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Basutoland

1957

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The Paramount Chief's visit to the United Kingdom

*The Paramount Chieftainess being greeted by Sir Gilbert Luthwaite, Permanent Under-Secretary of State,
at the Commonwealth Relations Office*

COMMONWEALTH RELATIONS OFFICE

ANNUAL REPORT
ON
BASUTOLAND

FOR THE YEAR

1957

LONDON
HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

1959

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MORIJA - BASUTOLAND

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PART I

Chapter 1 : Review of the main Events of 1957

I. ADMINISTRATION AND GENERAL

THE Annual Session of the Basutoland Council which is normally held in September was postponed to February 1958 in the expectation that the report of the Chieftainship and Constitutional Reform Committees would then be ready for presentation to Council. Actually the reports are not likely to be available until July 1958. At its last session the Council also appointed another Committee to study Agricultural problems in Basutoland, and the report of this Committee will also be discussed at the postponed session. The Standing Committee of the Basutoland Council, to whom are referred all important matters which arise when the Council is not in session, proposed an important step forward in connection with the Basuto National Treasury Estimates for next year, by recommending that more responsibility devolve upon District Councils in the matter of the control of the maintenance of Bridle Paths and anti-soil erosion works within their own districts.

An important piece of legislation relating to the maintenance of deserted wives and children was passed by the Standing Committee and promulgated. This will enable action to be taken in the courts in the case of men who go to the Union to find work, stay away for many years and refuse to support their families in Basutoland.

As a result of a resolution of the Council at its last session, the Paramount Chief, Advisers and certain leading members of the Council paid a visit to the United Kingdom to confer with the Secretary of State. The visit served a very useful purpose and gave members of the party an opportunity for discussions not only on the specific subject of their mission but on other matters which may affect Basutoland directly or indirectly. Two members of the party took advantage of their presence in the United Kingdom to attend the Summer Conference on African Administration at Cambridge University.

Khosana Bereng Seeiso, Paramount Chief designate, who for the past three years has been studying at Ampleforth College, went up to Oxford University in October to read Politics, Philosophy and Economics. Khosana Leshoboro Seeiso is attending the South Devon Technical College where he is studying Public and Social Administration.

The diamond prospecting operations being carried on by a private company in the mountainous areas of north Basutoland continue to have encouraging results, and the Basuto National Treasury is now deriving revenue from these operations in the form of royalties on diamonds sold, rent for areas pegged and prospecting fees.

His Excellency the High Commissioner, Sir Percivale Leisching,

G.C.M.G., K.C.B., K.C.V.O., paid two visits to Basutoland during 1957 and toured the lowland areas north and south.

Mr. D. W. S. Hunt, Head of the Central African and Territories Department, Commonwealth Relations Office, visited the Territory in October. Other visitors during the year included Mr. J. C. Jones, Assistant Adviser to the Secretary of State on Technical Education and Mr. D. Rhind, Adviser to the Secretary of State for Colonial Agricultural Research.

2. FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC

Revenue exceeded the estimated figure by £73,897 due mainly to increased receipts from Customs and Excise. This was due to a continued relaxation of import control regulations in the Union of South Africa, which in turn increased the Territory's share of customs duty collected, in terms of the agreement between the Territory and the Union of South Africa. The increase in customs revenue was partly offset by reduced collections from African Tax, Income Tax and Wool and Mohair Export Levy. Basic African Tax collections were higher than the budget expectation but a new graded tax based on income which it was anticipated would be in operation during the year, had for unavoidable reasons to be deferred until the following year. The shortfall of Income Tax was due to an unsatisfactory wool market which affected traders' profits, and it is suspected that large scale smuggling to avoid payment of the export duty was the main factor which contributed towards the under-collection for this item of revenue.

Expenditure in the aggregate was as in accordance with the estimates.

The first instalment of the approved Development Loan of £500,000 was raised during the year, and average expenditure of approximately £100,000 yearly will be undertaken over a five year period.

3. AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PRODUCTION

Increased food production, better quality products, and the conservation and correct usage of the land, remain the most important features of departmental activity.

The extension work in the field is in the hands of 113 agricultural demonstrators, the majority of whom are holders of an agricultural diploma. The training of students in agriculture, which hitherto was done outside the territory, is now done at the agricultural school established by the department by means of a C. D. & W. grant. The first batch of 16 students qualified in May and all took government appointments. These young men, trained under local conditions, should do much to raise the level of efficiency of the field staff. It is aimed at turning out 20 such men

each year and as they are all keen to join the agricultural department, staffing difficulties should soon be ended.

The tree planting programme which was given impetus in 1956 by the appointment of a Forestry Officer, has progressed satisfactorily. In Districts where tree nurseries did not exist these have been established, and the older nurseries have received closer supervision. A closer contact with the chiefs has been maintained and as a result, many more trees have been planted. It is hoped eventually that by these measures the use of animal manure as fuel will cease. Meanwhile the use of phosphatic fertilizers is being advocated. Experiments have shown that an application of 150 lb. of phosphate per acre will, on the vast majority of the main maize producing lands, give a 100 per cent increase on the present level of crop production. The department, through field demonstration plots has shown the enormous economic gain to be obtained by the use of such fertilizers, and, by means of lectures and meetings has further stressed the desirability of their use. Through a departmental trading account fertilizers have been made available to the public and their use is steadily on the increase.

Another important commodity available to the public through the trading account, and one which has an important bearing on food production, is insecticides. These had been little used in the past, but to-day their importance is being increasingly realized and their use adopted. Crops during 1957 were slightly better than had been anticipated and in general the year can be stated to be a satisfactory one. Maize imports were some 50,000 bags of 200 lb. below the average.

Stock maintained good condition and wintered well due to improved grazing. This is an important factor in a country where oxen are used as draught animals. The condition of oxen at the time of spring rains quite often decides whether ploughing and planting can be completed in time to ensure that ensuing crops will not be caught by autumn frosts before maturity.

The get up of the wool and mohair clips was satisfactory, and despite an overall fall of prices at the coast an increased income was enjoyed by flockowners, because of greater exports.

4. CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES

The year 1957 was for the Co-operative Movement a year of re-organization. By December, sufficient progress had been made with the process of re-organization to offer real hope of expansion during 1958. Furthermore, December 1957 saw the final solution of departmental staffing problems which have impeded Co-operative progress for several years. For most of the year, however, the department had been working with only one half of its establishment.

In April, the seconded Registrar returned to District Administration. A permanent Registrar took up his appointment in October. In December,

three further inspectors were appointed bringing the total staff to Registrar, Assistant Registrar, Senior Inspector, eight inspectors, a clerk and a messenger. Arrangements were well in hand for filling the remaining vacancy of Co-operative supervisor, Higher Grade. When completed, the Co-operative Department will have, for the first time, a staff able to cope with an expanding movement. An inspector will be stationed in each district, while an audit team will operate from Maseru.

Alongside Departmental changes, the Movement itself is being re-organized as follows :

- (1) Small single purpose societies are being amalgamated into multi-purpose societies of an economic size.
- (2) The range of business is being expanded to cover all types of produce marketing, supply of agricultural and domestic goods, and savings.
- (3) A federal Co-operative Banking Union has been established, following the recommendations of the Secretary of State's Adviser on Co-operation. The Union will begin full operations in March 1958. Its functions will include besides banking for member societies, supplying goods wholesale, running a transport service and organising the disposal of produce. The Banking Union will also bring about more efficient accounting by the use of an accounting machine.

Since for much of the year the Co-operative staff was depleted, and the main pre-occupation has been with re-organization, it would not be reasonable to expect any great increase in the volume of business. In fact the volume of wool and mohair showed a further decline as compared with the previous year. On the other hand, the turnover in agricultural and domestic requirements increased substantially, and some societies have achieved a balanced multi-purpose business.

5. BASUTO ADMINISTRATION

During the year the Basutoland Council sustained the loss of two valuable members in the persons of Councillor Makoae Shoaepane and Councillor Wise Kobelia Poka. The death of a former Councillor - Chief Thoase Moliboea was also announced.

The Constitutional Reforms and Chieftainship Committees appointed by the Basutoland Council during its 1956 session have continued their enquiries and indications are that their report might be ready by the middle of next year when it will be presented to the Council. Much importance is attached to the work of these Committees which have the benefit of the advice of Professor D. V. Cowen, of the University of Cape Town. A third Committee of Council, the Agricultural Committee was able to conclude its enquiries and its reports await the next session of Council.

A special session of the Basutoland Council was held in May to deal with the backlog of motions from District Councils which had accumu-

lated over the past few years. Although considerable progress was made, it was not possible to dispose of all the motions in the time.

The audited accounts of the Basuto National Treasury showed a satisfactory position. Revenue stood at £185,649 and expenditure at £179,729, leaving a surplus on the year's working of £5,920. The accumulated surplus at 31st March, 1957, was £129,169, and the Special Reserve Fund was £60,000. The total investments at that date were £204,463 of which £94,463 was with the Crown Agents. There was in addition an amount of £81,000 invested on behalf of the Higher Education Fund.

6. EDUCATION

The total enrolment in all types of African schools again showed a very considerable increase from 110,911 to 116,800. Of this increase of 5,889 pupils 5,532 were in the Primary Schools which provide the first eight years of education. There was an increase of 48 in the secondary schools, 131 in the teacher-training schools, and 178 in technical and vocational training schools. In the latter category the increase has been largely in the girls' housecraft and needlework classes. Territorial finance has permitted an inadequate increase in the grant-in-aid for primary education and certain voluntary agencies, particularly the Roman Catholic Mission, continue to support a large number of unaided teachers in these schools. The additional Territorial funds made available for education have been absorbed by aided teachers' salary increments, and a few additional teachers in post-primary schools. The teacher pupil ratio in the primary schools is still approximately 1 : 50·5 with 2,260 teachers for 114,000 pupils.

During the year the junior secondary schools at St. Monica and Emmaus came on to the grant-in-aid list, and in 1958 will be fully aided. Good progress was made with the new High School at Peka and it is expected that secondary classes will move over from Morija in July 1958.

At the beginning of the year nine new Higher Primary schools accepted their first Standard V pupils. All these schools were approved as private schools. These nine brought the number of Higher Primary schools in the Territory to 90, 74 of which are in receipt of grants-in-aid.

Fifteen new lower primary schools were approved in the course of the year, and five such schools ceased to function. There was therefore a net increase of 19 in the primary category bringing the total number in the Territory to 976.

At its twelfth annual meeting in August the Central Advisory Board recommended the establishment of a third technical school to serve the north of the Territory; its establishment has been approved in principle, and the offer of the Roman Catholic Mission to run it has been accepted. It will run similar trade courses to the present Leloaleng Technical School. The Board also recommended the establishment of a second commercial school at St. Monica in the Leribe District. This has been

approved and will open in 1958. The establishment of private junior secondary classes at Pontmain, Holy Cross and St. Rose Missions have been approved and will open in the near future. The Board recommended that Eagle's Peak Training College be allowed to accept pupils for Primary Higher training, and this has been approved in principle.

In the examination for the High Commission Territories Primary Higher Teacher's Certificate 27 candidates were successful out of an entry of 39. Of the unsuccessful candidates seven obtained partial passes and will take the deferred subject in 1958.

In the examination for the Basutoland Primary Teacher's Certificate 64 candidates were successful out of 128 entries. Of the unsuccessful candidates 32 obtained partial passes and will take the deferred subject in 1958. Seventeen who obtained partial passes in previous years passed in their deferred subject and obtained their certificates. In all therefore 81 new Basutoland Primary Teachers will enter the field in 1958, and the Territory is fast approaching the stage where it will have as many trained teachers as it can pay for in its lower primary schools. The Roman Catholic Mission already seems to have reached that stage as Government and Mission finances cannot permit uncontrolled replacement of unqualified teachers by qualified ones.

There was a record number of entries for the Departmental Standard VI Examination and for the first time the number exceeded 2,000. Although only 845 candidates passed out of 2,165 entries, it must be remembered that a number of new Higher Primary Schools were entering candidates for the first time, and there was also an increased number of "private" candidates not entered by schools. As more Primary Higher teachers become available for the staffs of Higher Primary schools considerable improvement can be expected. A record number of 30 candidates obtained first-class passes and automatically qualified for Departmental bursaries.

In the Junior Certificate Examination of the University of South Africa a record number of 160 candidates passed out of an entry of 241. Eight were placed in the first class, and 69 in the second class. Hlotse Secondary School (Controlled) obtained remarkably good results with a 100 per cent pass, five in the first class, 12 in the second, and one in the third out of 18 candidates.

In the South African Universities' Joint Matriculation Board's Examinations in March and November the results were again disappointing. Ten candidates obtained matriculation, and five the school leaving certificate, out of the fifty-five who sat. Once again English was the main stumbling block the paper being a very difficult one. It must be remembered that Basotho have to take English Higher Grade as they do not offer Afrikaans. Seven candidates will be supplementing in March, 1958.

Ten candidates were successful in the examination for the Lerotholi Technical School Commercial Certificate and have entered Government Service.

Six candidates passed the Spinning and Weaving Examination of the Craft Schools and have been issued with full equipment to set up home units.

7. MEDICAL

The total accommodation in the nine government hospitals is 485 beds which is an increase of 68 beds as compared with the previous year. This increase is due mainly to the opening during the year of part of the new Queen Elizabeth II Hospital in Maseru. During the year 11,220 patients were admitted and 5,647 operations were performed, an increase of 17 and of 1,703 respectively as compared with the figures for 1956.

On account of continued 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 new Maseru Hospital, which with the gracious consent of Her Majesty has been named the Queen Elizabeth II Hospital, was officially opened by His Honour the Resident Commissioner on the 20th July, 1957, when the main and surgical blocks were occupied. The old Maseru Hospital continues to be used for the accommodation of patients but further funds have been made available for the additional buildings required to complete the hospital including staff quarters, and the work is progressing favourably.

The Health Centre at Semongkong in the mountain area with an assistant medical officer in charge, continues to serve a useful purpose in providing medical facilities to a remote area accessible only on horseback or by air.

The Mashai Health Centre which is remotely situated in the mountain area and accessible only on horseback or by air, was opened during November, 1957, when an African nurse/midwife in charge and an African health assistant were posted there. The centre is under the supervision of the Medical officer, Qacha's Nek, who will visit it at monthly intervals.

The construction of the buildings comprising the Health Centre at Marakabei was completed early in the year. The centre was opened during May, 1957, and is staffed by an African nurse/midwife and an African health assistant. The centre is visited regularly by a medical officer stationed in Maseru.

The construction of the buildings comprising the mountain dispensary (rural treatment centre) at Mphaki's in the Quthing district was completed towards the end of the year. The dispensary was opened during December and is staffed by an African nurse/midwife. The medical officer, Quthing, visits the dispensary, which is accessible only on horseback, regularly each month.

The mountain dispensary at Patlong in the Qacha's Nek district was opened in June, 1957, and the dispensary is in the charge of an African nurse/midwife.

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.

The mass diphtheria and whooping cough immunization campaign which was started on the 1st June, 1955, with the assistance of the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund has been completed. The final report and assessment by Dr. A. C. Jaques, medical officer of health, who was in charge of the campaign since June, 1956, is published in the Annual Report of the Medical Department, 1957, as Appendix II.

The smallpox vaccination campaign which was started in October, 1955, among infants and adolescents was nearing completion at the end of the year.

With the assistance of World Health Organisation, a nutrition survey was started during the early part of 1956 and is expected to last for a further period of at least two years. Professor William J. Darby of Vanderbilt University, Tennessee, U.S.A., who visited Basutoland during November, 1954, in company with Dr. B. Bronte-Stewart of Professor Brock's Nutrition Unit at the University of Cape Town as WHO nutrition consultants, revisited the territory during February, 1957, at the request of World Health Organisation. Dr. K. Martin, WHO Regional Public Health Officer, was also present during the latter half of Professor Darby's stay in the Territory. Professor Darby took the opportunity to visit the agricultural pilot project area where the WHO nutrition team has been concentrating its work and to discuss with the team the progress of its work, future aspects of the survey and the statistical data collected at that time. Both he and Dr. Martin discussed with the Resident Commissioner the importance of the survey and the lines on which it should be carried out.

A tuberculosis survey was carried out during the year with the assistance of World Health Organisation. Dr. E. H. Kjolbye, medical officer in charge of the survey team, arrived in Maseru on the 10th January, 1957, and spent about a week obtaining preliminary information on the random selection of groups to be surveyed by the team. The team arrived in the Territory on the 7th March and was later joined by Mr. H. Christensen, statistician, who arrived from Copenhagen on the 26th March. The team examined by means of tuberculin testing and bacteriological examination of sputum where available, 600 persons residing in three lowland and three highland areas and the survey was completed on the 28th July. Measures to control tuberculosis in the territory will be based on the report of the survey team when that is published and will be carried out on the lines recommended by World Health Organisation and with that Organisation's assistance. The control measures are not expected to be put into effect, however, until 1959.

Mr. B. T. F. Poole, an officer of the British Empire Society for the Blind, carried out a survey in the Territory from the 16th September to the 22nd November, 1957, to assess the problem of blindness in the Territory and to discover ways in which the special needs of the blind might be met. Mr. Poole came to the conclusion that the rate of blindness was not less than 600 per 100,000, that trachoma is relatively infrequent, that there exist sufficient numbers of blind children to justify a small blind school, and that there are sufficient numbers of blind adults of

trainable age to make desirable at least one training centre. Steps are being taken to put Mr. Poole's recommendations into effect.

Dr. N. Salhus, medical officer, was awarded a WHO fellowship to take the Diploma in Public Health course at the University of the Witwatersrand in 1958. On the completion of the course he will be stationed in Maseru and take over the duties of medical officer of health.

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, was installed during February, 1957.

The number of cases of acute poliomyelitis notified during the year increased to 66 as compared with 16 cases during the previous year. It was not possible to obtain prophylactic vaccine from the Union of South Africa, but supplies were made available by the United Kingdom and immunization of children, adolescents and adults in the priority age groups was continued.

No case of plague, smallpox or typhus occurred during the year.

Both the incidence of and the mortality rate in diphtheria were lower than during the previous year.

8. POLICE

The present strength of the force is 422 Africans against an establishment of 500, and 14 Europeans against an establishment of 16. Provision was made in the estimates for 1957-58 for an increase of the force by one Inspector, seven non-commissioned officers and 47 other ranks. This is the last stage of the re-organization of the force as recommended by the Deputy Inspector General in 1954.

In addition to the normal lowland stations, mountain stations have been operating during the year and have been of the greatest assistance in the suppression of stock theft which is still a major problem in the Territory.

A system of preventive patrols has been started in some districts and though it is yet too early to report on the efficacy of these patrols there are definite indications that they are welcomed by the Chieftainship and the people, and that confidence between the Police and the Public is being thereby established.

Twelve cases of murder were reported during the year which are alleged to be connected with *liretlo*. This shows an increase of eight over 1956. The 1,460 cases of Stock Theft show a decrease of 234 as compared with 1956. In all 5,130 persons were convicted of crimes during the year.

During 1957, 36 recruits completed their training at the Police Training School, and 24 were still undergoing training at the end of the year. In addition to courses for recruits courses were held for non-commissioned officers.

9. PRISONS

A new Prison Proclamation and Rules were brought into force on 14th October. These were based on English Act, 1952, the English Prison Rules 1949, and the English Code of Discipline for Prison Officers 1952.

Warders' Training Courses were resumed and 22 warders underwent training during the year.

Building work at the Central Prison continued very satisfactorily and more improvements have been effected to district gaols.

The daily average in all prisons in the territory decreased from 996.4 to 980.9.

On March 15th a violent wind and hail storm broke over Maseru and caused considerable damage to the Central Prison and gaol garden.

10. POST OFFICE

A new post office at Sehonghong in the Qacha's Nek District was opened on the 1st May, 1957, offering full postal facilities to a remote though densely populated mountainous area.

Mail services to the centre of the Territory have been improved by the extension of the internal air mail service to Mochlanapeng.

The demand for new telephone services has continued to increase but due to a shortage of cable spares it has not been possible to provide all the services required. It is hoped that the position will improve in the near future.

The Posts and Telegraphs Training School which was closed at the beginning of the year owing to staff shortages was re-opened on the 1st June when seven African Postal Officers were admitted for training.

11. PUBLIC WORKS

A grant of £32,761 from Colonial Development and Welfare Funds was approved late last year for the detailed investigation of the Ox-bow Lake Hydro-electric Power and Water Supply Scheme. The capital works for these investigations are nearing completion.

The first two blocks of the Queen Elizabeth II Hospital in Maseru were opened by His Honour the Resident Commissioner in July.

Work is now well under way on the new Development Loan of £500,000 which includes new buildings, roads and water supplies.

The Department has a heavy programme of buildings – especially Staff and Police Quarters, before it ; and good progress was made on this during the year.

The rainfall during the year has been above average and many areas throughout the Territory have suffered from one or more severe storms

which have done considerable damage to the roads system. Many miles of consolidated gravel work on which the Roads Engineer has been concentrating for the past five years have been washed away ; and the Department has been hard put to it to keep the roads in any state of repair.

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

The following Senior Service appointments were made during 1957 :

Mr. C. M. H. Morojele, B.Sc. (Hons) (WWRand), B.Sc. (Hons) (S.A.),
Dip. Stat. (Oxon), F.S.S. – Statistician.

The following appointments were made on the higher grade scale:

Mr. M. E. Makhetha : Asst. Education Officer.

Mr. L. A. Makoa : Teacher.

Mr. C. A. Motsamai : Teacher.

Mr. A. A. Kikine : Asst. Education Officer.

Mr. J. T. Kolane, B.A. : Clerk Legal Department.

Mr. C. C. Hegoa : Postmaster.

Mr. E. Khomari : Senior Gaoler.

Mr. J. M. Sekamane : Works Staff.

Mr. S. M. Mohlahatsa : Clerk Treasury.

Mr. A. R. S. Ntepe : Revenue Clerk.

13. HONOURS

The following Honours and Awards were bestowed on residents of Basutoland :

Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (Civil Division):

H. J. D. Elliot

Officer of the Order of the British Empire (Civil Division):

E. Chapman

F. G. Muirhead

W. G. S. Driver

Dr. R. Jacobson

P. Hughes

Rev. J. M. Burton

Officer of the Order of the British Empire (Military Division):

Lieut. Col. P. H. Kitson

Member of the Order of the British Empire (Civil Division):

Miss E. Walker
Miss P. D. Owen
Dr. R. C. Ogg
W. J. Strydom
Rev. E. Motsamai
Chief Kelebone Nkuebe

British Empire Medal (Civil Division):

A. C. Maqutu
B. Ntsane

Long Service Good Conduct Medal:

T. Mohloboli

Certificate of Honour and Badge:

Chief J. T. Mohale
J. C. Masithela.

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.

No. of Scheme	Title of Scheme	Initiated during financial year	Total Expenditure to 31.3.57. £	Remarks
D.603A/B	Soil Conservation	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 A/B	Medical and Health	1948-49	141,185	
D.1025	Improvements to Main Roads	1949-50	29,366	
D.1025A	Orange River Bridge	1950-51	6,346	
D.1050A/C	Mountain Road	1949-50	303,370	
D.1436	Mountain Dispensaries . . .	1950-51	4,407	
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 and Mechanized Group Farming	1952-53	44,821	
D.1845	Experiment Station	1952-53	28,472	
D.2180	Survey of Orange River . . .	1953-54	8,590	
D.2197	Agricultural Training Scheme	1954-55	11,162	
D.2204 & A	Pilot Project	1954-55	38,596	(1)
D.2205 & A	Mechanized Group Farming	1954-55	25,139	(2)
D.2707	Soil Conservation	1955-56	134,993	(3)
D.2776	Tuberculosis Wards	1955-56	10,269	
D.2797	Social Survey	1955-56	3,052	
D.2834	Agricultural Training School	1955-56	4,259	(4)
D.2859	Topographical Survey	1955-56	2,873	(5)
D.2929	Ox-Bow Lake Scheme	1955-56	9,795	
D.2988	Improvements to Main Roads	1955-56	18,156	(6)
D.3092	African Education	1955-56	28,812	
R.495	Soil Fertility Worker	1951-52	5,826	
R.759	Soil Research	1955-56	2,559	(7)
			£1,424,358	

Remarks: Continuation of the following Schemes :

(1) D.1765 (2) D.1765 (3) D.603 (4) D.2197 (5) D.1488 (6) D.1025 (7) R.495.

The following summaries indicate progress made during 1956 :

I. AGRICULTURE

Soil Conservation – Scheme D. 603 A and B, and D. 2707.

The scheme is one of soil conservation and consists mainly of the construction of contour furrows, buffer strips, and dams ; and of tree planting. Buffer stripping in the mountain area is now completed, work in the last main catchment area in the lowlands is in progress and thus the main objectives of the original scheme have almost been reached.

A survey of the work was made during the year and as a result it was decided that much of the buffer stripping in foothill country needed the construction of certain mechanical works. This has altered the time limit of the scheme and it is now anticipated the work will continue until 1965.

The number of tractor gangs has been reduced from nine to three, each under a senior conservation foreman thus providing better supervision and efficiency. Below is a summary of the progress made during the year.

<i>Measure</i>	<i>Prior to 1957</i>	<i>During the year</i>	<i>Totals to Dec. 1957</i>
Area terraced lowlands (acres)	449,904	28,665	478,569
Length of terraces (miles) .	25,568	396	25,964
Buffer strips (acres). . .	686,278	1,559	687,837
Diversion furrows (miles) .	3,950	1	3,951
Dams constructed . . .	512	29	541
Weirs constructed . . .	1	1	1
Trees planted	1,087,676	400,000	1,487,686
Dongas beacons (miles) .	5,368	—	5,368
Meadow strips (miles) . .	—	718	718
Reclamation area beaconing (acres)	—	13,296	13,296

The 28,665 acres covered by 25,964 miles of terraces is approximately a 30 per cent increase on the amount of construction work completed in the previous year. During 1957 costs rose from £1 per acre to £1.75 per acre in some districts due to heavy rainfalls, broken works, and the necessity of having to reconstruct many miles of terrace.

The twenty-nine dams, having a total capacity of over 50,000,000 gallons was a notable feature of progress.

The one weir constructed cost £1,000. It is a large multiple arch weir with a notch width of 60 ft. and is the first of its type to be built in the Territory. Plans for several more have been made.

The forestry officer who works closely with this scheme reported 400,000 trees, mainly poplars planted out, 2,200,000 pines and cyprus pricked out in boxes and 1,500,000 rooted poplars in nurseries ready for planting in 1958.

New features of this scheme were the beaconing of meadow strips and of reclamation areas. Satisfactory progress was made on both.

Pilot Project – Scheme D. 1765 and D. 2204.

A description of the aims and works of this scheme has been given in previous Annual Reports.

Progress along the lines previously delineated has been maintained.

The value of the scheme is difficult to assess in specific terms. The number of progressive farmers, school teachers, and others visiting the scheme, shows the interest taken in it by the general public. Much is learned by both the successes and the failures which have occurred in the type of development taking place within the area. In agricultural improvement and community development there has been steady, if slow, progress, and the scheme's main success is that it is providing a testing ground for the practical application of better farming methods and projects to improve living conditions.

An Interdepartmental Committee meets Quarterly and reviews the activities in the Pilot Project area in relation to territorial policy. The Paramount Chief is represented on this committee.

A new local Committee has also been set up with the object of integrating the scheme more closely with Ward and District Administration, special emphasis being given to co-operation at local government level.

During the year there were staff changes: the two senior officers, Mr. A. J. A. Douglas, M.B.E., and Mr. A. L. Mapham were lost to the scheme through transfer. Mr. Douglas had been largely responsible for building up the scheme since its inception. Mr. Mapham was the Agricultural Officer seconded to the scheme. In a scheme of this nature, a change of senior personnel will have a slowing effect on progress, for the new officers will have to gain the confidence of the people which is so essential for new developments.

Mechanised Group Farming – Scheme 2205 and 2205(a).

As expressed in the 1956 report, the chances of survival of some of the seven groups were problematical. It would appear that without land re-settlement it is impossible to have contiguous progressive land holders. Unless large blocks of land can be worked, tractor charges become too high; people either cannot or will not pay the necessary charges, and this has been the downfall of three of the seven groups which were operating under this scheme. Despite reorganisation within the group committees, there was no change in the outlook of group members, fees remained unpaid and the groups had to be closed because of non-payment of tractor fees. Assistance was given by the department in collecting the dues in kind, but even this measure was not a success.

At the present time the remaining four groups are in jeopardy, for the committees have gone ahead and allowed the use of tractors before recovering outstanding dues. It is now being considered whether to close down the mechanised Group Farming scheme as originally planned,

and in its place to evolve a scheme which would allow the tractors to be used on a hire charge basis.

Soil Fertility Research – Scheme R. 758.

The research work is financed partly under scheme R. 758 and partly from territorial funds. The programme of investigation into soil and crop problems was continued as outlined in previous reports. Under the provision of scheme R. 758 activities were extended to include exploratory work in Swaziland. This was possible following on the completion of work of the capital development on the Maseru Experiment Station and the reduction of District experiment plots from 10 to 6. While a large proportion of the factors responsible for the low production from the land are political and sociological, it is the erosion and impoverishment of the soils of the main arable belts that are the most serious technical obstacles to increased production.

In Basutoland the investigational work is carried out on a central station in Maseru, and on six District plots of which four are in the lowlands, one in the foothills and one in the mountains. Operations are centralised, the whole of the work being run from the central station. In addition a further number of small trials are conducted on farms by Field Demonstrators. During the year work was hampered by excessive rainfall and destructive hail storms at many of the plots. Temperatures during mid-season were below normal sometimes for days, and this coupled with water-logged soils, made for slow plant growth, and in some cases, the failure of the experiment.

The deficiency of phosphate in lowland and foothill soils dominates the soil status picture and responses to the application of phosphates have been shown to be good in all areas of these regions. The soils of Basutoland contain adequate available potash. Response by maize to nitrogen is closely related to plant population. Further work on this factor is being carried out. The results obtained from liming have shown the benefits to be derived from an application of lime on the foothill red loams on basalt, and the dangers of lime on the lowland grey-brown sandy loams when severe minor element deficiencies are readily induced.

In the minor elements investigations are interesting. Indication is of a molybdenum deficiency in the foothill red loams and the lowland grey-brown sandy loams. A sulphur deficiency in the lowland grey-brown sandy loams is also indicated. Investigation by field trials and by pot experiments are being pursued.

Through continuous cropping without manuring, large areas of soil in the lowlands are completely impoverished and structureless. They become water-logged in summer and become dry and blow readily in the winter. It was thought that deep ploughing leading to the inversion of the top inches of the sub-soil, might improve their physical properties and at the same time make more nutrients available nearer the surface. A small trial was laid down near Maseru and ploughing at 5" with and without a subsoiler, and ploughing at 20" with and without an application of 300 lb. per acre of gypsum were carried out. The results were interest-

ing and may be important. It was this experiment which led to the possibility of a sulphur deficiency in this soil being further investigated.

A series of trials on weed control in maize were conducted. The results amply demonstrate the benefits derived from clear land cultivation.

All arable lands in Basutoland are heavily grazed on a communal basis. The residue of unconsumed stalks and even the dung are subsequently removed and used as fuel. The effect on soil fertility is obvious. Investigations into the benefits derived from different systems of grazing and stover manure removal indicate that several years of treatment will be necessary significantly to revitalise the type of soil (lowland) on which the trials were conducted.

Maseru Experiment Station – Scheme D. 2197 and D. 2834.

During the year the capital development – buildings and fencing etc. – was completed except for minor items. The production of pigs and poultry continued. The demand for 3 months birds and weaned pigs continued to exceed the supply. During the year 35 weaned pigs, 2078 poultry, and 387 dozen eggs were sold to the public.

The tree nursery activity was curtailed, provisions for the propagation of trees having been made at various other centres of the Territory, and the nursery at the experiment station was largely converted into a garden producing vegetables for the agricultural school.

The departmental trading account is conducted from the station, and vegetable seeds, fertilizers, insecticides, improved seeds and carts were handled and dispatched to Districts in ever increasing quantities. The sale of carts has gone ahead considerably but difficulty is being experienced in finding a cart suitable for local conditions at a reasonable price. The trade has been approached and present indications are that a more suitable cart will shortly be available.

Further progress was made in the development of the four investigational and training units on the station, details of which are given below. A large part of the research programme was conducted on the station, more information being collected on the dominating phosphate deficiency in lowland and foothill soils. New ground was broken with the start of green-house pot investigations on both Basutoland and Swaziland soils, using substructive technique. After initial difficulties a suitable routine was developed. Field experiments with minor elements have given indications of a widespread molybdenum deficiency in the lowlands and foothills. Considerable significance is attached to the results of the experiments, which may have implication for large areas of Southern Africa.

Variety trials and selection work were continued on various crops and further information on performance in relation to ecological regions accumulated.

Agricultural Training – Scheme D. 2834.

Satisfactory progress was made in improving the standard of training at the Agricultural School, but an important factor which needs attention is the lack of adequate instructional staff. Much of the lecturing is done by

the various specialist officers of the Agricultural Department and these members have great difficulty in fitting in the lectures required of them in addition to their numerous other duties and responsibilities. Extra qualified teaching staff is now required.

A new development is a scheme whereby selected entrants spend three months' pre-instructional training working in the field with the departmental field staff. In this way the students are able to gain an impression of some of the problems confronting the department, and also an idea of the departmental methods of working. This scheme has proved very beneficial and will be continued. The first graduation ceremony took place in May, 1957, when the successful students were presented with their diplomas by His Honour the Resident Commissioner. All the graduates joined the department as agricultural demonstrators and reports show that they are performing excellent service in the field.

Progress was made in the establishment of four agricultural farm units, which, while being essentially investigational, form an admirable ground for practical agriculture. Each Unit consists of 6 acres of arable land and 25 acres of grazing. The four units have each been given a bias on one of the following aspects of agriculture :

- (a) Fresh milk production
- (b) Poultry and egg production
- (c) Butter and pig production
- (d) Horse and sheep breeding.

Students work on each unit in rotation, thereby gaining a wide experience of agricultural methods and practice. The standard of farming on the Units is higher than that met with generally in Basutoland, but not so high as to be beyond the abilities of a progressive peasant farmer.

An important subsidiary activity of the school is the holding of short training or refresher courses for departmental staff, progressive farmers, and school teachers. The publication of a biannual Agricultural Journal is proving popular with farmers. Greater stress is to be placed on methods of public relations in future agricultural training.

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, three are in Government service.

Dr. S. T. Makenete who was previously 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, is medical officer in charge of Butha-Buthe Hospital.

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 the examination held in December, 1957, for the Diploma in Psychological Medicine, of the Conjoint Board of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of England and is preparing for the examination for the Diploma in Psychological Medicine of the London University. On his return to Basutoland towards the end of the year, 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.

Dr. K. J. S. Nkuebe was re-appointed medical officer on the 3rd January, 1957, and is stationed at Maseru, where his duties include the medical care of patients accommodated at Botšabelo Leper Settlement.

Dr. A. E. Maema, who is in private practice in Maseru, assisted the department by conducting the weekly clinic at Matsieng, the Paramount Chief's village, throughout most of the year as no medical officer was available due to shortage of staff.

Medical and Health – Scheme D. 842

New Maseru Hospital: The main and surgical blocks were occupied and the hospital officially opened on the 20th May, 1957. Work is progressing favourably on the construction of the remaining buildings to complete the hospital which is now named the Queen Elizabeth II Hospital.

Semonkong Health Centre: This centre is serving a very useful purpose in providing medical facilities in a remotely situated area accessible only on horseback or by air.

Mashai Health Centre: This centre was opened in November, 1957.

Marakabei Health Centre: The construction of the buildings comprising the centre at Marakabei which is now served by the Mountain Road were completed early in the year and the centre was opened during May, 1957.

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. The construction of new quarters for the matron and a new nursing sisters' home at Maseru Hospital were completed and occupied during the year. Work on the construction of the medical block and kitchen-laundry-admission block of the new Maseru Hospital, and on building the extensions at Mafeteng, Quthing, Leribe, Teyateyaneng and Qacha's Nek hospitals is progressing favourably and most of the work is expected to be completed during 1958.

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

The buildings comprising the mountain dispensary at Mphaki's in the Quthing district were completed towards the end of the year and the dispensary was opened during December, 1957. The mountain dispensary at Patlong in the Qacha's Nek district was opened in June, 1957.

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 on the construction of these wards was started towards the end of 1956 and is expected to be completed by the end of 1958.

Additional funds have been applied for to provide a tuberculosis ward at Mohale's Hoek Hospital.

3. PUBLIC WORKS

Improvements to Main Roads – Scheme No. D. 2988

This scheme is a continuation of Scheme No. D. 1025 and has been planned to run concurrently with Development Loan Expenditure of £50,000 for roads during the period 1955/61 and is complementary to this scheme. Provision is made for the construction of new bridges, culverts and road approaches on the main roads in the Territory. During the year two low level culvert type bridges were constructed in the south between Mohale's Hoek and Seaka and, in the north between Leribe and Butha Buthe, two high level bridges were constructed.

Mountain Road – Scheme No. D. 1050

No work was done on this scheme during the year pending a decision on the siting of a new Administration Substation.

Hydrographic and topographic surveys of the Ox-bow Lake Scheme – Scheme No. D. 2929

Among a number of feasible schemes which cover the entire Territory, the Ox-bow Lake Scheme has been selected for immediate detailed investigation for reasons of comparatively low capital cost and the fact that it is situated in the north-western corner of Basutoland near the Orange Free State border, in convenient proximity to possible markets for power and water. The salient feature of this scheme is the diversion of water from the high-lying Malibamatšo River in the mountains, to the low-lying Caledon River Valley giving a fall to the lower power station site of nearly 3,000 feet.

Good progress has been made on the construction of the access track from the Caledon Valley over the Maluti Mountain Range into the Ox-bow catchment area. It is now possible to drive a 4-wheel drive vehicle into the catchment area, although drainage is not yet completed and certain sections, which follow the original bridle path, require realignment.

A number of small streams which cross the road require to be bridged and this work will be undertaken early next year. An Assistant Hydrologist was appointed and moved into the catchment area at the beginning of the year. A permanent camp has been established there and a completely equipped Meteorological Station has been functioning since May. Additional mountain type rain gauges have been installed in the catchment and the second rectangular notch river gauging weir is nearing completion. The weir has a capacity of 5,000 cusecs and is fitted with an automatic continuous depth recorder. Considerable delays have been experienced in the construction of the gauging weirs. Although the winter is the dry season, the intense cold, snowfalls and ice in the rivers make work impossible. On the other hand, in the summer during the wet season construction work in the rivers is hazardous due to frequent flooding.

4. EDUCATION

Colonial Development and Welfare – Scheme D. 3092

Under this scheme two junior secondary schools at St. Monica and Emmaus have been completed during the year, and are occupied by junior certificate classes. A third school at Mafeteng is half-built and will be completed in 1958, to accept classes in January, 1959. The other three schools at Mohale's Hoek, Butha Buthe and Mapholaneng will also be built in 1958, the latter probably not accepting classes until January 1960.

Excellent progress has been made with the new High School at Peka and the school will open in July, 1958.

Little progress has been made at St. Joseph's Training College, Maseru due to site alterations. However, the site has now been demarcated and a large quantity of stone cut. Operations will proceed rapidly in 1958. At Eagle's Peak College some progress has been made with site preparation and collection of materials.

PART II

Chapter I : 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 the final report on the census has not yet been published. The provisional figures 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 but not yet available 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 Terri-

tory 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 data is 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). 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 - 1956

<i>District</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total '56</i>	<i>Total '46</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 - 1956

<i>District</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total '56</i>	<i>Total '46</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 - 1956

<i>District</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total '56</i>	<i>Total '46</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 - 1956

<i>District</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total '56</i>	<i>Total '46</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.

SOCIAL SURVEY

It was hoped that a report on the 1956 Social Survey which was described in the last Territorial Annual Report would be published in 1957. The tabulation and the analysis of data collected in the field, which is being undertaken by Professor E. Batson of Cape Town University has however taken longer than expected. A draft report which should give much valuable information is now in the course of preparation at the University.

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>1955</i>	<i>1956</i>	<i>1957</i>
Gold	35,608	35,299	33,030
Coal	7,780	5,237	7,344
Diamond	662	585	343
Other Mines	1,444	1,326	2,923
Total Mines	45,494	42,447	43,640
Agricultural	2,398	3,325	2,934
Miscellaneous	11,193	6,840	7,830
Total	59,085	52,612	54,404

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 1957. For example 39,579 Basuto were recorded as in employment with mines affiliated to the Transvaal and Orange Free State Chamber of Mines alone on the 31st December, 1957.

The corresponding figure for 1956 was 39,402.

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 1957 the total amount of deferred wages paid out through recruiting organizations was £306,314. Many also remit money to their families through the organizations and in the year under review this amounted to £296,157. 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 1957 the value of money orders and postal orders paid out amounted to over £134,000.

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 176,466 miles (as against 166,280 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 1956-57 was again a very satisfactory one in so far as Basutoland tax collected by the Agent is concerned, as the figures given below illustrate :

1955-56	1956-57
£137,307	£137,313

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. *od.* 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 3.7s. to 6.0s. per day.
Public Works labourers work a 54 hour week
- (c) Foremen, earning from £6 to £18 a month.
- (d) Artisans, earning from £15 to £26 a month.
- (e) Trading store employees earning from £5 to £15 a month.

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>1956</i>	<i>1957</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 $\frac{1}{4}$	3	3	3	3
Beans per lb. . .	3	8	6	6	3
Samp per lb.. . .	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 $\frac{3}{4}$	4	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
Bread per 2lb. loaf .	4	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
Flour per lb.. . .	2	3 $\frac{3}{4}$	5	5	5
Rice per lb. . . .	4	1 5	1 5	1 —	1 —
Oatmeal per lb. . .	3	1 —	1 2	1 2	1 2
Tea per lb. . . .	2 3	6 9	8 11	8 9	8 9
Coffee per lb. . . .	1 9	5 4	7 3	6 3	6 3
Sugar per lb. . . .	3	5	5 $\frac{3}{4}$	5 $\frac{3}{4}$	5 $\frac{3}{4}$
Jam per lb. . . .	5	1 10	3 6	4 —	2 3
Potatoes per lb. . .	1	3	4	4	5
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	3 6	3 6
			to		
Milk per gall. . . .	2 —	2 9	3 3	3 8	3 8
Bacon per lb. . . .	1 5	3 6	3 6	3 6	3 8
Beef per lb. . . .	6	2 2	2 2	2 4	2 6
Mutton per lb. . . .	7	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 1957 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, of the Laws of Basutoland 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

Revenue for the year ended the 31st March, 1957 exceeded the original estimate of £1,389,828 by £73,897. This was due to an increase of £103,730 under Customs and Excise, set off by under-collections in respect of Graded Tax, Income Tax and Wool and Mohair Export Duty.

Graded Basuto Tax was not brought into operation during the year as was anticipated when the estimates were prepared.

Actual expenditure was less than the estimate by £9,768.

The revised position at 31st March, 1958, is anticipated to be as follows :

Accumulated surplus at 31.3.56	466,199
Add Surplus for 1955-56	49,820
	<hr/>
	516,019
Add Appreciation on Investments	3,874
	<hr/>
	519,893
Add amount due on account of Colonial Development and Welfare expenditure	29,868
	<hr/>
Accumulated surplus at 31.3.57	549,761

Revised estimate of Expenditure 1957-58 . . .	1,601,899	
Revised estimate of Revenue 1957-58 . . .	1,506,785	
Estimated deficit 1957-58.		95,114
Estimated surplus balance at 31.3.58 . . .		<u>454,647</u>

2. REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE

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

Comparative Statement of Revenue

Head	1954-55	1955-56	1956-57
Native Tax.	331,767	334,472	338,159
Customs and Excise . . .	505,895	588,755	638,730
Posts and Telegraphs . .	62,535	52,118	59,716
Licences	20,636	30,061	32,328
Fees of Court or Office .	14,481	17,112	26,268
Judicial Fines	7,384	7,760	8,254
Income Tax	114,094	72,181	87,080
Poll Tax	4,298	2,190	2,165
Fees for Services Rendered	32,233	32,101	40,878
Interest.	12,717	14,864	14,705
Wool and Mohair Export Duty	113,832	106,563	114,027
Miscellaneous	67,049	78,488	78,663
Rent from Government Property	19,638	24,823	22,753
C. D. & W. Grants . . .	1,306,559	1,361,488	1,463,726
	170,809	99,383	259,533
Total	1,477,368	1,460,871	1,723,259

Comparative Statement of Expenditure

<i>Head</i>	<i>1954-55</i>	<i>1955-56</i>	<i>1956-57</i>
	£	£	£
Public Debt	6,310	6,310	6,310
Resident Commissioner . .	4,688	4,685	7,317
Agricultural and Veterinary Services	70,669	80,222	86,732
Audit	10,578	12,116	14,103
Central Stores	2,347	1,887	26,317
Co-operative Societies . .	5,572	6,183	5,771
District Administration . .	40,327	44,885	61,800
Education	202,659	252,295	256,093
High Commissioner's Office	37,194	40,906	41,128
Judicial	8,184	14,894	18,548
Legal	5,299	7,113	7,093
Leper Settlement	29,521	29,370	28,617
Medical	112,209	132,349	143,519
Miscellaneous	42,952	46,562	58,745
Native Administration . .	122,875	121,850	121,613
Pensions & Gratuities . .	74,911	76,352	75,721
Police	112,554	130,414	133,599
Prisons	46,235	57,884	54,451
Posts and Telegraphs . .	56,502	50,724	52,116
Public Works Department	31,860	42,541	44,926
Public Works Recurrent . .	71,018	74,544	76,478
Public Works Extraordinary	74,657	107,131	56,779
Rand Agencies	24,470	29,064	28,177
Secretariat	12,222	14,809	18,710
Subventions	21,391	17,116	2,459
Treasury	5,611	6,746	14,130
Welfare			
Anomalies Committee . .			
General Clerical Service . .	58,061	68,418(a)	
	1,290,876	1,477,370	1,441,252
C. D. & W. Schemes . .	175,908	148,062	232,186
Total	1,466,784	1,625,432	1,673,438

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

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AS AT 31st MARCH, 1957

LIABILITIES

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
<i>Deposits:</i>						
African Pioneer Corps Pensions	8,178	-	1			
Basuto National Treasury Matsema Levy	564	-	-			
Bechuanaland Protectorate and Swaziland Tax	7,416	8	6			
Higher Education Levy	6	12	-			
Miscellaneous	48,942	8	2			
Prisoners' Property	1,118	13	3			
Wool Profits	62,579	10	5	128,805	12	5
<i>Special Funds:</i>						
Colonial Development and Welfare Funds	23,226	6	4			
Guardians' Fund	4,379	11	6			
Home Industries Fund	35,421	11	11			
War Levy Fund	2,987	11	6			
Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund	132,116	7	8	198,131	8	11
Unexpended Balance of Inter-Colonial Development Loan, 1956				33,101	7	8
General Revenue Balance as at 1st April, 1956	466,199	2	9			
Plus Surplus as at 31st March, 1957	49,820	5	4			
Plus appreciation of Investments	3,874	3	6	519,893	11	7
				<u>£879,932</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7</u>

N.B.: This statement does not take into account £29,868. 9s. 11d. due in respect of expenditure on certain Colonial Development and Welfare Schemes.

ASSETS

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
<i>Cash:</i>						
With Bank and Sub-Accountants				230,006	11	3
With Crown Agents				183	18	8
With Joint Consolidated Fund				150,000	-	-
				380,190	9	11
<i>Investments:</i>						
Surplus Balances				221,637	16	3
Home Industries				35,421	11	11
				257,059	8	2
<i>High Commission Territories Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund</i>						
Invested with Crown Agents				115,405	12	7
Invested with Joint Consolidated Fund				13,356	4	4
				128,761	16	11
<i>Basutoland Wool and Mohair Fund:</i>						
Pending transfer of funds				20,247	19	10
<i>Advances:</i>						
Miscellaneous				81,965	11	10
Lerotholi Technical School Stock and Debtors				6,232	4	4
Lepor Settlement Shop Stock				669	4	8
Maseru Electric Light Stocks				1,020	15	5
Public Work Dept. Joinery a/c Stock and Debtors				3,210	18	9
Public Work Dept. Quarry a/c Stock and Debtors				573	10	9
				<u>£879,932</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7</u>

3. MAIN HEADS OF TAXATION

Revenue from Basuto Tax for the year ending 31st March, 1958, is expected to be £320,000 against the original estimate of £330,000.

Customs and Excise Duty

Revenue is expected to be £658,000 for the year ending 31st March, 1958, as against the original estimate of £623,000.

Income Tax

The rates fixed and rebates allowable for the year ended 30th June, 1957, were as follows :

- (1) *Normal Tax*: Married persons were assessed at the rate of 15d. increased by one 1/1000th of a penny per pound of taxable income. Unmarried persons were charged an extra 3d. per pound. Companies paid at the rate of 6s. increased to 7s. 6d. per pound on income in excess of £4,000.
- (2) *Super Tax*: This was payable in addition to normal tax on incomes in excess of £2,300 by persons other than 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 dependant, 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 companies.
- (5) *Maximum Rate*: The normal and super taxes conjointly plus the surcharge 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, 1957, were £87,080. It is anticipated that collections to the 31st March, 1958, will amount to approximately £102,000.

Africans are exempt from income tax.

Trading Licences

Details of the annual licence fees payable during the year 1957 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	£37. 10s.
Native Trader	£2. 10s. or £5
Agent of a Firm	£20 and £30
Other specified businesses	£2-£15

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.

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. has a branch office in Maseru and operates agencies at Leribe, Mohale's Hoek, Mafeteng and Butha Buthe.

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



The Paramount Chieftainess and her Advisers

Photo by C. A. BROWNE



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 1957 saw an increase in the value of exports and a slight increase in the value of imports. Exports of peas and beans fell considerably after last year's extremely high figure, as areas previously under peas are now being planted with wheat. The value of hides dropped appreciably. Despite an overall fall in prices at the coast the income from wool and mohair increased slightly. Imports of maize and maize-meal dropped in consequence of a reasonable harvest in the territory.

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 to imports by individuals. Government imports which are considerable, are not included and neither are capital and consumer goods imported by individuals.

	Quantity			Value in £		
	1955	1956	1957	1955	1956	1957
<i>Livestock</i>						
Horses, Mules, Donkeys. . . .	2,651	3,579	3,898	29,043	42,948	46,431
Cattle	6,322	360	12,451	113,796	2,488	146,175
Sheep and Goats	1,168	2,027	356	2,528	3,884	300
<i>Grain</i>	<i>bags</i>	<i>bags</i>				
Wheat and Wheat meal . .	46,928	35,067	32,316	105,995	92,242	86,357
Maize and Maize meal	219,380	132,484	90,963	394,824	251,720	113,982
Sorghum	18,593	14,375	8,456	52,987	31,201	24,315
Other Produce .	—	—	—	10,514	6,056	3,436
Merchandise . .	—	—	—	2,492,650	2,505,970	2,591,958
Total	—	—	—	3,202,337	2,936,509	3,012,954

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 and livestock by individuals also.

	Quantity			Value in £		
	1955	1956	1957	1955	1956	1957
<i>Livestock</i>						
Horses, Mules						
Donkeys	85	63	36	1,015	695	350
Cattle	12,927	5,617	11,515	213,296	81,955	148,172
Sheep and Goats	4,125	4,064	3,156	12,787	14,778	20,161
<i>Grain</i>						
Wheat and						
Wheatmeal	27,575	82,114	101,077	60,665	197,000	242,585
Maize and						
Maize meal	—	—	50	—	—	107
Sorghum	10,168	5,645	10,003	25,115	14,112	19,659
Barley	59	180	1,792	63	190	4,288
Beans and Peas	39,677	62,943	47,300	138,869	210,300	119,586
Oats	31	367	67	31	387	47
<i>Wool and</i>						
Mohair in lb.						
Wool	7,700,701	7,292,626	7,058,431	969,005	1,024,614	1,204,050
Mohair	1,103,000	1,068,082	1,056,066	322,627	341,163	348,149
<i>Hides and Skins</i>						
Hides	294,418	291,311	230,315	16,252	32,198	14,248
Skins	443,578	371,983	287,961	28,844	22,059	21,551
Miscellaneous	—	—	—	4,951	3,587	27,442
Bones (lb.)	820,600	165,000	838,110	2,872	578	2,936
Total	—	—	—	1,796,392	1,943,616	2,173,331

TABLE III

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

	Imports £	Exports £
1955	3,202,337	1,796,392
1956	2,936,509	1,943,516
1957	3,012,954	2,173,331

Chapter VI : Production

I. AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK

I. GENERAL

There are no industries in Basutoland and the internal economy of the country rests mainly on its agriculture. Of necessity the form of agriculture is that of a peasant community, with a very small individual land holding, the farmer having a constant struggle against climatic conditions, impoverished soils and a system of land tenure which does not permit of real development or of much improvement, either in crop production or in agricultural methods.

The total arable land is about 1,000,000 acres ; at the present rate of increase the population will reach 1,000,000 by 1963. There is virtually no further land suitable for cultivation. The policy of the Agricultural Department is largely dictated by these conditions.

The Department is headed by a director, under whom are specialist officers in veterinary work, soil conservation, soil fertility research and wool and mohair improvement. The field staff consists of agricultural officers, agricultural and livestock officers, agricultural demonstrators and veterinary assistants. The Territory is divided into three distinct ecological zones. The Lowlands, composed of grey-brown and red sandy loam soils, occurring up to an altitude of approximately 6,000 ft ; the Foothills, composed largely of ferruginous red loam and black (basaltic) clays, at altitudes from 6,000 to 7,500 ft. approximately ; above these the Mountain areas which rise to over 11,000 ft.

The planting seasons differ for each zone ; broadly it can be said that crops of maize, sorghum and beans can be grown in the Lowlands during summer and wheat and peas in the winter. In the Foothills maize, sorghum, wheat and peas are grown in the summer, and in the Mountains, which are too cold for maize and sorghum, the main crops of wheat and peas are grown during the summer.

The rainfall, averaging \pm 30 inches per year, falls mainly during the spring and summer months.

The high plateaux of 8,000 ft. altitude and over and their surrounding hills are sparsely inhabited and are used as summer grazing grounds. These areas are known as "Cattle Post Country" and comprise roughly half of the Territory. They are very important both economically and physically. Economically they produce a large proportion of the wool and mohair, the main export of the country, and physically they form the water shed not only of Basutoland but of a great part of the Union of South Africa.

The pressure of population is greatest in the lowlands, high in the Foothills and falls away at increasing altitudes, but land hunger is such that there is a steady trend of migration towards the Mountains, with consequent cultivation at altitudes and in situations which are both un-economic and undesirable.

2. POLICY AND PROGRESS

The policy of the Department throughout the year under review, as in the past, has been to improve land utilization and methods of husbandry and through these to raise the level of production and the standard of the farmer. During the year the Cattle Post areas were beaconed and mapped. This has been done to prevent further incursion by the population and to facilitate a system of grazing control which will allow for the recovery of the natural vegetation and its optimum production as grazing grounds.

Improvement in wool and mohair, through the importation and subsidised sale to flock owners of stud sheep and goat rams, and through the provision of shearing sheds and qualified wool classers, has continued. Basutoland wool and mohair, because of the improvement policy, are now recognised as individual commodities by both brokers and buyers at the coast, and demand prices higher than is general for wool from the Union native producing areas.

A Trading Account has been opened by the Department to supply items such as fertilisers, insecticides, seeds, improved strains of pigs and poultry and certain agricultural implements. These could not readily be obtained through the normal trade channels and the present facility is much appreciated by the farmer. Results during the first year were very encouraging, and the spread of the use of fertilizers, insecticides and improved types of seed should soon be reflected in larger crop yields.

Soil conservation work has continued at a slightly reduced tempo due partly to a reduction in expenditure on the physical side of the work, and partly to the fact that the mechanical work is nearing completion.

An important factor in the progress of field extension work is the increasing availability of locally trained staff. The Agricultural School is now supplying up to twenty young men per annum who have completed a two-year diploma course. These are all given government appointments as agricultural demonstrators. There is no doubt that this regular supply of young men, trained in general agriculture with the emphasis on local problems, will do much to increase the efficiency of the extension work of the Department, for the success of the Department in educating the Basuto in better farming methods depends largely on the efforts of the field staff.

Afforestation in the accepted sense does not exist in Basutoland. The efforts of the Department are bent on the planting of trees, mainly poplars and willows, in areas which have been taken out of cultivation or from grazing on account of soil erosion. Progress in coercing chiefs and people to realize the significance of tree planting is still slow, and steps are being taken to impress on the Basuto Authority the necessity for a change of heart towards tree planting. This is a very necessary measure in a country of impoverished soils, where an alternative fuel to kraal manure must be found.

A large programme of field experiments was continued at the main experimental station and on six small sub-stations. Greenhouse pot in-

vestigations on both Basutoland and Swaziland soils were carried out. At the present time indications of molybdenum deficiency as shown in the field trials, and a sulphur deficiency as shown in the greenhouse trace element pot experiments are the most significant factors affecting the lowland soils. In one field trial an application of gypsum increased maize yields by 440 lb. per acre. More information was collected on the dominating phosphate deficiency in lowlands and foothill soils. Phosphate fertilizers bring about 100 per cent and greater yield increases in all crops on most sites in these regions. The general use of phosphate fertilizers would make the Territory more than self-sufficient in food production; the use of these fertilizers is a highly economic proposition.

The Pilot Project Scheme, as outlined in previous reports, continued to prove a useful testing ground for the practical application of better farming methods and projects to improve living conditions. It enables new ideas to be introduced to the Basuto and allows for intensive examination of the problems connected with agric-socio-economic improvement. At the present stage it is increasingly obvious that any improvement can only be brought about by educating the people to a point where they themselves desire and seek improvement. For this reason the emphasis in future development is to be on education and propaganda, and it is anticipated that by this change of approach, improvements will be more effective and more lasting.

3. AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION

The year 1957 was blessed with good rains, the total fall being 39.67 inches as compared with an average over the past 41 years of 29.21 inches. In fact at times there was too much rain for field crops, and water-logged lands, both at ploughing times and subsequently, affected the crops adversely. Grazing benefitted enormously, and where grazing control is practised some spectacular recovery took place.

As in previous years the export of maize and maize products was forbidden. During the year 90,963 bags (200 lb.) of maize and maize products were imported from the Union of South Africa as compared with a nine-year average of 142,361 bags. In the table below are given exports of the other principal crops which, when compared with those of previous years, reflect a satisfactory season.

Produce Exported (200 lb. bags)

	1954	1955	1956	1957
Wheat	54,478	27,575	82,114	101,077
Peas and Beans . .	54,160	39,677	62,943	47,300
Sorghums and Malt .	17,371	10,168	5,645	10,003

Although no statistics are available the amount of foodstuffs grown in vegetable gardens has increased considerably in recent years and the resultant variety in the popular diet has been of great benefit. In the year 1936 there were 837 vegetable gardens under the supervision of field demonstrators ; in 1957 the Territorial figure was 28,404.

4. LIVESTOCK AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS

The livestock biennial census figures for 1955 and 1957 are given below for comparison :

	1955	1957
Cattle	408,770	381,770
Horses	102,001	81,661
Mules	4,829	3,599
Donkeys	48,855	48,616
Sheep	1,339,019	1,220,769
Goats	654,800	535,286

After the failure of the 1956 auction sales, no further attempt has been made to re-establish them. In their place traders, and stock speculators, have been permitted to import yearling cattle equivalent in number to their exports. This system allows of a regular turnover in cattle. Without it cattle would be allowed to die of old age, with no economic gain to the owner.

During the year, 1957, 11,515 head of cattle were exported and 12,451 imported. The increase of imports over exports is due to animals imported by Basuto other than through traders.

Exports of wool during the year amounted to 7,058,431 lb. at an average price of 40.94 pence per lb. producing £1,204,050 at the coast. This is an increase of £179,436 on the 1956 figure.

The mohair clip totalled 1,056,066 lb. The overall average price was 79.12 pence per lb. and this produced £348,149 at the coast, an increase of £6,986 over the previous year.

Equine improvement, so essential in a country where the pack and riding animals are the main means of transport, has continued through the Agnes Young Stud. The arab stallion sire, breeding with local mares, has produced some very attractive progeny, and these are now being put out to custodians as sires in the field. This should have a "snowballing" effect and through it the level of the Basuto pony should be raised considerably.

Bovine improvement takes the form of the importation of young Brown Swiss bulls as funds permit. These too are put out to selected custodians and, although the upgrading of the local cattle by this means is a slow process, there is no doubt that with perseverance marked beneficial results will be seen.

2. CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES

I. GENERAL

The development of Co-operative Societies is accepted as a responsibility of Government. The first Registrar with a Staff of two African Inspectors was appointed in 1948. Since then the staff has, from time to time, been increased, but has all too often been under establishment and disrupted by unavoidable changes. During 1957, the establishment was increased by the addition of a Co-operative Supervisor, Higher Grade, and three more Inspectors, Grade I. The advantages of this increase will not be felt until 1958, since the three Inspectors were not appointed until December 1957, and the Supervisor is not expected until well into 1958. The staff was further depleted by the return of the second Registrar to District Administration in April. The system of secondment for this post has been abandoned, and a permanent Registrar was appointed in October. For the greater part of 1957, therefore the staff shortage was acute and was reflected in a general fall in Co-operative business. These difficulties, however, were finally overcome at the end of the year.

While arrangements for re-organization were proceeding, the societies continued to function under the old system. The following tables give the essential statistics.

<i>Type of Society</i>					
	<i>Marketing and Supply</i>	<i>Consumer</i>	<i>Mechanized Group</i>	<i>Others</i>	<i>Totals</i>
<i>No. of Registered Societies</i>					
1955	15	18	12	2	47
1956	14	16	11	3	44
1957	14	12	10	3	39
<i>Total Membership</i>					
1955	2588	2134	441	24	5187
1956	2768	2367	409	34	5578
1957	3157	1835	350	34	5376
<i>Share Capital</i>					
	£	£		£	£
1955	2420	1604	—	—	4024
1956	2528	1812	—	240	4580
1957	2687	1520	—	300	4507

Volume of business all societies

<i>Produce Marketed</i>		£
Wool		35,003
Mohair		6,780
Hides and Skins		1,411
Crops		173
Cattle		1,629
		<hr/>
		44,996
<i>Sales to members</i>		18,872
<i>Fares, transport society</i>		750
		<hr/>
<i>Total turnover</i>		64,618
		<hr/>

Gross Values

Society	Wool		Mohair		Hides and Skins		Crops		Cattle	
	Quantity lb.	Value £	Quantity lb.	Value £	Quantity lb.	Value £	Quantity lb.	Value £	Quantity lb.	Value £
Butha Buthe . . .	22,787	3,970	9,479	2,882	873	79	—	—	—	—
Leribe Wool . . .	2,943	519	676	191	646	—	—	—	—	—
Mapoteng . . .	3,820	604	491	157	343	30	—	—	—	—
Mateteng Wool . . .	59,022	9,812	1,130	294	3,974	400	—	—	—	—
Matelile . . .	21,695	3,732	3,497	1,106	2,542	260	—	—	—	—
Mokhotlong . . .	28,390	4,385	425	143	185	28	—	—	—	—
Mekaling . . .	7,276	1,109	603	191	560	48	—	—	—	—
Ntjapeleng . . .	4,276	664	68	21	235	25	—	—	—	—
Pitseng . . .	4,853	780	299	41	650	58	—	—	—	—
Peka . . .	4,546	705	367	105	733	62	—	—	—	—
Quthing . . .	39,083	6,486	3,707	1,150	2,934	327	—	—	—	—
Ramabanta's . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sekake's . . .	13,697	1,553	1,330	434	870	61	9,790	173	—	529
Tsoloane . . .	5,779	684	213	65	537	33	—	—	—	—
Totals . . .	218,167	35,003	22,285	6,780	15,082	1,411	9,790	173	—	529

2. PRODUCE MARKETING

During the ten years ending on December 31st, 1957, the most significant Co-operative development in Basutoland has been in the marketing of Wool and Mohair. The value of wool marketed Co-operatively rose to a peak in the year 1951-52 when it reached about 8 per cent of the territory's total, but has since fallen off to half of that figure. Over the last three financial years (ending in June) the quantity has fallen from 414,000 lb. to 218,000 lb. In the present financial year (ending June 1958) the indications are that there will be some increase over the previous year. The quantity of mohair has never been as high a proportion of the territory's total as that of wool, but it has remained steady at about 3 per cent. Apart from hides and skins there has been no Co-operative handling of other produce worthy of special mention.

It is possible to find many contingent reasons for the fall off in the quantities of produce handled - there is for example the inadequacy of the Co-operative Staff. It is however more important to look for basic weaknesses in the system to discover why it has failed to hold the loyalty of a large portion of the membership. There can be no doubt that the fatal weakness arises from the chronic shortage of working capital, which has prevented these Societies from carrying a full range of services and operating on a proper commercial basis. It has been impossible to develop the marketing of crops because no funds have been available to cover the period between the delivery of the crop to the Society and its ultimate sale. In the case of wool and mohair the members have had to wait for payment until the produce has been sold on auctions at the coast. To tide them over this delay, which may extend from six weeks to three months, advances are made available of up to 50 per cent of the estimated value of wool. Experience has shown that the majority of sheep owners do not care for this system, and complain about the long delay. At first some were prepared to try it and so built up Co-operative Marketing to its 1951 peak. But thereafter they have drifted away, always complaining that they want money quickly, and dislike being paid in two or more instalments.

It is clear that if Co-operative Marketing is to succeed, it is necessary for more working capital to be provided. The key to the solution of this problem is the establishment of the Co-operative Banking Union which will make it practicable to raise deposits from members, and funds from other sources, such as brokers. It will thus be possible for societies to pay out the small producers in cash on delivery of produce, while encouraging the larger producers to export their produce for sale in their own name. On this basis, arrangements are well in hand, in collaboration with Co-operatives in the Union of South Africa, for the extension of Co-operative Marketing to all crops and to livestock.

3. CONSUMERS' CO-OPERATION

The simple, single-purpose Consumers Society has almost disappeared in Basutoland as a result of amalgamations and liquidations. The most important survivor is situated in Maseru, and is still hamstrung by the lack of capital to put up a better shop.

The existing shop is usually overcrowded with customers, which indicates that there is a real demand for consumers' co-operation in Maseru. The shop, and the range of stock held, is now completely inadequate. Two developments are contemplated – the raising of deposit capital on the lines of Consumers' Societies in the United Kingdom, and the expansion of this Society into produce marketing, thus approaching multipurpose status from the opposite direction.

The most significant development has been the expansion of the former single purpose marketing Societies into the Consumers trade. Very considerable progress has been made, the value of trade having increased to nearly £19,000.

4. AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES

There is no longer need for this category, since the societies formerly included in it have either become multi-purpose marketing societies, or simple consumers' societies.

5. MISCELLANEOUS SOCIETIES

In the miscellaneous category are the small salary earners' society in Maseru which has continued to function successfully although on a small scale, a Bus Owners' Society, and a Builders and Co-operatives Society. The Bus Owners' Society was established to provide an orderly bus service on the Maseru reserve. The members are the owners of the long distance buses which come to Maseru. The Co-operative bus provides a connecting service between the railway and bus stations. The Builders and Carpenters Society was established to enable Basuto artisans to become self-employing. The Society has undertaken work on "labour only" contracts including a contract from Government. It is proposed however that in future the Society will supply its own materials. Without expressing opinions on the technical quality of the work, it must be said that the Society has shown much initiative and enthusiasm in organising itself.

6. CO-OPERATIVE BANKING UNION

The inaugural meeting of the Basutoland Co-operative Banking Union Limited, was held in December, 1957. The Society was registered with twenty foundation members and share capital of about £1,500. There is much preparatory work to be done before the Society commences full operations on the 1st March, 1958. The principal functions will be :

(a) To receive deposits from the member societies and from the individual members of member societies. Experience has shown that members will make deposits with their societies (there are no other deposit facilities outside the townships). The practice has had to be discouraged in the past because of inadequate book-keeping. The procedure in future will be that Societies will act as agents for the Banking Union for the collection of deposits and will have specially printed stationery, including pass books, for this purpose. All ledger accounts will be kept by the Banking Union which has purchased an accounting machine for this and other purposes.

(b) To invest funds in its own and its member societies businesses, including stock and produce purchase, while maintaining a sufficient proportion in liquid and easily-realisable form to meet demands for withdrawals.

(c) To run a wholesale department.

(d) To run a transport service.

The last two services have already begun on a modest scale.

Chapter VII : Social Services

1. EDUCATION

African education remains largely in the hands of the three main Missions (Paris Evangelical, Roman Catholic, and English Church) under the general direction of the Education Department. The Government grant-in-aid paid to each Mission covers the salaries of the approved aided establishment of teachers. This aided establishment now bears no particular relation to a Mission's total enrolment; it is dependent solely upon funds available in the grant-in-aid vote. Primary development in recent years has perforce been largely unaided, and for that reason has been confined to those missions able to support it from private funds, namely, the Roman Catholic Mission, and to a lesser extent, the English Church Mission. In the course of the year, no new unaided schools of the Paris Evangelical Mission have been started and a few of their old unaided schools have become defunct. The total expenditure on grants-in-aid in 1957 reached nearly £220,000, and Government's expenditure on all African schools was £235,700.

Under the new Colonial Development and Welfare scheme No. D. 3092 mentioned in Chapter II of Part I of this report grants amounting to just over £20,000 have been paid in 1957 towards the separation of teacher-training from secondary classes, and £13,450 has been paid towards the erection of four of the six new junior secondary schools.

There were 976 approved primary schools in 1957, 966 of which were under Mission control. 886 were lower primary schools, and 90 higher primary with Standards V and VI. It should be noted that where a school

is a combined lower and higher primary it is counted as two schools for statistical purposes. The vast majority of the higher primary schools are on the same sites as lower primary schools, and in many cases they still share buildings. Recently introduced regulations make it compulsory for higher primary schools to have two separate classrooms by 1960. There were seventeen schools offering secondary facilities. Three of these were full secondary schools providing five years of secondary education up to matriculation, eight were junior secondary schools providing three years of secondary education up to junior certificate, and six provided the first year (Form A) only. The latter six will disappear with the development of new junior secondary schools.

The increase in total enrolment in Basutoland's schools showed about the same increase in 1957 as in 1956 namely about 6,000. Of the total enrolment of 116,800, 106,225 were attending aided primary schools, 793 maintained primary schools, and 7,301 unaided primary schools.

The secondary school enrolment showed an apparent increase of only 48 to 1,326. The smallness of this figure was due to the separation of Form A and first year teacher trainees (see next paragraph). It is expected that the enrolment will increase steadily up to 1,800 in 1962 under the present development programme, at which time about 500 will be entering for the junior certificate examination and 150 for senior certificate annually.

The number of teachers in training has apparently increased by 131 to 553. This is due largely to the fact that in previous years pupils in the first year of the secondary course (Form A) and those in the first year of the training course (B.P.T.C. I) were combined at several centres and all included under "secondary" enrolment. 1957 secondary figures therefore show a decrease in Form A, and teacher-training figures show a corresponding increase in the first year class. Form A is no longer a "remove" class where pupils are selected for further academic education, or teacher training.

The number of pupils in the two main technical schools (Lerotholi and Leloaleng) increased by 34 to 168. In addition there were 477 girls in housecraft, spinning and weaving, and needlework classes.

The only institution providing post-secondary education in the Territory is Pius XII Catholic University College at Roma, which is unaided. In 1957 there were 96 students of whom six were European, three Coloured, and one Indian. Of the 86 African students 21 were Basuto, 4 Bechuana, 2 Swazi, 40 Union Africans, and 19 from the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland. The enrolment included 17 females. The authorities of the College have been at pains during the year to recruit a well qualified and experienced staff. The examination results obtained by the students have been very satisfactory and the College is now becoming widely known in South Africa.

Three Basotho were studying at Fort Hare in 1957, one for an Honours degree in Chemistry, and two, including one woman, for Arts degrees. No new student from Basutoland will enter Fort Hare after 1958 and our long association with this College will cease.

Five Basotho were studying at the Medical School of the University of Natal, Durban, and six were undergoing medical courses in the United Kingdom and Eire. One Mosotho continued his law studies at Bristol University, and one entered the City of Bath Domestic Science Training College assisted by scholarships awarded by the Basotho Administration Higher Education Fund. A Government scholarship holder, Mr. A. M. Mapetla, obtained his LL.B. degree at Cape Town University in December. He was the last of our students at the Union's "mixed" universities. One Mosotho, a Government Medical Officer, obtained the Diploma in Psychological Medicine of the Conjoint Board of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of England, in December, and is continuing his studies at London University with Government assistance. The Paramount Chief-designate, Constantine Bereng Seeiso entered Oxford University in October, and his brother Leshoboro Seeiso is undergoing a course in Local Government at Torquay, accompanied by another Mosotho, Vincent Malebo. Mr. M. Lebotsa B.Sc. (Engineering) is gaining experience in the United Kingdom with Sir William Halcrow and Partners, prior to returning to Basutoland as a civil engineer.

Students in receipt of Government bursaries for prematriculation courses in Basutoland number 183. Four received scholarships awarded by Messrs. Frasers Limited, and four those awarded by the Victoria League. Three blind and deaf students were in receipt of Government bursaries at special schools in the Union.

Mr. Poole of the British Empire Society for the Blind carried out a survey of blindness in Basutoland during 1957, and plans are now being considered for the establishment of blind training in the Territory, with the assistance of the Red Cross Society.

The headquarters staff of the Education Department consists of a Director, a Deputy Director, an Administrative Education Officer, a Woman Education Officer, and clerical assistants. The Territory is now divided into four circuits each under an Education Officer, two of whom are Basotho. To help circuit Education Officers there is a field staff of three Assistant Education Officers, and six Supervisors of Schools. 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. Twelve 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 each with the District Commissioner as Chairman, representatives of the three main missions, the Teacher's Association, the chiefs and the people as members, and 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 chairman-

ship 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.

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

The fifth two-year course under the revised Home Industries Organisation ended in December and six candidates obtained their certificates. The Supervisor of Craft Schools is a most useful part-time member of 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 16 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 Paris Evangelical Missionary Society have reported good progress. There were 117 students at the Lerotholi Government School in 1957, and 51 at Leloaleng. Trade students come from the other High Commission Territories as well as Basutoland and those completing their courses continue to find good positions in Basutoland and elsewhere.

The Mobile Cinema continues to move round the Territory. A good supply of films of an educational nature, and news reels, has been available. A trained operator-mechanic has been appointed in 1957.

CALENDAR YEAR 1957

Finance

<i>Source</i>	<i>Recurrent</i>	<i>Capital</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>From Colonial Revenue:</i>	£	£	£
Aided and Maintained African Schools	235,700	—	235,700
Education Administration. .	16,320	—	16,320
Other Charges	19,411	—	19,411
Total Colonial Revenue . .	271,431	—	271,431
<i>From Basuto Administration:</i> .	2,070	—	2,070
<i>From Voluntary Agencies:</i> . .	27,493	125,496*	152,989
<i>From Imperial Funds:</i>	—	33,871	33,871
Totals	300,994	159,367	460,361

* Excludes Pius XII College, Roma.

Schools and Roll

<i>Type</i>	<i>Schools</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Primary (8 years) .	976	42,039	72,237	114,276
Secondary (5 years) .	17	842	484	1,326
Technical Training .	24	160	485	645
Teacher Training .	7	220	333	553
Post Secondary . .	1	79	17	96
Totals	1,025	43,340	73,556	116,896

Examination Results

<i>Examination</i>	<i>Candidates Entered</i>	<i>Passed</i>
Departmental Standard VI.	2165	865
Basutoland Primary Teachers'	145	81
Higher Primary Teachers'	39	27
Junior Certificate	241	160
Senior Certificate	55	15

2. PUBLIC HEALTH

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

The policy of the medical department is primarily to secure the benefits of modern medicine to the largest possible number of the population. This is being done by providing directly or indirectly, a balanced curative and preventive medical and health service through the existing hospitals, dispensaries, rural treatment centres and other health services. The department also co-operates with other departments of government in promoting the social welfare of the Basuto. It aims at 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 the diseases commonly known as "tropical" do not present serious problems in the territory. The principal diseases are venereal, chronic rheumatism, malnutrition, infections of the respiratory tract and dyspepsia. The heaviest toll of lives in children is

due to tuberculosis, malnutrition, diphtheria, whooping cough and gastro-enteritis. The incidence of nutritional and deficiency diseases is comparatively high and is allied to maize being the staple food. 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 officers and trained nursing staff. Each hospital, which is equipped for general medical and surgical work, has an out-patient department, ante-natal and infant welfare clinic. With free grants from the Colonial Development and Welfare Fund tuberculosis, maternity, children's and isolation wards are being provided at those hospitals where there are none at present. In some districts there are additional clinics established some distance away from the hospital and these are visited by the medical officer at regular intervals. As funds become available more medical centres will be 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.

Sanitation arrangements are mainly of the bucket type and restricted in general to urban areas, but indoor sewerage has been installed in a number of existing buildings and is being installed in all senior service staff quarters in Maseru, with septic and effluent storage tanks cleared by a mechanical extractor. An application has been made to the Colonial Development and Welfare Fund for a grant to provide a modern sewerage system for Maseru and preliminary investigations have been made to this end. African villages are usually small and scattered and 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 impracticable in most rural areas. In some large villages public latrines have been installed.

There is a piped water supply in each urban area. Each year several springs in rural areas are protected 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.

Owing to shortage of staff and equipment, little research can be carried out by the department. There is no medical laboratory in the territory, but the department has a commuted payment agreement with the South African Institute for Medical Research for the performance of pathological investigations. Due to the numerous other duties which he has had to undertake, it has not been possible for the medical officer of health to train selected African medical auxiliaries in simple laboratory procedures, but it is anticipated that this will be possible in the future.

At several centres there are Red Cross committees organised for the purpose of giving lectures to the public in elementary first-aid and home 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 organisations such as the Women's Improvement Society and to Teachers' Refresher Courses.

The government professional and technical medical staff consists of :

Senior Service

- 1 Director of Medical Services
- 1 Medical Officer of Health.
- 19 Medical Officers.
- 1 Assistant Medical Officer.
- 1 Secretary.
- 1 Pharmacist.
- 1 Matron.
- 1 Sister Tutor.
- 3 Nursing Sisters in charge.
- 13 Nursing Sisters.
- 1 Male Mental Nurse.
- 1 Health Inspector.
- 1 Superintendent, Botšabelo Leper Settlement.

Junior Service

- 1 Assistant Health Inspector.
- 1 Sanitation Assistant.
- 6 Health Assistants.
- 31 Dispensers.
- 4 Pupil Dispensers.
- 6 Trained African Nurses in charge.
- 51 Trained African Nurses.
- 27 Student Nurses (including Pupil Midwives).
- 112 Ward Attendants (Hospital Orderlies).
- 11 Ward Attendants (Mental Detention Centre).
- 9 Health and Welfare Inspectors (who also act as Leprosy Inspectors).
- 1 Laboratory Assistant.

There are two African doctors both of whom were trained with the assistance of Colonial Development and Welfare Funds, in private practice in Maseru and Mafeteng. There is one European doctor in private practice in Butha Buthe. Six doctors who are resident in the Union of South Africa are registered in the territory and conduct clinics in the Leribe and Quthing Districts.

The missions employ five European doctors in addition to European nursing sisters and trained African nurses.

There is a European dentist in Maseru who receives an honorarium from government for treating indigent hospital cases when required to do so. There is no other dentist in the territory.

There is 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 per 24,000 Africans and one bed, in general hospitals, per 1,000 Africans during the year under review.

Medical and health facilities are financed from territorial revenue. For the financial year ended the 31st March, 1957, the actual ordinary expenditure of the medical department, including C. D. & W. expenditure, was £172,136. Also included in this amount is the sum of £3,383 which was spent on grants to mission hospitals. The proportion of medical expenditure to total ordinary expenditure of the territory was 11.94 per cent. During the same period, actual revenue of the medical department amounted to £12,924.

The existing facilities for 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	485	276	0	761
Maternity and Child Welfare Centres	15	5	8	28
Venereal Diseases Clinics	16	5	0	21
Health Centres	4	0	0	4
Mountain Dispensaries (rural treatment centres).	3	1	0	4
Out-patient Clinics	24	22	6	52
Leprosaria	1	0	0	1
Mental Detention Centre	1	0	0	1
X-ray plants	6	3	0	9

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, 50, 51 and 115 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. Dr. B. Hardegger, M.B.E., previously medical superintendent, Paray Hospital, returned from overseas' leave and has conducted since the 23rd May, 1957, a dispensary and out-patient

department at St. Charles Mission in the Butha Buthe District. This dispensary and out-patient department was built recently and will form part of a new mission hospital to be named Seboche Hospital, which is in the course of construction.

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 recognised by the South African Medical and Dental Council for the training of interns.

The Maseru Hospital is recognised 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 27 in training during the year.

Two student nurses passed the preliminary examination and an equal number passed the final examination for medical and surgical nurses set by the High Commission Territories Nursing Council during 1957. Six pupil midwives passed the final examination for midwives set by the High Commission Territories Nursing Council and four passed the final examination for midwives set by the Basutoland Executive Nursing Committee during the year. One student nurse passed the final examination for medical and surgical nurses set by the Basutoland Executive Nursing Committee.

This hospital also provides for the training of health assistants and dispenser-anaesthetists. The erection of the new Maseru Hospital (see under C.D. & W. Schemes D. 842 and D. 842 A and B) is important in view of the necessity of obtaining trained personnel for the territory.

Scott Hospital, Morija, is recognised 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. Three 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 are establishments built with the assistance of Colonial Development and Welfare Funds and maintained by government for the purpose of providing limited out-patient medical

facilities and, where an African nurse/midwife is a member of the staff, maternity services to people living in remote areas. Health centres are staffed where possible by an African nurse/midwife in charge and an African health assistant, and mountain dispensaries by only an African nurse/midwife. The rural treatment centre is a similar establishment being built under the deferred Pay Interest Fund (non-government) and will be in the charge of an African nurse/midwife whose salary will be paid by government when funds from the scheme become exhausted.

The health centre at Phamong is functioning well with an African health assistant in charge.

The health centre at Semonkong is meeting a long felt need ; an assistant medical officer is in charge of the centre.

The health centres at Marakabei and Mashai were opened respectively during May and November, 1957. Each is staffed by an African nurse/midwife in charge and an African health assistant.

The mountain dispensary at Nohana's with a trained African nurse in charge is serving a very useful purpose. The dispensaries at Patlong and Mphaki's were opened respectively during June and December, 1957, (see Chapter II of Part I).

The construction of the rural treatment centre at Linakeng which has been delayed on account of labour and transport difficulties, is slowly reaching completion.

3. LEPER SETTLEMENT

The Leper Settlement is under the charge of a superintendent trained by the British Empire Leprosy Relief Association. One of the Medical Officers stationed in Maseru does part time work at the Settlement. Patients are received from Basutoland and from the Bechuanaland Protectorate. The general health of the patients 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 tropic 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 77 admissions during the year and, in addition, 14 cases were re-admitted, mostly for broken-down ulcers. Discharges totalled 67 and there were, in addition, 13 deaths and 40 desertions. Of the 257 patients remaining at the end of the year, (a decrease of 29 as compared with the previous 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.

Attached to the Settlement is a 54 bed hospital with an African Sister in charge who is assisted by two trained African nurses. 106 patients were admitted to the hospital during last year, mostly for ulcerated

hands and feet. 24 x-ray examinations and 35 surgical operations were performed.

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, and selected infants and children who have lost their mothers. The Seventh Day Adventist Church Mission contributes towards the maintenance of the Home, to which government gives a grant-in-aid. Miss Martin gives her services gratuitously.

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 their relatives and facilitates the discharge to their homes of those 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 28 new admissions during the year. Eleven patients were discharged and, in addition, there were 16 deaths. A total of 114 patients were accommodated during the year; at the end of the year, 91 patients were being cared for.

Assistance is expected to be given from Colonial Development and Welfare Funds to establish a modern mental hospital 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.

Typhus Fever. No case of typhus fever was reported during 1957.

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, 60,222 vaccinations were performed, making a total of 138,833 vaccinations since the commencement of the campaign.

Diphtheria. The number of cases of diphtheria during the year showed a decrease as compared with 1956. The highest incidence was in the Teyateyaneng District with 21 cases. It is noteworthy to record that no case of diphtheria was notified in either Mokhotlong or Qacha's Nek Districts. There was a total of 52 cases reported with six deaths as compared with 58 cases with six deaths in 1956. During the course of dealing with these cases 1,868 prophylactic inoculations were given. From the commencement of the UNICEF-aided mass diphtheria and whooping cough campaign until the end of the year 97,086 first dose and 77,669 second dose prophylactic diphtheria vaccine inoculations were given to children between the ages of six and twelve years, and 69,850 first dose and 53,889 second dose inoculations were given to children and adolescents between the ages of 13 and 18 years.

Whooping Cough. There were 1,216 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 80 inoculations of combined diphtheria and whooping cough vaccine were given on request. From the commencement of the UNICEF-aided mass diphtheria and whooping cough campaign on the 1st June, 1955, until the end of the year 86,920 first dose, 64,359 second dose and 36,292 third dose injections of combined diphtheria and whooping cough vaccine were administered to infants and children below the age of six years. The high defaulter rate is due in part to ignorance and suspicion.

Typhoid Fever. Typhoid fever has become endemic throughout the year and 229 cases with 46 deaths were reported with the highest incidence being in the Teyateyaneng District with 126 cases with 36 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 17,335 such inoculations were given during the year.

Poliomyelitis. There were 66 cases of acute poliomyelitis with four deaths 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 limited supply of vaccine was made available by the United Kingdom. A total of 2,152 injections had been given by the end of the year, and supplies of vaccine sufficient to meet all future requirements are expected to be received next year from the Poliomyelitis Research Foundation Laboratories in the Union of South Africa.

Measles. Measles is prevalent and 903 cases were notified during the year.

Asian Influenza. A mild non-fatal epidemic of influenza occurred throughout the territory. The disease was diagnosed on clinical and epidemiological grounds as being Asian Influenza. The number of cases reported totalled 1,078 with the highest incidence in the Maseru District. An Asian strain of influenza. A virus was isolated from throat washings of one case and the sera of three convalescent cases were positive against the strain A/Singapore/1/57.

Tuberculosis. There were 1,564 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis with 73 deaths as compared with, 1,087 cases with 68 deaths for 1956. In addition 937 cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis were reported as compared with 566 cases in 1956. Chemotherapy and antibiotic treatment is being increasingly used throughout the territory.

Trained African Nurse Mrs. J. S. 'Mefane 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.

A tuberculosis survey was carried out with the technical assistance of World Health Organization among 600 persons residing in three areas in the lowlands and three areas in the mountain area. When the report of the survey team has been published and studied, it is proposed to undertake with World Health Organization technical assistance such control measures as local conditions will permit.

Venereal Diseases. There were 4,829 cases of all forms of syphilis reported during the year and 6,555 cases of gonorrhoea. Treatment of both conditions is by procaine penicillin administered intramuscularly.

Deficiency Diseases. During the year there were 3,929 cases of pellagra with three deaths as compared with 3,458 cases with nine deaths in 1956. There were 551 cases of ariboflavinosis with no mortality as compared with 232 cases with no death in 1956. Four hundred and eight cases of kwashiorkor with 43 deaths were notified as compared with 338 cases with 32 deaths during the previous year.

There were 859 cases of avitaminosis with no mortality as compared with 433 cases with no mortality in 1956, and 1,362 cases of malnutrition with 26 deaths as compared with 748 cases with 17 deaths in 1956. There were 98 cases of scurvy with no death.

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.

A World Health Organization nutrition team is conducting a nutrition survey throughout the territory in order to determine, where possible, the causes of the various nutritional and deficiency diseases which occur in the territory with a view to recommending control measures which might be taken against these diseases. The members of the team are also training local African staff who will carry on the work after the departure of the team.

6. SANITATION

The protection of village springs has progressed despite difficulties of transport of supplies and equipment. Four new springs were protected in remote mountain areas and two springs which had previously been protected, had to be re-constructed.

During the year the mechanical extractors cleared 1,001,600 gallons of septic effluent and waste water. New public latrines were constructed at Mafeteng, Mohale's Hoek and Maseru. Ten communal refuse bins constructed of brick were provided for the African village in Maseru and refuse disposal services were established in the district headquarters of Leribe, Butha Buthe, Mafeteng, Mohale's Hoek Quthing, and Mokhotlong.

Numerous specimens of drinking water and milk were submitted for bacteriological examination. Drinking water was satisfactory, but consumers were advised to continue to boil all fresh milk before use. Bottled sterilised milk produced in the Union of South Africa is becoming increasingly popular with the public. Sterilised milk is also supplied to the hospitals at Leribe and Butha Buthe where fresh milk in sufficient quantity is unobtainable.

During the year, 38 fumigations were carried out in buildings, houses, hospital wards and domestic servants' rooms.

Thirty-nine 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 2,496 carcasses were inspected at the Maseru abattoir; one whole carcass and 463 organs were condemned mainly for parasitic infection.

The new abattoir which was completed at Qacha's Nek towards the end of 1956 was opened during the year.

Government Hospitals: 1957

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	4,099	261	996	37,695*	82,325*	5,695*	1,925*	3,232*	130,872
Leribe. . . .	1,135	73	627	15,006	6,974	5,257	962	981	29,180
Mafeteng . . .	1,202	85	614	12,959	14,116	1,743	547	685	30,050
Mohale's Hoek .	627	70	292	9,837	2,688	630	187	253	13,595
Qacha's Nek . .	523	21	198	8,336**	356**	412**	108**	119**	9,331
Quthing	753	23	267	10,376†	13,432†	714†	146†	132†	24,800
Teyateyaneng .	1,505	58	452	22,972	4,209	2,869	1,282	1,714	33,046
Mokhotlong . .	596	56	387	8,917	10,087	709	212	299	20,224
Butha Buthe . .	780	51	1,003	13,198	3,329	1,663	483	780	19,453
Semonkong . . .		10††	103	2,691	755	659	326	186	4,617
Totals	11,220	708	4,939	141,987	138,271	20,351	6,178	8,381	315,168

* Includes attendances at Marakabei Health Centre. ** Includes attendances at Mashai Health Centre and Sekake's Mountain Dispensary. † Includes attendances at Phamong Health Centre and Nohana's and Mphaki's Mountain Dispensaries.

†† Domiciliary midwifery cases.

Mission Hospitals - 1957

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- ances	Subsequent Attend- ances	
St. Joseph's, Roma	1,099	65	265	7,540	3,653	1,844	593	483	14,113
Paray, Ntaote's .	1,072	55	216	5,176	1,697	1,222	479	65	8,639
Maluti, Mapoteng	2,237	517	744	8,988	6,396	270	740	629	17,023
Scott, Morija . .	864	62	1,798	26,388	8,388	2,017	2,324	1,437	40,554
Seboche, Butha	—*	—*	27	1,739	505	86	—	—	2,330
Buthe									
Totals	5,272	699	3,050	49,831	20,639	5,439	4,136	2,614	82,659

* This hospital is in the course of construction ; only the dispensary and out-patients' department is in use.

3. 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.

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.

4. SOCIAL WELFARE

I. BOY SCOUTS ASSOCIATION

There are 26 Troops, three Cub Packs and two Rover Crews registered in the Territory with a total strength of 871 members.

Considerable activity marked the occasion of the Lord Baden-Powell Centenary Year. Contingents from Basutoland were sent to two jamborees, one in South Africa and one in the United Kingdom.

Joint rallies with the Girl Guide movement were held on Empire Day in Maseru, and in the north and south of Basutoland.

Two scouters attended the Baden-Powell Centenary Jamboree at Sutton

Coldfield, Birmingham, and followed this with training courses at the International Training Centre at Gilwell Park. A contingent of 20 attended the jamboree at Kimberley. A Woodbadge Course was held at the Mafeteng Training Ground in January. A permanent Scout and Guide Training Ground has been opened at Morija during the year through the efforts of the Paris Evangelical Missionary Society Youth Organiser. Preliminary Woodbadge, and Patrol Leaders' Courses have been run there.

The Territory has two active Scout publications *Lefito* and *Mophato*.

2. GIRL GUIDES ASSOCIATION

There were 114 Guide Companies, 40 Sunbeam Circles, nine Ranger Companies, two Brownie Packs, one Cadet Company, and one Extension Company in 1957. The enrolments were as follows :

Brownies	26
Sunbeams	608
Guides	2,036
Rangers.	186
Cadets	20
Extension Guides and Sunbeams	5

There are in addition to the Territorial Commissioner, 16 Commissioners, a Secretary, and 158 Guiders working in Basutoland.

The Baden-Powell Centenary year has been very active. Mrs. Maund, wife of the Anglican Bishop of Basutoland, was appointed Territorial Commissioner in March, on Mrs. Chaplin's resignation due to pressure of other duties, the latter becoming President.

Miss Grant, Chief Commissioner for South Africa, attended an Empire Day Rally in Maseru. Two Guiders were sent to the World Camp at Windsor Great Park, England, and two others attended a training course at Kloof, Natal. A welcome visit to the Territory was paid by Mademoiselle M. de Meulemeester, the Guide Trainer from Brussels.

3. HOMEMAKERS ASSOCIATION

The Association continued to play an active part in the improvement of the homes in the communities in which its clubs are found. Two old clubs at Mafeteng and Teyateyaneng were revived in 1957, and weekly meetings have been held throughout the year.

Members of the Association organised the Women's Section of the Central Agricultural Show held in Maseru in May where demonstrations of cookery, fruit and vegetable preserving, dehydrating of vegetables, needlework and knitting were given. The annual conference and training course was held this year at the Sion Roman Catholic Mission at Mapoteng and was very well attended.

4. REHABILITATION OF EX-SOLDIERS

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 1956-57, awards made from the Fund for educational and rehabilitation assistance, and maintenance and relief of ex-soldiers and dependants, including continuing grants, totalled £2,902.

Chapter VIII : Legislation and Legal

1. LEGISLATION

The following is a list of the more important legislation enacted during 1957 :

- 15 of 1957 : *Basuto Tax Proclamation*. This measure consolidated the law relating to taxes payable by Africans, and introduced a graded tax payable on a sliding scale according to income and stock owned.
- 27 of 1957 : *Police Proclamation*. A consolidating measure.
- 30 of 1957 : *Prison Proclamation*. An amending and consolidating measure based on the English Prison Act.
- 51 of 1957 : *Insolvency Proclamation*. A consolidating measure.
- 56 of 1957 : *Credit Restriction (Repeal) Proclamation*. This enactment removed the disabilities imposed upon Africans, to whom credit may now be freely granted.
- 68 of 1957 : *Deeds Proclamation*. This Proclamation consolidated a series of laws enacted over a period of 250 years in the Cape of Good Hope and applied to Basutoland in 1884. It provides for the registration, attestation and execution of ante-nuptial contracts, powers of attorney and hypothecations, but avoids making provision for land registration because of the special considerations of land tenure in Basutoland and because it has not yet been decided whether general land registration is possible or desirable, and if so, whether it should be done in a deeds registry or in a land registry as in the United Kingdom. (See Colonial Office Summer Conference, August-September, 1956 - African 1186).

- 73 of 1957 : *Authentication of Documents Proclamation*. A consolidating measure.
- 78 of 1957 : *Partnerships Proclamation*. This proclamation provides for the registration of partnerships, under pain of disability in the recovery of debts under contract. It also provides for the formation and registration of special limited liability partnerships.

A cumulative index to the laws published between 1st January, 1949 and 31st December, 1957 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 and is legal adviser to the High Commissioner.

The Attorney-General's functions under the Inquests Proclamation have been delegated to the Legal Secretary, who read and gave directions for the disposal of 147 inquest records. Three inquest records were reserved for the Attorney-General's decision.

The Legal Secretary is ex officio registrar of deeds under the Deeds Proclamation, 1957, and fifty-five deeds were registered during the year. Certain limited land rights are registered, but certificates of allotment of such rights have not been issued by Government since about 1953, resulting in a decrease in the numbers of registrations relating to land. Hypothecations of rights in immovable property other than land continue to be registered. Other deeds registered are ante-nuptial contracts and powers of attorney. From 1st April, 1958 deeds of partnership will also be registered under the Partnerships Proclamation, 1957. Companies can be registered under a series of Cape of Good Hope enactments dating from 1861, but these provide only for the registration of public companies. A draft Companies Proclamation is under consideration and when promulgated it will enable the Legal Secretary to register private as well as public companies. At present promoters prefer to register companies in the Union of South Africa.

The Registrar of Births and Deaths is a member of the Legal Secretary's staff. 44 births and 13 deaths were registered. Africans are not obliged to report births and deaths to the Registrar, but must report to their chiefs. Africans are, however, permitted to avail themselves of the registration facilities, and draft legislation recognising this practice is under consideration.

Marriages are registered by the Legal Secretary in his capacity as Registrar of Marriages, assisted by two assistant Registrars. All marriages solemnised under the Marriage Proclamation are registered in the Legal Secretary's office. Marriages by Africans under the Proclamation are so

registered, but marriages by Africans under Sesuto law are not commonly registered although provision exists for special entries recording such marriages. 2,333 marriages were registered.

Patents, Trade Marks and Designs are also registered in the Legal Secretary's office, and 10 patents, 86 trade marks and 3 designs were registered during the year.

The office of Registrar of Trade Unions is also held by the Legal Secretary. (See Part II, Chapter II, paragraph 4.)

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 pre-

paratory 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 either 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, Magistrates 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.

High Court

In 22 criminal trials 55 persons were indicted all of whom were eighteen years or over. There were 55 charges against these persons of which 2 were withdrawn. There were convictions on 42 and acquittals on 11 of those charges. 32 persons were convicted of murder.

Criminal review cases from Subordinate Courts totalled 318.

There were 101 criminal appeals from Subordinate Courts of which 84 were dismissed, 8 allowed, 9 sent back for rehearing and none were pending at the end of the year.

There were 3 civil cases all of which were disposed of.

Civil appeals from Subordinate Courts totalled 2 both of which are still pending.

Judicial Commissioners' Courts

Including 13 criminal appeals pending at the end of 1956 and 11 filed during the year, there were 24 criminal appeals. Of these 9 were dismissed, 11 allowed, none sent back for re-hearing and 4 were pending at the end of the year.

Including 118 civil appeals pending at the end of 1956 and 176 filed during the year, there were 294 civil appeals. Of these 152 were dismissed, 32 allowed, 5 sent back for re-hearing, leaving 105 pending at the end of the year.

Subordinate Courts

These Courts dealt with 5,906 charges during the year under review, an increase of 334 over the 1956 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 32 during the year.

Including those pending at the end of 1956 and those registered in 1957, there were 779 civil cases of which 566 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 558, of which 12 were registered during this year.

Several estates were wound up during the year.

There were no insolvencies.

During 1957 no sums were paid into the Guardians' Fund.

2. 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 Officer-in-Charge of the Police Training School ; by two Assistant Superintendents of Police as Officers Commanding the Special Branch and Criminal Investigation Division respectively, and by a civilian Assistant Accountant/Storekeeper who is in charge of Pay and Headquarters Stores.

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 or Assistant Superintendent of Police 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 Superintendent, Assistant Superintendents of Police or Inspectors who are responsible to their Divisional Commanders.

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

2. ESTABLISHMENT AND STRENGTH

The Establishment of the Force was increased on the 1st April, 1957, by the following posts :

- 1 Inspector
- 2 Staff Sergeants
- 1 Sergeant
- 4 Corporals
- 47 Troopers.

Housing shortage and normal wastage 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, 1957 :

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	4	4
Staff Sergeants	10	7
Sergeants	18	18
Corporals	44	43
Lance Corporals	—	11
Troopers	423	338
Total inspectorate and non-commissioned ranks	500	422

Civilian Employees

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

A further increase is anticipated in 1958.

3. TRANSPORT

The Force has an establishment of 15 motor vehicles, 338 Riding Horses and 72 Pack Animals.

4. POLICE TRAINING SCHOOL

The Training School which is situated at Walker's Camp on the outskirts of Maseru is commanded by a Superintendent. He has a staff of one Inspector, 2 Sergeants, 3 Corporals and 6 Troopers. In addition to recruit courses, each of six months' duration, refresher and promotion courses are held as often as required for Non-Commissioned Officers and Senior Troopers.

During the year 36 recruits completed their training and were posted to Divisions. Three resigned and 2 were discharged as unsuitable; 24 were still undergoing training at the end of the year.

In addition to the recruit courses, 8 other courses were held for a total number of 125 Non-Commissioned Officers and other ranks of the Force. Among these courses was a Training Reserve Course of 5 months' duration in which 25 Non-Commissioned Officers and men, underwent intensive training in law, Police duties, musketry, riot drill and physical training. These trainees were replaced by another 26 Non-Commissioned Officers and men who were still in training at the end of the year.

5. CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION AND RECORDS BUREAU

The Division is commanded by an Assistant Superintendent of Police, directly responsible to the Commissioner of Police. The African establishment is one Sergeant, four Corporals, and sixteen Troopers who are available for special investigations. Four Non-Commissioned Officers and four Troopers are stationed at Divisional Headquarters in the Territory.

The duties of this Branch of the Force cover, inter alia :

- (a) Responsibility to the Commissioner for the final preparation of cases and organisation of all matters relating to the Basutoland High Court and the satisfactory presentation of Police prosecutions to the Attorney General.
- (b) The publication for despatch to all stations, of instructions and advice for the guidance of Officers and Other Ranks on all subjects relating to the successful investigation of crime and the prosecution of offenders.
- (c) The collation of information connected with wanted persons, lost, found and stolen property and its publication in the appropriate Police Gazette and circulars.
- (d) Photographs and Fingerprint work.
- (e) The members of the department are also responsible to the Commissioner for the performance of duties relating to Immigration and Emigration.

During the year a total of 37 new passports were issued, 22 passports were renewed and 20 endorsements made on passports. Forty permits to enter Basutoland were issued to Aliens and 10 applications for permanent residence in Basutoland by Aliens were approved. Eighty-two permits were issued to Aliens and Non-Aliens to proceed to countries outside Basutoland.

The Local Criminal Records Bureau is staffed by two Troopers. Duplicate copies of all fingerprint slips are sent to the South African Criminal Bureau. A total of 1,061 fingerprint slips were received from Districts and were classified and filed. One hundred and five fingerprint dockets were opened during the year.

6. SPECIAL BRANCH

This Branch is commanded by an Assistant Superintendent of Police and the establishment consists of one Staff Sergeant, 2 Corporals, 10 Troopers and one Lady Clerk.

Seven members of the Special Branch are stationed at 2 Divisional and 4 District Headquarters.

7. WORK OF THE POLICE

(a) *Border Posts*: The Force is responsible for manning 26 Border Stations and Posts which have an establishment of 3 Non-Commissioned Officers and 57 Troopers. They are mainly occupied with customs duties, issuing of passes, the collection of revenue and enforcement of legislation dealing with the import and export of livestock and cereals. Frequent patrols are also carried out along the border as a deterrent to stock thieving and to prevent illegal imports and exports.

(b) *Patrolling*: 327,433 man miles were covered during the year by 7,016 patrols of a total of 7,987 members of the rank and file who patrolled the Territory. A large proportion of this mileage was performed during the course of criminal investigations. 117,378 miles were covered by Police Motor vehicles. Gazetted Officers of the Force travelled 36,085 miles by motor car, 736 miles by motor cycle, 2,085 miles by horse and 850 miles by air

8. MOUNTAIN STATIONS

Eleven mountain stations have been operating at full strength throughout the year.

These mountain stations are manned by 14 Non-Commissioned Officers and 43 Troopers. They continue to serve the public and to be of great assistance in the suppression of stock theft, which is still a major problem.

9. MURDER

Twelve cases of medicine murder were reported during 1957. Of these two have been dealt with by the High Court, six have been committed for trial and four are still under investigation.

At the end of 1956 seven cases of medicine murder were still under investigation. Of these five cases were committed for trial and are awaiting trial in the High Court ; two were closed undetected owing to insufficient evidence.

Convictions were obtained in two cases during the year.

A comparative table showing medicine murders reported during the ten years since 1948 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>
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
1957 . . .	12	8	—

10. STOCK THEFT

There was a decrease in the number of cases of Stock Theft reported during the year as compared with the previous year. In all 1,460 cases were reported as against 1,694 cases reported in 1956, 2,188 cases reported in 1955, and 979 cases reported in 1954.

Two Stock Theft drives were carried out by the Police in conjunction with the Basuto Administration with the following results:

Maseru District held a Stock Theft drive during April with the result that 209 cases were brought before the Court involving 538 animals.

A Territorial Stock Theft drive was held during November and December resulting in 305 being brought before the Courts involving 1,125 animals.

Of the 1,460 cases reported, 210 were still under investigation at the end of the year, 726 cases were sent to Basuto Courts, 398 were tried in Subordinate Courts of which 384 resulted in conviction and 14 in acquittals.

11. STATISTICS

The tables at the end of this section (Police) show crime statistics for the year under review. The number of persons convicted in 1957 indicates an increase of 339 over the previous year.

Attempted Murder	1	19	5	—	6	7	3	1	2	9	8	1	—	—
Assault w/i G.B.H.	36	447	65	209	36	9	9	14	13	173	171	2	—	—
Assault Common	81	3445	124	3070	162	45	45	71	46	170	157	13	—	—
Criminal Injuria	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
Defamation	2	1	1	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Manstealing	—	3	1	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Against Property:</i>														
Theft Common	72	920	183	223	304	87	87	170	47	282	269	12	1	—
Robbery	8	24	4	5	10	1	1	6	3	13	11	2	—	—
Extortion	2	2	—	—	2	2	2	—	—	2	2	—	—	—
Housebreaking and Theft	45	219	54	18	126	19	19	94	13	66	63	3	—	—
Stock Theft	155	1460	210	726	281	104	104	130	47	398	384	14	—	—
Fraud	—	24	4	1	8	1	1	7	—	11	10	1	—	—
Theft by False Pretences	6	41	13	5	19	8	8	6	5	10	10	—	—	—
Forgery and Uttering	2	36	8	—	8	3	3	3	2	22	18	4	—	—
Receiving Stolen Property	—	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	—
Arson	27	246	41	36	138	23	23	92	23	58	51	7	—	—
Malicious Injury to Property	20	325	64	84	119	24	24	84	11	78	69	9	—	—
Theft by Conversion	2	14	7	—	4	3	3	1	—	5	4	1	—	—
<i>Against Local Statute Laws:</i>														
Traffic	25	384	36	5	152	58	58	63	31	216	213	3	—	—
Liquor	21	322	25	7	29	11	11	18	—	282	276	6	—	—
Dagga	16	282	15	2	47	6	6	23	18	234	227	7	—	—
<i>Miscellaneous and Petty:</i>														
Other Offences not specified														
above	178	3327	254	85	901	299	299	295	307	2265	2207	57	1	—
<i>Summary</i>														
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)		
32	348	62	31	87	23	33	31	200	189	10	1	—	—	—
32	346	48	110	70	33	16	21	136	113	22	1	14	—	—
152	4036	239	3283	223	61	98	64	429	399	29	1	14	—	—
339	3314	588	1099	1019	275	593	151	947	893	53	1	—	—	—
62	988	76	14	228	75	104	49	732	716	16	—	—	—	—
178	3327	254	85	901	299	295	307	2265	2207	57	1	—	—	—
Grand Total	795	12359	1267	4622	2528	766	623	4709	4517	187	5	28		

TABLE II — Persons dealt with by Subordinate Courts, 1956

	Total arrested or summoned to Court	Acquitted	Nolle Prosequi	Awaiting trial as at 31.12.57	Convicted					
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	Total	Death	Imprisonment	Whipping	Fine	First Offenders act or warning
<i>Lawful Authority:</i>										
Public Violence	105	13	—	11	92	—	42	—	18	32
Perjury	12	—	—	8	12	—	5	—	3	4
Escape from Custody	52	—	—	4	52	—	44	—	8	—
Resisting Arrest	61	4	—	12	57	—	15	—	42	—
Obs. or Defeating Justice	38	10	—	2	28	—	9	—	17	2
Contempt of Court	40	2	—	5	38	—	8	1	27	2
Prison Regulations	17	2	—	1	15	—	12	—	3	—
Bribery	8	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Public Morality:</i>										
Rape	24	9	—	10	15	—	8	—	6	1
Assault w/i to Rape	12	1	—	—	11	—	3	6	2	—
Indecent Assault	48	10	—	4	38	—	19	1	12	—
Abduction	27	3	—	9	24	—	5	—	15	4
Sodomy	2	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
Bestiality	3	—	—	—	3	—	2	—	—	—
Girls' and Women's Protection	6	—	—	—	6	—	3	1	—	—
Abortion	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Concealment of Birth	10	1	—	1	9	—	4	—	2	—
Incest	4	—	—	—	4	—	3	—	—	—
Vagrancy	14	—	—	—	14	—	5	—	9	—
Brothel Keeping	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Bigamy	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—

Murder and Culpable homicide	108	17	—	65	91	—	53	—	7	31
Attempted Murder	12	4	—	3	8	—	3	—	2	3
Assault w/i G.B.H.	215	3	—	35	212	—	103	—	67	38
Assault Common	206	16	—	51	190	—	37	14	113	26
Defamation	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Criminal Injuria	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	—
Manstealing	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Against Property:</i>										
Theft Common	313	15	—	117	298	—	100	25	131	42
Robbery	17	2	—	—	15	—	7	1	6	1
Extortion	2	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	1
Housebreaking and Theft	87	6	—	21	81	—	49	2	23	7
Stock Theft	600	54	—	77	546	—	320	47	131	48
Fraud	11	1	—	3	10	—	2	3	4	1
Theft by False Pretences	10	—	—	9	10	—	7	—	3	—
Forgery and Uttering	24	2	—	2	22	—	4	1	10	7
Receiving Stolen Property	5	—	—	—	5	—	1	—	—	4
Arson	72	7	—	5	65	—	30	—	26	9
Malicious Injury to Property	136	26	—	20	110	—	45	10	48	7
Theft by Conversion	5	1	—	1	4	—	3	—	1	—
<i>Statutory Offences:</i>										
Traffic	223	5	—	26	218	—	15	6	189	8
Liquor	309	10	—	29	299	—	26	—	263	10
Dagga	255	10	—	4	245	—	104	4	121	16
<i>Miscellaneous and Petty:</i>										
Other Offences not specified above	2337	69	—	108	2268	—	150	21	1990	107
<i>Summary</i>										
Lawful Authority	333	31	—	43	302	—	135	1	126	40
Public Morality	152	25	—	25	127	—	53	8	50	16
Persons	543	40	—	154	503	—	196	18	191	98
Property	1282	114	—	255	1168	—	569	89	383	127
Statutory Offences	787	25	—	59	762	—	145	10	573	34
Miscellaneous and Petty	2337	69	—	108	2268	—	150	21	1990	107
Grand Total.	5434	304	—	644	5130	—	1248	147	3313	422

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

	Total Persons tried in High Court						Convicted					
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	First Offenders Act or warning		
<i>Against Person</i>												
Murder and Culpable Homicide	53	8	2	—	22	19	—	—	—	—	2	—
<i>Public Morality</i>												
Rape	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Against Property</i>												
Housebreaking and Theft	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	55	9	2	—	22	20	—	—	—	—	2	—

3. PRISONS

1. ADMINISTRATION

The Prison Service is administered by the Director of Prisons who is responsible to the Resident Commissioner. The Director is assisted by a Superintendent who is in charge of the Central Prison. The African Staff consists of one Senior Gaoler, 11 Gaolers, 9 Technical Instructors, 113 Warders, 1 Female Gaoler and 6 Female Warders. The district prisons are in the charge of District Commissioners under the general direction of the Director regarding prison administration.

There are ten prisons in the Territory, one at each district headquarters except at Maseru where there are two prisons – the Central Prison which takes all adult male prisoners from the Maseru District and long-term prisoners from other districts, and the Old Gaol which is used for females and juveniles.

The following building work at the Central Prison was completed during the year under review; Central Stores for all stations, Rotunda, Final block of water-borne latrines, Garage for prison transport, Tool store, Petrol store, Workshop for tailoring and cobbling sections.

The lighting of the perimeter, administrative block and Senior Gaoler's house was also completed.

The second workshop was completed except for roofing and interior decoration. The exterior of the reception block was completed up to roof level. A start was made on the new punishment block which will be self-contained and close to the administrative block.

Building work carried out during the year in the district gaols was as follows:

Teyateyaneng. Two separate cells for unconvicted male prisoners. Existing kitchen extended.

Leribe. New Office, fodder store and two wards for lunatics.

Butha Buthe. Prisoners' property store and new cell for female prisoners completed except for roofing.

Qacha's Nek. Latrine for female prisoners. Extensive repair work to prison buildings and staff quarters.

Quthing. New showers. Extension to existing latrines. A large number of stones cut for future improvements to existing gaol.

Mohale's Hoek. Showers for female prisoners. Improvements and repair work to Gaol buildings and staff quarters.

Mafeteng. Separate accommodation for unconvicted prisoners and female prisoners. Accommodation in each case consisting of two cells and exercise yard.

During the year under review 4,590 prisoners were committed to prison, of which 3,020 were sentenced to imprisonment. The daily average in prison was 980.9. Comparative figures for 1956 were, total committals 4,833, sentenced to imprisonment 3,203, daily average 996.4.

2. DISCIPLINE

One third good conduct remission may be earned by prisoners, provided the sentence is not reduced to less than thirty days. The majority of prisoners have been well behaved and generally speaking the discipline has been good. With the introduction of the new prison legislation, referred to in Chapter VIII, the Superintendent has the power to deal with minor offences and this should greatly assist in maintaining discipline at the Central Prison.

Seventeen prisoners escaped during the year, but of these 14 were recaptured.

3. EXECUTIONS

There were no prisoners in custody under sentence of death on 31st December, 1956. During the year twenty-two were sentenced to death. The outcome of cases was as follows :

Sentence commuted to imprisonment	. 2
Awaiting results of appeal. 20
	—
Total : 22
	—

4. HEALTH

The general health of the prisoners has been good. There were no epidemics. The daily average reporting sick was 9.30 the majority being for minor complaints. 67 prisoners were admitted to hospital and there were three deaths. Comparative figures for 1956 were daily average 6.54, admissions to hospital 77 and six deaths.

In the Central Prison there is a sick bay and only serious cases now are admitted to the Government hospital. 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 prisoners 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 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 in work of a public nature, such as chimney-sweeping, tree-felling and planting, street-



A Bridle Path in the Basutoland Mountains





A Mountain Jeep Track

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 when materials are available. Prison labour has been used to build the Central Prison. During the year under review, 2,160 stones were cut and 259,800 bricks burned. £657. 18s. 9d. was received from the sale of bricks.

The Maseru vegetable gardens produced 115,812 lb. vegetables. Gardening operations are carried out by prisoners, including all the juveniles, under the supervision of an agricultural instructor. Vegetables were supplied to the Government hospital, Maseru prisons, and to the Teyateyaneng, Butha Buthe and Quthing prisons when insufficient supplies were being produced in their own gardens. 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 £257. 12s. 9d.

The tailoring section was employed in making prisoners' clothing and staff uniforms. 2,540 articles of clothing were made and 2,481 articles of clothing repaired. The cobbling section was concerned with the manufacture of prisoner's sandals and repairs to boots. 324 sandals were made and 1,333 boots were repaired. Carpenters made doors, window frames and roofing required for the Central Prison. Blacksmiths were mainly occupied with the manufacture and sharpening of tools for the masons and quarry gangs, but they also manufactured iron work required for the prison. 478 punches and stone wedges were made and 11,128 articles repaired.

From the sale of pigs, mats and other industries, £99. 6s. 9d. was received and paid into revenue.

6. WOMEN PRISONERS

With the exception of short-sentence females in the districts, all female prisoners are incarcerated 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 hospitals and dispensaries, making and repairing prison clothing, and in the garden weeding, hoeing and planting. Long-sentence females were employed on operating sewing machines. 60 prisoners' caps and 132 female prisoners' garments were made during the year under review.

In 1957, 404 females were admitted to prison. Of this total 277 were sentenced to imprisonment either with or without the option of fines. 26 of the 404 had previous convictions and 37 were lunatics detained under medical surveillance. Comparative figures for 1956 were 548 admissions, 373 sentenced to imprisonment and 42 lunatics. 42 had previous convictions. In Maseru the daily average was 22.7 compared with 26.9 in 1956.

8. EDUCATION

Three specially selected warders with previous teaching experience conduct educational classes in Maseru for both adult and juvenile prisoners. These classes are proving very successful. Talks on topical subjects are given by a Prison Visitor. Weekly newspapers and monthly illustrated magazines in the local vernacular were supplied to prisoners during the year under review.

9. EXTRA-MURAL PRISONERS

District Commissioners are empowered to give persons convicted for certain minor offences the option of serving their sentences extra-murally. This has the advantage of keeping first offenders out of Gaol and out of contact with hardened criminals.

Chapter X : Public Utilities and Public Works

I. PUBLIC UTILITIES

Electricity

The Maseru Power Station continued to function satisfactorily throughout the year. Extensive building development in Maseru in recent years has caused a big increase in the demand for electric power. To meet this, plans have been prepared for the augmentation of the supply early in the new year with a 100 K.W. Diesel Generating Set. It is estimated that this unit will be sufficient to meet the peak loads for the next five years, after which it will be necessary to consider a major augmentation of the steam generating plant.

Increased revenue during the past year has put this undertaking on an economic basis.

Water

There were no significant changes in the Maseru Water Supply apart from the building in of a new spring in the area of the existing springs on a plateau about five miles from Maseru. Measurements taken indicate that this new spring will yield up to a maximum of 38,000 gallons per day, but may drop to about 7,000 gallons per day during the dry winter season. Very good rains during the year increased the flow from the springs with a corresponding decrease in the amount of water pumped from the Caledon River Waterworks.

Investigations are being carried out for the augmentation of the supply under the Territory's Development Loan. A Consulting Geophysicist has been engaged to examine the potential of the area of the springs.

It is considered that it will prove economic to develop these springs to their maximum capacity before further consideration is given to the augmentation of the pumped supply from the Caledon River which requires full purification treatment.

New Mokhotlong Water Supply

The existing water supply to the remote mountain station at Mokhotlong consists of an open furrow about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles long which gravitates water from a stream fed by springs. The drinking water is obtained from a small spring in the area of the township.

Progress on the construction of the new piped water supply has been slow due to the difficulties of supervising the work and of access for materials. However, it is now expected that the supply will be opened in the new year. The scheme comprises a small intake chamber, approximately 4 miles of plastic piping and a 35,000 gallon terminal reservoir in the area of the township. The supply will be chlorinated and reticulation will be laid in plastic piping.

Development of Water Resources

Mention has been made at page 24 of this Report of the progress of the investigations now under way to confirm the possibilities of the Ox-bow Hydro-electric Power and Water Supply Scheme.

2. PUBLIC WORKS

Buildings

The Building Section of the Public Works Department carried out new works to a total value of £92,156 during the year under review.

The re-building of Leribe Police Lines comprising 39 Type "D" Junior Service Staff Quarters, Ablution/Laundry and Latrine Blocks was completed. Five quarters were built departmentally, but the remaining 34 and outbuildings were let out to contract, the lowest tender of £19,380 being accepted. At Butha Buthe the re-building of the Police Lines comprising 11 Type "D" Junior Staff Quarters, Ablution/Laundry and Latrine Blocks was started.

Work on a double-storied structure for the National Councillors' Quarters is almost complete. The work is being done departmentally and entirely by Basuto artisans and labourers under European supervision. A second similar block situated next to the first block and containing 40 bedrooms, has been commenced and is being built in the same way.

Amongst the more important of many other smaller buildings completed during the year were three Type "9" Senior Service Staff Quarters and extensions to Basutoland High School, Secretariat, and Public Works Department Headquarters all in Maseru.

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 main roads is generally low, being in many cases the original sunken wagon tracks formed by the early missionaries and traders. Alignment, sight distance, etc., are sub-standard for modern traffic. There are still many stream and river crossings which are not bridged and traffic may be 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 bridges and culverts and provision has been made in the Territory's Development Loan for the realignment of the most troublesome sections of the roads. Over the past five years, approximately 27 miles of main road have been realigned, but this represents only 5 per cent of the total mileage, all of which requires realignment and /or rebuilding.

3. BRIDLE PATHS

There are approximately 1,600 miles of bridle paths in the Territory, which are now constructed and maintained by the Basuto Administration.

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

The new full departmental post office at Sehonghong was officially opened on the 1st May, 1957 by Chief Theko Makhaola and Mr. G. Pott, District Commissioner, Qacha's Nek. As anticipated, the office has proved to be of great benefit to the inhabitants of the area.

Telephones

During the year the Queen Elizabeth II hospital, Maseru was provided with a fifty line switch-board with five direct connections to the Central Telephone Exchange and forty-five internal extensions. Police Headquarters and Central Stores were also provided with ten line switch-boards with two direct connections to the Central Telephone Exchange and eight internal extensions each. The demand for new services has continued to increase but it has not been possible to provide service because of the lack of cable spares, etc. It is hoped that services will be provided in the near future.

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

operates four times weekly connecting Maseru and Mokhotlong and a weekly air mail service connects Maseru, Semonkong (agency), Qacha's Nek and Sehonghong (agency).

In consequence of the contractor cancelling the conveyance of mail contract between Sehonghong and Thaba Tseka, it was necessary to extend the airmail service to Mhlanapeng once weekly. This has had the effect of accelerating the disposal of mails for Mhlanapeng (Private bag Service), Thaba Tseka (agency). Thaba Tseka Mails are now collected at the Mhlanapeng air strip by the Agent.

Training School

The Posts and Telegraphs School, which was closed for the first half of 1957 on account of staff difficulties, was reopened on June 1st and seven African postal officers were recruited for training. Of these, five have made excellent progress and have received tuition in the following post office duties :

Morse Telegraphy. – Sound reading and manual operating.

Touch Typing. – For the purpose of teleprinter operating.

Counter Duties. – Embodying the acceptance of all classes of parcel mail, Savings Bank requirements, and general counter duties.

Circulation Branch. – Both incoming and outgoing mail duties and Private Box sortation.

Phonogram Duties. – Accepting and delivering telegrams by phone.

Rules and Regulations. – Covering all phases of post office work.

Staff

The establishment and strength of the Department at the end of 1957 is given below :

EUROPEANS

<i>Rank</i>	<i>Establishment</i>	<i>Strength</i>
Controller of Posts & Telegraphs	1	1
Senior Postmaster.	1	1
Postal Officers.	9	9
T. & T. Electrician	1	1
Total	12	12

Africans

<i>Rank</i>	<i>Establishment</i>	<i>Strength</i>
Postmasters, Higher Grade	8	8
Postal Assistants, Grade I	10	10
Telephone Operator, Grade I	1	1
Postal Assistants (Linemen). Grade. III	4	4
Postal Assistants Grade III	54	54
Postal Assistants (Telephonists) Grade IV	11	11
Messengers, Grade V	3	3
Clerk, Grade I	1	1
Total	92	92

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

Statistics

<i>Heading</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>1955-56</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>1956-57</i>
Post Offices and Agencies	64	£	66	£
Postal Orders Issued	48,182	23,339	53,855	29,036
Postal Orders. Paid	47,806	43,196	43,087	40,029
Money Orders. Issued	28,871	92,883	28,923	98,767
Money Orders. Paid .	16,080	97,352	14,135	94,006
Savings Bank Deposits	11,107	186,275	11,437	173,471
Savings Bank With- drawals	29,248	264,586	25,662	235,567
Telegrams Forwarded	112,026		106,650	
Telegrams Received .	112,016		115,366	
Bag and Box Rents .		791		835
Money Order Commis- sion		387		447
Postage Stamp Sales		28,334		39,523
Surtaxes		134		174
Registered Address Fees		20		65
Revenue Stamp Sales		13,523		21,838
Telegraph Revenue		4,619		5,564
Telephone Revenue .		5,550		8,744
Postal Order Poundage		332		385
Wireless Licences .		92		353
Totals		£761,413		£748,804

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 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

Chapter I : 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 Caledon 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 Makhokhoa 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 Director of Prisons. The Judiciary 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 a 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

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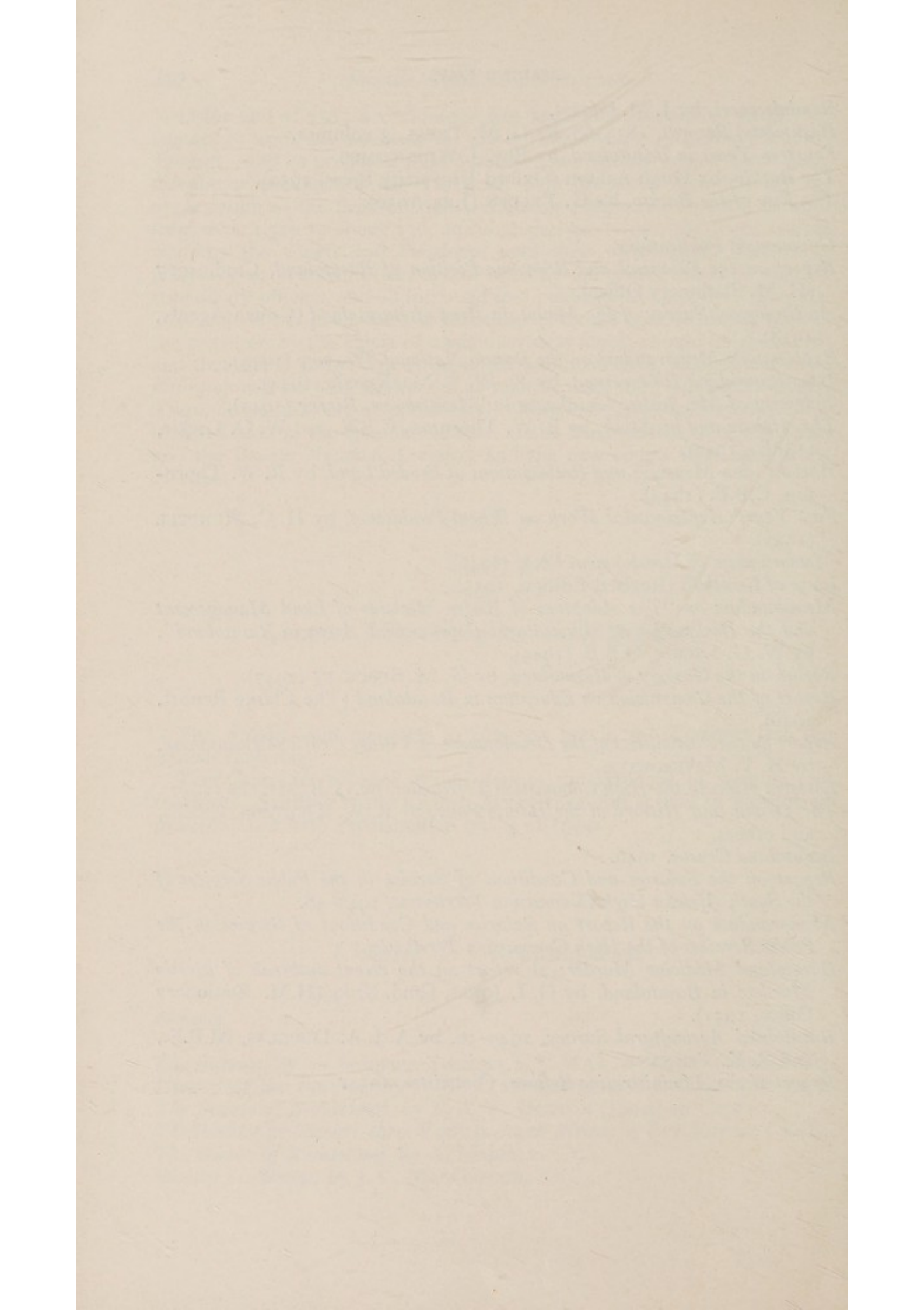
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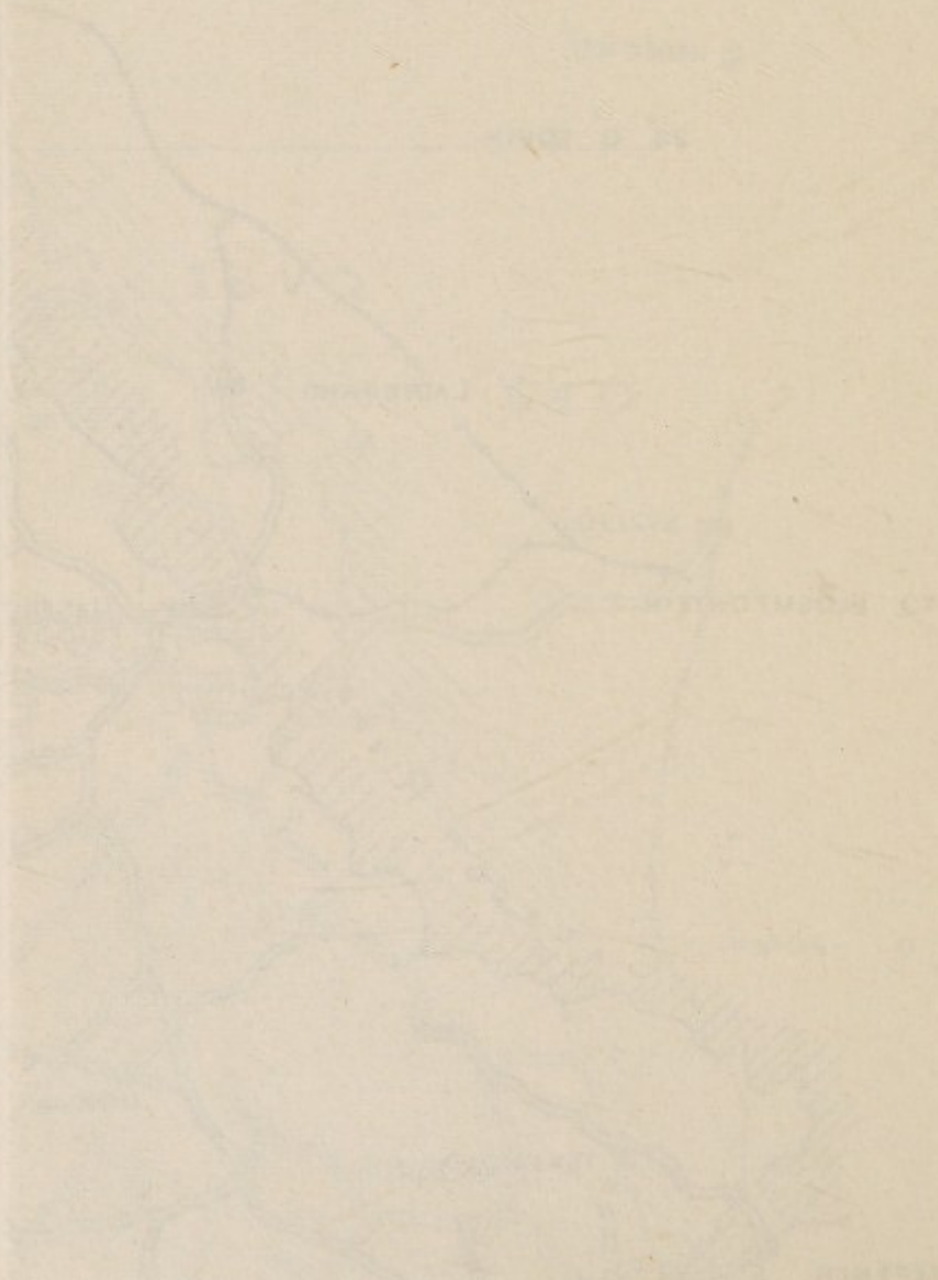
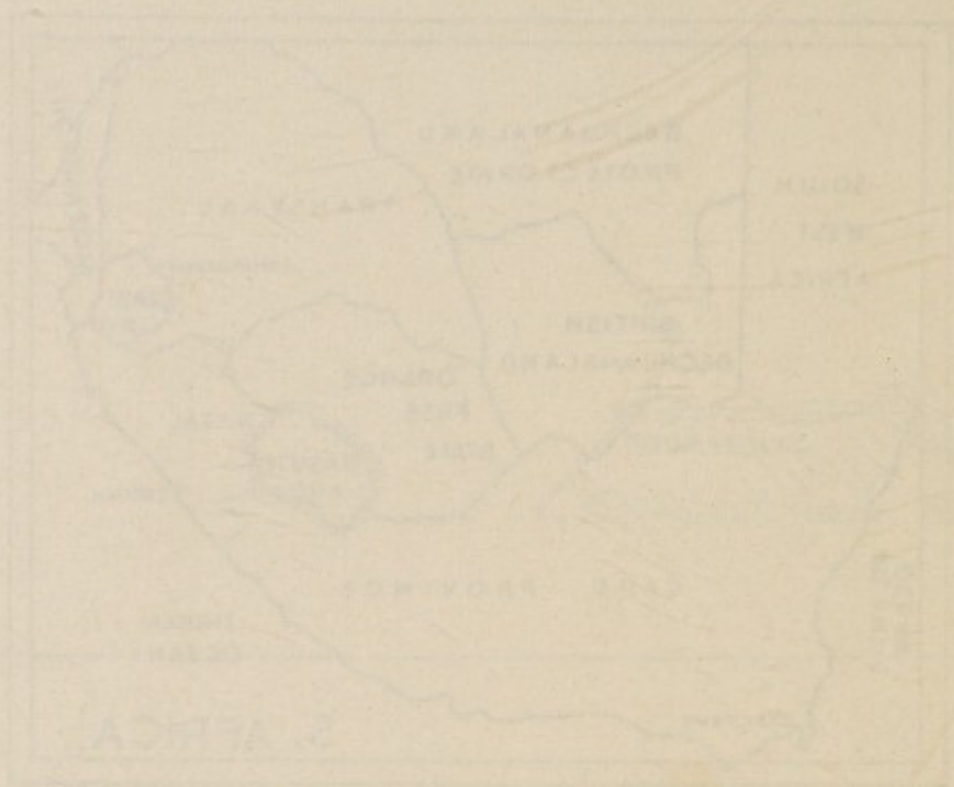
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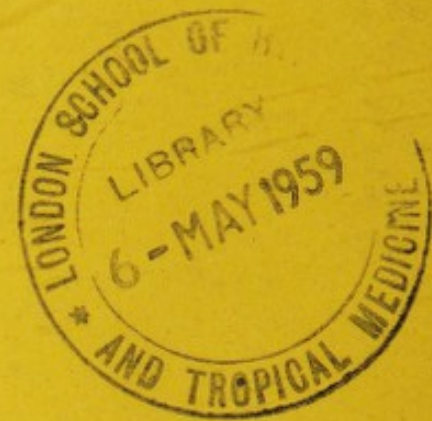
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