in the field, where parties of students work on tree planting, dam construction, wool classing, etc.

In the light of experience certain modifications were made in the organization of training. Entrants will in future spend three months working in the field under departmental staff before commencing their studies at

the school. The training year has been re-organized to follow more closely the agricultural calendar and an additional teacher has been recruited. Application has been made for further funds to provide additional facilities for the school.

The first graduates leave the school in May, 1957.

An important subsidiary activity of the school is the holding of short training or refresher courses for departmental staff, chiefs and headmen and school teachers during the school vacations.

During the year two courses were organized.

(a) A course for 35 secondary school teachers on conservation and methods of teaching agriculture.

(b) A short course for 16 demonstrators on field experiment techniques.

The publication of a bi-annual Agricultural Journal has met with a very good response. Approximately 6,000 copies are regularly sold. The scheme is self supporting, the selling price of the Journal bringing in a little more than the printing costs.

2. MEDICAL AND HEALTH

Training of African Medical Officers – Schemes D.525 and D. 525A

Of the five Africans who received medical training under these schemes, two are in Government service.

Dr. S. T. Makenete, who was previously in charge of the Butha-Buthe Hospital and who was placed in charge of the UNICEF-aided diphtheria and whooping cough immunization campaign which began on the 1st June, 1955, and of the mass smallpox vaccination campaign which began during October, 1955, was transferred back to Butha-Buthe on the 18th June, 1956.

Dr. V. R. Ntšekhe who had been stationed at Teyateyaneng Hospital is taking a post graduate course in the United Kingdom, in mental diseases with the assistance of a British Council Scholarship. He was successful in Part I of the examination held in June, 1956, for the Diploma in Psychological Medicine, and is expected to be away for a further year. On his return to Basutoland he will be medical officer in charge of the new mental hospital which it is proposed to build with the assistance of Colonial Development and Welfare Funds.

Medical and Health – Scheme D. 842

New Maseru Hospital: Although the construction of the main block and the surgical block has been completed and the equipment obtained, the installation of electrical, water and other internal fittings has been unavoidably delayed.

Semonkong Health Centre: The construction of the buildings comprising the health centre at Semonkong which is remotely situated and accessible only on horseback or by air, was completed towards the end of March, 1956, and the centre has been fully functional since then.

Mashai Health Centre: The construction of the buildings comprising this centre was delayed by transport difficulties, but the centre is expected to be opened during 1957.

Marakabei Health Centre: The construction of the buildings comprising the centre at Marakabei which is now served by the Mountain Road, is expected to be completed during January, 1957 and the centre will be opened shortly thereafter when the equipment at present on order has been delivered.

Extensions to District Hospitals – Scheme D. 842 A and B

Funds have been granted under this scheme for the construction of the additional buildings to complete the new Maseru Hospital including staff quarters, for the conversion of the existing Maseru Hospital into an out-patient department, the construction of a new hospital at Mokhotlong, the construction of maternity wards at those hospitals where there are none at present, the construction of children's wards at all existing hospitals and at the new Mokhotlong Hospital, and the construction of isolation wards at the hospitals at Butha-Buthe and Teyateyaneng. Work was started during the year on building the new quarters for the matron, a new nursing sisters' home, the medical block and the kitchen-laundry-admission block of the new Maseru Hospital, and on building the extensions at Mafeteng, Quthing, Leribe, Teyateyaneng and Qacha's Nek Hospitals.

Mountain Dispensaries (Rural Treatment Centres) – Scheme D. 1436

The completion of the buildings comprising the mountain dispensary at Mphakis in the Quthing District was unavoidably delayed by transport difficulties and the severity of the winter. Minor internal fittings, thatching, the provision of pit latrines and the protection of the water supply remain to be completed, but the dispensary is expected to be opened during the first half of 1957.

The dispensary at Patlong to replace that previously abandoned at Sekake's in the Qacha's Nek District, was completed by the Public Works Department and will be opened during 1957, when the equipment at present on order, has been delivered.

Tuberculosis Wards – Scheme D. 2776

This scheme provides funds for the establishment of tuberculosis wards at Maseru, Leribe, Mafeteng, Quthing and Qacha's Nek Hospitals. Work was started towards the end of the year at Leribe and Mafeteng Hospitals and work on the remainder of the wards will begin early in 1957.

3. PUBLIC WORKS

Roads and Bridges – Scheme D. 1025

Work on the construction of new bridges, culverts, road approaches and re-alignment was concentrated on the main road between Maseru

and Teyateyaneng and considerable improvements were made to this section. Funds have been made available from the Territory's Development Loan for a road re-alignment scheme to be undertaken concurrently with the Colonial Development and Welfare Grant and Improvements to Main Roads which is to be devoted to new bridges culverts and bridge approaches.

Mountain Road – Scheme D. 1050

The Senqunyane River Bridge was completed and a further four miles of road was constructed beyond the bridge. The bridge was designed and constructed by the Department and is based on the design developed by the Nigerian Public Works Department and made available to the Basutoland Government through the Crown Agents in London. The Bridge is 280 feet in length and is supported on reinforced concrete piers 24 feet above the river bed. Rolled steel joints between piers support a reinforced concrete deck, 10 feet in width.

Again during the rainy season in the first quarter, construction work on the bridge and the road was seriously held up, but generally good progress was made.

In the final quarter of the year work on this project was temporarily suspended for the overhaul of mechanical plant and machinery and to re-organize the construction unit for the final stage of the scheme.

Orange River Survey – Scheme D. 2180

Work on the construction of the river gauging station at Rapase's on the Orange River was completed and an automatic continuous depth recorder was installed in March and is operating satisfactorily.

The proposal for a general hydrographic survey of all the major rivers of Basutoland has been postponed pending the results of an intensive investigation of the Ox-Bow Hydro-electric and Water Supply Scheme.

Ox-Bow Hydro-Electric Power and Water Supply – Scheme D. 2929

Approval for this scheme involving the expenditure of £32,761 on an intensive hydrological and topographical survey, was given in October. Work was started on the construction of an access track for four-wheel-drive light vehicles over the Maluti Mountain Range into the area.

The Report on the Regional Development of the Water Resources of Basutoland was published. The Report describes three complementary hydro-electric schemes in the north-western sector of Basutoland for the supply of power and water to the nearby western border. The schemes propose the diversion of the headwaters of the Malibamatšo River – the main tributary of the Orange River – at an elevation of over 8,000 feet into the Caledon River Valley to the West of an elevation of approximately 5,000 feet by means of tunnels through the dividing mountain range. A total head of nearly 3,000 feet would be available at the Power Station water turbines for the generation of power. The Ox-Bow Lake Scheme for the supply of approximately 45,000 kilowatts of power and 40 million gallons per day of good quality water to the Basutoland western

border, is estimated to cost £9,300,000. The total power out-put of the three complementary schemes in the region is estimated at 200,000 kilowatts.

The river gauging-station on the Malibamatšo River at the proposed Ox-Bow dam site was equipped in March with an automatic continuous depth recorder and is operating satisfactorily. The investigations being undertaken under the above scheme are directly concerned with the Ox-Bow Scheme alone, and include the construction of three river gauging stations on the important tributaries in the Ox-Bow catchment area and the setting up of a complete first order meteorological station and a dense pattern of mountain rain gauges in the area. A Hydrological Assistant is to be appointed and will establish offices and quarters in the area for the collection and recording of hydrographic and meteorologic data.

4. EDUCATION

C. D. & W. - Scheme D. 758

The first quarter of the year saw the completion of the nine year scheme for the improvement of school buildings. Remaining small balances were paid out on a £ for £ basis.

C. D. & W. - Scheme D. 3092

The scheme involving an expenditure of £107,300 was approved late in the year. Under this scheme six new Junior Secondary Schools are to be built, and the Secondary and Teacher Training Departments at the combined centres of Roma College, Basutoland Training College, and Eagle's Peak College are to be separated. The Teacher Training Department of Roma College is to be re-established near Maseru; the Secondary Department of the Basutoland Training College is to be re-established at Peka in the Leribe District, and the Teacher Training Department at Eagle's Peak is to be moved to a site in the same vicinity.

Higher Primary Schools: Eight new aided, and four unaided Higher Primary Schools were established during the year, bringing the number of such schools to 80. It is hoped to add a few such schools to the system annually, but any planned development in this connection is hampered by lack of funds.

PART II

CHAPTER ONE

POPULATION

Statistics for Basutoland show a rapid increase in the African population during the first forty years of this century. In the 1904 census the population was given as 347,731 and in 1936 as 559,273. It is thought that the increase was partly due to immigration, partly of Tembus from the nearby districts of the Cape Province. Although natural increase must have played a considerable part in this increase no reliable figures are available to assess this. The figures of 561,289 for the African population present in the Territory at the 1946 census indicated that the rate of increase had slowed down. The figures of 638,857 for the 1956 census, however, show that the population has again increased.

At the time of the 1946 census, which only showed an increase of 2,016 in the African population, as compared with 1936, it was thought that the immigration of the previous thirty years had been replaced by emigration. It was generally agreed that the very small increase shown in 1946 was not due to faulty enumeration but to certain economic factors and to the lure of industry in the neighbouring territory of the Union of South Africa.

It is only appropriate at this stage to make tentative comments on the 1956 census figures as they have only recently become available. They indicate an increase of 77,568 over the 1946 census for Africans in the Territory. The 1956 census also shows 154,782 for the number of males and females absent outside the Territory. These persons are mostly migrant workers who are expected to return to their households in Basutoland. In 1936, the census figures for absentees at labour centres were shown at 101,273. Unfortunately no comparable figures for absentees are available from the 1946 census. The only figures published in the 1946 census report were those obtained from the Union Census Department, being for Africans who stated their district of domicile was Basutoland, 92,894, and for Africans who stated they were born in Basutoland, 199,327. It is difficult to assess whether or not there has been any large scale return of Basuto who were resident in the Union or other immigration during the period 1946 to 1956. This would be a reversal of the emigration thought to have occurred between 1936 and 1946. The results of the social survey carried out in Basutoland in 1956 may throw some light on this problem. It is clear from the 1956 figures of 154,782 for absentees that there is still a large number of Basuto whose homes are in Basutoland but who are migrant workers in the Union of South Africa.

The increase of 77,568 in the African population present in the Territory during the last decennial period represents an increase of 14 per cent. This is 4 per cent below the figure accepted in the Union as the normal natural increase among the African population over a ten year period. Assuming little or no immigration 14 per cent is considered a reasonable figure in view of the number of persons shown as absentees. It may even be high if the movement of population from the rural areas of Basutoland to the Union urban areas which was thought to have occurred between 1936 and 1946 has in fact continued. However, the effect of such regulations as influx control imposed in the urban areas of the Union, may have countered such emigration during the last ten years.

No census was held in the Union in 1956 so figures are not available about Basuto living there to help interpret Basutoland's population trends.

The 1956 census shows a slight increase in the non-African population of Basutoland. Since 1946 the European population has increased by 237 (or 14 per cent) and the mixed race population by 42 (or 7 per cent). The Asiatic population has however decreased by 27 (or 10 per cent). Possible explanations for these trends have not yet been analysed. There are no European settlers in Basutoland.

The following tables show the population figures by districts for the four racial groups, according to the 1956 census and a comparison with the figures for the 1946 census. Since that census there have been boundary changes involving four of the districts, which must be considered when comparing the figures. Berea district has increased in size with a corresponding decrease in Leribe District and Maseru District has increased slightly with a corresponding loss to Qacha's Nek District. The figures shown below do not include absentees.

1. Africans in the Territory

<i>District</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Persons</i>	<i>1946</i>	<i>Difference</i>
Butha Buthe . . .	16,778	22,891	39,669	35,218	+ 4,451
Leribe	41,036	57,322	98,358	98,655	— 297
Berea	30,276	42,931	73,207	57,832	+15,375
Maseru	55,218	73,107	128,325	105,720	+22,605
Mafeteng	34,798	46,593	81,391	69,301	+12,090
Mohale's Hoek . .	31,669	44,460	76,129	65,950	+10,179
Quthing	21,956	30,391	52,347	45,672	+ 6,675
Qacha's Nek . . .	18,751	26,134	44,885	44,801	+ 84
Mokhotlong . . .	19,969	24,577	44,546	38,140	+ 6,406
Total	270,451	368,406	638,857	561,289	+77,568

2. Europeans in the Territory

<i>District</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Persons</i>	<i>1946</i>	<i>Difference</i>
Butha Buthe . . .	12	8	20	32	— 12
Leribe	82	89	171	171	—
Berea	93	79	172	108	+ 64
Maseru	449	452	901	737	+ 164
Mafeteng	85	94	179	218	— 39
Mohale's Hoek . .	76	83	159	186	— 27
Quthing	81	71	152	103	+ 49
Qacha's Nek . . .	61	63	124	99	+ 25
Mokhotlong . . .	23	25	48	35	+ 13
Total	962	964	1,926	1,689	+ 237

3. Asiatics in the Territory

<i>District</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Persons</i>	<i>1946</i>	<i>Difference</i>
Butha Buthe . . .	76	67	143	88	+ 55
Leribe	40	36	76	123	— 47
Berea	10	3	13	17	— 4
Maseru	2	—	2	14	— 12
Mafeteng	2	3	5	14	— 9
Mohale's Hoek . .	—	1	1	3	— 2
Quthing	—	—	—	—	—
Qacha's Nek . . .	3	4	7	15	— 8
Mokhotlong . . .	—	—	—	—	—
Total	133	114	247	274	— 27

4. Mixed Race in the Territory

<i>District</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Persons</i>	<i>1946</i>	<i>Difference</i>
Butha Buthe . . .	10	13	23	106	— 83
Leribe	51	61	112	81	+ 31
Berea	40	45	85	69	+ 16
Maseru	46	71	117	143	— 26
Mafeteng	67	64	131	96	+ 35
Mohale's Hoek . .	51	49	100	46	+ 54
Quthing	18	24	42	34	+ 8
Qacha's Nek . . .	21	12	33	26	+ 7
Mokhotlong . . .	1	—	1	1	—
Total	305	339	644	602	+ 42

The distribution of the African population is related to the physical structure of the country. The bulk of the population is concentrated in the lowlands, and in these areas saturation point seems for the time being to have been reached. Until fairly recently the mountain areas were almost entirely reserved for the grazing of stock, and even the concentration of population which now exists in the rich mountain valleys, such as those near the 'Maletsunyane Falls, dates back only some 25 years. With increasing pressure on the lands in the lowlands, the people tend to extend cultivation up the river valleys, and as those in turn are found to be inadequate, they move up on to the mountain slopes. The result is that to-day there are scattered settlements throughout most of the mountain areas of Basutoland, which are likely to remain permanently settled and cultivated.

The Non-African population is generally found scattered thinly over the more accessible parts of the Territory; the greatest concentration being at or near District Headquarters.

CENSUS AND SOCIAL SURVEY

With the population census of 1956 the first part of a Social Survey was carried out in Basutoland. An Administrative Officer was seconded to organize this work and he was assisted by an African Administrative Assistant from the Agricultural Department and a senior African clerk engaged on contract. Other temporary clerical assistance was employed from time to time as required during the year. The social survey work was directed by Professor E. Batson of Cape Town University who also advised on the planning for the census. Professor Batson has had wide experience of sampling survey work in different parts of Africa.

The object of the social survey is to provide properly co-ordinated information about the social and economic life of the Basuto people. Professor Batson has recommended that the survey be carried out in three parts. The special function of a broad survey such as he recommended is to multiply the significance of field data by correlating it fully. The information so discovered will be used to help plan future development policy in Basutoland. It is hoped that the technique for subsequent stages can be improved by the experience gained as the work progresses.

The decennial census in 1956 was consequently designed in such a way that the data collected would provide an up-to-date frame for a social survey by random sampling methods. For this purpose the simple total enumeration census was planned to produce a limited amount of accurate demographic information. The enumeration was carried out by school teachers whose enumerators' areas corresponded to the 202 Agricultural Dip Tank areas. These areas were well known to the people and had been originally established by the Agricultural Department during the campaign to eradicate sheep scab in 1926. Prior to the census Agricultural Officers and their staff assisted the Census and Social Survey Officer to check the boundaries of these areas and mark them accurately on the

new 1/50,000 aerial survey maps. Each dip tank area has a supervisor responsible for stock registration and other agricultural work. These men assisted the census enumerators in locating villages and finding the boundaries of their areas. The dip tank areas ranging in size from 10 to 141 square miles and averaging 58 square miles cover the whole Territory.

The census enumeration plan which was tested in a pilot census in one dip tank area in Maseru District, aimed to give an up-to-date list of households in each area together with numbers of dwellings, numbers of males and females present, males at the cattle posts, who were not directly enumerated, numbers of absentees outside the Territory mostly migrant workers, and adherents to the principal religions. This latter item was included as it was not practicable to collect such information by sampling technique in the social survey because of the large number of groups of persons giving allegiance to churches situated near their homes. The small non-African population was not enumerated by dip tank areas but by the issue of postal questionnaires in administrative districts. Persons of mixed race were enumerated on similar questionnaires. In most districts these questionnaires were completed by special enumerators and not sent by post to persons of mixed race. Other forms were sent to all persons in charge of institutions who enumerated the African population resident in and visiting their institutions. The African population passing out of the Territory on census day was enumerated at the police posts at the ports of exit.

In January 1956 a training course for a team of investigators and a pilot social survey was conducted by Professor Batson and a field Research Officer from Cape Town University. As a result of this, the following other questions about the living conditions of the people were also included: structure of dwellings, household artifacts, systems of saving money, water supplies, number of lands and how cultivated, crops harvested, crop storage facilities, share cropping of lands, agricultural transport, subsistence of old and infirm persons and incidence of blindness.

The final stratified random sample was of 34 dip tank areas, in each of which a random sample of sixty households was taken from the lists of households given by the census.

The census began in the second week of April 1956 and the 8th of April was notified as census day in the regulations gazetted by Government Notice for the holding of the census. The enumerators completed the population count within a period of seven to ten days in each dip tank area and brought their books of census schedules to district headquarters for checking. After the preliminary checking at district headquarters all census forms were returned to the central census office at Maseru for final checking and tabulation. Hand sorted punched cards were used to tabulate data for the small non-African population. The more simple data which the census produced for the African population was tabulated direct from census schedules and summary forms.

The social survey team consisting of twelve investigators moved up to the mountain district of Mokhotlong and began work on April 19th in

the first sample dip tank area. The main mountain itinerary including Qacha's Nek and Quthing, was finished in the middle of June before the really cold weather began. Thereafter the work proceeded on the same pattern in the Lowland and Foothill areas. The survey team completed its work at the end of September having collected information from about two thousand households, and having travelled more than 1,700 miles in the Territory.

A particular feature of the co-operation between the team of investigators and the local Basotho authority was the great assistance given by the junior headmen and village heads.

Preliminary census figures were available in September, 1956, and a full report on the Census will be published during 1957. Some of the figures now computed appear in the chapter of this Annual Report headed "Population". The final social survey tabulation work is at present in progress under the supervision of Professor Batson at Cape Town University. Hand sorted punched cards are being used for this work. It is therefore not yet possible to comment on the quality of the different classes of information collected. It is expected that the initial report on the social survey which is being written by Professor Batson, will be available during the first half of 1957. This will be a short report, mainly setting out in tabular form the information collected in stage I of the survey, together with an estimate of the margin of sampling error for each type of data. When these initial results are available, plans will be made for stage II of the work.

The cost of the census was borne by Territorial Revenue and that of the Social Survey by a grant from Colonial Development and Welfare funds. This latter grant extends over a period of two years and it is hoped to obtain more detailed socio-economic data about the African population in a continuation of the Social Survey in 1957.

CHAPTER II

OCCUPATIONS, WAGES AND LABOUR ORGANIZATIONS

I. OCCUPATIONS

The principal occupations of the Basuto are agriculture and stock farming, and for these pursuits the country provides all the essentials. Its climate favours the development of a healthy, hardy mountain people and it is free from the chief scourges of Africa. There are few mosquitoes and no malaria or tsetse fly. It is also free from many of the forms of stock disease which plague countries nearer sea level.

Primitive methods of farming, however have made the soil less productive and, by hastening erosion, have reduced the area of arable land. At the same time the establishment of law and order and the development of social services have facilitated a large growth in population over the years. The result has been that the increase in food production has barely kept pace with the demands of the increasing population. Measures which have been and are being taken to check erosion and increase food production are described in Chapter Six.

The pressure on land, together with other economic and social factors, such as a developing cash economy and a spirit of adventure amongst the young men, have traditionally caused the Basuto to leave home periodically to seek work, and will continue to do so. There are no industries in Basutoland other than the printing enterprises of the Paris Evangelical Missionary Society and the Roman Catholic Mission which employ 80 and 40 Basuto respectively. An increasing number, however, are taking part in trading activities and Europeans and Indians are at present not being granted licences to establish new trading stores. Apart from employment in the Government Service or in trading stores there is little work to be found in the Territory. It is therefore necessary for most of those seeking work to take up employment in the Union of South Africa.

The table below shows the number of passes issued in the last three years to Basuto leaving the Territory for employment in the Union of South Africa.

<i>Mines</i>	<i>1954</i>	<i>1955</i>	<i>1956</i>
Gold	29,002	35,608	35,299
Coal	6,043	7,780	5,237
Diamond	947	662	585
Other Mines	1,752	1,444	1,326
Total Mines	37,771	45,494	42,447
Agricultural	3,807	2,398	3,325
Miscellaneous	21,280	11,193	6,840
Total	62,858	59,085	52,612

These figures are not, of course, a correct estimate of the total number of Basuto actually employed in the mining industry, in factories and on farms in the Union at any one time: they merely indicate how many persons left the country to take up employment during the year under review, and do not take account of employees engaged in previous years who have remained in the Union during 1956. For example 39,402 Basuto were recorded as in employment with mines affiliated to the Transvaal and Orange Free State Chamber of Mines alone on the 31st December, 1956.

The corresponding figure for 1955 was 43,746.

It is considered that the decrease in the number of Basuto on the Gold Mines and Coal Mines affiliated to the Chamber is merely due to seasonal rains which have encouraged them to return home to plough their lands. There is no indication of a drift from these mines to other industries.

The Chamber of Mines, Johannesburg, is represented by the Native Recruiting Corporation Ltd. with its local Superintendent and head office in Maseru, and branch offices in other district headquarter stations. The corporation recruits either under contract or under the Assisted Voluntary System.

The contract, which is attested before a Government officer, binds the recruit to work in a certain mine for a certain number of shifts at given rates of wage, according to the class of work performed. Basuto, incidentally, are usually employed on the more difficult and better paid tasks, such as shaft sinking. The majority are employed underground.

Most recruits for the mines prefer to engage under the Assisted Voluntary System. By this system the recruit is not attested for work on any particular mine, but agrees to proceed to Johannesburg for work on any of the mines enumerated in a schedule. On arrival he is given three weeks in which to choose his mine.

Labour is also recruited by other approved labour agents for work on coal, diamond, and manganese mines, farms, and for other employment. All employers for whom labour agents recruit are first approved by Government.

The majority of Basuto recruited for the mines defer a portion of their earnings for payment to them on their return to Basutoland and in 1956 the total amount of deferred wages paid out through recruiting organizations was £319,771. Many also remit money to their families through the organizations and in the year under review this amounted to £348,849. At the same time it is considered that the miners are largely responsible for the moneys sent from the Union to be paid through Basutoland Post Offices. In 1956 the value of money orders and postal orders paid out amounted to over £140,000.

Prior to 1932, if tax collection was bad in any year in Basutoland an officer was despatched to the Rand to undertake a field collection. In 1932 a temporary office was opened in Johannesburg and in 1933 a permanent office was established: within a few years the Bechuanaland Protectorate and Swaziland decided to join the venture and the office received its present name of Agency for the High Commission Territories. The most important function of the Agency was the collection of tax but it soon assumed the additional duties of general welfare work and now deals with the domestic affairs of the Basuto on the Witwatersrand, encouraging them to save money, giving them home news, counteracting as far as possible the temptations of their environment, repatriating those who are indigent and generally giving advice and assistance whenever required to do so. The officer in charge of the Agency, that is the Agent for the High Commission Territories, has recently been appointed Regional Employment Commissioner for the High Commission Territories and in this capacity deals with requests by Basuto for permission to

enter the prescribed and controlled areas in the Union of South Africa. He also deals with requests received through the Union Labour Bureau in Pretoria for labour from the High Commission Territories for industries and other undertakings in which there is a labour shortage. District Commissioners are advised of the areas in which labour is required and of the wages offered and conditions prevailing so that labourers requesting authority to enter the Union for the purpose of seeking work can be informed of openings available.

Sub-Agencies have been opened at Springs and Randfontein and more recently at Welkom, centre of the new Orange Free State goldfields.

Recruiting is permitted only for those concerns which provide good living and working conditions and the inspection of mines and factories forms an important part of the Agent's work.

Conditions on the Gold Mines and on most of the Coal Mines have been much improved in recent years and complaints about food and accommodation are negligible, whilst complaints about rough handling underground have become very rare. Drastic action is taken by the Mines concerned should it be found that an African labourer has been maltreated by supervisors.

During the year 166,280 miles (as against 152,850 miles in the previous year) were travelled by the Agent and members of his staff in visiting centres in various parts of the Union where Basuto workers are engaged.

The financial year 1955-56 was again a very satisfactory one in so far as Basutoland tax collected by the Agent is concerned, as the figures given below illustrate :

1954-55	1955-56
£123,827	£137,307

2. WAGES AND CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT

The few African wage earners who find employment in the Territory may be classified as follows :

- (a) Domestic servants, earning from £1 10s. 0d. to £5 a month. Food and lodging are usually provided in addition.
- (b) Labourers, employed mainly on roads and other public works, soil conservation work, etc. at rates from 2s. 6d. to 2s. 9d. per day. Public works labourers work a 54 hour week
- (c) Foremen, earning from £5 to £8 a month.
- (d) Artisans, earning from £8 to £17 a month.
- (e) Trading store employees earning from £5 to £15 a month.

Since the close of the year wages have increased substantially, especially for the skilled artisan.

In considering these wages it should be remembered that every married man is entitled to lands on which to grow food, free occupation of a site for his house, and communal grazing rights for his cattle, and that

the staple food of the average Mosuto of the labouring class is mealie porridge, samp and beans.

The traditional occupation of herding is still largely rewarded in the traditional way – by a share in the natural increase in the flock or herd.

3. COST OF LIVING

The following table shows the fluctuations in prices of various commodities over the years and indicates the prewar price :

<i>Commodity</i>	<i>1938</i>	<i>1952</i>	<i>1954</i>	<i>1955</i>	<i>1956</i>
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Mealie meal per lb..	1 ¹ / ₄	3	3	3	3
Beans per lb. . . .	3	8	6	7	6
Samp per lb.. . . .	1 ¹ / ₂	3 ³ / ₄	4	4	3 ¹ / ₂
Bread per 2lb. loaf .	4	9 ¹ / ₂	9 ¹ / ₂	9 ¹ / ₂	9 ¹ / ₂
Flour per lb.. . . .	2	3 ³ / ₄	5	5	5
Rice per lb.	4	1 5	1 5	1 1	1 —
Oatmeal per lb. . . .	3	1 —	1 2	1 —	1 2
Tea per lb.	2 3	6 9	8 11	7 11	8 9
Coffee per lb.	1 9	5 4	7 3	7 3	6 3
Sugar per lb.	3	5	5 ³ / ₄	5 ³ / ₄	5 ³ / ₄
Jam per lb.	5	1 10	3 6	2 —	4 —
Potatoes per lb. . . .	1	3	4	4	4
Butter per lb.	1 2	3 2	3 5	3 5	3 5
Cheese per lb.	1 2	2 8	2 10	2 10	2 10
Eggs per doz.	1 6	2 6	2 6	2 6	3 6
			to	to	
Milk per gall.	2 —	2 9	3 3	4 6	
Bacon per lb.	1 5	3 6	3 5	3 5	3 8
Beef per lb.	6	2 2	3 6	3 6	3 6
Mutton per lb.	7	2 2	2 2	2 3	2 4
		2 6	2 6	3 —	3 —

4. TRADE UNIONS

It was a necessary condition for obtaining assistance from the Colonial Development Fund that facilities should be provided for the establishment and activities of trades unions. There had previously been no need for such legislation in Basutoland owing to the total lack of industries.

The Basutoland Trades Unions and Trades Disputes Proclamation was promulgated in 1942 and amended in 1949. Regulations were published in 1949 (High Commissioner's Notice No. 149 of 1949) and amended in 1950 and 1952. The Proclamation and Regulations provided

for the registration and regulation of trades unions in Basutoland and for the orderly settlement of trades disputes.

By the end of 1956 four trades unions had been registered, namely :

- The Basutoland Typographical Workers' Union ;
- The Basutoland Commercial Distributive Workers' Union ;
- The Basutoland National Union of Trained Artisans ;
- The Basutoland General Workers' Union.

5. LABOUR LEGISLATION

The Wages Proclamation, Chapter 95, enables the High Commissioner to regulate the level of wages paid to natives in any occupation or in any area within the Territory. A minimum wage level may be prescribed by Notice in the Official Gazette.

The Employment of Women and Children Proclamation Chapter 40 regulates the conditions of employment of women, young persons and children in industrial undertakings, and prohibits the employment of any person under the age of 12 years in any such undertaking, whether public or private unless it is owned by the child's parents.

The Native Labour Proclamation Chapter 57, as amended by Proclamations 4 of 1951, 43 of 1951, 58 of 1953, 19 of 1956 and 79 of 1956 regulates the recruitment and contracts for the employment of Basuto for work in the Union of South Africa.

The Workmen's Compensation Proclamation Chapter 104 makes provision for the payment of compensation to workmen employed in Basutoland who suffer injury or death or contract disease in the course of their employment.

CHAPTER III

PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION

I. GENERAL

Including receipts and payments on account of Colonial Development and Welfare Schemes, the revenue for the financial year 1955-56 was £1,460,871 and expenditure was £1,625,432. The deficit of £164,561 was increased to £191,839 by depreciation of the Treasury's investments when revalued at the end of the year. There was however a sum of £57,215 due in respect of certain Colonial Development and Welfare expenditure during the year. Taking this into account the general revenue balance at the 31st March, 1956, was £523,415 as compared to the opening balance at 31st March, 1955, of £658,039.

Expenditure on Colonial Welfare and Development prospects was £148,062.

Revenue collections exceeded the estimate by £113,870 due principally to excess collections of £34,471 on account of Native Tax, £78,755 on Customs and Excise, and £26,252 on Wool and Mohair Export Duty. Under Income Tax there was a shortfall of £52,819. These differences are accounted for as follows :

Native Tax

Large arrears of tax were collected due to full employment, a good crop year, and as a result of the registration scheme which commenced in the Union of South Africa during the previous year, and which has had the result of uncovering a large number of tax defaulters.

Customs and Excise

Import control in the Union of South Africa continues to be relaxed, resulting in larger total import duties being collected, of which this Territory receives a fixed percentage.

Wool and Mohair Export Duty

The rate was increased during the year.

Income Tax

A buyer's market prevailed throughout the season resulting in trader's wool profits suffering accordingly.

Expenditure exceeded the estimates by £117,159.

The revised position at 31st March, 1957, is anticipated to be as follows :

Accumulated surplus at 31.3.55	£658,039
Less deficit for 1955-56	164,560
	<hr/> 493,479
Less depreciation on Investments	27,279
	<hr/> 466,200

Add amount due on account of Colonial Development and Welfare expenditure	57,215
Accumulated surplus at 31.3.56.	523,415
Revised estimate of Expenditure 1956-57	£1,451,021
Revised estimate of Revenue 1956-57	1,389,828
Estimated deficit 1956-57	61,193
Estimated surplus balance at 31.3.57	£462,222

2. REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE

The following is a statement of Revenue and Expenditure for the last three years :

Comparative Statement of Revenue

<i>Head</i>	<i>1953-54</i>	<i>1954-55</i>	<i>1955-56</i>
Native Tax.	359,820	331,767	334,472
Customs and Excise	513,059	505,895	588,755
Posts and Telegraphs	38,682	62,535	52,118
Licences	21,273	20,636	30,061
Fees of Court or Office	14,114	14,481	17,112
Judicial Fines	7,171	7,384	7,760
Income Tax	158,004	114,094	72,181
Poll Tax	2,379	4,298	2,190
Fees for Services Rendered	30,781	32,233	32,101
Interest.	14,180	12,717	14,864
Wool and Mohair Export Duty	108,469	113,832	106,563
Miscellaneous	55,579	67,049	78,488
Rent from Government Property	18,899	19,638	24,823
	1,342,410	1,306,559	1,361,488
C. D. & W. Grants	171,196	170,809	99,383
Total	1,513,606	1,477,368	1,460,871

Comparative Statement of Expenditure

<i>Head</i>	<i>1953-54</i>	<i>1954-55</i>	<i>1955-56</i>
	£	£	£
Public Debt	5,668	6,310	6,310
Resident Commissioner . .	4,099	4,688	4,685
Agricultural and Veterinary Services	79,270	70,669	80,222
Audit	3,968	10,578	12,116
Central Stores	5,333	2,347	1,887
Co-operative Societies . .	5,390	5,572	6,183
District Administration . .	57,240	40,327	44,885
Education	188,076	202,659	252,295
High Commissioner's Office	32,476	37,194	40,906
Judicial	9,360	8,184	14,894
Legal	6,576	5,299	7,113
Leper Settlement	27,712	29,521	29,370
Medical	104,037	112,209	132,349
Miscellaneous	43,272	42,952	46,562
Native Administration . .	131,023	122,875	121,850
Pensions & Gratuities . .	67,377	74,911	76,352
Police	104,760	112,554	130,414
Prisons	45,805	46,235	57,884
Posts and Telegraphs . .	45,368	56,502	50,724
Public Works Department	31,321	31,860	42,541
Public Works Recurrent . .	68,121	71,018	74,544
Public Works Extraordinary	89,434	74,657	107,131
Rand Agencies	26,579	24,470	29,064
Secretariat	15,202	12,222	14,809
Subventions	26,700	21,391	17,116
Treasury	12,604	5,611	6,746
Welfare			
Anomalies Committee . .			
General Clerical Service . .		58,061	68,418 (a)
	1,236,771	1,290,876	1,477,370
C. D. & W. Schemes . .	169,639	175,908	148,062
Total	1,406,410	1,466,784	1,625,432

(a) Shown previously under departmental heads before 1954-55

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AS AT 31st MARCH, 1956

PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION

LIABILITIES

	£	s.	d.
<i>Deposits:</i>			
African Pioneer Corps	6,798	15	-
Pensions			
Basuto National Treasury	702	17	-
Matsema Levy			
Bechuanaland Protectorate			
and Swaziland Tax			
Accounts	5,481	7	9
Higher Education Levy	39	7	-
Miscellaneous	52,102	18	7
Prisoners Property	818	17	4
Undistributed Wartime			
Wool Profits	62,579	10	5
<i>Special Funds:</i>			
Colonial Development and			
Welfare Funds	48,541	15	7
Guardians Fund	2,754	1	7
Home Industries	34,155	12	2
War Levy Fund	2,987	11	6
Basutoland Wool and Mo-			
hair Fund.	9,524	12	-

Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund:

With Crown			
Agents £93,402 11 -			
Cash on			
Hand	2,730	17	8
	96,133	8	8
<i>General Revenue Balances:</i>			
Balance as at 31st March,			
1955	658,038	10	7
Less deficit as at 31st			
March, 1956	164,560	14	2
	493,477	16	5
<i>Less Depreciation on In-</i>			
<i>vestments.</i>	27,278	13	8
	466,199	2	9
	£788,819	17	4

ASSETS

	£	s.	d.
<i>Cash:</i>			
With Bank and Sub-Account-			
ants	111,924	12	3
With Crown Agents	838	10	11
With Joint Colonial Fund	249,000	-	-
	361,763	3	2
<i>Imprest Accounts:</i>			
	57	1	7
<i>Investments:</i>			
Surplus Balances	217,763	12	9
Home Industries	34,155	12	2
	251,919	4	11

High Commission Territories Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund

Invested with Crown Agents	78,164	17	5
Invested with Joint Colonial Fund	15,237	13	7
	93,402	11	-

Advances:

Miscellaneous	47,547	8	2
Expenditure pending approval			
of Colonial Development and			
Welfare Schemes.	11,017	13	1
Expenditure pending raising			
of Development Loan	15,999	6	9
Lerotholi Technical School			
Stock and Works in			
progress	4,081	19	6
Leper Settlement Stock, etc.	997	15	4
Maseru Electric Light Stock	1,316	16	11
Public Works Department			
Joinery Shop Stock	716	16	11
	81,677	16	8
	£788,819	17	4

N.B.: This Statement does not take into account £57,215 15s. 3d. due in respect of expenditure on certain Colonial Development and Welfare Schemes

3. MAIN HEADS OF TAXATION

Revenue from Native Tax, now styled Basuto Tax, for the year ending 31st March, 1957, is expected to be £335,000 against the original estimate of £375,000. This is due to the proposed Graded Tax not being put into operation until the following year.

Customs and Excise Duties

Revenue is expected to be £600,000 for the year ending 31st March, 1957, as against the original estimate of £535,000.

Income Tax

The rates fixed and the rebates allowable for the year ended 30th June 1956 were as follows :

- (1) *Normal Tax*: Married persons were assessed at the rate of 15d. increased by one 1/1000 of a penny per pound of taxable income. Unmarried and other persons (including private companies but excluding public companies) were charged an extra 3d. per pound. Public companies paid at the rate of 7s. 6d. per pound.
- (2) *Super Tax*: This was payable in addition to normal tax on incomes in excess of £2,300 by persons other than public companies. The rate was 24d. increased by one 1/400th of a penny per pound of income subject to super tax.
- (3) *Rebates*: The normal tax assessed at the above rates was subject to a primary tax rebate of £31 for married persons, and £23 for unmarried persons. In addition rebates of £14 per child, £2. 10s. per dependent, and 1s. 3d. per pound of insurance or benefit fund premiums, were allowed. The super tax rebate was £285.
- (4) *Surcharge*: This is a percentage increase after the deduction of rebates and is used to increase or reduce the tax payable each year. The surcharge on married persons was 35 per cent on normal tax and 40 per cent on super tax. It was 45 per cent on both taxes in respect of other persons, excluding public companies.
- (5) *Maximum Rate*: The normal and super taxes conjointly plus the surcharges must not exceed 12s. 6d. in the pound.
- (6) *Tax payable*: The approximate tax payable on various income levels is as follows :

<i>Taxable Income</i>	<i>Unmarried Person</i>	<i>Married without Children</i>	<i>Married with Children</i>
£	£	£	
350	4		Reduce the figures in the previous column by £19 (approx.) for each child under 18 years on the last day of the year of assessment, or under 21 years on that day if wholly supported by parent, or under 24 if attending University and wholly supported by parent.
400	8		
500	23	2	
700	46	20	
900	69	39	
1,200	106	67	
1,500	143	97	
1,800	182	128	
2,000	208	136	
2,500	320	246	
3,000	505	414	

The income tax collections for the year ended the 31st March, 1956 were £72,180. It is anticipated that collections to the 31st March, 1957 will amount to approximately £82,000.

Africans are exempt from income tax.

Trading Licences

Details of the annual licence fees payable during the year 1953 are shown in the Basutoland Trading Proclamation, 1951, as amended by High Commissioner's Notice No. 275 of 1955, the more important being:

General Trader	£25
Native Trader	£2. 10s. or £5
Agent of a Firm	£25
Other specified businesses	£2 or £10

Stamp Duty

Stamp duties and fees are payable at the rates shown in the Schedule to Chapter 70 of the Laws of Basutoland.

Death Duties

(a) *Succession Duty*: Subject to certain provisos and exemptions set out in Chapter 67 of the Laws of Basutoland, the rates of Succession Duty are as follows:

<i>Degree of Relationship of Successor to Predecessor</i>	<i>Rates of Duty upon Dutiable amounts of succession</i>
(i) Where the successor is the direct descendant or ascendant of the predecessor	3 per cent
(ii) Where the successor is the brother or sister of the predecessor	5 per cent

- (iii) Where the successor is the descendant of the brother or sister of the predecessor 8 per cent
- (iv) Where the successor is otherwise related to the predecessor or is a stranger in blood or is an institution 12 per cent

(b) *Estate Duty*: This is payable by the estate in terms of Chapter 67 of the Laws and is distinct from Succession Duty which is payable by successors. The rate of Estate Duty chargeable upon each pound of the dutiable amount is three-ten thousandths of a pound for every complete one hundred pounds or part thereof contained in the dutiable amount, subject to a maximum rate of 6s. 8d. upon each pound. A rebate of £300 is deducted from the amount of duty at the rate so calculated, with the result that it is only on estates where the dutiable amount exceeds £10,000 that Estate Duty is payable.

Wool and Mohair Export Duty

Duty levied on wool and mohair exported from the Territory is 3d. and 6d. per pound respectively.

Poll Tax

Poll Tax of £3 per annum is payable by all adult male persons who do not pay Native Tax. Poll Tax payments can no longer be deducted from payments due in respect of Income Tax.

CHAPTER IV

CURRENCY AND BANKING

Basutoland's currency is the same as that of the Union of South Africa.

There are no agricultural or co-operative banks but the Standard Bank of South Africa Ltd. has a branch office at Maseru and also operates weekly agencies at Mohale's Hoek, Mafeteng, Teyateyaneng, Leribe, Matsieng, Roma, Morija, Sekake's and Qacha's Nek. Barclay's Bank Ltd. operates similar agencies at Leribe, Mohale's Hoek, Mafeteng and Butha-Buthe but has no branch office in the Territory.

There are eleven Post Offices at which business is transacted with the Union Post Office Savings Bank whose headquarters are at Bloemfontein,

CHAPTER V

COMMERCE

The bulk of the general trade in the Territory is carried on by Europeans and also in the northern districts, by a few Indians. At present Europeans and Indians are not being granted licences to establish new trading stations for, since the war, an increasing number of Basuto have engaged in trading activities. Approximately 2,700 Basuto held trading licences of one sort or another, principally for bakeries, butcheries, cafés, livestock trading, milling, general trading (subject to certain restrictions), and road transport both for goods and passengers. Another feature of commercial activity since the war has been the development, particularly in the field of wool and mohair marketing, of co-operative societies ; this is described in Chapter Six.

Basutoland has no industries and has to import the consumer goods and capital items it needs as well as a certain amount of agricultural produce and livestock. The country's exports consist almost entirely of agricultural commodities and livestock, the main exports normally being wool and mohair, followed by wheat, sorghum, and cattle. The value of imports usually exceeds the value of exports, often by a considerable figure, but the adverse balance is offset by the export of labour to the mines, industries and farms of the Union of South Africa resulting in a flow of income to Basutoland in the form of remittances to relatives, deferred pay paid locally, savings brought back from the Union, payments to labour agents in the Territory and better native tax collections. The year 1956 saw a small increase in the value of exports and a correspondingly small decrease in the value of imports. This may be accounted for by the fact that crops harvested during 1956 were better than in the previous year. Exports of wheat and peas and beans were higher than for many years past, whereas imports of maize and maize-meal fell appreciably. Wool prices rose steadily throughout the year with the result that although the quantity of wool exported was lower than in the previous year the overall value was higher. Exports of mohair were likewise lower than in the previous year but rising prices resulted in an increase in its overall value.

Precise and comprehensive statistics relating to the balance of trade position in Basutoland are not available. The figures given in the tables below, however, enable the estimated imports and exports of the major commodities to be compared over the last three years.

TABLE I

Imports

The estimated values and quantities in this table relate to imports by traders through whose hands most of the general trade of the country passes, to imports by Co-operative societies and, in the case of grain and livestock (the latter for 1955 and 1956 only) to imports by individuals. Government imports which are considerable, are not included and neither are capital and consumer goods imported by individuals.

<i>Livestock</i>	<i>Quantity</i>			<i>Value in £</i>		
	<i>1954</i>	<i>1955</i>	<i>1956</i>	<i>1954</i>	<i>1955</i>	<i>1956</i>
Horses, Mules, Donkeys. . .	158	2,651	3,579	1,397	29,043	42,948
Cattle . . .	55	6,322	360	1,458	113,796	2,488
Sheep and Goats	60	1,168	2,027	205	2,528	3,884
<i>Grain</i>	<i>bags</i>	<i>bags</i>	<i>bags</i>			
Wheat and Wheat meal .	31,815	46,928	35,067	89,597	105,995	92,242
Maize and Maize meal . . .	50,756	219,380	132,484	99,146	394,824	251,720
Sorghum . . .	5,655	18,593	14,375	11,445	52,987	31,201
Other Produce	—	—	—	4,116	10,514	6,056
Merchandise .	—	—	—	2,404,643	2,492,650	2,505,970
Total . . .	—	—	—	2,612,007	3,202,337	2,936,509

TABLE II

Exports

This table shows the estimated values and quantities of the principal commodities exported by traders and co-operative societies and, in the figures for mohair and wool, hides and skins, by individuals also. It does not include the number and value of stock exported after being sold at Government auction sales in 1954 but does include those exported in 1955 and 1956.

	Quantity			Value in £		
	1954	1955	1956	1954	1955	1956
<i>Livestock</i>						
Horses, Mules						
Donkeys . . .	51	85	63	218	1,015	695
Cattle . . .	3,025	12,927	5,617	48,273	213,296	81,955
Sheep and Goats	2,619	4,125	4,064	7,300	12,787	14,778
<i>Grain</i>						
Wheat and						
Wheatmeal . .	54,478	27,575	82,114	127,434	60,665	197,000
Maize and						
Maize meal . .	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sorghum . . .	17,371	10,168	5,645	23,791	25,115	14,112
Barley . . .	134	59	180	181	63	190
Beans and Peas	54,160	39,677	62,943	175,310	138,869	210,300
Oats . . .	236	31	367	278	31	387
<i>Wool and</i>						
Mohair in lb.						
Wool . . .	7,872,244	7,700,701	7,292,626	1,205,765	969,005	1,024,614
Mohair . . .	1,112,868	1,103,000	1,068,082	298,113	322,627	341,163
<i>Hides and Skins</i>						
Hides . . .	345,050	294,418	291,311	18,950	16,252	32,198
Skins . . .	439,060	443,578	371,983	31,250	28,844	22,059
Miscellaneous .	—	—	—	2,623	4,951	3,587
Bones (lb.) . .	700,900	820,600	165,000	2,453	2,872	578
Total . . .	—	—	—	1,930,486	1,796,392	1,943,616

TABLE III

*Comparison of Totals of Imports and Exports
given in Table I and Table II above*

	Imports £	Exports £
1954	2,612,007	1,954,105
1955	3,202,337	1,796,392
1956	2,936,509	1,943,516

CHAPTER VI

PRODUCTION

I. AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK

I. GENERAL

The economy of Basutoland rests largely upon its agricultural and livestock industry in which the unit of production is the peasant farmer. There are practically no industries and what mineral wealth may exist is still undeveloped. Thus the economic future of the Territory must depend mainly on the continued development of agriculture and animal husbandry, and it is to this end that the policy of the Agricultural Department is directed.

The Department is headed by a Director under whom are officers responsible for soil conservation, wool and mohair improvement, soil fertility, veterinary services and agriculture and livestock work. Demonstrators and veterinary assistants assist these officers in the field.

2. LAND UTILIZATION AND TENURE

Utilization of Agricultural Land

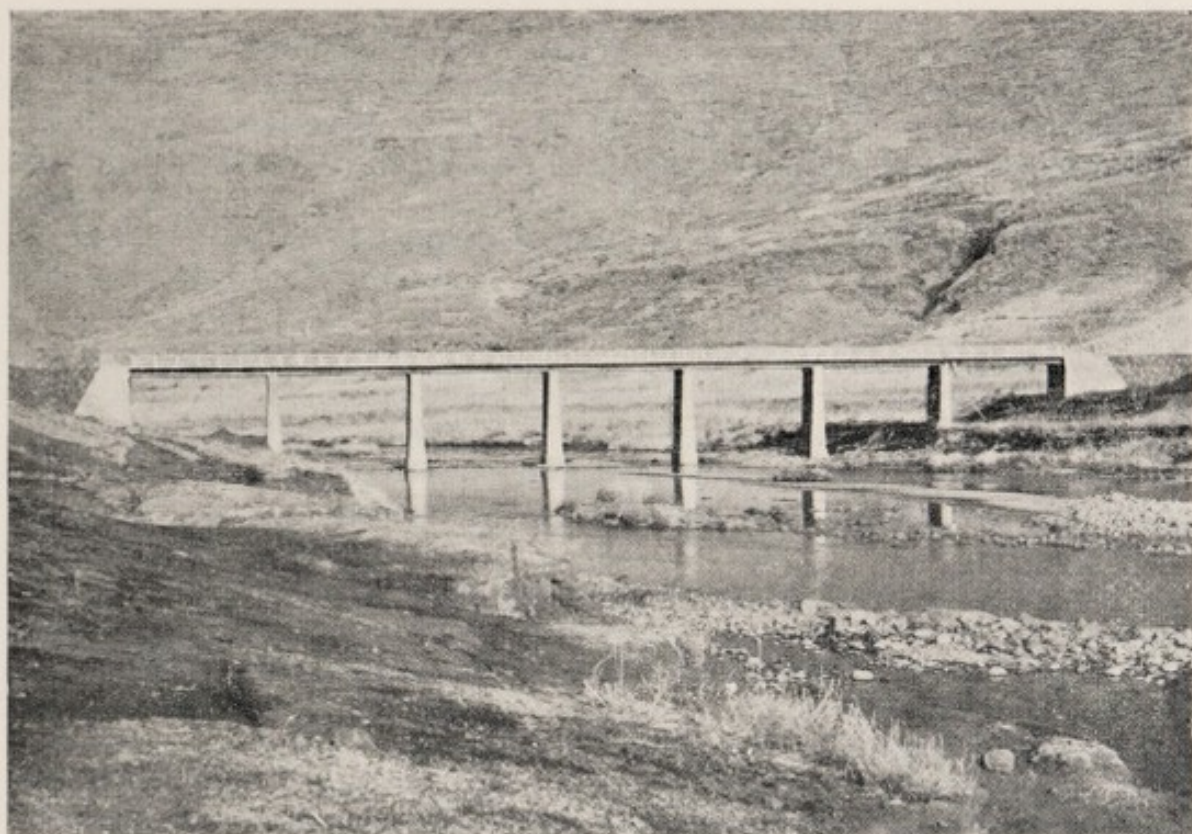
The most reliable figures to indicate the uses to which the land is put are obtainable from the Agricultural Survey which was conducted in 1949-50.

At the time the Survey was taken, the total arable land was 930,000 acres, which is 12.4 per cent of the total area of the Territory: to be added to this figure were 3,000 acres representing non-tribal cultivation. The mean arable field acreage per household was 5.75 acres, the average size of a household being four persons including absentees. There were, however, 11,700 households with no arable land at all. Of the total arable land 22 per cent was not cultivated, 47 per cent was put down to maize, 15 per cent to sorghums, 13 per cent to wheat and the remainder to peas, barley, beans and oats. It is considered that at the present date the total area of land under cultivation must be close on a million acres.

Land Ownership

Proclamation No. 14 of 1868 declared, inter alia, that "the Territory of the said Tribe (the Basuto) shall be, and shall be taken to be, British Territory".

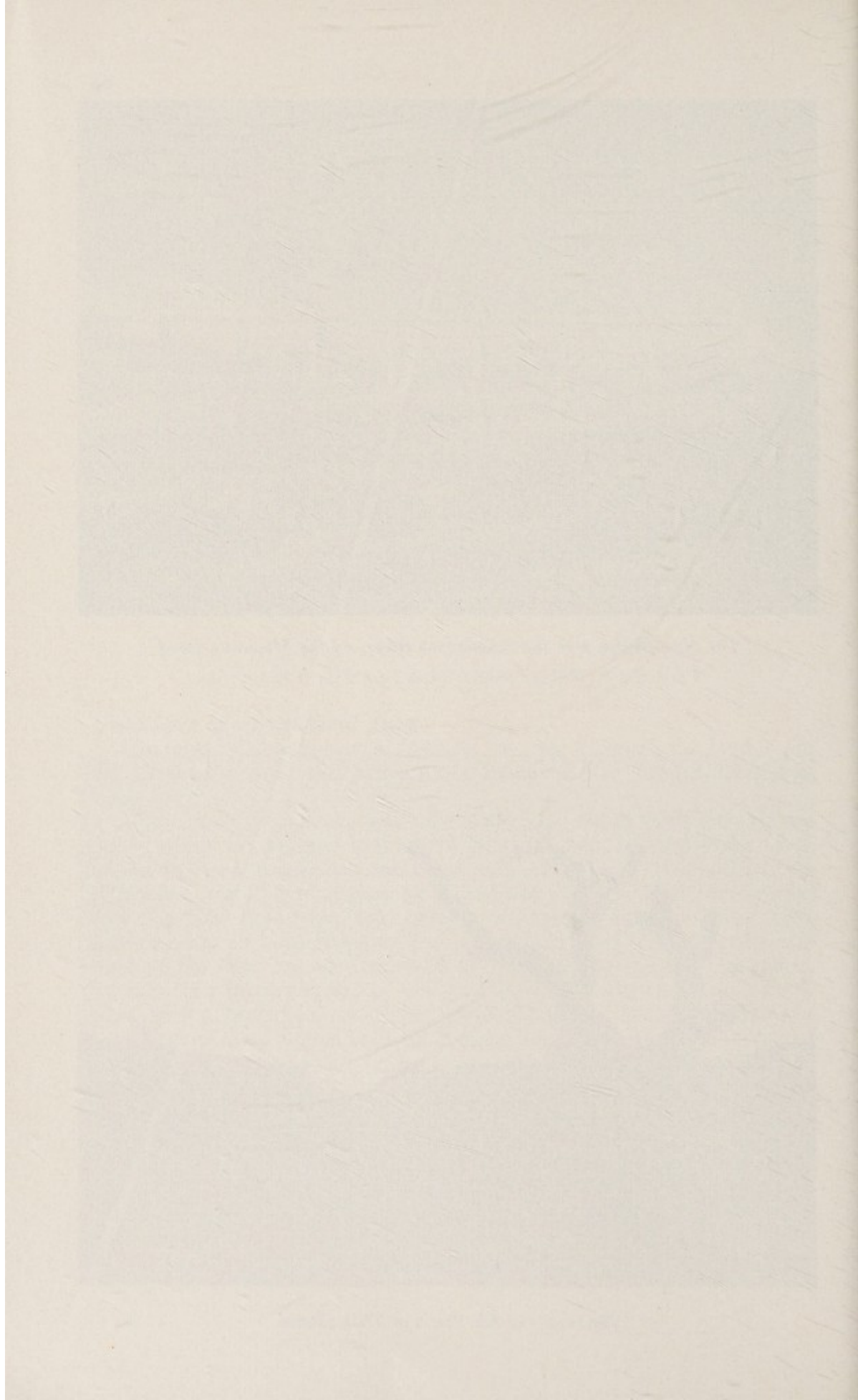
In practice, the land of Basutoland is held in trust for the Basuto Nation by the Paramount Chief, who exercises and performs these judiciary rights and duties through the Chieftainship. There is no free-hold tenure, the Chiefs allocating land to their subjects for occupancy and use accord-



The New Bridge over the Senqunyane River, on the Mountain Road



The results of the Storm at Thaba Bosiu



ing to their needs and with the right to re-allocate to another any land occupied or used by an individual in excess of his needs. Missions, schools and traders are allowed by the Paramount Chief, in consultation with the Resident Commissioner, to occupy land according to a recognized scale.

Areas known as Government Reserves are set apart for the Capital district headquarter stations.

Soil Conservation

Years of peasant agriculture, the practice of which has included monoculture with little return to the soil of animal manure (which is extensively used as fuel), and the overstocking of grazing areas, have led over the course of years to land becoming infertile and highly susceptible to wind and water erosion.

A soil conservation campaign has been conducted since 1936. By 1946, 154,000 acres of land in the lowlands had been protected by terrace banks and 77,500 acres in the mountain and foothill areas protected by buffer strips.

In 1946 a grant of £282,000 was made from Colonial Development and Welfare Funds and this was later supplemented by a further £122,000. This assistance has enabled general and energetic anti-erosion measures to be undertaken. The stabilization of erodible soil is being undertaken by the construction of contour terrace banks in the lowlands, the construction of grass buffer strips and diversion furrows in the mountains, tree planting, the fencing of badly denuded areas, and the building of dams. A summary of the work completed during 1956 and figures showing the work completed up to the end of 1956 are given in Chapter Two of Part I.

Recent developments indicate a growing recognition amongst the Basuto of the need for grazing control. The necessity for grazing control systems is greatest in the cattle post country in the mountains. Ten years ago large expanses of mountainside had been grazed bare and would have been subject to extensive soil erosion had no action been taken. Work so far has consisted in resting these areas. Restocking, which could have safely been undertaken some years ago, was deferred pending approval by the Paramount Chief and the Basutoland Council of regulations rationalizing the use of the cattle post country as a whole. Such regulations are now in force.

That the Basutoland Council, representing the people, were able to accept the draft order is an indication that those in positions of responsibility fully realize the need for grazing control. This is borne out by the increasing number of sub-chiefs and headmen who are seeking advice as to the adoption of grazing control systems to their own (village) areas.

3. AGRICULTURE

The Basuto are essentially a nation of peasant farmers with an average family holding of only 6 acres of arable land. Further extension of cultivation on any scale is not possible, and indeed is not desirable, if a proper balance between arable and grazing areas is to be maintained. Production from areas at present under the plough must therefore be increased if the needs of an increasing population are to be met. The policy of the Agricultural Department is to educate the Basuto in better farming methods and to show them that a better living can be obtained from their small holdings if such methods are put into practice. The work that is being done in soil conservation has been described in the preceding section.

The principal crops of the Territory are maize (the staple food), sorghums, wheat, peas, beans, followed by barley and oats. Maize is grown throughout the Territory. Sorghums, beans and oats are grown principally in the lowlands while wheat and peas are confined mainly to the mountain areas. Maize and sorghums form the staple foodstuffs of the Basuto people, some 70 per cent of the arable area of the lowlands being regularly given to these crops. Crops of maize were generally fair to good, largely on account of the late arrival of the first frosts, and satisfactory conditions for early growth. The standing maize crop shows very little promise, on account of late planting, very heavy rains in December (with which were associated temperatures too low for satisfactory growth) and a growth of weeds which it was not generally possible to control. Much land has been water-logged, and there is evidence everywhere of "yellowing", a condition which has not yet been satisfactorily explained. Many lands were replanted (accentuating the general lateness of the crop) on account of attacks by maize beetle and cutworm, and the poor physical condition of lowland soils. Exports of sorghum were much lower than usual. Stands generally were indifferent, as much of the seed used had been partially frosted before maturity and failed to germinate. Sorghum is usually the earliest spring crop to be sown, and the lateness of planting rains has resulted in fewer lands being sown to this crop than usual. A good 1957 crop is anticipated.

One of the controlling factors in maize yields is the incidence of maize stalk-borer, which is general in earlier crops. The use of a D.D.T. suspension for control is advocated; the demand for supplies of this is now showing a phenomenal increase.

Wheat is sown as a winter crop in the lowlands, up to an altitude of about 6,000 feet, and in the spring for harvesting in February and March in the mountain zone. Crops better than average have resulted, although the lowland crop harvested in December was affected to a degree by the very dry winter and sprouting in stacks before threshing. Exports to the Union of South Africa were higher than for many years past, in excess of the imports of wheat products by a very substantial margin.

Prospects for a good harvest in the mountains, where wheat is more generally grown than in the lowlands, are fair.

Peas, beans, oats and barley are minor crops, covering less than 10 per cent of the arable acreage. From the economic viewpoint peas are of significant importance, as a cash crop bringing in an income to the Territory (in 1956) of more than £150,000. With the exception of beans, of which the seed is mixed with maize at planting time, minor crops are mainly grown in the foothill and mountain areas.

The necessity for providing a source of fuel as an alternative to animal manure continues to receive attention. During the year an African Forestry Officer was appointed after, having had a short training in nursery technique in Swaziland. A note on his work is contained in the Soil Conservation Officer's report. Progress is considered to be satisfactory.

In the table below are given exports of the principal crops which when compared with those for the previous years reflect the satisfactory season experienced.

<i>Produce Exported</i>	<i>1954</i>	<i>1955</i>	<i>1956</i>
(Bags of 200 lb. nett)			
Wheat	54,478	27,575	82,114
Peas and Beans	54,160	39,677	62,943
Sorghums and Malt	17,371	10,168	5,645

Wheat exports exceeded imports of wheaten products by 47,009 bags ; 14,375 bags of sorghums were imported compared with 18,593 bags in the previous year ; and 132,484 bags of maize were imported compared with 219,380 bags in the previous year. In the Union of South Africa maize and maize products are subsidized and during the year under review £35,919 was paid to the Union Government as refund of Union consumer's subsidy in respect of the 132,484 bags of maize imported into Basutoland.

The success of the Department in educating the Basuto in better farming methods depends very largely upon the efforts of the field staff. The Agricultural School is expected to play an important role in raising the standard of field work amongst an increasing number of men who will pass through the school and become available for posting to field duty. The work of the Agricultural School is further described in Part I Chapter II of this Report.

The Pilot Project and the mechanized farming groups which have been established on a co-operative basis within the Pilot Project and elsewhere, are providing experience in farming methods and organization new to the Basuto. The Pilot Project consists in extensive reclamation and demonstration, investigation of new systems under field conditions and general community development concentrated in a single catchment area in the Teyateyaneng District, with the object of providing an example to the rest of the Territory. The slow but steady improvement in the farming

practice and living conditions of the more progressive families in the Project area, and the continually growing interest shown in the scheme by Basuto from other parts of the Territory, prove that the potential value of the Pilot Project is great. An outline of the work of the Project and the mechanized farming groups will be found in Chapter Two of Part I.

Research into soil and crop problems is carried out at the Maseru Experiment Station. Results prove that the deficiency of phosphate in lowland and foothill soils dominates the soil status picture. Response to added phosphate has been shown to be good in all areas of these zones, and the conclusion is drawn that the general annual use of relatively small quantities of phosphatic fertilizer (or manure or manure ash) by farmers would make the territory more than self sufficient in food production. Under an advance account, and planned on a "pump priming" basis, 100 tons of superphosphate were readily disposed of to farmers during the season. It is hoped that the trade will considerably increase imports of fertilizer. Rock phosphates, after the second successive year of application, are better than superphosphate for maize.

The lack of response to nitrogen is intriguing. Of the results from the 102 experiments on cereals in which nitrogen was a treatment, carried out during the last three years, only 19 contain significant N responses and of these 6 were negative. Results from the Bethlehem Research Station in the adjoining Orange Free State are similar. Nevertheless, Free State farmers are obtaining satisfaction from fertilizer mixtures containing nitrogen, which are being used on an increasing scale, (with the support of the fertilizer companies). While no results are yet available from proper rotation trials it is apparent that cereals following beans or cowpeas out-yield continuous cereal.

More research on nitrogenous fertilizers in relation to time and method of application, plant population, phase of rotation, etc., is necessary and few conclusions can as yet be drawn on the question of nitrogen manuring of cereals. These questions are being thoroughly investigated in the current season projects.

Results have shown that liming of acid soils rich in iron is safe and beneficial but that liming of the grey-brown sandy loams in the lowlands can be dangerous and is unlikely to increase maize yields. The sandy loams of the lowlands are lightly buffered.

The field experiment technique when used for minor element studies is vulnerable to technological and other difficulties, which may well preclude the discovery of important deficiencies. With this qualification it can be concluded that no minor element deficiencies exist in lowland and mountain soils, in respect of the common crops grown in these regions.

The usefulness and importance of manure and manure ash has been quantitatively assessed, but little information is as yet available on the effects of manure and plant residues on soil physical properties and long term fertility and stability.

From a study of the level of yields obtained on the lowland experiments

it is apparent that phosphate deficiency, while being the main cause of poor crops is but one consideration, and that some other factor or factors is depressing yields. Long term research must now be directed towards the effects of grass leys, crop rotations and systems of management, wherein it is likely that soil physical conditions will be found to be important.

No final conclusions on the merits of various crop varieties can as yet be drawn.

Uncertainties that have arisen in relation to responses to nitrogen and lime particularly reveal the necessity to supplement the field work by laboratory analytical studies. Information on the nature of colloids, exchangeable bases and rates of nitrification are required in the first instance.

4. LIVESTOCK AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION

The biennial livestock census - 1955 gave the following figures:

Cattle	408,144
Horses	102,001
Mules	4,829
Sheep	1,339,019
Goats	654,800

The year 1956 was a good one for the Livestock industry of the Territory. Excellent summer and autumn rains ensured a sufficiency of grass and all livestock wintered well.

A further attempt was made to re-establish auction sales in Basutoland, and sales were held during the months of April and May at Leribe, Maseru and Mafeteng. Although the sales were conducted by a long established and well known auctioneering firm, they failed to attract sufficient buyers to ensure healthy competition and fair prices. At the Leribe and Maseru sales the only two buyers present were also the biggest sellers. The introduction of one channel marketing, under which system all persons exporting stock during a certain period are required to do so through these sales, resulted in large numbers of stock being produced, but with the exception of a number of outside buyers at the first Mafeteng sale, no buyers attended with the result that very few cattle were sold. The first Mafeteng sale was a success, but the second which clashed with the Wepener monthly sale, was a failure.

Auction sales at Qacha's Nek, where there is a complete absence of speculators and the traders and local stock owners market their cattle at the stock sales, were successful and in all some 1,005 cattle and 1,142 sheep were sold by auction during the year.

Exports of cattle slightly exceeded imports and the trading position remains healthy.

Copious rains in the early part of the year resulted in a light, clean late-summer clip. The undesirable ram is still impairing the quality of Basutoland wool,

The get-up of the clip was satisfactory, wool inspectors, brokers and buyers at the Coast agreeing that it met with requirements. A complaint was received from a Belgian firm of manufacturers regarding foreign fibres in the wool, mainly horse-hair cords and string used by producers to fasten grain bags of wool. The few complaints received from Union Government wool inspectors at the coast dealt mainly with quite usual and understandable mistakes on the part of the wool classers at trading stations.

Short refresher courses for qualified wool classers were held in all the districts, as well as longer courses for trainees. Most of them were well attended.

Heavy rains in the early part of the year and a hard winter delayed the transportation of material into the mountains, and further delays were caused by the unreliability of the building contractor. A further six sheds were erected, bringing the total to 95.

305 more merino rams were introduced, all of which were readily disposed of to flock owners, as well as a carry-over of 259 from the previous year.

Due to a sudden and unexpected late demand on the part of flock-owners a further 100 rams could have been disposed of. Further supplies, however, were unobtainable at such short notice. A total of 13,400 rams has been introduced into the Territory since the inception of the Scheme in 1935. These have improved the quality of the Basutoland clip almost beyond recognition.

Duty was paid on 7,292,626 lb. of wool exported during the year. This was sold at an overall weighted average price of 33·72*d.* per lb. at the coast; 3·52*d.* per lb. or 11·66 per cent higher than last year. This realized £1,024,614 being £55,609 more than the gross sales in 1955. These export figures do not take into account the unknown quantity of wool smuggled into the Union, which is thought to be considerable. Wool exported legally during the year shows a decrease of 408,075 lb. or 5·3 per cent on the 1955 figure. This may be accounted for to some extent by the comparative lightness of the late summer slip mentioned above, but on the other hand it is not improbable that an increased percentage of the clip was smuggled out of the Territory. The average price per lb. of Basuto wool rose from 28·94*d.* in January to 38·63*d.* in December, on a practically continuous upward trend. This constituted a total increase of 33·5 per cent. The prices throughout the year reflected good general competition on the part of the buyers. The outlook for 1957 is promising.

In spite of the continued introduction of good rams from the Union, there can be no appreciable improvement in the quality of the clip until all the undesirable rams are eliminated and the grazing conditions improved by a reduction in the goat population. In the meanwhile the classing and packing regulations introduced in 1953 are proving a great step towards the uniformity of classing, hitherto so lacking in our clip.

206 Angora rams were introduced during the year, all of which were sold together with a carry-over from last year. This brings the total importations up to 1,644 since the first purchases in 1951. At least 250 will

be required to meet the demand in 1957. It is proving somewhat difficult to obtain rams of the right type at an economical price, but further sources of supply are being sought. Short refresher courses were held for qualified mohair classers in all districts, as well as longer courses for trainees. Most of them were well attended.

1,068,082 lb. of mohair were exported legally during the year and sold at the coast at an overall weighted average price of 76·66 *d* per lb. an increase of 6·46 *d*. per lb. or 9·2 per cent over last year. This realized £341,163 at the coast – £18,536 more than last year. As in the case of wool, this export figure cannot take into account mohair smuggled over the border into the Union. The weight of mohair on which export duty was paid during 1956 was 34,918 lb. or 3·17 per cent less than in the previous year. During the opening months of the season, April to July, prices remained firm at an average of 80 *d*. per lb. dropping steadily to 67·30 *d*. in November. This was not unexpected, being regarded rather as a re-adjustment to true values than a recession. Prices rose again to an average of 75·08 *d*. in December. There is a steady demand and an expanding market for mohair and the outlook is favourable for Basutoland, particularly if the quality of our clip is improved. Throughout the year, length played a big part in determining the values of Basuto mohair, the keenest demand being for the longer lines. Vegetable stain and, it is regretted, too often faulty classing caused considerable monetary loss to the industry.

No improvement in the quality of hides produced can be reported. During the year Basutoland exported 25,914 hides and 117,474 skins.

The tattooing and registration of livestock continues steadily. There are still a number of faults which are being corrected and it is hoped with the appointment of more highly-skilled and better-paid personnel to supervise tank area work, these faults will disappear and the registers be brought up to date.

The Agnes Mary Young Memorial Stud made steady progress during the year. It was found necessary to destroy two mares who, due to old age, were unable to come through the winter, and to return two others, which have proved sterile, to their owners. The stud now consists of Silver Eagle and twenty-one mares, while a further seven "agreement" mares have been served to the "first progeny to Government, second to owner" system. The stallion unfortunately suffered a severe contusion of the testicles half-way through the 1955–56 breeding season, which possibly accounts for the fact that eight mares served towards the end of summer have failed to conceive. To date ten foals have been born and a further four are expected. The 1954–55 progeny have now reached the age of two years and it has been possible to form an opinion as to their quality. The standard is very pleasing, and with the exception of one colt which, owing to persistent diarrhoea, has failed to develop satisfactorily, all the colts have been approved and are being placed at stud throughout Basutoland. Some are standing at Government studs, whereas others have been placed under the care of responsible stock-owners – usually chiefs – who will maintain them for use by the people of their areas. A further 5–7 colts should be available for issue annually in future.

The fillies, which are equally promising, now number twenty and will form the foundation of the permanent stud which it is hoped to form shortly.

Three further Brown Swiss bulls were issued during the year under review, and some 28 bulls are now at stud. It is not easy, due to the difficult terrain, to follow up the progeny of these bulls, but an attempt has been made to assess the value of certain calves in the Pilot Project area. The general standard of the calves is fair, but no assessment of the real value of the Brown Swiss breed can be made until the heifer calves themselves reach the breeding stage.

II. CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES

I. GENERAL

The Government has assumed responsibility for initiating and fostering co-operative development. The staff appointed for the purpose consisted at the beginning of 1955, of a Registrar of Co-operative Societies, an Assistant Registrar, an Audit Clerk, and four inspectors. During the year, the establishment was increased by provision for two additional inspectors. One inspector was promoted to the post of Senior Inspector. For almost the whole year, however, the staff on duty has been well below the establishment. The Assistant Registrar left on long leave in February, and subsequently resigned. He has not been replaced. The Audit Clerk was absent for two months on a training course. Suitable applicants for the two new inspectors' posts did not become available until December.

Because of shortage of staff, and because a variety of proposals for the re-organization, staffing, and the future development of the co-operative department have been under consideration by Government during the year, it has not been possible to undertake new or large scale development. The table below indicates the trend of development over the past four years.

<i>Type of Society</i>	<i>Number of Registered Societies</i>				<i>Total Membership</i>			
	<i>1953</i>	<i>1954</i>	<i>1955</i>	<i>1956</i>	<i>1953</i>	<i>1954</i>	<i>1955</i>	<i>1956</i>
Wool and Mohair								
Marketing . . .	11	13	14	13	2205	2473	2438	2608
Consumers . . .	12	11	10	10	1373	1568	1436	1563
Agricultural . . .	7	7	9	7	812	845	848	964
Mechanized Farming	—	6	12	11	—	261	441	409
Salary Earners Thrift	—	—	2	2	—	—	24	22
Other (Transport) .	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	12
Total	30	37	47	44	4390	5147	5187	5578

<i>Type of Society</i>	<i>Total Share Capital</i>				<i>Total Turnover</i>			
	<i>1953</i> £	<i>1954</i> £	<i>1955</i> £	<i>1956</i> £	<i>1953</i> £	<i>1954</i> £	<i>1955</i> £	<i>1956*</i> £
Wool and Mohair								
Marketing . . .	1869	2288	2270	2368	79982	71587	58991	48999
Consumers . . .	977	1148	985	1189	6747	8072	8078	5754
Agricultural . . .	545	694	769	883	3719	3482	4288	5810
Other (Transport) .	—	—	—	240	—	—	—	—
Total	3391	4130	4024	4680	90448	83141	71357	60563

* For 9 month period only.

The financial year end for all societies, except the mechanized farming co-operatives, has been changed from September 30th to June 30th. As a result, the turnover figures shown in this table for 1956 are for a 9 month period only. They include the 1955-56 wool season, but exclude most of the 1956 mohair marketing season. The Transport (Bus Owners) co-operative did not begin operations until January, 1957.

2. PRODUCE MARKETING

The marketing of wool, mohair, hides, and skins remains the most important of co-operative trading activities. It is therefore disturbing that the volume of wool handled over the year should have declined considerably. In the 1954-55 season, co-operative wool exports rose to 416,000 lb. the highest figure since the record season of 1951-52. In the 1955-56 season, however, they fell to 317,000 lb. and a further fall is expected in the 1956-57 season.

The reasons for this decline cannot be assessed precisely. They certainly include the weakening of the Registrar's staff by absences on leave and on duty, and by resignation, to which reference has already been made. This together with the registration over the past three years of a number of societies of other types, has considerably reduced the scale on which supervision and propaganda could be provided for the wool marketing societies. Continuous and extensive propaganda is required, if these societies are to maintain themselves in competition against the established general dealers, through whom the bulk of the wool and mohair clips have long been marketed. This intensive competition, over a period of declining wool prices and rising marketing costs has left the societies no opportunity to accumulate the capital necessary to enable them to provide facilities comparable with those offered by the traders. The failure of the 1955 maize harvest, followed as it was by a fall in the price of wool to an average of 28d. per lb., induced many flockowners to resort to the trader, who would pay spot cash for their wool clip, provide immediate supplies of maize, and give credit to his known customers. It also appears that a considerable volume of wool has been smuggled out of the territory by

flockowners who wish to evade payment of the Government export levy of 3*d.* per lb. and at the same time, to purchase maize in the Union. This traffic has undoubtedly affected the trade of co-operative societies – especially those in the Butha-Buthe, Mohale's Hoek and Quthing areas.

Because of the change in the financial year end, comparable figures for exports of mohair, and of hides and skins are not available. Present indications are, however, that there is little change in the volume of these products handled by co-operatives during 1956, as compared with that handled in 1955.

Two producers societies have engaged in livestock marketing, sending cattle to Union abattoirs. In the nine months ending June 30th, 1956, they exported over 100 head of stock, of a gross value of over £2,000.

Producers' co-operatives have expanded their trade in agricultural requisites, such as fertilizers, implements, insecticides, and seeds. They have been encouraged in this in order to give profitable employment to their staffs outside the wool and mohair marketing seasons, and in order to supplement agricultural improvement policies.

Several of the larger societies have extended and improved their office and storage accommodation.

3. CONSUMERS' SOCIETIES

There has been little change in the position of these societies. The most successful of them is established in Maseru, and has achieved an annual turnover of more than £4,000. If it is to expand its business, the existing shop, which is now completely inadequate, will have to be rebuilt. As the society operates on a minimum profit margin, it is experiencing some difficulty in finding the necessary capital.

4. AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES

These are dual purpose societies, which provide their members with agricultural requisites and consumer goods, and at the same time market such produce as wool, mohair, hides and skins on a limited scale. Over the past year, their turnover has increased appreciably.

5. OTHER SOCIETIES

The Salary earners thrift societies show little progress and are unlikely to do so unless means can be devised to deduct savings contributions automatically from salaries. All members of these societies are civil servants, but Government has been unable to assist in making automatic deductions.

The mechanized farming co-operatives are described in Chapter II, Part I of this report. In several of these societies, cash crops and surplus

staple crops have been bulked and sold to local dealers by the society. In this way, the members have secured satisfactory prices for their produce, and have been enabled to pay cultivation charges punctually. Bulk marketing also provides co-operative employment for tractors and trailers during the off-season.

The transport society registered during the year, is composed of Basuto omnibus proprietors operating to and from Maseru. Their immediate object is to operate a bus service between the bus terminal on the eastern side of the town, and the railway station on the western side. The society will also assume responsibility for the public shelters and other installations at the bus terminal. It proposes to expand its activities in time, to include the supply of fuel, spare parts, and probably elementary service facilities.

CHAPTER VII

SOCIAL SERVICES

1. EDUCATION

African education is largely in the hands of the three main missions (Paris Evangelical, Roman Catholic and English Church) under the direction of the Education Department. Grants-in-aid are paid by Government to these Missions to cover the salaries of all teachers on the approved grant-in-aid list. This does not mean that the salaries of all teachers in aided schools are paid by the Department. Each Mission has an approved number of aided teachers and Educational Secretaries place these teachers to the best advantage of their aided system. In many aided schools in the Roman Catholic system unaided teachers, particularly Sisters, give assistance. In addition small grants are paid from territorial funds to improve equipment in primary schools. The total expenditure on grants-in-aid for the calendar year will exceed £208,000. This expenditure represents an increase of £17,000 over the 1955 figure and £51 over the 1954 figure.

Under the Colonial Development and Welfare Scheme D. 758, referred to in Chapter II, of Part I of this report, small grants amounting to £305 were made in 1956 to seven schools for extensions and improvements to buildings on a £ for £ basis. These small payments completed the nine year scheme under which over £50,000 for buildings and over £24,000 for equipment was paid to Missions on a £ for £ basis. The scheme also included £1,250 per annum towards the salaries of the three Educational Secretaries. These are now paid from Territorial funds.

Under the C. D. & W. Scheme referred to in Part I, Chapter II of this Report, £10,200 has already been paid for the erection of new junior secondary schools and the separation of Teacher Training from Secondary Classes.

Of the 978 schools and institutions in the Territory 965 are under Mission control; of the 965 mission schools 824 are aided. One, the Lerotholi Technical School, is wholly maintained and managed by the Department; six, the Basutoland High School, Hlotse Junior Secondary-cum-Higher Primary School, and four Higher Primary Schools at Maseru, Matsieng, Mafeteng and Mohale's Hoek are managed by Management Committees, and maintained by the Department. First year secondary classes (Forms A) exist at Maseru, Mafeteng and Mohale's Hoek Higher Primary Schools. During the year 14 new private schools were established. The school enrolment showed a much larger increase in 1956 than in 1955. Of the total enrolment of 110,911, some 100,122 were attending aided primary schools, 776 maintained primary schools, and 7,846 unaided primary schools. The average class in the aided primary schools remained at 52 pupils.

The secondary school enrolment increased from 999 in 1954, to 1,175 in 1955 and to 1,278 in 1956 with the opening of new schools and classes. Full secondary facilities (up to Matriculation) are available at Roma College, St. Mary's Institution, and the Basutoland High School. Eight other schools offer junior secondary facilities (up to Junior Certificate), in a three-year course. A few selected Higher Primary Schools have the first-year junior secondary class which serves as a selection class for the Primary Teacher Training Centres as well as the Junior Secondary Schools. These special classes will disappear in the next two or three years with the creation of new junior secondary schools under Colonial Development and Welfare proposals.

The number of teachers in training has increased by 103 to 422. The numbers in technical training have increased by 96, there being 134 in the two main technical training schools (Lerotholi and Leloaleng), and 333 girls attending housecraft, or spinning and weaving schools.

The only institution providing post-secondary education in the Territory is the Pius XII Catholic College at Roma, which is unaided. In 1956 there were 65 African students, and four Europeans. Twenty of the students were Basuto from this Territory. The rest came from the Union of South Africa (30), Bechuanaland (3), Swaziland (1) and Rhodesia and Nyasaland (11). Basutoland made its usual annual grant to the University College of Fort Hare where six Basuto (5 men, 1 woman) were studying in 1956.

Scholarship assistance from Colonial Development and Welfare Funds continued to be given to two students who completed their veterinary courses at Edinburgh, and to two taking medical courses in Dublin and London respectively. One student, a Government Medical Officer continued his studies for his Diploma in Psychological Medicine in England under a British Council Scholarship, and two continued medical courses at Edinburgh and one a course in Law at Bristol, under scholarships

awarded by the Basuto Administration Higher Education Fund. Four students were in receipt of Government bursaries for medical training at the Durban Medical School, three for degree courses at Pius XII Catholic College, and six for degree courses at Fort Hare University College. Two Basuto were studying law at universities in the Union of South Africa with Government bursaries, and one has been called to the Bar in the Union. 126 students were in receipt of Government bursaries for pre-matriculation courses in Basutoland. Four were in receipt of scholarships awarded by a well-known Basutoland Commercial firm and two received Victoria League Bursaries, tenable at Basutoland Institutions for pre-matriculation courses.

For the Administration of education, the headquarters staff consists of a Director, a Deputy Director, an Education Officer, a Woman Education Officer and a Supervisor of Agricultural Education in primary schools. The Territory is divided into three circuits each under an Education Officer. To help circuit Education Officers in their work there is a field staff of three African Assistant Education Officers and five Supervisors; their work consists of regular routine visits to schools, discussions on all educational matters with teachers, school committees and managers, and liaison work between the schools and the chiefs and their people. Circuit Education Officers spend as much time as possible in the field correlating the work of their circuit staff, visiting managers, and doing as much inspection work as their administrative duties will allow. Ten refresher courses for in-service teachers have been run by departmental staff during the year.

Consultation with the people is carried out both at district and national levels. The District Advisory Committees with the District Commissioner as Chairman, representatives of the three main missions, the Teachers' Association, the chiefs and the people as members, the Education Officers as secretaries, meet annually to advise the Director on the local application of Educational matters. These Committees in turn elect representatives to the Central Advisory Board under the chairmanship of the Director of Education with additional members nominated by the Missions, the Paramount Chief, and the Teachers' Association. This Board is responsible for advising the Resident Commissioner on all matters affecting education.

During 1956, the Central Advisory Board made recommendations on teachers' salaries and terms of service, development of higher primary and secondary education, Colonial Development and Welfare expenditure, syllabuses, and examinations.

Co-operation and co-ordination between Missions and the Department is carried out through Educational Secretaries whose salaries are now paid by Government. In turn, Educational Secretaries deal with their Parish Managers. These are normally the missionaries in charge of parishes.

The fourth two-year course under the revised Home Industries Organization ended in December and eight candidates obtained their certificates. The Supervisor of Craft Schools is a most useful part-time addition

to the supervisory staff, and of great assistance to the newer teachers of Spinning and Weaving. He has spent two weeks per session at each of the three Craft Schools. About 12 certificated girls have now set up Home units in their villages, and the Supervisor visits them annually.

The two technical schools in the Territory, one run by Government, and one by the Parish Evangelical Missionary Society have reported good progress. One of the senior instructors, after twelve years on the staff, has been appointed Principal of the Government run Lerotholi Technical School. There were 90 students on roll in 1956. The Commercial Course at this school was converted to a one-year post-School Certificate Course in 1956, instead of a two-year post-Junior Certificate as in the past. Students from the Union, and the other High Commission Territories, as well as Basutoland, attend this school. The Leloaleng Technical School has had a roll of 44 students mostly in the Motor Mechanics and Carpentry Departments. Technical students completing their courses continue to find good positions in Basutoland and the Union.

The new Mobile Cinema has been fitted up and is now ready to move round the Territory. A good supply of films of an educational nature, and news reels, are available. A trained operator-mechanic is to be appointed in 1957.

CALENDAR YEAR 1956

Finance

<i>Source</i>	<i>Recurrent</i>	<i>Capital</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>From Colonial Revenue:</i>	£	£	£
Aided and Maintained African Schools	220,532	—	220,532
Education Administration . .	16,270	—	16,270
Other Charges	22,873	—	22,873
Total Colonial Revenue . .	259,675	—	259,675
<i>From Basuto Administration:</i> . .	676	—	676
<i>From Voluntary Agencies:</i> . .	32,600	64,500*	97,100
<i>From Imperial Funds:</i>	—	11,105	11,105
Totals	292,951	75,605	368,556

* Excludes Pius XII College, Roma.

Schools and Roll

<i>Type</i>	<i>Schools</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Primary	957	39,629	69,115	108,744
Secondary	17	824	454	1,278
Technical Training	9	134	333	467
Teacher Training	7	133	289	422
Post Secondary	1	56	13	69
Totals	991	40,776	70,204	110,980

Examination Results

<i>Examination</i>	<i>Candidates Entered</i>	<i>Passed</i>
Departmental Standard VI.	1876	870
Basutoland Primary Teachers'	176	99
Higher Primary Teachers'	37	25
Junior Certificate	223	138
Senior Certificate	48	10
Degree	4	3

II. PUBLIC HEALTH

The Director of Medical Services, with his headquarters in Maseru, is responsible to the Resident Commissioner for the organization and administration of the medical department. In addition, he is medical adviser to the Government.

The policy of the Medical Department is to secure the benefits of modern medicine to the largest possible number of the population, providing a balance between curative and preventive medical and health service through the existing hospitals, dispensaries, rural treatment centres, etc. The department also co-operates with other departments of Government in promoting social welfare services or in educating the public in all matters connected with health and sanitation. Nurses, health assistants, dispenser-anaesthetists and leprosy inspectors, who also act as health and welfare inspectors, are trained by the department.

Most of the diseases for which treatment is sought in the Territory are essentially preventable. For this reason, the curative and preventive functions of the majority of the staff cannot be effectively separated and they are concerned equally with the prevention and cure of disease.

Basutoland is not a tropical country, and tropical diseases do not present any problem. The principal diseases in the Territory are venereal diseases, chronic rheumatism, malnutrition, infections of the respiratory tract and dyspepsia. The heaviest toll of lives in children is due to tuber-

culosis, malnutrition, diphtheria, whooping cough and gastro-enteritis. The incidence of nutritional and deficiency diseases is comparatively high and is allied to a staple diet of maize. Typhus, plague and smallpox occur only rarely and then in sporadic form, while diphtheria, typhoid fever, measles and whooping cough are endemic.

At each district headquarters there is a Government hospital with one or more medical officer and a trained nursing staff. Each hospital, which is equipped for general medical and surgical work, has an out-patients department, ante-natal and infant welfare clinic. As funds become available tuberculosis, maternity, children's and isolation wards are being provided at those hospitals where there are none at present. In some districts additional clinics are established some distance away from the hospital and these are visited by the medical officer at regular intervals. More medical centres are being established in the mountain area, which has become more thickly populated during recent years. A leprosarium in the charge of a superintendent trained by the British Empire Leprosy Relief Association is established at Botšabelo in the Maseru District. There is a mental detention centre at Mohale's Hoek in the charge of a male mental nurse who is under the supervision of the medical officer.

There are four mission hospitals with resident doctors. Each hospital is equipped for general medical and surgical work, and has an out-patient department, ante-natal and infant welfare and venereal diseases clinic. These hospitals are subsidized by Government.

Greater efforts are being made towards preventive medicine. Reports of outbreaks of serious epidemic diseases are promptly investigated by the health and welfare inspectors and health assistants. Appropriate prophylactic measures are taken without delay and the cause of the outbreak dealt with; huts are disinfected, disinfestation is carried out, rodents destroyed, water supplies protected, sewerage disposal improved and prophylactic inoculations given as necessary.

Properly organized sanitation arrangements – mainly of the bucket type – are restricted to the nine Government "camps". African villages are usually small and scattered and their sanitation does not in general present a problem. The mountainous nature of the Territory and the shallow depth of soil and its clayey nature make the sinking of pit latrines generally impracticable but in some of the larger villages public latrines have been installed.

There is a piped water supply in each of the Government "camps". In the rural areas several springs are protected each year by enclosing the "eyes" of the springs with concrete, and piping the water to reservoirs, but on account of transport difficulties in remote areas, progress is slow.

There is no medical laboratory in the Territory and owing to shortage of staff and equipment, little research can be carried out by the department, but under a commuted payment agreement the South African Institute for Medical Research performs all pathological investigations required.

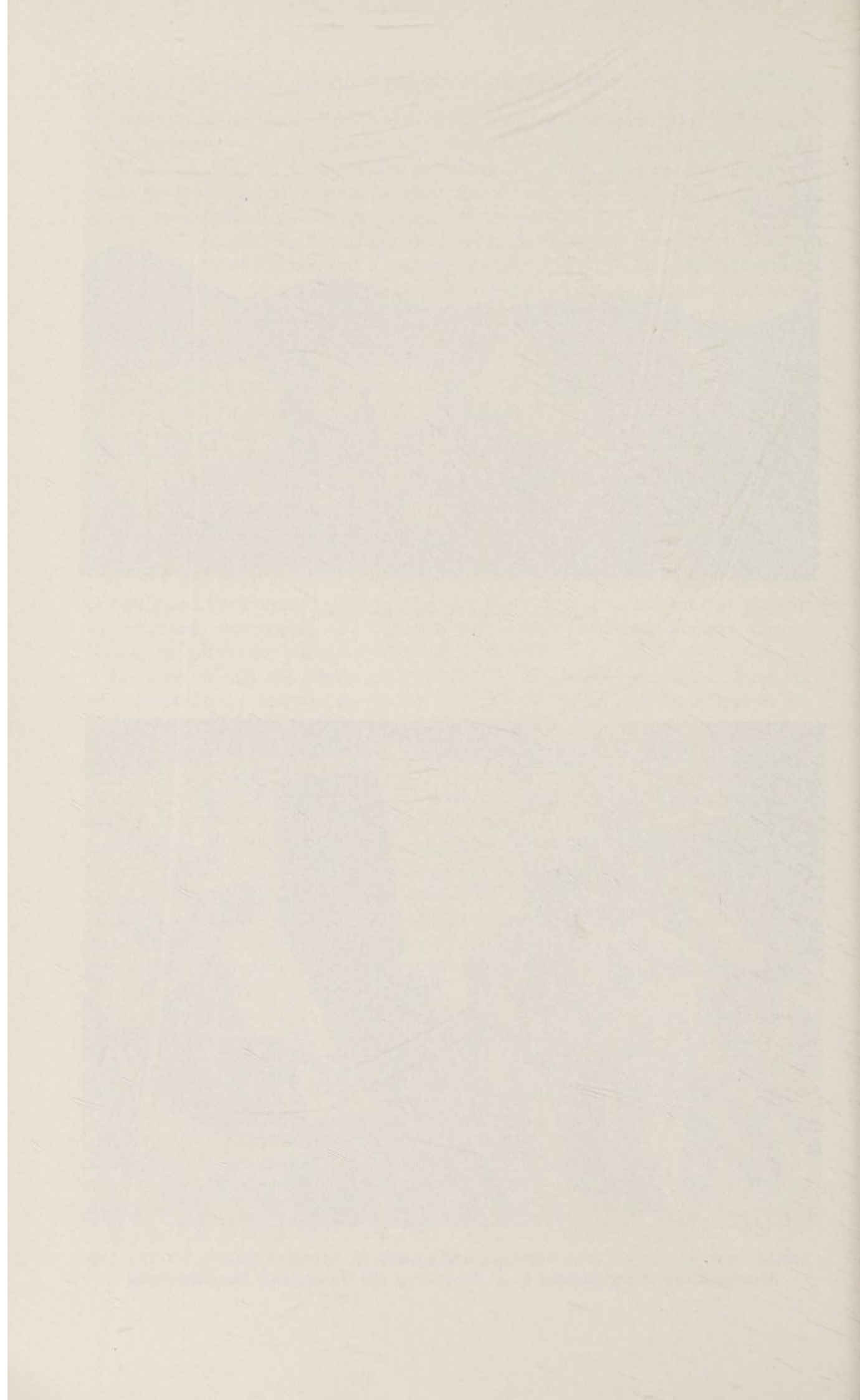
At several centres there are Red Cross committees organized for the purpose of giving lectures to the public in elementary first-aid and home



Basotho women winnowing wheat



*Mountain Dispensary,
Mission doctor being assisted by a Trooper of the Basutoland Mounted Police*



nursing. Eight maternity and child welfare clinics have also been established by Red Cross at district headquarters and a number of first-aid posts have been established elsewhere and in the mountain area. Hygiene lessons are given in all Government and mission schools, and lectures are given by members of the staff of the medical department to various organizations such as the Women's Improvement Society and Teachers' Refresher Courses.

There is a European dentist in Maseru who receives an honorarium from Government for treating indigent hospital cases when required to do so, and there is also a pharmacist in private practice in Maseru.

The African population for the census of 1956 was 638,857 and it is estimated that there was one doctor (including private practitioners) per about 24,000 and one hospital bed per about 1,000 of the population in the year under review.

The existing facilities as regards hospitals, health centres, etc., are as follows :

	<i>Government</i>	<i>Mission</i>	<i>Private</i>	<i>Total</i>
Hospitals	9	4	0	13
Beds available	417	259	0	673
Maternity and child welfare clinic centres	11	4	8	23
Venereal diseases clinics	12	4	0	16
Health Centres	2	0	0	2
Mountain dispensaries (rural treatment centres).	1	1	0	2
Out-patient clinics	21	24	2	47
Leprosaria	1	0	0	1
Mental Detention Centre	1	0	0	1
X-ray plants	5	2	0	7

I. HOSPITALS

The four Mission hospitals are situated at Roma, Morija, Paray (Ntaote's) and Mapoteng. As a result of awards totalling £43,000 from the Governor-General's National War Fund, the Mission Hospitals have been able to undertake certain improvements and enlargements to their buildings. All four hospitals are subsidized by Government and have 60, 40, 45 and 114 beds respectively. Each hospital has an out-patient department and venereal disease clinic and is staffed by a doctor and trained European and African nursing staff. Ante-natal clinics are conducted at each hospital. There are also clinics some distance away which are visited by the doctor at regular intervals.

Of the nine Government hospitals, four are staffed by European nursing sisters with a subordinate African staff, while five are staffed by trained African nurses with a subordinate African staff.

All hospitals are equipped for general medical and surgical work.

Both the Maseru Hospital and the Maluti Hospital at Mapoteng are recognized by the South African Medical and Dental Council for the training of interns.

The Maseru Hospital is recognized by the High Commission Territories Nursing Council and by the Basutoland Executive Nursing Committee for the training of nurses and midwives, of whom there were 20 in training during the year. Four student nurses passed the Preliminary Examination in Practical and Theory and an equal number passed the Final Examination for Medical and Surgical Nurses set by the High Commission Territories Nursing Council during 1956. Five pupil midwives passed the Final Examination for Midwives set by the Basutoland Executive Nursing Committee during the year. This hospital also provides for the training of health assistants and dispenser-anaesthetists. The completion of the new Maseru Hospital (under C.D. & W. Schemes D. 842 and D. 842 A & B) is important from the point of view of increasing the output of locally trained personnel for the Territory.

The Morija Hospital is recognized by the Basutoland Executive Nursing Committee as a training centre for medical and surgical nurses, of whom there were ten in training during the year. Two student nurses passed the Final Examination for Medical and Surgical Nurses set by the Basutoland Executive Nursing Committee during the year.

Grants have been made available from Colonial Development and Welfare Funds to enable suitable hospital accommodation to be provided for tuberculosis, maternity and infectious diseases cases and for sick children in Government hospitals, and for the construction of a new hospital at Mokhotlong.

2. HEALTH CENTRES, MOUNTAIN DISPENSARIES AND RURAL TREATMENT CENTRES

Health centres and mountain dispensaries which are being established with the assistance of Colonial Development and Welfare Grants, are maintained by Government for the purpose of providing limited out-patient medical facilities and maternity services in remote areas. Health centres are to be staffed where possible by an African health assistant and African nurse and midwife; and mountain dispensaries by an African nurse and midwife only. The progress made with these centres has been commented on in Chapter I and II of this Report.

3. LEPER SETTLEMENT

The Leper Settlement admits patients from Basutoland and from the Bechuanaland Protectorate. 159 patients were admitted during the year, mostly for ulcerated hands and feet. 78 X-ray examinations and 77 surgical

operations were performed. Hospital facilities exist in the Settlement with 54 beds.

There is a Children's Home within the grounds of Emmanuel Mission (Seventh Day Adventist) in the Leribe district. The home was started in 1943 by Miss M. Martin, M. B. E., a former matron of the Leper Settlement, for infants born to leper mothers who are patients in the leper settlement. Infants are accepted in the Home at the age of four months and are cared for until the age of about five years. Due to the marked decrease over recent years in the number of patients being cared for at the settlement, the Home has been accepting other necessitous infants and children, including orphans. The Seventh Day Adventist Church Mission maintain, the Home, to which Government gives a grant-in-aid. Miss Martin gives her services gratuitously.

The general health of the inmates during the year has been good. There have been a number of acute lepra reactions which are often relieved by injections of antimony tartrate. There are still many cases with trophic ulcers usually on the feet, and most "recurrences" admitted have been cases of broken down ulcers. Avlosulphone continues to be used with good results; the usual dose is 300 mgm. twice weekly. A few cases reacted adversely to treatment with sulphone, but the reactions cleared rapidly with cessation of treatment followed by reduced dosage. There were 56 admissions during the year and, in addition, nine cases were re-admitted, mostly for broken-down ulcers. Discharges totalled 86 and there were, in addition, eight deaths and 71 desertions. There were 286 patients remaining at the end of the year, a decrease of 100 patients as compared with the previous year. Of the patients remaining at the end of the year, many were old arrested cases, crippled and without a home. They are allowed to remain at the settlement indefinitely, mainly on humanitarian and not on medical grounds.

4. MENTAL DETENTION CENTRE

There is no mental hospital in Basutoland. In the past, Basuto lunatics were treated in mental hospitals in the Union of South Africa and 31 cases are still hospitalized there. At present, however, accommodation can only rarely be obtained. As a matter of urgency a temporary mental detention centre was established at Mohale's Hoek for dangerous lunatics. This arrangement, although it leaves much to be desired, supplied an urgent need until a mental hospital in the charge of a medical officer, trained in modern psychiatric treatment can be provided. The detention centre at Mohale's Hoek presents two advantages as compared with the admission of lunatics to Union mental hospitals in that it permits patients to be visited more readily by relatives and facilitates the discharge to their homes of patients whose condition is restored to health or much improved. The centre is in the charge of a male mental nurse under the supervision of the medical officer at Mohale's Hoek. There were 38 new admissions during the year. Twenty-four patients were discharged and, in addition,

there were eight deaths. A total of 122 patients were accommodated during the year ; at the end of the year, 90 patients were being cared for.

Assistance is expected to be given from Colonial Development and Welfare Funds for the establishment of a modern mental hospital at Maseru which might also care for patients from Swaziland.

5. EPIDEMIC AND GENERAL DISEASES

Plague

No case of plague was reported during the year under review. During August it was found that rodent activity had increased markedly along the Caledon River which forms the boundary with the Union of South Africa and the plague staff carried out intensive anti-rodent and anti-plague measures between Maseru and Mohale's Hoek. Specimens of rodent fleas were obtained at approximately four mile intervals for laboratory examination for the presence of *P. pestis* but all tests yielded negative results.

Typhus Fever

One isolated case of typhus fever confirmed serologically was reported during the year at Ntlama's in the Teyateyaneng district. Prompt preventive anti-typhus measures were taken in the area, prophylactic inoculations were given and delousing was carried out with D.D.T. powder.

In the course of dealing with this outbreak, 2,196 prophylactic inoculations were given and 201 houses disinfected.

Smallpox

No case of smallpox was reported during the year. A mass vaccination campaign among infants, children and adolescents up to the age of 18 years was started in October, 1955. During the year, 64,159 vaccinations were performed, making a total of 78,611 vaccinations since the commencement of the campaign.

Diphtheria

The number of cases of diphtheria notified during the year again showed a marked decrease as compared with 1955. There was also a marked decrease in the number of deaths as compared with the previous year. The highest incidence was in the Maseru district with 18 cases. It is noteworthy to record that no case of diphtheria was notified in the Qacha's Nek district. There was a total of 58 cases reported with six deaths as compared with 112 cases with 14 deaths in 1955. During the course of dealing with these cases 4,713 prophylactic inoculations were given. From the commencement of the UNICEF-aided mass diphtheria and whooping cough campaign until the end of the year, 51,929 first dose, 37,748 second dose and 22,897 third dose injections of combined diphtheria and whooping cough vaccine were administered to infants and children below the age of six years ; 54,904 first dose and 41,347 second

dose prophylactic diphtheria vaccine inoculations were given to children and adolescents between the ages of 13 and 18 years.

Whooping Cough

There were 1,704 cases of whooping cough notified during the year. Pneumonia is a frequent complication in whooping cough, particularly during the winter months, and accounts for a certain number of deaths in children. The population is becoming increasingly aware of the dangers of this disease and 20 inoculations of combined diphtheria and whooping cough vaccine were given on request.

Typhoid Fever

Typhoid fever has become endemic throughout the year and 148 cases with 7 deaths were reported with the highest incidence again being in the Maseru District with 47 cases with two deaths. Outbreaks of the disease were usually traced to contaminated village water supplies. These were then protected by enclosing the springs and piping the water to reservoirs. At the same time villagers were instructed in prophylactic hygiene measures and in the construction, where possible, of simple pit latrines. The problem of providing an economical and effective disposal method for human waste in rural areas has not yet been solved. As a prophylactic measure, all officials in the service and their families, all prisoners and inmates of the mental detention centre are given prophylactic anti-typhoid inoculations with annual "booster" doses where appropriate. Prophylactic inoculations were also given to residents in the areas where outbreaks occurred, and a total of 22,807 such inoculations were given during the year.

Poliomyelitis

There were 16 cases of acute poliomyelitis with one death reported during the year. In view of the high incidence of the disease in other parts of Southern Africa, poliomyelitis vaccination was offered on a purely voluntary basis to all children, at the discretion of their parents. A supply of vaccine was made available by the Poliomyelitis Research Foundation Laboratories in the Union of South Africa, but only sufficient to administer the first dose to those children up to the age of six years and to the children of doctors, nurses, teachers and health officials up to the age of 16 years, whose names had been registered. A total of 777 injections had been given by the end of the year, and supplies of vaccine sufficient to meet all requirements are expected to be received during 1957.

Measles

Measles is prevalent and 1,922 cases were notified during the year.

Tuberculosis

There were 1,087 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis with 68 deaths as compared with 940 cases with 60 deaths for 1955. In addition 566 cases of

non-pulmonary tuberculosis were reported as compared with 491 cases in 1955. Chemotherapy and antibiotic treatment is being increasingly used throughout the Territory.

Trained African nurse Mrs. J. S. Mefane who was awarded a Tuberculosis Scholarship, tenable for six months in the United Kingdom, by the National Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis, is in charge of tuberculosis cases admitted to Maseru Hospital and does health visiting in Maseru township among tuberculosis cases awaiting admission to hospital, convalescent cases and contacts of the disease.

Venereal Diseases

There were 3,499 cases of all forms of syphilis reported during the year and 5,551 cases of gonorrhoea. Treatment of both conditions is by procaine penicillin administered intramuscularly.

Deficiency Diseases

During the year there were 3,458 cases of pellagra with nine deaths as compared with 3,230 cases with eight deaths in 1955. There were 232 cases of ariboflavinosis with no mortality as compared with 272 cases with no death in 1955. Three hundred and thirty-eight cases of kwashiorkor with 32 deaths were notified as compared with 304 cases with 22 deaths during the previous year.

There were 433 cases of avitaminosis with no mortality as compared with 637 cases with four deaths in 1955, and 748 cases of malnutrition with 17 deaths as compared with 936 cases with 24 deaths in 1955. There were 76 cases of scurvy with three deaths.

The incidence of pellagra and kwashiorkor is closely allied to maize being the staple item of the diet. Steps have been taken to correct this by encouraging the Basuto to substitute kaffir-corn (sorghum) and wheat as the staple food with liberal additions of vegetables and to consume more protein which is available in the form of peas and beans. The available supply of animal protein cannot be immediately increased.

In 1954, Dr. B. D. Whitworth analyzed the monthly incidence of pellagra and kwashiorkor. Dr. A. C. Jaques, medical officer of health, has now analyzed the incidence of these diseases for the years 1955 and 1956 and compared the incidence for these years with 1954; his memorandum is published in the Annual Report of the Medical Department, 1956, as Appendix III. The graphs showing the incidence for the three years are almost identical, with pellagra reaching its highest incidence during December and January and kwashiorkor during March.

6. SANITATION

The protection of village springs has progressed despite difficulties of transport of supplies and equipment. Two new springs were protected and eight springs which had previously been protected, had to be reconstructed,

During the year the mechanical extractor cleared 754,200 gallons of septic tank effluent and waste water. The construction of public latrines at Leribe, Teyateyaneng, Mafeteng and Mohale's Hoek, which was started the previous year was completed during 1956, and a latrine was provided at Leribe dispensary for the use of suspected lepers awaiting transfer to the leper settlement.

Numerous specimens of drinking water and milk were submitted for bacteriological examination. Drinking water was satisfactory, but the recommendation that consumers should boil all fresh milk before use was not withdrawn. Bottled sterilized milk produced in the Union of South Africa, was introduced into Maseru and elsewhere in the territory and is becoming increasingly popular with the public. Sterilized milk is also supplied to the hospitals at Leribe and Butha-Buthe where fresh milk in sufficient quantity is unobtainable.

During the year, 43 fumigations were carried out in buildings, houses, hospital wards and domestic servants' rooms.

Seventeen plans for new buildings or alterations to existing buildings were submitted to the medical department for advice on sanitation, disposal of waste water, lighting, ventilation, ablution facilities, etc.

During the year 2,031 carcasses were inspected at the Maseru abattoir; two whole carcasses and 315 organs were condemned mainly for parasitic infection.

A new abattoir was opened at Mohale's Hoek. A new abattoir was completed at Qacha's Nek and will be opened when an attendant has been suitably trained in the work.

The tables on p. 72 give the numbers of hospital and out-patients, etc. dealt with during the year at Government and Mission Hospitals and Clinics:

III. HOUSING

The Basuto live in small scattered villages under tribal authority and their huts are, on the whole, healthy if primitive. They are usually built of rough stone or of sods and are roofed with thatching grass or in some areas in the mountains with wheat straw. The floors are smeared by the women with mud and cow dung and frequently the inner and outer walls are treated the same way. The walls are often decorated with traditional designs in various coloured clays.

The traditional hut is circular in shape but nowadays many Basuto prefer to build rectangular huts which are in some cases roofed with corrugated iron. The wealthier people build houses of cut stone or of brick and buy stock size doors and glazed windows.

In the old days it was the custom for each man to build and thatch his own house but many of the younger generation have no knowledge of building. They are, therefore, compelled to hire others to do this work for them.

Government Hospitals - 1956

District	In-patients admitted to Hospital	Operations		Out-patients treated in Dispensaries			Ante-Natal Clinics		Total Out Patients
		Major	Minor	First Attend- ances	Subsequent Attend- ances	Injections for Syphilis	First Attend- ances	Subsequent Attend- ances	
Maseru	4,838	193	397	28,730	75,669	4,848	1,565	2,319	113,131
Leribe	1,084	116	362	15,598	4,496	3,441	758	868	25,161
Mafeteng	1,081	79	516	13,641	10,416	1,529	345	434	26,365
Mohale's Hoek	584	28	210	10,072	916	2,466	184	200	13,838
Qacha's Nek	500	43	129	6,057	340	574	136	135	7,242
Quthing	508	30	177	7,663	17,008*	610*	94*	72*	25,447*
Teyateyaneng	1,184	25	253	16,067	18,953	1,239	776	1,758	38,793
Mokhotlong	551	74	427	7,237	690	337	215	213	8,692
Butha Buthe	873	52	718	11,379	1,336	660	224	543	14,142
Semonkong		8**	107	2,446	858	532	442	91	4,369
Totals. . . .	11,203	648	3,296	118,890	130,682	16,236	4,739	6,633	277,180

* Includes attendances at Phamong Health Centre and Nohana's Mountain Dispensary.

** Domiciliary midwifery cases.

Mission Hospitals - 1956

Hospital	In-patients admitted to Hospital	Operations		Out-patients treated in Dispensaries			Ante-natal Clinics		Total Out Patients
		Major	Minor	First Attend- ances	Subsequent Attend- ances	Injections for Syphilis	First Attend- ance	Subsequent Attend- ances	
St. Joseph's Roma Paray Hospital	1,132	39	260	6,546	3,402	1,948	549	490	12,935
Ntaote's	1,041	24	163	5,058	1,321	864	460	68	7,771
Maluti Hospital	2,346	531	732	7,773	3,725	1,196	626	645	13,965
Mapoteng									
Scott Hospital	755	52	1,344	21,437	7,835	2,000	1,663	1,093	34,028
Moriya									
Totals. . . .	5,294	646	2,499	40,814	16,283	6,008	3,298	2,296	68,699

If a man wishes to build he asks his chief or headman for a site. Any building he may erect remains his property unless he leaves the village, in which case the chief may allocate it to some other person but at no charge. The original owner is, however, allowed to remove the doors, and windows if he wishes to do so. He is allowed to remove anything, the materials for which were not provided by the Chief. He may, for example, remove the roof if of sawn timber or corrugated iron, as well as doors and windows.

There are no factories or industrial undertakings, except two printing works, in Basutoland and the problem of housing industrial workers has not therefore arisen.

The small European population consists for the most part of civil servants, missionaries and traders and is as a rule well housed in buildings of local cut stone. Since the war, however, Government departments and commercial enterprises have expanded and a number of houses have been built of brick since it is quicker and cheaper to build with than stone.

During the year, three Government staff quarters for Europeans and twelve for Africans were completed.

IV. SOCIAL WELFARE

Basutoland is predominantly an agricultural country and the Basuto live in small scattered communities. There are no towns or industrial undertakings with large concentrations of workers and consequently no serious problems arising from urban conditions of living. The maintenance of the indigenous pattern of Basuto society has permitted social life to develop without violent disruption of traditional ways. Sesuto law and custom therefore provide remedies for many social problems including the care of orphans, the aged and infirm which is normally undertaken by relatives. Where necessary however, cases of indigence are assisted from Basuto Administration funds.

The Basutoland Homemakers' Association was founded in 1945 after several Homemakers' Clubs had been formed in the Territory under the auspices of the Home Improvement Association at Fort Hare in the Union of South Africa. These clubs then joined the local Association which now comprises over 150 clubs. Membership is almost entirely confined to Basuto housewives. The objects of the Association are largely concerned with advising and helping housewives with their day to day work in the home; this help and advice is aimed at the proper feeding of the family, maintaining cleanliness in and around the house, improving members' knowledge of sewing, keeping alive the indigenous crafts such as pottery, grass work and wall decorations and also upholding Christian standards in the home.

The Homemakers' Association continues to take its full share in the improvement of the homes in the communities in which its clubs are

found. Spectacular results cannot be seen, nor are they expected where the aim is as broadly based as that of the Association.

The annual Training Course and Conference was held at the Paris Evangelical Missionary Society mission station at Matelile. There were 130 delegates from various parts of the Territory as far afield as Qacha's Nek, and including a few from the Free State. The numbers were lower than last year when we had 200 delegates. A striking feature of the Training Course was the co-operation of the different missions represented in the area, as a result of which we were visited and encouraged in our work by ministers and priests of the various denominations, including the Roman Catholic Mission. The focal point of the Training Course was the exhibition of work from the various clubs. This covered a very wide range and the articles on show were of a very high standard. The exhibition was highlighted by the large number of men and women from the surrounding villages who visited it daily for the three days on which it was on view. As a result of the exhibition letters have been received requesting the Organizer to open new clubs at various places in the Matelile area.

During the year four Cub Packs, 24 Scout Troops and one Rover Crew completed their registration requirements in time for the census. One pack and 14 other troops were known to be in existence, making in all five Cub Packs, 38 Scout Troops and one Rover Crew, an increase of one pack and one Troop over 1955.

Enrolment figures made up of 14 Rovers, 690 Scouts, 24 Cubs and 413 recruits showed an overall increase of 16 compared with the figures for 1955, but included more recruits waiting to be enrolled.

While troops at central mission stations keep on running without any break in continuity, troops at outstations are prone to fluctuate with the coming and going of teachers, some of whom are interested in scouting and some not. In consequence registration is often late and sometimes haphazard.

While there was no Woodbadge Course in Basutoland during the year, a number of those who took their Part II Practical Course completed all their other requirements and received their badges. Four Preliminary Camps were held with another Woodbadge Course in 1957 in view. These Preliminary Camps form an essential part of Woodbadge training and are obligatory for all scoutmasters within a certain time after receiving their warrants. In general the quality of the movement is improving rather than the quantity as more and more scoutmasters undertake proper training. Very welcome especially was the revival of Scouting in the northern districts due to the efforts of a newly appointed and very keen Mosotho who holds the rank of Assistant District Scout Commissioner.

The Basutoland Girl Guides Association continues to be very active, and there has been further expansion during the year. Mrs. A. G. T. Chaplin, the wife of the Resident Commissioner, took over from Mrs. E. P. Arrowsmith as Territorial Commissioner towards the end of the year, on the latter's departure from the Territory. There are 80 Guide Companies with an enrolment of 1923 guides. The enrolments of other ranks are Brownies 23, Sunbeams 468, Rangers 28, Torchbearers 60,

and Torchbearer Cadets 2. An extension Guide Company and an Extension Sunbeam Circle were run at Botšabelo Leper Settlement. There are 18 Commissioners, 76 Guiders, and a Secretary working for the movement.

As focal points for Basuto community activities at district headquarters, community halls have been, or are being, established there. At each headquarters a Basuto Committee was formed to assist the District Commissioner with the planning and building of the hall and to run it, when built, for the encouragement of social activities.

The welfare and rehabilitation of ex-soldiers is catered for by a Pensions Board and by the Basuto Soldiers' Benefit Fund.

The Financial Secretary is chairman of the Pensions Board on which the Paramount Chief is also represented and which meets regularly to consider applications from disabled soldiers and dependants of deceased soldiers.

The Basuto Soldiers' Benefit Fund was established out of contributions received from the Basutoland War Levy, the Governor-General's War Fund and P.R.I. Funds of the Basuto contingents which served in the Middle East. The Fund totalled £24,873. During the financial year 1955-56, 25 awards were made from the Fund largely for educational and rehabilitation assistance, and maintenance and relief of ex-soldiers and dependants. Including continuing grants, a total of £2,540 was paid out in grants.

CHAPTER VIII

LEGISLATION AND LEGAL

I. LEGISLATION

The following is a list of the more important legislation enacted during 1956:

1. The Basutoland Excise Proclamation, No. 29 of 1956.
2. The Basutoland Insurance Proclamation, No. 65 of 1956. This provides that no person may carry on insurance business without the written permission of the Resident Commissioner, but this does not apply to persons transacting business on behalf of underwriters at Lloyds or on behalf of insurers registered in the Union of South Africa.
3. The Basutoland Customs Proclamation, No. 67 of 1956.
4. High Commissioner's Notice No. 63 of 1956 notifies a customs agreement with Rhodesia and Nyasaland.

A cumulative index to the laws published between 1st January, 1949 and 31st December, 1956, is available from the Comptroller of Stores, Maseru. (Price 5s. *od.* post free).

2. LEGAL DEPARTMENT

The principal functions of the Legal Secretary are legislative drafting and advice on official legal matters. In performing these functions he collaborates with the Attorney-General, who holds office in respect of all three of the High Commission Territories of Basutoland, Bechuanaland Protectorate and Swaziland, and who is legal adviser to the High Commissioner in respect of all three.

The Legal Secretary continues to perform the duties delegated to him by the Attorney-General under the Inquests Proclamation, and 167 records of proceedings were perused and directions given. Of these the Attorney-General dealt with 66 records during the absence of the Legal Secretary on leave, and the Legal Secretary dealt with 101 during the rest of the year.

The informal drafting committee continued to function, its main duties being firstly to consider whether any proposal for the introduction of legislation was justifiable; secondly to consider the form which the draft should take, and thirdly to consider the draft itself before submitting it to the proper authority.

The annual volumes of Proclamations and Notices are compiled in the Legal Secretary's Office, where the annual cumulative index is revised every year. An index to the Official Gazettes, containing references to all Proclamations and Notices of all three High Commission Territories, was prepared for the first time this year, and will be printed to enable recipients of Gazettes to bind it with the year's Gazettes.

The Legal Secretary also functions as registrar of deeds, and 60 deeds were registered during the year. A draft Deeds Registration Proclamation has been prepared and is being considered. Rights to occupy land on Government Reserves, and also off the Government reserves for trading purposes, are the main rights registered. Allocations of rights in land by a Chief to his subjects are not registered. Personal deeds, such as ante-nuptial contracts, are registered.

Births and Deaths are registered by the Registrar of Births and Deaths, who is an African on the Legal Secretary's staff. Africans are not obliged to register in this office, but are under an obligation to register births and deaths with their chiefs. 69 births and 9 deaths were registered.

Marriages are registered by the Legal Secretary, and two African members of his staff hold appointments as assistant registrars of marriages. Marriages between Africans under Sesuto law are not registered in this office, which registers only civil and religious marriages contracted in the manner prescribed by the Marriage Proclamation, by members of all races. 2,269 marriages were registered.

Trade Unions are registered by the Legal Secretary, who hold the appointment of Registrar of Trade Unions. (See Part II, Chapter II, paragraph 4.)

Patents, Trade Marks and Designs are registered in the Legal Secretary's Office. There were registered: 3 Patents, 119 Trade Marks and no Designs.

CHAPTER IX

JUSTICE, POLICE AND PRISONS

I. JUSTICE

I. THE JUDICIAL SYSTEM

In criminal procedure the High Court and Subordinate Courts are governed by the Criminal Procedure and Evidence Proclamation. This Proclamation follows the criminal law in force in the Union of South Africa.

In civil matters, except where native law and custom is involved, the Roman Dutch Common law in force in the Union of South Africa is followed.

This is so because in Basutoland the laws in force include those of the Cape of Good Hope up to the 18th March, 1884, except where repealed or altered by Proclamation by the High Commissioner. The Basutoland Courts of Law consist of:

(1) *Court of Appeal*

A Court of Appeal for all three High Commission Territories was established on the 15th April, 1955, under the Basutoland, Bechuanaland Protectorate and Swaziland Court of Appeal Order in Council, 1954. This Court is composed of the Chief Justice, who is President, and other Judges of Appeal.

Thus, for the first time, litigants can appeal from High Court decisions to a local Court of Appeal, instead of having to appeal direct to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council. The further right of appeal to the Judicial Committee is retained.

Circumstances in which an appeal lies to the Court of Appeal, and Court rules governing appeals, are the subject of local legislation.

(2) The High Court

The High Court is a Superior Court of Record and, in addition to any other jurisdiction conferred by the local law, possesses and exercises all the jurisdiction, power, and authorities vested in a Divisional Court of the Supreme Court of South Africa.

Although the decision in every case, civil and criminal, is vested exclusively in the presiding Judge, he generally sits with four Assessors (two Administrative Officers and two Africans) who act in an advisory capacity.

In practice four Assessors sit in every criminal trial and in many criminal appeals.

In civil cases the practice is for the Judge to sit alone where only law, other than native law and custom, and not fact is involved. Where native law and custom is involved the Judge sits with Four Assessors or with two African Assessors only, depending on the character of each particular case.

*(3) The Subordinate Courts of the First,
Second and Third Class*

In the nine districts of the Territory there are Subordinate Courts of the First, Second and Third Class presided over by Administrative Officers, and in the district of Maseru there is a Resident Magistrate presiding over a First Class Subordinate Court. Appeals lie from all these Subordinate Courts to the High Court.

Criminal

(i) *First Class*: These Courts can impose sentences up to a maximum of two years' imprisonment with or without hard labour, or a fine up to one hundred pounds, or both imprisonment and fine, provided that the maximum imprisonment of two years is not exceeded. In certain cases and subject to certain safe-guards a whipping not exceeding fifteen strokes with a cane may be imposed.

(ii) *Second Class*: The maximum sentence which these Courts can impose is imprisonment with or without hard labour up to one year, or a fine not exceeding fifty pounds, or both imprisonment and fine, provided that the maximum sentence of one year is not exceeded. A whipping not exceeding eight strokes with a cane may be imposed in certain cases and subject to certain safe-guards.

(iii) *Third Class*: The maximum sentence which may be imposed by these Courts is imprisonment with or without hard labour up to six months, or a fine not exceeding twenty-five pounds, or both imprisonment and fine, provided that the maximum sentence of six months is not exceeded. A Third Class Court cannot impose a sentence of whipping.

Subordinate Courts have no power to try a person charged with treason, murder, rape, sedition or an offence relating to coinage or currency,

except that the Attorney-General may remit a rape case for trial by a Subordinate Court of the First Class.

Increased criminal jurisdiction

The Attorney-General may remit a case (not being treason, murder, sedition or an offence relating to coinage or currency) to a Subordinate Court for trial with increased jurisdiction, after the holding of a preparatory examination. When so remitted with increased jurisdiction the powers of punishment are :

- (i) *First Class*: Imprisonment up to four years ; fine not exceeding two hundred pounds.
- (ii) *Second Class*: Imprisonment up to two years ; fine not exceeding one hundred pounds.

There is no remittal to a Third Class Court and therefore no increased jurisdiction for such a Court.

Criminal Review

In criminal cases all sentences by Subordinate Courts of the First Class are subject to automatic review by the High Court when the punishment imposed exceeds six months' imprisonment or a fine exceeding fifty pounds.

As regards the Second and Third Class Subordinate Courts they are also subject to a similar review by the High Court when the punishment imposed exceeds three months' imprisonment or a fine exceeding twenty-five pounds.

Civil

In civil cases Subordinate Courts of the First Class have jurisdiction in all actions where both parties are Africans, subject to the right of such Courts to transfer cases to the Native Court for hearing, and in all other actions where the claim or value of the matter in dispute does not exceed five hundred pounds, and of the Second Class where the matter in dispute does not exceed two hundred and fifty pounds. Third Class Subordinate Courts have no civil jurisdiction.

(4) The Judicial Commissioners' Courts

Judicial Commissioners have been appointed in terms of Proclamation No. 25 of 1950 to hear civil and criminal appeals from the Courts of the Paramount Chief. Formerly appeals from Basuto Courts were heard by District Commissioners, but they became so numerous that it was found essential to establish special courts to deal with them.

The function of these Courts is that of hearing civil and criminal appeals from Basuto Courts. Many of these appeals involve boundary disputes and in most of them native law and custom is involved.

On any appeal the Judicial Commissioner can reserve on his own motion, or on the application of either party, any question of law or native law and custom for decision by the High Court.

From the decisions of a Judicial Commissioner on appeals from Basuto Courts there is a further right of appeal to the High Court, with the leave of the Judicial Commissioner, or, if this is refused, with the leave of the High Court.

The Judicial Commissioners have been gazetted as Magistrates to preside over First Class Subordinate Courts in districts, thereby further assisting District Commissioners.

(5) *Basuto Courts*

The recognition and grant of special powers and jurisdiction to Basuto Courts is contained in the Native Courts Proclamation, Chapter six of the Laws of Basutoland. There are 63 courts which fall under the following categories :

- (a) "B" Courts or courts of first instance of which there are 47, 12 of which sit alternately at one of two centres each. Their jurisdiction in criminal cases is limited to a fine of £15 and/or three months' imprisonment with or without hard labour ; in civil cases they have jurisdiction in all actions where the claim or value of the matter in dispute does not exceed £250.
- (b) "A" Courts or Basuto Courts of Appeal, of which there are 12. They have first instance as well as appellate jurisdiction. Their jurisdiction in criminal cases is limited to a fine of £25 and/or six months' imprisonment with or without hard labour. In stock theft cases only, this jurisdiction is increased to one year's imprisonment with or without hard labour. In civil cases they have jurisdiction in all actions where the claim or value of the matter in dispute does not exceed £500.
- (c) Central Appeal Courts or Higher Basuto Courts of Appeal, of which there are four. They, too, have first instance as well as appellate jurisdiction. Their jurisdiction in criminal cases is limited to a fine of £50 and/or two years' imprisonment with or without hard labour. In civil cases there is no limit to the amount of the claim or matter in dispute in respect of their jurisdiction. Appeals from these courts go to the Judicial Commissioner's Court. Three of these courts are sited at Matsieng, Leribe and Mohale's Hoek, while the fourth is a circuit court serving the mountain districts of Qacha's Nek and Mokhotlong.

These courts are established by warrants issued by the Resident Commissioner with the approval of the High Commissioner, and may exercise civil and criminal jurisdiction to the extent set out in their warrants. They have no jurisdiction over any parties other than Africans as defined in the General Interpretation Proclamation, Chapter 2 of the Laws of

Basutoland. They deal mainly with civil disputes and offences against Sesuto Law and Custom and infringements of the Paramount Chief's Rules and orders.

Before April, 1946, there were 1,300 courts run by unpaid officials, and all the fines imposed were taken by the Chiefs as a perquisite of their position, a practice which was obviously open to abuse. When the National Treasury was inaugurated on the 1st April, 1946, the number of courts was reduced to 106 and paid court officials were employed. The revenue derived from court fines and various fees is now paid into the National Treasury.

The number of courts has been further reduced to 63 as shown above. In effecting this reduction, care was taken to site the courts at centres which will be convenient and within easy reach of the majority of the people. The new court staffs have been carefully selected and were only appointed after a course of training.

Chiefs still retain the right to act as arbitrators in civil disputes where both parties are prepared to have the dispute settled out of court.

2. THE JUDICIARY

The Judiciary is headed by the Chief Justice, who is also Chief Justice of the Bechuanaland Protectorate and Swaziland. He is resident in Maseru in Basutoland because there is more Court work in Basutoland than in each of the other Territories.

During 1955 a Puisne Judge was appointed for all three Territories. Like the Chief Justice, he is stationed at Maseru.

The Chief Justice, now that a Puisne Judge has been appointed, generally confines his activities to the Court of Appeal, Criminal Review Cases, the supervision of the work of Subordinate Courts and the administrative side of the Judiciary. A practice has also been arranged by which the Chief Justice visits the two other Territories quarterly to take civil matters and applications; this being in addition to the normal criminal and civil Sessions.

Under the Chief Justice there are the Judicial Commissioner, Registrar of the High Court, Resident Magistrate and the various presiding Officers of the Subordinate Courts – that is Administrative Officers in their judicial capacity.

The following statistics for the year under review are of interest:

Court of Appeal

The Court of Appeal sat on two occasions in Basutoland and disposed of 48 appeals, dismissing 35, allowing 8 in full and 5 in part.

In 15 criminal trials 55 persons were indicted all of whom were eighteen years or over. There were 55 charges against these persons of which 3 were withdrawn. There were convictions on 24 and acquittals on 28 of those charges. Of these 28 accused 24 were in two appeals which were abandoned

by the Crown during the course of the trial. 27 persons were convicted of murder.

Criminal review cases from Subordinate Courts totalled 262.

There were 61 criminal appeals from Subordinate Courts of which 41 were dismissed, 17 allowed, 3 sent back for rehearing and none were pending at the end of the year.

There were 9 civil cases all of which were disposed of.

Civil appeals from Subordinate Courts totalled 4 all of which were dismissed.

Judicial Commissioners' Courts

Including 8 criminal appeals pending at the end of 1955 and 13 filed during the year, there were 21 criminal appeals. Of these 3 were dismissed, 5 allowed, none sent back for re-hearing and 13 were pending at the end of the year.

Including 62 civil appeals pending at the end of 1955 and 188 filed during the year, there were 250 civil appeals. Of these 78 were dismissed, 44 allowed, 10 sent back for re-hearing, leaving 118 pending at the end of the year.

Subordinate Courts

These Courts dealt with 5,572 charges during the year under review, an increase of 154 over the 1955 figures. Apart from a number of petty offences not classified under any particular heading, the main offences were stock theft, ordinary theft, malicious injury to property, housebreaking, public violence, arson, abduction and escape. Stock theft decreased by 143 during the year.

Including those pending at the end of 1955 and those registered in 1956, there were 788 civil cases of which 574 were heard. Most of the remainder were not heard because parties did not set them down for hearing.

Master of the High Court

The duties of the Master of the High Court include the supervision of the administration of the estates of persons (other than tribal Africans) who are deceased or absent or who are lunatics, and also of the administration of all insolvent estates. He is also responsible for the administration of the Guardians' Fund.

The total number of estates registered is 546, of which 11 were registered during this year.

Several estates were wound up during the year.

There were no insolvencies.

At the end of 1955 there was a sum of £4,913. 19s. 8d., in the Guardian's Fund which was unclaimed monies. This sum was in consequence of section 3 (a) of the Administration of Estates (Amendment) Proclamation, 1955 (No. 56/1955) paid into general revenue.

II. POLICE

I. ADMINISTRATION

The Commissioner of the Basutoland Mounted Police is the Departmental Head and Commanding Officer of the Force. He is responsible to the Resident Commissioner for its efficient administration.

The Commissioner is assisted at Police Headquarters by the Deputy Commissioner of Police as Second-in-Command of the Force; by a Superintendent as Staff Officer; by a second Superintendent as Officer-in-Charge of the Police Training School, and by a Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent of Police as Officers Commanding the Criminal Investigation Division and Special Branch respectively.

For Police administrative purposes the Territory is divided into five Divisions, which in turn comprise nine Districts. District Commands coincide with Administrative District areas.

The Divisions are each commanded by a Superintendent, who, in addition, commands the District Police in his District, and is responsible to the Commissioner of Police for the efficient administration and working of his Division.

The remaining Districts contained within a Division are commanded by Superintendents, Assistant Superintendents, Senior Inspectors or Inspectors, who are responsible to their Divisional Commanders.

All Commissioned Officers of the Force are Europeans. The Inspectorate and Non-Commissioned ranks are recruited from the Africans of the Territory.

2. ESTABLISHMENT AND STRENGTH

The Secretary of State for Commonwealth Relations approved an increase to the establishment in December, 1954. The Establishment was further augmented in 1956 by the addition of the following:

- 1 Inspector
- 1 Sergeant
- 4 Corporals
- 49 Troopers
- 1 Civilian Farrier (African).

Wastage and the shortage of accommodation were responsible for the Force not being up to its full strength.

The following tables which include this increase show the Establishment and actual strength of the Force as at 31st December, 1956:

Europeans

<i>Rank</i>	<i>Establishment</i>	<i>Strength</i>
Commissioner	1	1
Deputy Commissioner	1	1
Superintendents and Assistant Superintendents	14	12
Total.	16	14

Africans

<i>Rank</i>	<i>Establishment</i>	<i>Strength</i>
Senior Inspector	1	1
Inspectors	3	3
Staff Sergeants	8	7
Sergeants	17	17
Corporals	40	28
Lance Corporals	—	18
Troopers	376	331
Total inspectorate and non-com- missioned ranks	445	405

Civilian Employees

<i>Rank</i>	<i>Establishment</i>	<i>Strength</i>
Lady Clerks (European)	2	2
Farriers (African)	2	1
Saddlers (African)	5	5
Messenger Clerks (African)	2	2
Total.	11	10

A further increase is anticipated in 1957.

3. TRANSPORT

The Force has an establishment of 12 motor vehicles, 320 riding horses and 72 pack animals. An Austin 3 Ton Truck was ordered during the year for the use of the Training Reserve and to be stationed at the Police Training School.

4. POLICE TRAINING SCHOOL

The Training School at Walker's Camp on the outskirts of Maseru, is commanded by a Superintendent. He has a staff of one Staff-Sergeant, two Sergeants, three Corporals and six Troopers, one of whom is a driver and another a bugler. In addition to Recruits Courses, each of six months duration, Refresher and Promotion Courses are held for Non-Commissioned-Officers and Senior Troopers.

53 Recruits completed their training and were posted, 3 were discharged as unsuitable, 1 resigned, and 20 were still undergoing training at the end of the year.

7 other courses were held for 117 Non-Commissioned-Officers and Other Ranks underwent a six months' intensive course of training in Law, Police Duties, Musketry, Riot Drill and Physical Training. This Reserve Platoon was replaced by 24 men who were still under training at the end of the year.

Buildings constructed were an additional room to the Superintendents' quarters, and a kit and baggage room for men under instruction.

All buildings under construction in 1955 were completed in 1956.

The Police Bugle Band performed on ceremonial occasions during the year.

5. CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DIVISION AND
RECORDS BUREAU

This Division is commanded by a Superintendent of Police directly responsible to the Commissioner of Police. The African Establishment is one Sergeant, three Corporals and nine Troopers who, besides staffing the Bureau, are available for special investigations. The Division is responsible for the proper performance of Divisional criminal investigation duties, for giving assistance to all districts in the prevention and detection of crime and for all duties pertaining to Immigration and Emigration. The Superintendent in Command is also responsible for the proper presentation of cases for the consideration of the Attorney-General, and for their final preparation for the High Court.

The local Criminal Records Bureau is staffed by 2 Troopers. With the exception of the records of Africans convicted in the Basuto Courts, the dockets of all well-known criminals and persons convicted of serious crimes are kept at the South African Criminal Bureau until the local Bureau is established. Duplicate copies of all fingerprint slips sent to the South African Criminal Bureau are classified and filed in the local Bureau. 1,000 fingerprint slips were received, classified and filed and 86 fingerprint dockets were opened during the year.

6. SPECIAL BRANCH

This branch is commanded by an Assistant Superintendent of Police and the Establishment is one Staff-Sergeant, two Corporals, ten Troopers and one Lady Clerk. A member of the Special Branch is stationed at each of two Divisional and District headquarters.

7. WORK OF THE POLICE

(a) *Border Posts*: The Force mans 27 Border Stations which have an Establishment of four Non-Commissioned Officers and 58 Troopers. They are occupied mainly with customs duties, issuing of passes, collection of revenue and enforcement of legislation dealing with the import and export of livestock and produce. Border patrols are carried out as a deterrent to stock thieves and smugglers.

(b) *Patrolling*: 237,322 miles were covered by 6,468 patrols of 8,324 men. Most of this mileage was performed on criminal investigations. 88,605 miles were covered by Police motor vehicles. Gazetted Officers travelled 29,351 miles by motor car, 405 miles on horseback and 2,600 miles by air. In addition, an Inspector travelled 756 miles by motor cycle.

(c) *Mountain Stations*: Nine mountain stations have operated during the year. Of these, five are accessible by road and two are on recognized air routes. The remainder are only accessible by animal transport. Sehonghong Police Station was re-opened early in the year. Paulus' Police Station was almost completed at the end of the year.

These stations are manned by twelve Non-Commissioned Officers and 39 Troopers. They serve the public in the remoter areas and are of great assistance in the suppression of stock theft.

8. MURDER

Four cases of suspected medicine murder were reported during 1956. All these cases are under investigation.

Of the nine cases brought forward from 1955:

1 case was tried before the High Court and all the accused were acquitted.

1 case was committed for trial and is awaiting trial.

5 cases were closed undetected owing to insufficient evidence.

2 cases remain under investigation.

In addition 1 case reported during 1954 was brought to trial before the High Court and all the accused were acquitted.

A comparative table showing medicine murders reported during the ten years since 1947 with yearly fluctuations is given hereunder.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Cases reported</i>	<i>Increase over Previous Year</i>	<i>Decrease over Previous Year</i>
1947 . . .	6	—	1
1948 . . .	20	14	—
1949 . . .	5	—	15
1950 . . .	4	—	1
1951 . . .	9	5	—
1952 . . .	14	5	—
1953 . . .	10	—	4
1954 . . .	11	1	—
1955 . . .	9	—	2
1956 . . .	4	—	5

9. STOCK THEFT

1,694 Cases of stock theft were reported as against 2,188 cases reported during 1955.

Of the 1,694 cases reported, 155 cases were still under investigation at the end of the year. 930 cases were sent to the Basuto Courts for trial. 455 cases were tried in Subordinate Courts of which 405 resulted in convictions, and 50 in acquittals.

A Territorial Stock Theft drive was carried out during April and May 1956. As a result of this drive, 623 cases were sent for trial to Basuto Courts and 37 cases to Subordinate Courts, involving a total of 2,354 animals.

10. STATISTICS

The following tables show crime statistics for the year under review. The number of persons convicted in 1956 indicates an increase of 415 over the previous year.

<i>Against Person:</i>												
Murder and Culpable Homicide	38	93	32	—	31	14	13	4	34	29	5	34
Attempted Murder	6	16	1	—	7	4	2	1	14	13	1	—
Assault w/i G.B.H.	44	380	36	224	25	2	14	9	137	130	7	2
Assault Common	70	3025	81	2679	128	38	62	28	207	193	14	—
Defamation	2	2	2	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Manstealing	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
<i>Against Property:</i>												
Theft Common	117	843	72	165	421	115	226	80	302	286	16	—
Robbery	4	28	8	6	8	3	5	—	10	10	—	—
Extortion	1	3	2	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
Housebreaking and Theft	42	233	45	18	123	19	85	19	89	76	13	—
Stock Theft	190	1694	155	930	344	148	156	40	455	405	50	—
Fraud	7	23	—	—	15	5	7	3	15	13	2	—
Theft by False Pretences	8	37	6	6	18	7	7	4	15	13	2	—
Forgery and Uttering	2	32	2	1	11	6	4	1	20	18	2	—
Receiving Stolen Property	—	10	—	1	—	—	—	—	9	8	1	—
Arson	35	224	27	23	138	18	106	14	70	62	8	—
Malicious Injury to Property	33	243	20	73	114	21	82	11	69	61	8	—
Theft by Conversion	—	11	2	—	2	—	1	1	7	6	1	—
<i>Against Local Statute Laws:</i>												
Traffic	22	334	25	4	131	45	47	39	196	191	5	—
Liquor	16	377	21	17	32	9	12	11	323	319	4	—
Dagga	9	312	16	9	22	6	9	7	274	264	10	—
<i>Miscellaneous and Petty:</i>												
Other Offences not specified	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
above	201	2784	178	81	897	265	288	335	1829	1765	64	—
<i>Summary</i>												
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)
												(13)
Lawful Authority	46	262	32	20	79	17	35	27	176	168	8	—
Public Morality	49	311	32	94	77	32	28	17	150	139	11	—
Persons	160	3517	152	2904	192	58	92	42	393	365	28	—
Property	439	3381	339	1224	1194	342	679	173	1062	959	103	—
Statutory Offences	47	1023	62	30	185	60	68	57	793	774	19	—
Miscellaneous and Petty	201	2784	178	81	897	256	288	353	1829	1765	64	—
Total	942	11278	795	4353	2624	765	1190	669	4403	4170	233	45

TABLE II—Persons dealt with by Subordinate Courts, 1956

	Total arrested or summoned to Court	Acquitted	Nolle Prosequi	Awaiting trial as at 31.12.56	Convicted					
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	Total	Death	Imprisonment	Whipping	Fine	First Offenders act or warning.
<i>Lawful Authority:</i>										
Public Violence	91	—	—	5	91	—	2	6	62	21
Perjury	9	1	—	1	8	—	1	—	4	3
Escape from Custody	51	—	—	8	51	—	42	—	6	3
Resisting Arrest	57	4	—	2	53	—	15	—	31	7
Obs. or Defeating Justice	3	—	—	2	3	—	—	—	2	1
Contempt of Court	41	2	—	2	39	—	3	—	19	17
Prison Regulations	34	2	—	—	32	—	30	—	2	—
Bribery	2	—	—	—	2	—	2	—	—	—
<i>Public Morality:</i>										
Rape	39	5	—	13	34	—	17	7	10	—
Assault w/i to Rape	11	—	—	1	11	—	8	—	3	—
Indecent Assault	41	4	—	4	37	—	16	3	15	3
Abduction	38	—	—	3	38	—	6	—	28	4
Sodomy	7	—	—	—	7	—	5	—	2	—
Bestiality	2	—	—	—	2	—	2	—	—	—
Girls' and Women's Protection	6	2	—	—	4	—	3	1	—	—
Abortion	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Concealment of Birth	10	2	—	1	8	—	3	—	4	1
Incest	2	—	—	—	2	—	2	—	—	—
Vagrancy	22	—	—	—	22	—	3	—	19	—
Brothel Keeping	12	—	—	—	12	—	3	—	—	—
Public Indecency	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	12

<i>Persons:</i>											
Murder and Culpable homicide . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2
Attempted Murder . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2
Assault w/i G.B.H. . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	7
Assault Common . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	8
Manstealing . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	—
<i>Property:</i>											
Theft Common . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	18
Robbery . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	—
Extortion . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	—
Housebreaking and Theft . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	5
Stock Theft . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	52
Fraud . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1
Theft by False Pretences . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	3
Forgery and Uttering . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1
Receiving Stolen Property . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	10
Arson . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	26
Malicious Injury to Property . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	—
Theft by Conversion . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	—
<i>Statutory Offences:</i>											
Traffic . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2
Liquor . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	26
Dagga . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	13
<i>Miscellaneous and Petty:</i>											
Other Offences not specified above . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	189
<i>Summary</i>											
Lawful Authority	288	9	—	20	279	—	95	6	126	52	
Public Morality	193	14	—	22	179	—	65	11	83	20	
Persons	520	67	—	129	453	—	156	32	246	19	
Property	1448	184	—	153	1264	—	546	133	469	116	
Statutory Offences	861	31	—	52	830	—	81	1	707	41	
Miscellaneous and Petty	1895	109	—	101	1786	—	163	17	1417	189	
Total	5205	414	—	477	4791	—	1106	200	3048	437	

TABLE III — *Persons dealt with by High Court, 1956*

	<i>Total Persons tried in High Court</i>	<i>Acquitted</i>	<i>Nolle Prosequi</i>	<i>Convicted</i>					
	(1)	(2)	(3)	<i>Total</i>	<i>Death</i>	<i>Imprisonment</i>	<i>Whipping</i>	<i>Fine</i>	<i>First Offenders Act or warning</i>
<i>Lawful Authority:</i>									
Public Violence	10	8	—	2	—	2	—	—	—
<i>Persons:</i>									
Murder	39	26	—	13	1	12	—	—	—
<i>Property:</i>									
Housebreaking and Theft	3	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Statutory Offences:</i>									
Contravening Diamond Proclamation	2	—	—	2	—	2	—	—	—
Totals	54	34	3	17	1	16	—	—	—

III. PRISONS

I. ADMINISTRATION

The Superintendent of Prisons is the head of the Basutoland Prisons Service and is responsible to the Resident Commissioner. The Superintendent is assisted by an Assistant Superintendent who is in charge of the Central Prison. The African Staff consists of one senior Gaoler, 11 Gaolers, 9 Technical Instructor Warders, 83 Warders, 1 female Gaoler and 6 female Warders. The district prisons are in the charge of District Commissioners under the general direction of the Superintendent regarding prison administration.

There are ten prisons in the Territory, one at each district headquarters except at Maseru where there are two prisons – the Old Gaol which is used for juveniles and females, and the new Central Prison which, although not yet completed, takes all adult male prisoners from the Maseru district, long-term prisoners from other districts, and condemned prisoners.

At the Central Prison, a new double barbed wire fence was erected around the perimeter of the prison and four watch towers one at each corner, were built. The condemned block was completed and condemned prisoners transferred from the Old Gaol to this new wing. An administrative block, consisting of two offices, armoury, visiting room and prisoners' property store, was completed, as also was the fourth and final wing of the main prison, making available a further fourteen cells. Electricity is now laid on to all cells and passages. The lighting of the perimeter, administrative block and Senior Gaoler's house is receiving attention. A coal bunker has been made and is in use. The central Stores, which will act as a prison Store for all stations is almost finished. A garage for prison transport and also a store for tools are complete, but for roofing. A start has been made on a petrol store. The final block of latrines is under erection. The rotunda of the prison remains to be roofed. Exercise yards and wings have been sealed off and the various classes of prisoners' are now completely segregated.

At the Old Gaol females and juveniles are housed in separate sections. Improvements were effected to a number of district prisons.

A separate cell and yard for unconvicted prisoners were provided at Butha Buthe; a separate building for females at Quthing; an outside tool store, two batchelor quarters for warders, and separate female prisoners' accommodation at Leribe; a proper kitchen at Mokhotlong; and stone was cut to provide separate accommodation for both unconvicted prisoners and female prisoners at Mafeteng.

During the year, 4,833 prisoners were committed to prison. The daily average in prison was 996.4. Comparative figures for 1955 were total committals 4,740; daily average 980.

2. DISCIPLINE

One third good conduct remission may be earned by prisoners, provided the sentence is not reduced to less than thirty days. There has been a marked improvement in the general standard of discipline.

Twenty prisoners escaped during the year, but of these twelve were recaptured.

3. EXECUTIONS

At the end of 1955 fifteen prisoners were in custody under sentence of death. During 1956 a further seven were sentenced to death. The outcome of cases was as follows :

Executed.	7
Sentence commuted to imprisonment	12
Released by Appeal Court	3
	<hr/> 22 <hr/>

4. HEALTH

The general health of the prisoners has been good. There were no epidemics. The daily average reporting sick was 6.54, the majority being for minor complaints. 77 prisoners were admitted to hospital and there were six deaths. Comparative figures for 1955 were daily average 6.55, admissions to hospital 137 and fifteen deaths.

Diets are laid down in prison regulations, but the Medical Officer may alter these if he considers it necessary. Government Medical Officers in the districts see all admissions and attend to all prisoners reporting sick. Regular inspections of prisons are made by them, and in Maseru these inspections take place daily. As there are no hospitals attached to any of the prisons in the districts, doctors place those prisoners requiring hospital treatment in the Government hospitals. These cases are guarded by prison warders.

5. LABOUR

Apart from routine domestic work at the prisons including gardening, building and stone-cutting, prison labour is used on work of a public nature, such as chimney-sweeping, tree-felling and planting, street-cleaning, road-building, sanitary work and the upkeep of hospital grounds.

At Maseru Central Prison, the majority of prisoners are given industrial training in the following trades by prison technical instructors: tailoring, cobbling, brick-making, blacksmithing, plumbing, carpentry, stone-cutting

and building. Mat-making is also carried out whenever old, boarded blankets are available. Prison labour has been used to build the Central Prison. During the year under review 2,087 stones were cut and 236,400 bricks were made.

The Maseru vegetable gardens produced 167,694 lb. of vegetables. Gardening operations are carried out by prisoners, including all the juveniles, under the supervision of an agricultural instructor. Vegetable garden products were supplied to the Maseru prisons, the Government hospitals in Maseru and to the Teyateyaneng, Butha Buthe and Quthing prisons when these prisons ran short of their own supplies. There is always a ready market for any surplus vegetables for sale to the staff and to the public. Total revenue from the sale of vegetables amounted to £385. 3s. 5d.

The tailoring section was employed in making prisoners' clothing and warders' uniforms. 2,806 articles of clothing were made and 2,704 articles of clothing repaired. The cobbling section was concerned with the manufacture of prisoners' sandals and repairs to boots. 312 sandals were made and 1,117 boots were repaired. Carpenters made all doors and window frames required for the Central Prison. Blacksmiths were mainly occupied with the manufacture and sharpening of tools for the masons and quarry gangs. They also manufactured all iron work required for the prison. 244 punches and stone wedges were made and 5,015 articles were repaired.

From the sale of bricks and pigs and from other industries, a total amount of £328 was received and paid into revenue.

6. WOMEN PRISONERS

With the exception of short-sentence females in the districts, all female prisoners are housed in the Old Gaol at Maseru and guarded by a female staff consisting of one Gaoler and six warders. Female prisoners in districts are guarded by temporary female warders. Permanent female staff in the districts is not warranted.

Female prisoners are employed on laundry work, cleaning at the Government hospital and dispensary, making and repairing prison clothing and on work such as weeding, hoeing and planting. Long-sentence females were employed operating sewing machines.

During the year 548 females were admitted to prison. Of this total 373 were sentenced to imprisonment either with or without the option of fines. Forty-two of the 548 had previous convictions and 42 were lunatics detained under medical surveillance. Comparative figures for 1955 were 469 admissions, 335 sentenced to imprisonment and 43 lunatics. In Maseru the daily average was 26.9 compared with 23.4 in 1955.

7. EDUCATION

A specially selected warder with previous teaching experience conducts educational classes in Maseru for both adult and juvenile prisoners. These classes are proving very popular and a further teacher is now to be provided.

8. EXTRA-MURAL LABOUR

District Commissioners are empowered to give persons sentenced to terms of imprisonment of less than six months the option of serving their sentences extra-murally. This has the advantage of keeping first offenders out of goal and out of contact with hardened criminals.

CHAPTER X

PUBLIC UTILITIES AND PUBLIC WORKS

I. PUBLIC UTILITIES

Electricity

The New Maseru Power Station commissioned in March, 1954, comprising two second-hand 150 K.W. 3,300 volt Reciprocating Compound Steam Generating Sets with surface condensing plant and one new and one second-hand water tube boiler, each rated at 5,000 lb./hour, has continued to function satisfactorily. Due to extensive development in recent years the loading on the Power Station makes extensions by 1958 essential. A revised Electricity Tariff came into force on the 19th March, 1956 and operation during the past year indicates that revenue will balance expenditure in the coming financial year.

Water

The supply is obtained from springs and from the Caledon River. The springs are located on a plateau about 5 miles from Maseru and deliver by gravity 20,000 to 100,000 gallons per day. The Caledon River Waterworks is designed for a maximum output of 180,000 gallons per day of potable water. Two additional Sand Filters are under construction and will be commissioned early in the new year. These filters will make it possible to maintain the maximum output continuously. At present the maximum demand in the summer season reaches 350,000 gallons per day and in times of drought, restrictions are necessary. Funds have been made available for the augmentation of the supply under the Territory's

Development Loan and the investigation of alternative sources of supply will start early in the new year. Due to good rains in the year under review no restrictions of supply were necessary.

Development of Water Resources

Mention has been made at page 25 of this report of the investigations now under way to confirm the possibilities of the Ox-Bow Hydro Electric Power and Water Supply Scheme. This is one of the three complementary schemes described in the Report on the Regional Development of the Water Resources of Basutoland by Ninham Shand, Consulting Civil Engineer. It will be noted that these schemes are concentrated in the north-western region of the Territory and are most conveniently situated near the Orange Free State border for the supply of power and potable water to the north eastern Orange Free State and the new Goldfields in the west. Earlier Hydro-electric and water supply schemes on the lower Orange River in Basutoland are still considered possible but the investigations of the more economically attractive possibilities in the north will now be given priority.

2. PUBLIC WORKS

Buildings

The Public Works Department Building Section carried out new works to the total value of £66,000 during the year.

The most notable building completed was the New High Court at Maseru which is of local sandstone quarried and dressed by Basuto artisans. The building 9,600 sq. ft. in area includes the Court Room, which is accoustically treated and panelled to a height of 6 feet and furnished throughout in Imbuia hardwood, Chambers for the Chief Justice and Puisne Judge, offices etc. The entire work including all wood-work and furnishings was carried out by the Department.

Work on the new Sub-District Station at Sehonghong in the mountainous interior and accessible only by air or mule transport was almost completed. The buildings include Post Office, Administrative Office, Gaol, Store, Rest House and 6 Staff Quarters completed; Dispensary, Sick Bay and 3 Staff Quarters almost completed; Police Station, Mortuary and 3 Staff Quarters half completed.

The new unallocated Stores Offices and Main Stores were almost completed.

The first two blocks of the new Maseru Hospital were completed. The estimated cost of the buildings when completed is £150,000.

CHAPTER XI

COMMUNICATIONS

I. RAILWAYS

The Territory is linked with the railway system of the Union of South Africa by a short line from Maseru to Marseilles on the Bloemfontein-Natal main line. From this junction it is possible to proceed by rail direct to Bloemfontein or Bethlehem and thence to Cape Town, Johannesburg and Durban. One mile of the line is in Basutoland. The railway does not enter Basutoland at any other point but runs close to the boundary of the Territory and goods are transported by road to and from the nearest station across the border.

2. ROADS

The main road system totalling approximately 560 miles is principally confined to the western lowlands. From Maseru a main road extends to the north to Butha Buthe and to the south to Quthing with several short branch main roads to the east foothills of the mountains and connections with the Union of South Africa's road system to the west and south. A main road extends from Maseru into the mountainous area to the east for a road distance of 74 miles. This road traverses mountain ranges at an elevation of 8,800 feet and during the winter season is occasionally snow-bound. The mountain road is still under construction and the road head is at present 4 miles beyond the Senqunyane River. Qacha's Nek on the eastern border is connected with the Union by a main road.

Mokhotlong to the north-east is connected with the Union by a bridle path which has been widened and is suitable only for light four wheel drive vehicles, gradients are very steep and reversing has to be done on many of the bends.

Similar tracks for use by light four wheel drive vehicles, have been constructed for access from Leribe to the Kao River diamond prospect in the mountains and a track from Butha Buthe to the Maliba-Matšo River for access to the proposed Ox-Bow Hydro-Electric Scheme is under construction.

There are, in addition, 410 miles of tertiary or "C" roads serving trading stations and Basuto villages which are maintained by the traders and subsidised by Government.

Main roads are maintained by the Public Works Department, Basuto being employed as operators of plant and machinery. The standard of the main roads is generally low, formation of material in situ and lightly gravelled. Alignment, sight distance etc. are sub-standard for modern traffic. Few river and stream crossings are bridged and sometimes traffic is held up for up to 24 hours after heavy storms. However, with assistance

from Colonial Development and Welfare funds considerable progress is being made with the construction of new bridges and culverts and re-alignments on the worst sections.

3. BRIDLE PATHS

There are approximately 1,600 miles of bridle paths in the Territory, which are now maintained by the Basuto Administration. Any new construction work is done by the Public Works Department.

4. AVIATION

The main airstrips in the Territory are at Maseru, Mokhotlong, Sehonghong, Semonkong and Qacha's Nek, although there are others which are used principally by traders for transporting merchandize to their stores. Most of the Territory's airstrips are suitable only for the lightest type of aircraft. Proposals are under consideration for improvements to the principal airstrips.

A mail service was inaugurated and operates twice weekly between Maseru, Semonkong, Qacha's Nek, Sehonghong and Mokhotlong.

5. POSTS, TELEGRAPHS, TELEPHONES

Mail Services

A full mail service is maintained in the lowlands and at the two other principal offices either by air, rail or motor transport whilst agencies in the interior are largely served by animal transport. An air mail service four times weekly connecting Maseru and Mokhotlong and a weekly air mail service connecting Maseru, Semonkong (agency), Qacha's Nek and Sehonghong, (Agency) is in operation to accelerate the disposal of mails for the mountain area.

Staff

The establishment and strength of the Department at the end of 1956 is given below.

EUROPEANS

<i>Rank</i>	<i>Establishment</i>	<i>Strength</i>
Controller of Posts & Telegraphs	1	On leave pending retirement.
Senior Postmaster.	1	Acting Controller of Posts & Telegraphs.
Postmasters	7	5
Postal Assistants	7	2
T. & T. Electrician	1	1
Tutor	1	1
Total	18	10

Africans

<i>Rank</i>	<i>Establishment</i>	<i>Strength</i>
Postmasters, Higher Grade	8	7
Postal Assistants, Grade I	10	10
Telephone Operator, Grade I	1	1
Postal Assistants (Lineman). Grade. II	4	4
Postal Assistants Grade III	54	51
Postal Assistants (Telephonists Female) Grade IV.	11	11
Messengers (Temporary).	3	3
Clerk, Grade I	1	1
Total	92	88

The volume of business transacted at Basutoland Post Offices continues to increase considerably. The following statistics are of interest :

Heading		1954-55	1955-56
Post Offices and Agencies . . .		60	64
Postal Orders issued.	No.	46,573	48,182
	£	22,312	23,339
Postal Orders paid	No.	40,533	47,806
	£	33,765	43,196
Money Orders Issued	No.	25,397	28,871
	£	83,302	92,883
Money Orders Paid	No.	12,290	16,080
	£	81,456	97,352
Savings Bank Deposits	No.	11,941	11,107
	£	181,312	186,275
Savings Bank Withdrawals	No.	24,849	29,248
	£	214,792	264,586
Telegrams Forwarded	No.	112,645	118,626
Telegrams Received.		107,018	112,016
Bag and Box Rents		777	791
Money Order Commission		324	387
Postage Stamp Sales		27,383	28,334
Surtaxes		202	134
Registered Address Fees		20	20
Revenue Stamp Sales		11,126	13,523
Telegraph Revenue		4,851	4,619
Telephone Revenue.		5,106	5,550
Postal Order Poundage		315	332
Wireless Licences		70	92

CHAPTER XII

PRESS

Two weekly newspapers in Sesuto are published in the Territory. They are *Leselinyana* and *Moeletsi oa Basotho* which are published and printed by the Morija Sesuto Book Depot (Paris Evangelical Missionary Society) and Mazenod Institute (the Roman Catholic Mission) respectively.

In addition to these, two other newspapers, both appearing monthly, are published and printed in Maseru, namely *Mohlabani* and *Mafube*. The latter was registered during the year. *Letsatsi*, which was registered in 1955 ceased to be published during 1956.

The World, a weekly English language newspaper which is printed in Johannesburg, devotes considerable space to matters concerning the Basuto and Basutoland, where it is also widely distributed.

The Basutoland News, a weekly publication deals with the interests of the European community. It is published in the Orange Free State at Ficksburg, a town on the border of Basutoland.

PART III

BASUTOLAND

GEOGRAPHY AND CLIMATE

I. GEOGRAPHY

The Colony of Basutoland is an enclave within the Union of South Africa, its boundaries running with those of Natal to the east, Cape Province to the south, and the Orange Free State to the north and west. It lies between latitudes $28^{\circ} 35'$ and $30^{\circ} 40'$ south and longitudes $27^{\circ} 30'$ east. It comprises an area of 11,716 square miles of which about one quarter in the west is lowland country varying in height above sea level from 5,000 to 6,000 feet, the remaining three quarters being highlands rising to a height of 11,000 feet in the Drakensberg Range, which forms the eastern boundary with Natal. The mountain ranges run from north to south and those in the central area, named the Maluti, are spurs of the main Drakensberg which they join in the north, forming a high plateau varying in height from 9,000 to 10,500 feet. It is this area, where two of the largest rivers of the Union, the Orange and the Tugela, and tributaries of the Calendon have their source, that has caused Basutoland to be called the "sponge" of South Africa.

The soils in the mountain area are of basaltic origin, and those in the lowlands are derived mainly from the underlying cave sandstone. In the lowlands, the soil has been cropped continuously for upwards of 80 years. Due to the absence of fuel, practically all of the cattle manure is burnt, so that little or no organic matter is returned to the land; thus with the increasing population, both human and livestock, excessive demands have been made on the soil which has lost its structure and has become subject to serious erosion. The soils in the mountains have been brought into cultivation comparatively recently and are rich, though shallow. Owing to former uncontrolled grazing the areas situated above the arable land in many places became denuded of the grass cover, and the rush of surface water from those denuded areas caused serious gully erosion on the arable land situated below. The measures which have been and are being taken to control erosion and to restore and preserve the grass cover are described earlier in this report.

There are no large towns in Basutoland; the population of the capital, Maseru, is estimated to be approximately 5,000 persons.

2. CLIMATE

Rainfall is variable and averages approximately 28 inches a year over the greater part of the country. Most of it falls from October to April, but there is normally no month which has less than half an inch. Unfortunately river discharge statistics show that most of this water is lost to Basutoland in the form of run-off. The deciding factors from an agricultural point of view are whether the rain comes at intervals suited to the growth of the staple crops and whether it comes in the form of short and heavy storms, running to waste and eroding the soil, or in steady soaking showers. Serious droughts, like the one of 1948-49 are rare and there are a large number of perennial streams though not so many as existed some years ago. In the lowlands the temperatures vary from a maximum of 90 degrees or more in summer to a minimum that rarely drops below 20 degrees in winter: in the highlands the range is much wider and temperatures below zero are by no means unknown.

CHAPTER II

EARLY HISTORY

The Basuto as a nation did not come into prominence until 1818 when Moshesh, a minor chief of the Bakoena tribe in North Basutoland, gathered together the remnants of the various clans that had been scattered by the raids of the Zulu and Matabele.

The new nation went through a period of struggle, first with the emigrant Boers of the Great Trek, and then with the British under General Cathcart in 1852. From 1856 until 1868 there was a series of wars with the Orange Free State burghers, and, being hard pressed and having lost a large portion of his country (now known as "the Conquered Territory") Moshesh repeatedly sought the protection of the British Government.

Eventually in 1868 the Basuto became British subjects. Part of the Proclamation issued by Sir Philip Wodehouse, the Governor of the Cape Colony, on 12th March, 1868, reads as follows:

"Now therefore, I do hereby proclaim and declare that from and after publication hereof, the said tribe of Basuto shall be, and shall be taken to be British subjects, and shall be taken to be a British territory."

The country remained in a very unsettled condition until it was annexed to the Cape Colony by an Act of the Cape Legislature, No. 12 of 1871. The Act expressly declared that the territory was not to be subject to the general laws of the Colony, and gave the Governor power to legislate for it by proclamation and to extend to it by proclamation any Cape Act not otherwise in force therein.

The people never took kindly to the Cape Colonial rule, and after various disturbances the Government of the Cape, in 1880, extended to Basutoland the provisions of the Cape Peace Preservation Act of 1878, which included a clause for the general disarmament of the Basuto. They refused to accept the terms, and after a war lasting nearly a year, an agreement was arrived at, under which the Act was repealed and certain fines were paid by the Basuto.

Although outwardly peace was restored, there still remained several chiefs who would not submit, and it was eventually decided by the Government of Cape Colony to hand over the administration to the Imperial Government. This was effected by Order in Council of 2nd February, 1884, which was proclaimed and brought into force by Proclamation No. 75A of 18th March, 1884. This proclamation defined the boundaries of the Territory and restored it to the direct control of the Queen through Her Majesty's High Commissioner for South Africa.

CHAPTER III

ADMINISTRATION

Basutoland is an African territory without European settlers or landowners. It is governed under a loose-knit system by which a British Administration combines with a hereditary chieftainship on the whole satisfactorily, but with a tendency towards dualism which is beginning to prove a handicap to progress.

The chieftainship structure is a direct result of the tribal wars following the rise of the Zulu power and of Chief Moshesh's diplomacy in welding the scattered tribes into a single Basuto nation under the hegemony of his own clan, the Bakoena, to which all but three of the major chiefs belong. In building the nation Moshesh "placed" members of his own family over groups of people of other tribes, so that, except for the Ma-khoakhoa in Butha-Buthe District, the Bataung in Mohale's Hoek District and the Batlokoa in Mokhotlong District, whose own chiefs owe direct allegiance to the Paramount Chief, the chiefs and headmen of tribes other than Bakoena were under the direct control of a member of Moshesh's own family. This method of placing formed the precedent for a system of placing sons and brothers of other chiefs, which led to a great multiplication in the numbers of subordinate authorities, so that in 1938 it was found necessary to impose a limitation on the number of those recognized. This was effected by publishing in the Gazette, under the Native Administration Proclamation of 1938, a list of all chiefs and headmen recognized by the High Commissioner. The Proclamation thus recognized the Paramount Chief and chieftainship as an integral part of the Government of the Territory, and vested their powers with legal authority,

extending to them also certain statutory powers and duties additional to those appertaining to them by custom. Under the senior chiefs – or “Sons of Moshesh” as they are called, although their number includes several who are not in fact descended from Moshesh – are some four hundred and fifty subordinate chiefs, all members of chiefly families, and twice as many headmen, as well as numerous village heads and some petty headmen who are not accorded recognition by the High Commissioner. The headmen and village heads belong to families not necessarily aristocratic in origin, though the hereditary principle is strictly applied now.

These chiefs, and particularly headmen, are the authorities with whom the ordinary people deal in all their daily affairs, and who are responsible for all ordinary administration in the Territory. They owe allegiance, through their immediate superiors, to the Paramount Chief, though, in practice, in matters not entirely concerned with Basuto law and custom they normally work with the District Commissioners of their districts.

At the head of the Government is the Resident Commissioner, who works under the direction of the High Commissioner for Basutoland, the Bechuanaland Protectorate and Swaziland. He is assisted by a Government Secretary who is also Deputy Resident Commissioner. The remaining executive posts of Government are held by Heads of Departments and District Officers, who are responsible to the Resident Commissioner for the good order and administration of their respective spheres. For administrative purposes the Territory is divided into nine districts under District Commissioners stationed at Butha Buthe, Leribe, Teyateyaneng, Maseru (the capital), Mafeteng, Mohale's Hoek, Quthing, Qacha's Nek, and Mokhotlong. Two of the District Commissioners, one of whom is stationed in the northern part of the Territory, and the other in the southern part, are Senior District Commissioners, who have, in addition to their duties as District Commissioners of their own districts, advisory and supervisory relationship towards the other District Commissioners in their part of the Territory, which does not amount to actual control over or responsibility for the districts. The district boundaries correspond generally with the chieftainship division of the Territory into twenty-one wards under Principal and Ward Chiefs, all but one of whom are directly subordinate to the Paramount Chief.

Heads of Departments are the Financial Secretary, Director of Medical Services, Director of Livestock and Agricultural Services, Director of Education, Director of Public Works, Commissioner of Police, and Superintendent of Prisons. The Judicial Department falls under the Honourable the Chief Justice for the High Commission Territories.

The Resident Commissioner works in close co-operation with the Paramount Chief in all matters concerning the country and people of Basutoland, and the District Commissioners similarly work in close co-operation with the Principal and Ward Chiefs in their districts. Heads of Departments and subordinate departmental officers, too, work with and through chieftainship authorities. The only exception to this is that the Police have authority to investigate crimes without reference to the

local chief or headman, but this power is exercised only in rare cases, and the normal procedure is for the chief to detail a representative who works with the policemen engaged in the investigation.

Legislation is by Proclamation made by the High Commissioner for Basutoland, the Bechuanaland Protectorate and Swaziland. Until 1931 the office of the High Commissioner was held by the Governor-General of the Union of South Africa, but with the close of the Earl of Athlone's period of office the two posts were separated. Certain subordinate legislation, under the authority of High Commissioner's Proclamations, may be made by the Resident Commissioner (Government Notices) and the Paramount Chief (Paramount Chief's Rules and Orders). With the exception of Paramount Chief's Rules and Orders all legislation is promulgated in the High Commissioner's Gazette.

An advisory body known as the Basutoland Council, consisting of the Resident Commissioner as President, the Paramount Chief as Chief Councillor, and 99 Basuto members, 94 nominated by the Paramount Chief and 5 by the Resident Commissioner, was constituted by Proclamation in 1910 to discuss matters affecting the domestic affairs of the Nation and to express its opinion on any draft laws that might be laid before it by the President. Since 1910 it has developed considerably, and the 99 members now consist of 42 elected, 52 nominated by the Paramount Chief and 5 nominated by the Resident Commissioner. In 1944 the High Commissioner made a formal declaration that "it is the policy of His Majesty's Government to consult the Paramount Chief and the Basutoland Council before Proclamations closely affecting the domestic affairs and welfare of the Basuto people or the progress and development of the Basuto Native Administration are enacted." At the same time the Paramount Chief confirmed that "it is the policy of the Paramountcy to consult the Basutoland Council before issuing orders or making rules closely affecting the life or welfare of the Basuto people and the administration of the Basuto." The Council meets at least once each year.

Since 1948, the Paramount Chief has been assisted by three advisers chosen by her from a panel of 18 elected by the Basutoland Council. In 1952 the number of advisers was increased to four.

The Council elects from among its own members a Standing Committee, presided over by the Resident Commissioner, whose meetings are attended by the Paramount Chief, and to it are referred all important matters which arise when the Council is not in session. The voice of the people is, therefore, being increasingly heard in the affairs of the Territory.

In 1943 District Councils were established as advisory and consultative bodies in all districts. The majority of the members are elected by popular vote at local assemblies and two to five members of the Basutoland Council resident in each district, are nominated by the Paramount Chief to sit as District Councillors. Each District Council elects four of its members to sit as members of the Basutoland Council for a term of three years – the other elected members of the Basutoland Council are elected by certain important sectional bodies, which are also represented on the District Councils.

At the end of 1943 a Committee was appointed, consisting mainly of Basuto, to work out a scheme for the establishment of Basuto National Treasury, and its proposals were published in a booklet which was widely distributed throughout the Territory. The proposals included the re-organization of the Basuto Courts, entailing a reduction in their number from over 1,300 to about 130, and a change-over from the tribal system whereby the Chiefs and Headmen held their own courts, themselves pocketing the fines and fees, to one whereby the courts would be held by stipendiary officers, and all fines and fees paid into the proposed National Treasury. It was proposed also that other practices open to abuse, such as the retention by the chiefs of unclaimed stray stock, should be abolished, and that chiefs and others carrying out administrative, judicial and fiscal duties should be paid allowances or salaries from the National Treasury. These proposals were accepted by the Resident Commissioner and Paramount Chief on the recommendation of the Basutoland Council in 1945, and the Basuto National Treasury and the new courts were established in 1946.

CHAPTER IV

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

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

The Cape Act of 1858 which defines the standard of weights and measures according to the English Act of 1824 still applies in Basutoland in accordance with Proclamation No. 4 of 1904.

CHAPTER V

READING LIST

General

- The Basutos*, by Sir GODFREY LAGDEN, K.C.M.G., 2 volumes (Hutchison).
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The Basutos, or Twenty-three Years in South Africa, by Rev. Eugene Casalis.
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Fourteen Years in Basutoland, by Rev. J. WIDDICOMBE.

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Basutoland Census, 1946.

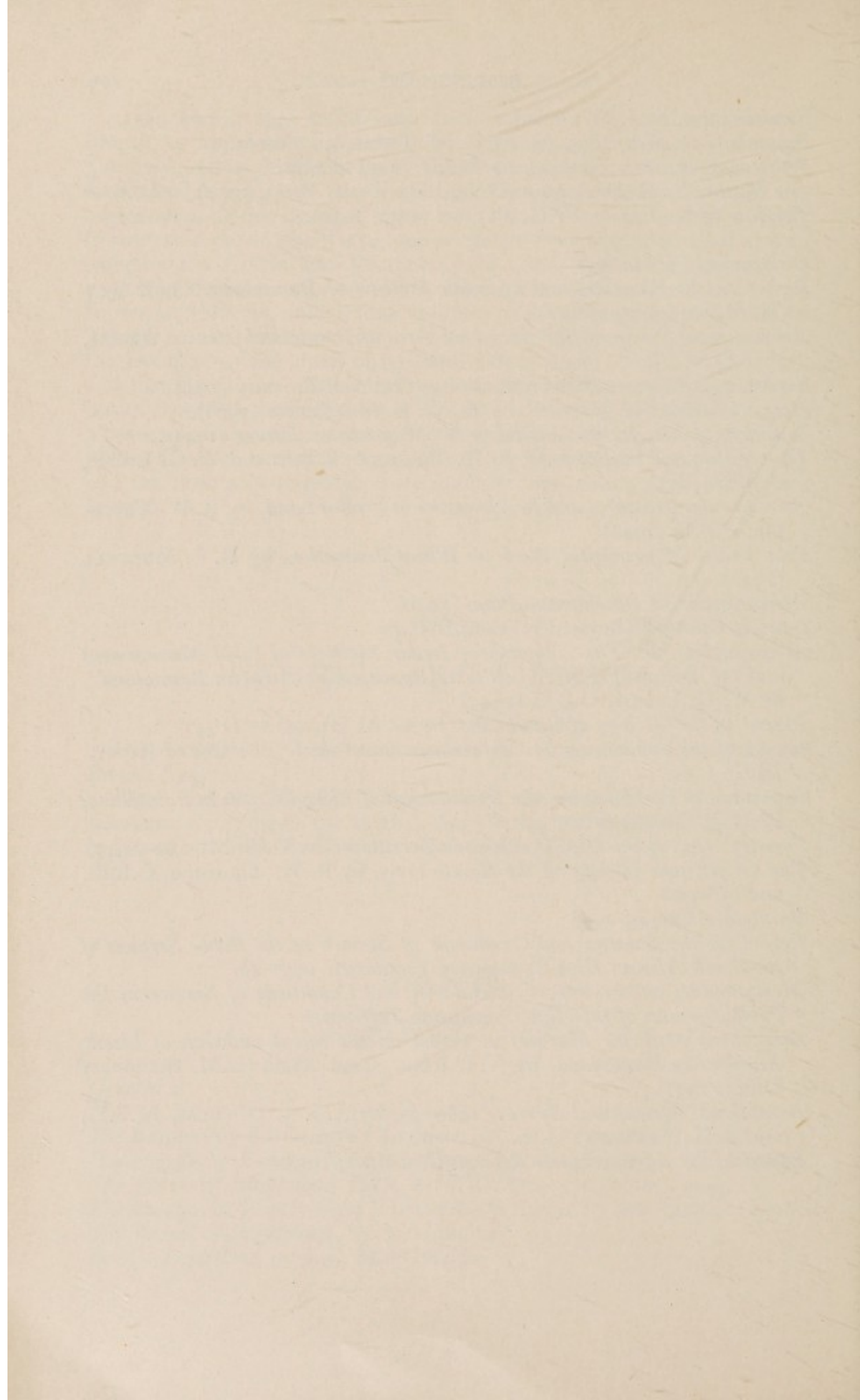
Report on the Salaries and Conditions of Service in the Public Services of the South African High Commission Territories, 1947-48.

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Basutoland Medicine Murder: A report on the recent outbreak of Liretlo Murders in Basutoland, by G. I. JONES, Cmd. 82,09 (H.M. Stationery Office, 1951).

Basutoland Agricultural Survey, 1949-50, by A. J. A. DOUGLAS, M.B.E., and R. K. TENNANT.

Report of the Administrative Reforms Committee, 1954.



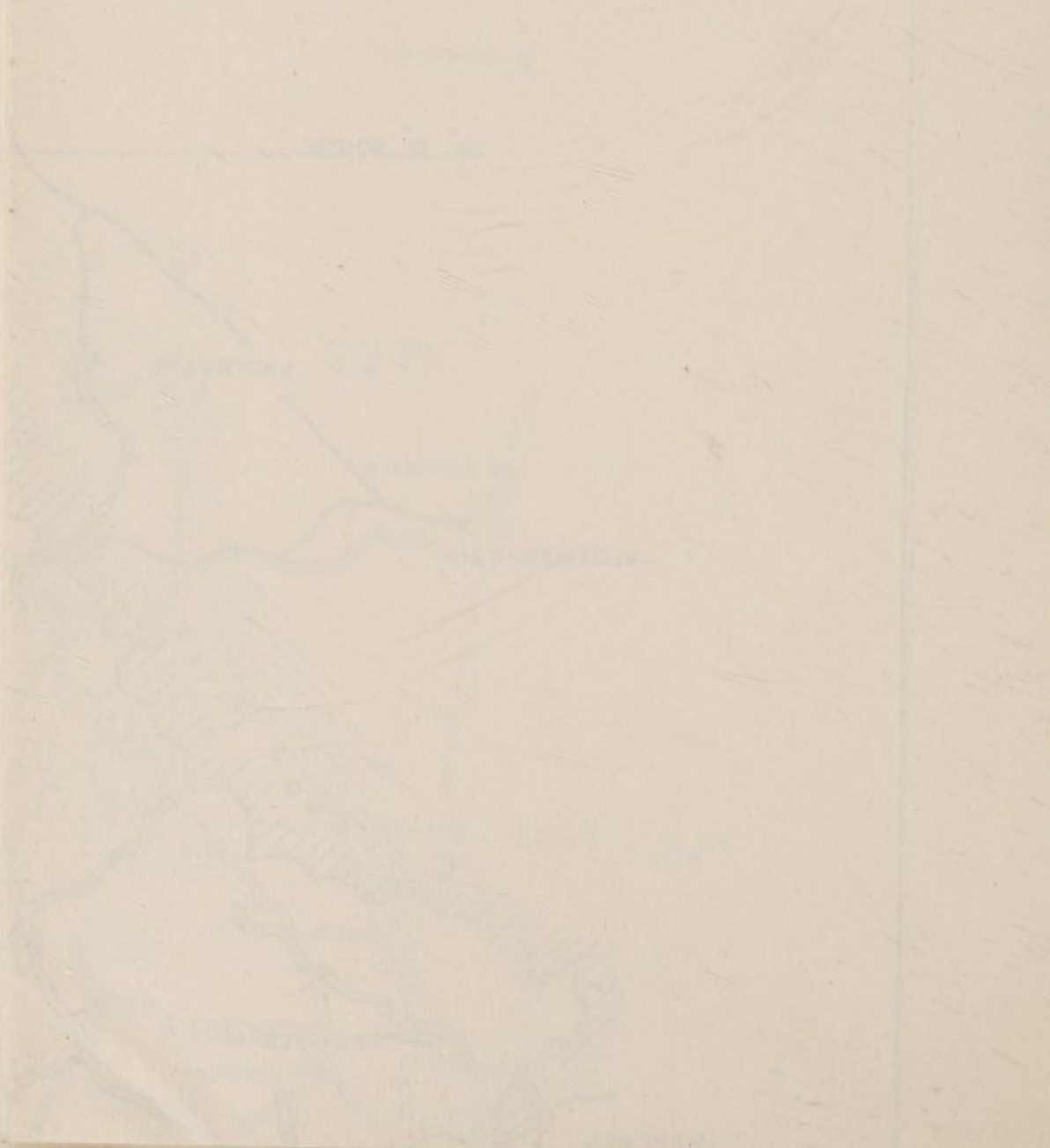
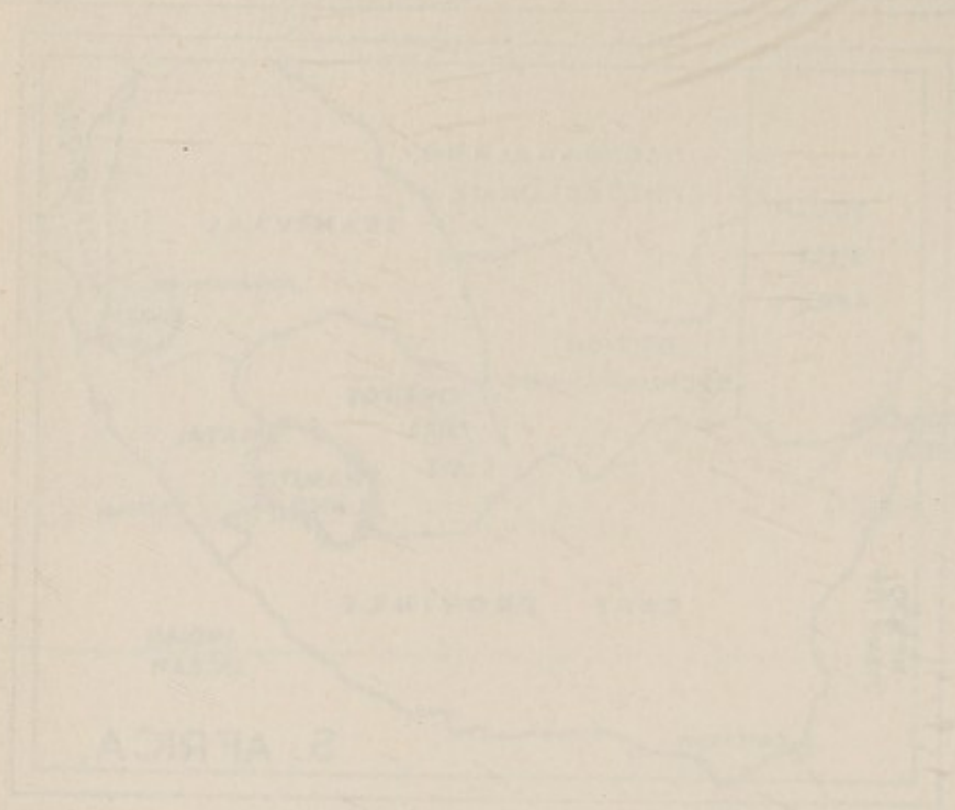


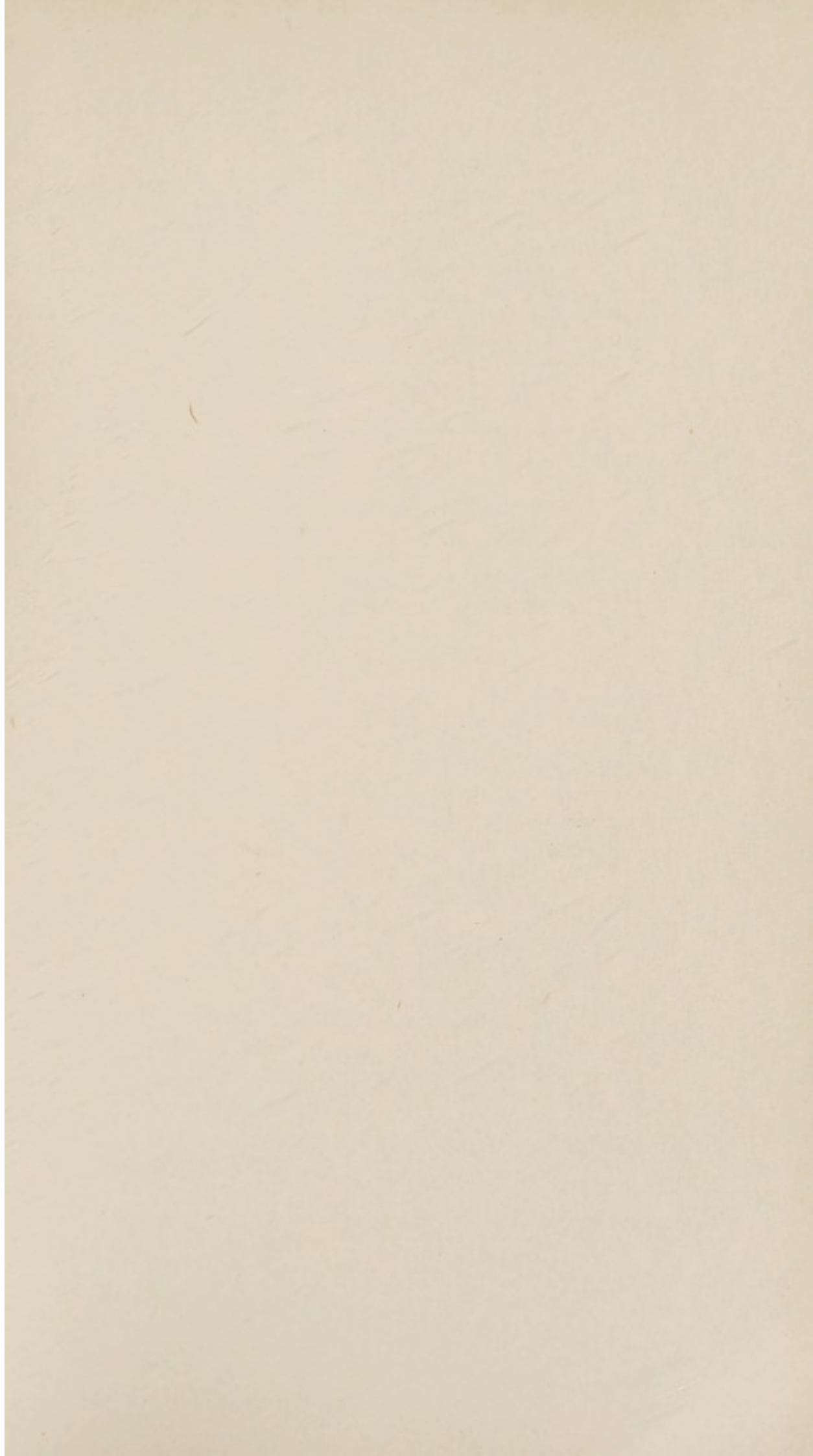
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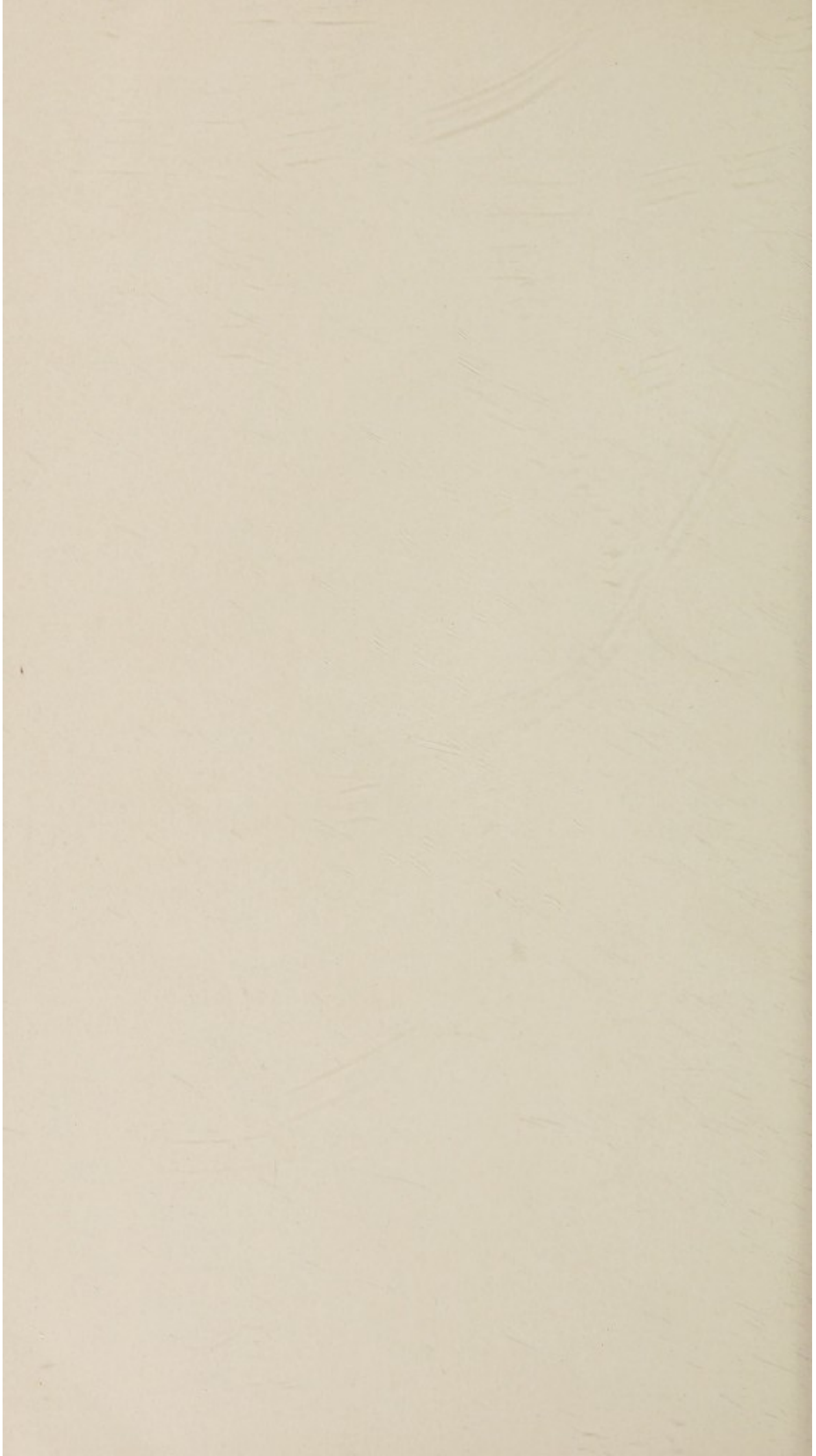


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