

## **Annual report on the social and economic progress of the people of Basutoland.**

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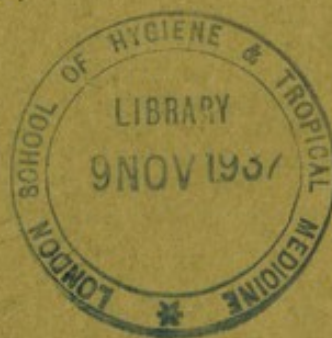
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Annual Report on the Social and Economic  
Progress of the People of

BASUTOLAND, 1936

(For Reports for 1934 and 1935 see No. 1723 and No. 1760  
respectively (Price 1s. 6d. each).)

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# ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF BASUTOLAND FOR THE YEAR 1936

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### I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Basutoland is bounded on the west by the Orange Free State, on the north by the Orange Free State and Natal, on the east by Natal and East Griqualand, and on the south by the Cape Province. Its area is 11,716 square miles. It lies between 28° 35' and 30° 40' south latitude and between 27° and 29° 30' east longitude.

The altitude varies from 5,000 ft. to 11,000 ft. above sea level. The Maluti Mountains, which occupy most of the territory to the east, were in former years reserved for grazing purposes but, owing to the pressure in the lowlands where the bulk of the population is concentrated this more or less inaccessible area has become comparatively thickly populated. One result of this occupation of the mountain area is the disappearance of big game, such as eland and hartebeest, which used to abound, and the gradual elimination of small game and birds.

The climate is dry and bracing with extremes of heat and cold both seasonal and diurnal. High altitude, electric tension and long periods of strong sunshine without clouds or rain necessitate for European residents periodic changes to the coast level where the air is more humid.

The temperature varies from a maximum of 93° F. to a minimum of 11° F. The rainfall is capricious, the average being approximately 30 inches per annum, but it fluctuates much above and below this figure. The rainfall in 1936 recorded at the different stations in the Territory varied between 32·90 and 25·10 inches.

The Basuto as a nation did not come into prominence until 1818 when Moshesh, a minor chief of the Bakwena 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 many vicissitudes of fortune, 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 sought the protection of the British Government. This was granted and carried into effect by Sir Philip Wodehouse, the Governor of the Cape, by a Proclamation dated the 12th March, 1868.

It is interesting to note that, although Moshesh asked for British protection, the Basuto were received as British subjects and not as protected subjects by the Proclamation of 1868, part of which reads:—

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

Although outwardly peace was restored, there still remained several chiefs who would not submit, and it was eventually decided by the Government of the 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.

## II.—GOVERNMENT.

The Territory is governed by a Resident Commissioner under the direction of the High Commissioner for Basutoland, the Bechuanaland Protectorate and Swaziland, the latter possessing legislative authority, which is exercised by proclamation promulgated in the official *Gazette*. The Financial Secretary, who is also Treasurer, prepares the Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure and the Annual Accounts. 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.

For administrative purposes the country is divided into seven districts under District Commissioners: Maseru, Leribe (including the sub-district of Butha Buthe), Teyateyaneng, Mafeteng, Mohale's Hoek, Quthing and Qasha's Nek (with the sub-district of Mokhotlong). These districts are divided into chiefdoms and sub-chiefdoms presided over by the hereditary chiefs and sub-chiefs allied to the Moshesh family who are responsible to the Paramount Chief in all matters relating to native law and custom.

In 1903 there was established a Basutoland Council in place of the National Pitso which was previously held once every year. Its constitution and functions are defined by Proclamation No. 7 of 31st March, 1910. The Council consists of 100 members, including the Paramount Chief as Chief Councillor, with the Resident Commissioner as President. The Resident Commissioner nominates five members and the remaining 94 are nominated by the Paramount Chief and confirmed in their appointments by the Resident Commissioner. The Council exists for the discussion of the domestic affairs of the Territory.

The 1936 Council which was held in November was productive of much useful discussion. Addresses, followed by discussion and questions, were given by the Principal Medical Officer, the Director of Agriculture, and the Director of Education, and were greatly appreciated. Motions by Councillors were followed by full debates on the questions of soil erosion, dosing of sheep, stock theft, agricultural matters, village water supplies, leprosy, plague and other diseases, rodents, education, native taxation and native trading.

**III.—POPULATION.**

A census was taken in May 1936, of which the preliminary figures are to hand. The following comparative figures for the years 1921 and 1936 indicate the increase and distribution of the population:—

District.	Europeans.		Bantu.		Coloured other than Bantu.	
	1921.	1936.	1921.	1936.	1921.	1936.
Leribe ... ..	260	204	107,794	132,269	211	522
Berea ... ..	132	94	56,674	55,506	136	119
Maseru ... ..	612	583	99,378	108,231	266	331
Mafeteng ... ..	262	189	67,279	70,863	221	248
Mohale's Hoek ... ..	159	150	60,568	65,329	281	229
Quthing ... ..	115	106	38,051	44,568	96	70
Qacha's Nek ... ..	63	108	66,193	82,611	30	81
	1,603	1,434	495,937	559,377	1,241	1,600
Absentees ... ..	—	—	47,141	101,273	—	—
Total ... ..	1,603	1,434	543,078	660,650	1,241	1,600

The 101,273 absentees shown above are the natives who are outside the Territory at various employment centres, farms, etc.

Including absentees, the increase is at the rate of 1.44 per cent. per annum.

The following is a comparative statement of the density of the population (other than European) at the censuses of 1911, 1921, and 1936 (preliminary):—

	1911.	1921.	1936.
Number of persons per square mile ...	34.41	42.44	47.99
Number of acres per head of population	18.60	15.08	13.33
Number of occupied huts per square mile.	10.86	16.99	20.42
Number of persons to each occupied hut	3.61	2.84	2.35

There is no compulsory registration of births, deaths, or marriages according to native custom. Marriages according to Christian rites numbered 1,040 during the year under review, compared with 1,052 in 1935.

**IV.—HEALTH.**

The medical staff of the Territory consists of a Principal Medical Officer, eight Medical Officers, one Assistant Medical Officer, and one District Surgeon. A Medical Officer is stationed at each district headquarters, and the Assistant Medical Officer and District Surgeon at the two sub-district headquarters.

An important change in the medical personnel has been the appointment of Dr. Motebang, M.B., Ch.B., to the full-time



post of Assistant Medical Officer at the Mokhotlong Sub-District where he has for several years held the part-time post of District Surgeon. This is the first qualified Mosuto doctor to be appointed to the permanent medical staff.

There are five Government general hospitals staffed by qualified European nurses with native attendants, and three smaller cottage hospitals staffed by native nurses. The total number of hospital beds available for the Territory is 156 for natives and 12 for Europeans. At each of the district headquarters a daily dispensary clinic is conducted by the Medical Officer. Trained natives dispense the medicines prescribed by the Medical Officers.

The following developments were initiated during the year:—

(a) Training of native nurses at Maseru Hospital, the course being one approved for the three High Commission Territories in South Africa.

(b) Extension of the Qacha's Nek Hospital to give accommodation to 28 patients instead of 14 as at present, and with facilities for major surgery.

(c) Construction of buildings at Mokhotlong so that eight in-patients can be treated under hospital conditions; up to the present there was no provision for in-patients.

(d) A weekly dispensary at Morija (25 miles from Maseru) conducted by the Medical Officer of Maseru. It was opened in October, and the recent attendances at each weekly visit have averaged over 80 patients.

There were 82,723 attendances at the Government dispensaries during the year. Of these 54,015 were first attendances, and 28,708 subsequent attendances. The number of attendances showed an increase of 15,407 as compared with the year 1935.

The total number of in-patients treated in the Government hospitals in 1936 was 3,236 as compared with 3,251 in 1935. The following table shows the details of work carried out at the hospital and dispensary of each district and sub-district:—

<i>District.</i>	<i>Hospital.</i>	<i>Dispensary.</i>	
	<i>In-Patients.</i>	<i>First Attendances.</i>	<i>Total Attendances.</i>
Maseru ... ..	991	10,101	18,577
Leribe ... ..	699	10,541	15,315
Mafeteng ... ..	505	8,947	13,705
Mohale's Hoek ... ..	422	5,674	7,867
Qacha's Nek ... ..	265	5,690	8,301
Quthing ... ..	252	4,360	7,690
Teyateyaneng ... ..	102	6,202	7,768
Mokhotlong ... ..	—	2,500	3,500
Total ... ..	3,236	54,015	82,723

The following table indicates the prevalence of the more common infectious diseases in 1936 as compared with the year 1935:—

<i>Disease.</i>	1935.	1936.
Influenza ... ..	1,550	551
Typhoid Fever ... ..	127	183
Dysentery ... ..	53	67
Typhus Fever ... ..	192	51
Whooping Cough ... ..	257	413
Measles ... ..	476	97
Smallpox ... ..	—	—
Scarlet Fever ... ..	11	11
Diphtheria ... ..	11	3
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ... ..	549	496
Pellagra ... ..	147	242
Plague ... ..	—	17

From this table it will be noticed that except for whooping cough none of the infectious diseases assumed epidemic proportion. It is the first time on record that human plague has been diagnosed in the Territory. In the Annual Report for 1935 attention was drawn to localised occurrences of rodent plague on the south-west border of the Territory. In January, 1936, it was found that a widespread epidemic of rodent plague had broken out among the field rodents (gerbilles) in the Mafeteng and Mohale's Hoek districts. The epidemic very rapidly spread along the western border of the Territory, and by March it had reached the most northerly sub-district (Butha Buthe). 90 per cent of the gerbilles were exterminated. Contrary to apprehension, except for 17 cases of human plague in three neighbouring villages, plague did not spread from the field rodents to the human inhabitants. Prompt measures prevented the spread of human plague from the three vilages of the Mafeteng district in which the 17 cases occurred. Five months after the rodent plague epidemic it was observed that gerbilles had bred up very rapidly and again constituted a serious menace to the food crops of the natives, and a widespread potential source of plague. An extensive campaign covering over 1,000 square miles was undertaken by the combined efforts of the Agricultural and Medical Departments, with the co-operation of Chiefs and people, to reduce the field rodent population by means of poisoned wheat. These measures were extremely satisfactory, and by the end of the year very sparse activity was encountered in areas which prior to the campaign were riddled with burrows.

It is worth noting that typhus fever which for several years had been a major problem culminating in the epidemic of 1933-34, has practically disappeared from the Territory. The 51 cases reported in 1936 are accounted for by an outbreak in one village near Mohale's Hoek, and a more widespread out-

break in the Quacha's Nek district. In each case prompt and energetic measures of quarantine and de-verminization stopped further spread. The rest of the Territory has been free of the disease. The number of cases of tuberculosis, which for ten years prior to 1935 had remained stationary, showed an increase in 1935. The figures for 1936 show no appreciable diminution. There is very little doubt that the drought and severe starvation of the Basuto in 1933 lowered their resistance to disease, and as a result a larger number have contracted tubercular infection.

A large proportion of the Basuto show signs of malnutrition, particularly among children whose diet is lacking in milk. There is generally a sufficient supply of carbohydrate foods to satisfy hunger, but there is a general shortage in their diet of fats, proteins and vitamins. The lack of a well-balanced diet is shown in the increasing number of cases of pellagra which are treated at the dispensaries and in the hospitals. In 1936 there were 242 cases of pellagra as compared with 147 in 1935 and 76 in 1934. The Government is making strenuous efforts to counteract the deficiencies in the Basuto's diet. Peasants are being urged to grow vegetables for their own consumption and vegetable seeds are being issued free of charge.

Though syphilis and gonorrhoea are widespread throughout the Territory a comparison of numbers treated for these conditions at the dispensaries over a ten-year period would seem to indicate that there is a diminution in the number of new infections, but a relative increase in the congenital or hereditary type. Free treatment for venereal diseases is given at all Government dispensaries, and during the year under review the Natives were more willing to accept treatment by arsenical preparations than they have been in the past.

Diseases peculiar to the tropics and sub-tropical countries, such as malaria, sleeping sickness etc., do not occur in Basutoland, which is entirely free of anopheline mosquitoes, tsetse fly and other vectors of tropical diseases.

During 1936 an important advancement of medical services in Basutoland has been the effort of Missions to inaugurate properly conducted Medical Missions. The Roman Catholic Mission have built a hospital at Roma and are building another in the mountains at Ntaote's. They will be in charge of qualified doctors. The Paris Evangelical Missionary Society will in 1937 build a hospital at Morija; it will also be in charge of a qualified doctor.

#### **Leprosy and Leper Settlement.**

The population of the Leper Settlement on the 31st of December, 1936, was 684, as compared with 707 in 1935 and 728 in 1934. Ninety-nine new cases of leprosy were admitted as compared with 116 in 1935 and 102 cases in 1934. The six Native Leprosy Inspectors appointed in 1929 are stationed in different

parts of the Territory and tour from village to village for the purpose of examining all persons showing any signs of leprosy. The value of this organization is shown by the fact that cases are now brought to the Asylum while the disease is at an early stage, and therefore much more likely to be cured by appropriate treatment. Indeed so mild are many of the cases that only an expert would diagnose leprosy. The following comparative table supports this statement:—

Year.	<i>Duration of the disease in months on admission to the Settlement.</i>		
	<i>1-12 Months.</i>	<i>13-24 Months.</i>	<i>Over 2 years.</i>
1924 ... ..	31 per cent.	37 per cent.	32 per cent.
1929 ... ..	41 ..	24·5 ..	34·5 ..
1935 ... ..	59·8 ..	22·4 ..	17·8 ..
1936 ... ..	55 ..	18·6 ..	25·6 ..

An encouraging feature is that suspected cases are readily presented to the Inspectors for examination and if certified as lepers they go willingly to the Settlement, because there is now a widespread feeling among the tribe that the institution is a place where their disease is cured, and they no longer regard it as a form of imprisonment, as they did for several years after compulsory segregation was first established in 1914. This confidence is due to the number of cases which having been admitted at an early stage are discharged with the disease cured or arrested after a comparatively short period of residence. Sixty-eight patients were discharged in 1936 with the disease cured or arrested as compared with 58 in 1935.

In November and December of 1936 the Medical Officer of the Leper Asylum made a survey of those parts of the districts of Qacha's Nek and Quthing in which the incidence of leprosy is the highest in the whole territory. He examined over 13,000 individuals, among whom he found 42 extremely slight cases of leprosy, of which 38 were neural and only four cutaneous. A considerable proportion of the neural cases appear to have become spontaneously arrested, and will not be admitted to the Asylum. Such patients are examined by the Medical Admission Board at Maseru, their nasal smears are examined for leprosy bacilli, if negative the macules are delimited by intradermal injection, they are then sent home to be registered and kept under the control of the district Medical Officer by periodic examination clinically and bacteriologically.

#### V.—HOUSING.

There are no factories or industrial undertakings in Basutoland, and the problem of the proper accommodation of workers has not arisen.

The Basuto live in villages under tribal authority and their huts are, on the whole, healthy, if primitive. These huts are built of sods or stone, with a mud floor and thatched roof; and the average number of persons to each hut occupied is 2.35 in 1936 as compared with 2.84 in 1921.

The small European population consists of civil servants, missionaries and traders, and is, as a rule, well housed in buildings of cut stone or brick.

## VI.—PRODUCTION.

There are no fisheries, and no mining operations are carried out in Basutoland.

Production is dealt with under two heads—Agriculture and Animal Husbandry.

### **Agriculture.**

#### *Land Tenure.*

With the exception of the Government Reserves and land provided for the various missions, all land in Basutoland is held by the people under the communal system. In actual practice there is a difference in the application of the system to grazing land and to cultivated land. All grazing land, including the grazing on cultivated land after the crops are removed, is strictly communal. The arable or cultivated land while remaining the property of the nation is granted to family heads under the ancient and well-known "three field" system. In Basutoland there is no recognized or standard acreage laid down with regard to the size of these fields, they vary according to the amount of arable land available; for example, those allowed in the lowlands vary in size from those allowed in the highlands. The standing of the individual is also taken into consideration. The usual size of a field for commoners in the mountains is estimated at an average of two acres, and in the lowlands at three acres.

#### *Meteorological Conditions.*

The rainfall and certain general meteorological conditions appear under Chapter I. It is necessary, however, to mention certain points to indicate the effect of rainfall and frost on crop production during the period under review. Good early spring rains fell in 1935 which provided an auspicious opening to the crop season and resulted in extensive ploughing and seeding operations. Unfortunately an exceptionally dry September followed, and as the season advanced the showers that fell were not sufficiently heavy to induce successful germination and crop growth, with the result that many fields had to be re-ploughed and re-sown. These late planted crops were subjected to various set-backs. Unseasonable frosts occurred on the 15th November, 1935, and on the 20th January, 1936. These frosts caused considerable damage, particularly to mountain maize and wheat;

and at the same time the crops were attacked, to an abnormal extent, but cut-worm and stalk-borer, resulting in great damage and delayed maturity. Finally, during March the weather was too cool to permit of rapid maturing, with the result that many fields were destroyed by frosts at the beginning of April. There is no doubt that the people made every effort to overcome these difficulties. They co-operated in the loan of draught animals and they re-planted their fields in some instances as many as three times during the season. But in spite of this co-operation and the increased acreage under cultivation, the adverse meteorological conditions resulted in a low yield, particularly of maize and sorghum, and had it not been for the fact that the wheat, barley and pea crops were fairly good, starvation might have resulted.

#### *Pasture.*

In spite of the adverse meteorological conditions with regard to crop production, the pasture throughout the country was good, mainly owing to the fact that the Territory is at present under-stocked.

#### *Agricultural Production.*

The standard crops in the Territory are maize, wheat and sorghum. It was noticeable, however, that during the year under review a far greater area was laid down to peas, beans, barley, oats and vegetables, including potatoes. This variation in crop production is of great benefit to the land as it permits of a better rotation of crops and will naturally benefit the health of the people. Until recently maize and sorghum formed the staple diet of the Basuto, but wheat, peas and particularly barley are now being used to a far greater extent than in the past. The increased consumption of wheat was very marked, assisted undoubtedly by the shortage of maize. This is a desirable feature, particularly owing to the fact that wheat is a better food than maize in averting troubles like pellagra.

The approximate acreage planted to the different crops during 1936 and the returns secured are as follows:—

<i>Crop.</i>	<i>Acreage sown.</i>	<i>Crops reaped. Bags of 200 lb.</i>	<i>Remarks.</i>
Maize ... ..	249,941	491,144	It was estimated that approximately the same acreage was cultivated as in 1935. More wheat than usual was sown and less sorghum.
Wheat ... ..	124,970	245,572	
Sorghum ... ..	93,729	184,179	
Barley and Other crops	31,242	61,393	

*Maize.*—Owing to the short growing season in Basutoland every endeavour is being made to introduce early maturing varieties of maize. As a result of experiments, two varieties known as "Bushman" and "Mazena Bread" have

given good results, and a quantity of seed of these varieties has been produced and distributed. The "Bushman", which is the earliest variety, is distributed in the mountain area, and while it is not a very heavy cropper, owing to its extremely early maturing, it is expected, from the results secured up to the present, that in most seasons it will give a good yield at fairly high altitudes.

*Sorghum*.—A number of local and imported varieties of sorghum have been tested on the experimental plots at Maseru, with a view to securing a variety or varieties that will mature early and at the same time give a fair yield of good grain. Varieties introduced from Swaziland give great promise as they are several weeks earlier than the earliest local varieties. These will be multiplied next season and distributed.

*Wheat*.—The mountain area of Basutoland is the main wheat producing part of the Territory, and owing to climatic and soil conditions has proved exceedingly suitable for the production of strong wheats. Strong wheats having a gluten content of 12 per cent. to 14 per cent. are in demand in the Union, and therefore attention has been concentrated on the production of those varieties showing the necessary strength and which have proved sufficiently rust resistant under the climatic conditions which prevail in this Territory. "Marquis", one of the best Canadian strongs, is now being extensively sown as a result of seed distribution by the Government.

With a view to furthering the production of strong wheats, nine of the best varieties were secured from the Canadian Government and are at present under test at the Maseru experimental station. There are also several local varieties which have given good results, and the production of these, like Marquis, is being extended.

A range of samples of Basutoland wheat are sent annually to the Stellenbosch-Elsenburg Agricultural College to be tested for their baking and milling qualities, and it is as a result of these tests that a decision is arrived at as to whether the wheats tested are sufficiently strong to merit their production on a large scale. It is satisfactory to note that Marquis, after having been grown for four years in Basutoland, still maintains its inherent good qualities.

*Barley*.—Barley can be planted later than wheat and grows well at high altitudes. It proved a useful crop to the people in the mountains in 1936, when it was sown extensively to take the place of maize which had been destroyed by frost; excellent crops were harvested. Far more barley is now used for human consumption, and in 1936 very little was exported.

*Peas and Beans*.—Comparatively slow progress has been made with regard to the production of beans in the lowlands and, up to the present, the crop has not been very successful

in the mountains. Peas, on the other hand, are now sown extensively in the mountain districts, and a good crop was secured in 1936, most of which was utilized by the people as food instead of being exported. From the agricultural point of view the pea crop is now becoming a very useful item in rotation with wheat and, like wheat, gives an excellent cover on the steep mountain fields during the season of high rainfall and prevents the surface erosion which takes place with crops like maize and sorghum.

*Vegetable Production.*—The production of vegetables is making rapid progress as is indicated by the following figures:—During 1935 there were 339 gardens, and in 1936 809 gardens were being worked under the supervision of the native demonstrators. Not only was there an increase of 470 gardens but, in accordance with the advice given by the Government, the gardens were well laid out and were in the majority of cases, terraced wherever this was necessary, and provided with small dams and compost pits. The production of vegetables in every village in Basutoland is the object aimed at, with a view to improving the diet of the people and the utilization of badly eroded ground in and around the villages. It is also realized that the production of a large amount of food in these small gardens will result in the liberation for sale of a greater quantity of the standard crops such as wheat, maize and sorghum. It is also thought that the terracing of the gardens and the high return secured from such terraced land will gradually induce the people to undertake terracing operations on a large scale in connection with their field crops, with the result that all possibility of erosion in the terraced areas will be arrested. In order to increase the interest in this branch of farming, a certain amount of free seed has been provided and small prizes given for the best garden in each village where ten or more gardens are entered for competition.

#### *Maseru Experimental Station.*

The wheat and other crops planted during the spring of 1935 and harvested in the late summer and autumn of 1936 produced some excellent results, but it would be dangerous even to generalize on these results until the tests have been repeated for a further period of three to five years, depending upon the nature of the experiment. The principal items dealt with were:—

(a) The testing of strong wheats for yield, disease resistance, etc.

(b) The testing of maize and kaffir corn varieties, primarily for early maturity.

(c) The testing of a great variety of grasses, particularly stoloniferous varieties, for use in connection with anti-erosion works.



(d) The production of fruit trees for use in connection with the vegetable and horticultural scheme.

(c) The production of *Robinia pseudocacia* and other trees which coppice rapidly.

#### *Agricultural Demonstration Work.*

Twenty-six native Agricultural Demonstrators are employed in the Territory. These men work under the supervision of the Agricultural Officers in the lowlands and the Livestock Officers in the mountains. In the majority of cases, in spite of the adverse season, fair crops were obtained from the demonstration plots, the results being infinitely better than those secured from the fields worked by the natives. These plots served as an excellent demonstration in favour of good agricultural methods.

In addition to the garden plots mentioned under the section "Vegetable Production", demonstrators worked the following number of field plots:—

<i>Wheat,</i> <i>including</i> <i>Manitoba.</i>	<i>Maize.</i>	<i>Sorghum.</i>	<i>Potatoes,</i> <i>Peas and</i> <i>Beans.</i>
688	367	22	19

#### *Forestry and Fruit Production.*

During the year, fruit and forestry trees were issued in connection with terraced gardens and for planting in areas where anti-erosion works were completed. In this connection 11,481 trees were planted. Free issue of *Robinia pseudocacia* seed was made to all natives who were willing to plant it with a view to establishing small plantations in and around their villages. Every effort is being made to extend the planting of trees that coppice readily, with a view to supplying timber for hut building and for fuel. The latter is a most important point. At present most of the cow and sheep manure is used as fuel for heating purposes, to the detriment of agriculture, but an adequate timber supply would overcome this otherwise unavoidable destruction of good manure.

#### *Soil Erosion.*

Anti-erosion work on a small scale was started in 1935 and was pushed forward steadily, still on a relatively small scale, during the first nine months of 1936. The work is now being rapidly extended as a result of receiving a loan of £160,233 for this purpose from the Colonial Development Fund. During the year 1,683½ acres were treated at Matsieng, near the Paramount Chief's home, which is one of the worst eroded areas in Basutoland owing to the heavy concentration of stock which takes place at this centre. Seventy miles of contour banks and 22 dams were constructed in this section. In the Maseru Reserve 641 acres were treated. The contour banks at Maseru

cover a distance of 31,187 yards. Two dams were constructed, one with a capacity of 300,000 gallons of water and the other 7,000,000 gallons.

The pasture in the area treated during 1935 shows wonderful improvement, and even in areas where the work was completed before the spring rains of 1936 the improvement is very noticeable.

#### *Ecological Survey.*

A loan of £3,070 was received from the Colonial Development Fund for carrying out a detailed ecological survey, after the completion of the survey, for conducting grassland experiments in the Territory.

The survey party, consisting of an ecologist, geologist and a surveyor, commenced operations on the 2nd October, 1936. Owing to the extremely mountainous nature of the country, over three-quarters of the work has to be performed on horseback and on foot; the work will, therefore, not be completed until some time in 1937. This detailed survey will supply information on which will be based pasture management for the future and will, undoubtedly, disclose many features of great importance with regard to measures to be taken to combat the spread of erosion.

#### *Rodent Destruction.*

This question has been dealt with under Chapter IV, but it is of interest to state that sufficient bait was prepared and used to destroy approximately 12,000,000 rodents. The quantities of wheat, strychnine, etc., used were as follows:—

- 279 ounces of Strychnine
- 54 bags of Wheat (10,800 lbs.)
- 760 lbs. Common Sugar
- 40,000 match boxes
- 20,000 small strong paper containers.

#### *Locusts.*

There were no visitations of the brown locust to the Territory during the period under review. There were a few small swarms of hoppers of the red-wing locusts, which bred from eggs deposited in 1935, but these were all destroyed before reaching maturity.

#### **Animal Husbandry.**

In retrospect the year 1936 can be considered a prosperous one inasmuch as it was associated with the inauguration of a number of progressive measures in connection with animal husbandry which should in time increase the spending power of the people. These livestock improvement schemes will be dealt with under various headings. Fortunately during the year favourable climatic conditions prevailed which in no small measure facilitated the activities of the Veterinary Department.

*Sheep and Goats.*

The Territory still enjoys freedom from scab. This happy position has given an impetus to the various schemes connected with small stock improvement which could not otherwise have been attempted.

The measures for the improvement of the sheep and wool industry mentioned in the 1935 Report were consolidated and extended by—

(1) The introduction of a law requiring all owners to dose their sheep and goats with an approved remedy once a month, under the supervision of the veterinary staff.

Dosing operations commenced on the 1st April, 1936, and for the period April to December inclusive 3,744,670 doses were administered. The co-operation accorded by native sheep-farmers to the veterinary staff in carrying out this extraordinarily difficult undertaking is an outstanding instance, amongst many, of the support given to difficult undertakings by the Paramount Chief and his people. The difficulties which surrounded this undertaking will be more clearly realised by those concerned with native administration when the fact is mentioned that all the dosing material was paid for by the native sheep-farmers.

(2) The emasculation of all bastard and Persian rams throughout the Territory. The elimination of undesirable rams was, under an instruction issued by the Paramount Chief, largely carried out by the people, with the result that the veterinary staff were only called upon in connection with this duty to the extent of emasculating 8,295 rams. With the exception of possibly one or two isolated instances, Basutoland has now been cleared of the type of ram which was doing great harm to the production of true merino wool.

(3) The introduction of selected merino rams to replace the bastard rams mentioned in the preceding paragraph.

In October, 1935, 666 good merino rams were imported into the territory; these were acclimatized for a period of six months and were then made available for purchase by native farmers at cost price. The majority of these rams were disposed of before the end of 1936. In October, 1936, a further 307 rams were imported for distribution from March, 1937 onwards. Further consignments will be introduced from year to year to meet the requirements of the people. The high quality rams already introduced are sufficient to serve 50,000 ewes annually.

(4) Classification of wool in pursuance of the policy laid down to prove to the people that the sorting of wool pays. Further experiments were conducted during 1936 in the Quthing and Mafeteng districts. The results secured, as in 1935, proved indisputably that correct classing pays the producer handsomely; with the result that many applications have been

received from native sheep-farmers from all over the country for this work to be performed. A loan provided from the Colonial Development Fund of £2,800 is being utilized for placing this work on a sound basis.

The first wool-classing shed was completed before the end of the year and others are in course of construction. Portable equipment for use in the mountain areas has also been acquired, and in the spring of 1937 wool-classing will be carried out on a considerable scale.

*Census.*—A small stock census was taken during the year and this revealed a far smaller decrease than has occurred for a number of years; in fact it may be safely stated that the tide has turned, and there is little doubt that the improvement recorded is largely due to the dosing of all small stock once a month which has cut down the heavy mortality due to internal parasites, particularly amongst the lambs.

1934.	The total number of sheep and goats was	2,000,200.
1935.	" " "	1,717,826—decrease 282,374.
1936.	" " "	1,674,964—decrease 42,862.

*Wool and Mohair Export.*—Full particulars of the wool and mohair exported during 1936 are given under "Exports" in Chapter VII.

#### *Cattle.*

The general inoculation of all cattle against anthrax has been continued, and the position with regard to this disease has definitely improved. All cattle, with the exception of those depastured on known anthrax infected areas, are inoculated once in every 12 months; those located on infected areas are inoculated bi-annually. No cattle are allowed into the Territory unless they have been inoculated immediately prior to entry.

With a view to improving the cattle in the Territory the following steps were taken:—

(1) The introduction of scrub bulls was prohibited and the emasculation of inferior bulls on a voluntary basis undertaken. During the year under review, 1,799 undesirable bulls were disposed of by the Veterinary and Agricultural staff. The policy of the elimination of undesirable bulls on the voluntary system will be pursued in the future as it has been during 1936.

(2) A scheme known as the "Bull Camp Scheme" was introduced with a view to improving the general standard of cattle throughout the country by the use of better sires.

The money for the erection of the camps was provided by a loan of £640 from the Colonial Development Fund, and that required for the purchase of bulls is to be supplied from Basutoland revenue. The first camp was erected in the Matsieng area and the material for others was ordered during the year. Bulls

will be introduced in time for the spring season in 1937. Any cattle owner will be in a position to apply for his cows to go to the bull camps where service will be given free under certain conditions. The most important condition is that the cows entered will be marked and an undertaking given by the owner to produce these animals and their progeny the following season, the object being to mark the female progeny with a view to these being bred at a later date to the good bulls, and so gradually build up herds which will produce first class sires within the Territory for the use of the people.

A cattle census was taken during the year and this revealed an increase of 62,541 units over the previous year. The comparative figures are:—

1935	...	...	...	...	...	352,337
1936	...	...	...	...	...	414,872

### *Horses.*

During the year a brochure entitled "The Origin and History of the Basuto Pony" was published in English and Sesuto. This work clearly depicts the causes of the decline of the once famous Basuto pony; and, benefiting by past experience, it is intended in 1937 to launch a horse improvement scheme which is calculated to rehabilitate the horse stock of Basutoland within the next decade.

The scheme mentioned in the preceding paragraph is to introduce a number of well-bred stallions and to station these with leading native horse breeders throughout the country. The principal conditions attached thereto will be:—

(a) Free service will be granted to the breeders who maintain these stallions. (The maintenance of these animals will be closely watched by the Veterinary staff to see that proper care is taken of them.)

(b) A small fee of 5s. will be charged by the breeders who maintain these horses for every mare sent for service.

(c) The male progeny will be inspected by officers of the Veterinary staff, and the best of these will be selected and marked, and these marked animals may not be disposed of outside the Territory for a period of six years.

From the procedure outlined it will be realized that accurate records will be maintained and the building up of studs will gradually take place.

Concurrently with this improvement scheme is that of the elimination of undesirable stallions, and in this respect 380 were emasculated in 1936.

Two Arab stallions of a very old strain known as the Asben have been purchased and will be landed in Basutoland early in 1937. Good sires of other breeds, such as the "thoroughbred", etc., will also be introduced.

The foregoing touches very briefly on the scheme, but to mention all the points in connection with this undertaking would necessitate the writing of an article of considerable length. In view, however, of the applications from horse breeders received during 1936 for the stallions which are being secured in 1937, it is evident that the conditions under which these animals are being loaned to breeders are meeting with approval.

#### *Mules.*

There is a shortage of mules in Basutoland for use as pack animals and for riding, quite apart from making use of the available export market. The mountain-bred Basuto mule is a hardy, active animal, highly suitable to the requirements of a people who need a large amount of pack transport for the removal of their products from the mountain area.

The four Catalonian donkey jacks introduced in 1935 have performed excellent service, and it is proposed to import further well-bred donkey sires from year to year, as in the case of the horse sires, in order to build up this promising industry.

#### *Donkeys.*

The importation of donkeys into Basutoland is prohibited. There are already a considerable number of these animals, which are used as pack animals, in the Territory; and while they are useful for this purpose it is highly undesirable that their number should be augmented to any extent, since donkeys and goats are more destructive to the pasture in a country already suffering from erosion than any other class of stock.

The following are the census figures for equines for 1935-6:—

	<i>Horses.</i>	<i>Mules.</i>	<i>Donkeys.</i>
1935 ... ..	79,701	986	18,911
1936 ... ..	84,650	1,275	22,361

### **VII.—COMMERCE.**

The following is a comparative statement of the imports and exports by general traders during the last three years:—

## IMPORTS.

Description.	1934.		1935.		1936.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Merchandise ...	—	£ 405,859	—	£ 498,992	—	£ 524,500
Livestock :—	No.		No.		No.	
Horses, Mules, etc. ...	6	18	76	297	182	759
Cattle ...	157	354	436	1,213	2,889	8,797
Sheep and Goats ...	24	21	77	43	73	61
Grain :—	*Bags.		*Bags.		*Bags.	
Wheat and Wheat Meal ...	10,051	14,770	5,900	8,311	6,580	8,446
Maize and Maize Meal ...	138,779	97,105	101,531	51,476	207,735	145,728
Sorghum ...	78,051	47,956	50,229	26,696	23,518	22,868
Other Produce ...	—	684	—	1,303	—	966
Total Imports ...	—	£566,767	—	£588,331	—	£712,125

## EXPORTS.

Description.	1934.		1935.		1936.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Livestock :—	No.	£	No.	£	No.	£
Horses, Mules, etc. ...	191	844	100	521	53	313
Cattle ...	17,173	53,574	3,189	14,943	6,613	34,365
Sheep and Goats ...	2,971	1,542	1,138	730	43	37
Grain :—	*Bags.		*Bags.		*Bags.	
Wheat and Wheat Meal ...	89,545	88,919	181,090	152,315	96,250	65,796
Maize and Maize Meal ...	1,675	1,048	8,105	2,574	395	284
Sorghum ...	73	54	184	109	656	589
Barley ...	275	146	1,108	428	276	107
Beans and Peas ...	262	273	4,582	3,727	2,544	1,641
Wool and Mohair :—	lb.		lb.		lb.	
Wool ...	5,093,858	118,744	6,410,589	131,198	5,986,871	154,329
Mohair ...	702,018	12,602	830,245	22,513	817,849	42,124
Hides and Skins :—						
Skins ...	180,757	1,850	49,596	462	95,806	1,762
Hides ...	352,524	4,755	104,753	1,459	60,091	764
Miscellaneous ...	—	171	—	166	—	82
Total Exports ...	—	£284,522	—	£331,145	—	£302,193

\* A "bag" contains 200 lb.

## Other Statistics, 1936.

(1) Government Imports ... ..		£38,236
		<i>No.</i>
(2) Sheep and Goats exported ... ..		5,417
(3) Sheep and Goats imported ... ..		6,754
(4) Cattle exported ... ..		10,759
(5) Cattle imported ... ..		8,801
(6) Equines imported ... ..		1,174
	<i>lb.</i>	<i>lb.</i>
(7) Wool exported by Traders	5,986,871	
Wool exported by Hawkers and Individuals ... ..	820,507	
	<hr/>	
Total Wool exported		6,807,378
(8) Mohair exported by Traders ... ..	817,849	
Mohair exported by Hawkers and Indi- viduals ... ..	23,622	
	<hr/>	
Total Mohair exported ... ..		841,471
		<hr/>
Total Wool and Mohair exported		7,648,849
		<hr/>

All exports are made to the Union of South Africa and imports are as a general rule made through the same channel. The past few years have been characterised by the low prices obtaining for wool and mohair, the staple products of the Territory, on the value of which the main purchasing power of the Native depends. A gradual improvement is now evident. The principal articles of United Kingdom manufacture for which there exists definite possibility of further development in trade are blankets, Native trade goods, and agricultural implements. The blanket factory, started some years ago at Harrismith in the Orange Free State, takes an increasingly large proportion of the blanket trade which was formerly given to manufacturers in the United Kingdom.



The following comparative table for 1935 and 1936 indicates the source or origin of motor vehicles registered in the Territory:—

Country of Origin.	New Registrations.		Total Registrations.	
	1935.	1936.	1935.	1936.
<i>Private Motor Vehicles and Taxis.</i>				
Great Britain ... ..	15	11	24	28
Canada ... ..	24	22	37	53
United States of America ...	127	122	346	420
Germany ... ..	—	—	1	1
Italy ... ..	1	—	1	1
France ... ..	1	—	2	2
	168	155	411	505
<i>Commercial Vehicles.</i>				
Great Britain ... ..	7	7	15	16
Canada ... ..	19	13	22	34
United States of America ...	33	35	100	100
Germany ... ..	—	1	—	1
	59	56	137	151
<i>Motor Cycles.</i>				
Great Britain ... ..	5	4	15	8
United States of America ...	—	1	4	6
	5	5	19	14

### VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

There are no factories or industrial undertakings in the Territory, and there is only one mile of railway which is owned and operated by the South African Railway Administration.

Salaries and wages earned by Europeans vary from £200 to £1,000 per annum in the case of Government servants and from £120 to £600 per annum in the case of employees of trading concerns.

Native wages vary from £24 to £204 per annum in the case of Government employees and from £15 to £48 per annum in the case of store boys, etc., employed by traders.

Natives proceeding to the gold mines in the Union of South Africa receive, on an average, a wage of £3 for every 30 shifts worked, with free food and housing.

The average cost of living for single natives is estimated at £1 *per mensem*, and for married natives £3 *per mensem*.

The cost of living of Europeans varies considerably and is in a great measure dependent on the social or official position of the person concerned.

### IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

Education in Basutoland presents most of the problems attending African education in other territories with the additional difficulty that the country is for the most part very mountainous with much of its "highlander" population settled somewhat sparsely along isolated valleys difficult of access.

In spite of this the situation to-day is that education of an elementary sort at least is accessible to practically all the people. That this is appreciated by them is evidenced by the voluntary school enrolment of over seventy per cent. of the children of school-going age; undoubtedly a remarkable, if not unique, phenomenon in Africa, and striking evidence of the devotion and enterprise of the missionaries who, with grants-in-aid from the Government, have brought it about. The three missions mainly concerned are the Paris Evangelical Missionary Society, the Roman Catholic Mission, and the English Church Mission. Of these the first named is the oldest, with over a century of work behind it in Basutoland, and has reached a point in its development when it is no longer to be thought of as a "mission" in the ordinary use of the term, since as the result of the faith and foresight of its pioneers it has now in reality become an indigenous Church, with its Basuto members in an overwhelming majority on its governing council. To this in great measure is to be attributed the fact that Basutoland is so much freer of mushroom and fancifully styled African sects than most other native areas of the sub-continent.

The main end of education policy in Basutoland has been to offer to as many as possible the opportunity of learning to read and write and make simple calculations. It is recognized that at the present time the greater number of pupils will attend school for three or four years only, and so to achieve this end education in the lower classes is practically all in the native language. It may be accepted that to the boys and girls of to-day in Basutoland, education is not a foreign or strange thing but a normal and essential part of their environment.

Of elementary vernacular schools there are 522, which are aided from public funds, and 253 which the missions maintain without aid. On a higher level there are 43 schools giving instruction up to Standard VI and introducing more English both into the curriculum and the teaching medium. Of these, three are purely Government schools, managed by local committees, and two further centres are to have similar schools.

Education of a higher standard and of vocational character is provided in one Government and ten mission institutions. The former is a Trades School for boys, while of the latter three train

teachers to the standard of the Native Primary Lower Certificate of the Cape Province Education Department, three train girls as infant school teachers, three are schools of domestic science for girls, and one offers industrial training for boys. Ordinary education up to the level of the Junior Certificate can be obtained in two of these mission institutions, but beyond that it is necessary for students to proceed to colleges outside the Territory, more especially the South African Native College at Fort Hare, which has been supported by the Basutoland Administration from the beginning and to which three Government bursaries are available annually.

In 1936 the total enrolment in all schools in the territory was: Government schools, 363, Government-aided mission schools, 69,952, unaided mission schools, 12,537, training institutions and craft schools, 527.

The Establishment of the Education Department consists at present of a Director, two European Inspectors and five Native Supervisors. Administrative expenses are met from the general revenue, while the grants-in-aid to missions, the cost of the purely Government schools and certain other charges are taken from the Native Education Fund. This fund receives a quarter of the ordinary native tax payments together with a special education levy of 3s. per taxpayer. It is estimated that £47,548 will be spent from this fund in 1936-7.

Education is free in all the elementary and intermediate schools, and attendance is not compulsory. There are the familiar difficulties of herding for the boys and home duties for the girls to make attendance irregular, but on the whole the eagerness to secure education is very remarkable.

There is discernible in Basutoland, as in all other South African native areas, a growing desire for education of a higher grade, and one of the urgent problems of the immediate future will be the consideration of how this is to be provided, on what lines, and with what amount of Government support. An important step forward is under contemplation in the establishment of a High School under Government auspices at Maseru, the chief centre of administration.

The internal circumstances of the country are not such as to provide many openings for the more highly educated Basuto, except in the service of the Government. Very many of the Chiefs, being themselves without much education, are suspicious of those who have had a superior training. Consequently many go out into the Union to work and some of these remain there.

Most of what is being done on the side of vocational education has to do with European rather than indigenous crafts, e.g., carpentry, saddlery, laundry, cooking, etc. In connection with many of these the problem is often to find scope for their exercise in the life of a community which is not yet up

to the standard required for the support of more than a very few craftsmen. In regard to the domestic crafts of the girls there is of course ample scope, and a steady raising of the standard of homes and home-crafts is noticeable. But it will take some time for the ordinary life of the Basutoland countryside, which has a communal basis, to develop to the point of absorbing more than a very few skilled artisans. However, progress here is evident and every year a few more tradesmen such as carpenters, blacksmiths, cobblers are to be found doing reasonably well at their trades. Here as in other spheres it is energy that counts.

As regards indigenous crafts the range is not very great, perhaps in the main through the lack of the necessary materials such as wood, osiers, etc. But an investigation conducted early in 1935 on behalf of the Government by Mr. H. V. Meyerowitz has revealed how important in the life of the countryside is the pottery of the women, the grass and other weaving of both men and women, and how skilful in the clay modelling of animals, etc., are some of the children. These crafts are receiving attention in the handwork of some of the schools and the possibilities of development are being considered.

Social welfare activities are mainly in the hands of the Churches, and much good work is being done, while some valuable community service is rendered by the students in the Institutions under the aegis of the Students' Christian Movement. Useful training in homemaking, needlework, etc., for girls who have ceased to attend the ordinary classes is a feature in many of the Roman Catholic day schools.

Recreative activities are noticeably on the increase, chiefly in the form of organized school games, and inter-school competitions in games, athletics, drill and singing are frequent and popular.

The Wayfarer-Guide and Pathfinder-Boy Scout Movements are developing in an encouraging fashion and cannot fail to exert a profound and beneficial influence on the life of the people.

*European Education.*—There are six small schools in the Territory, managed by local committees, charging modest fees, and aided by the Government. These provide elementary education for the children of Europeans. For education beyond Standard VI children are sent to schools in the Union of South Africa, and two bursaries are awarded annually on the result of a special examination. Of these the one is the "Fraser" scholarship of £50 per annum for two years, given by a prominent trading concern of that name, while the other, of £25 per annum for a similar period, is the "Queen Victoria Diamond Jubilee Scholarship".

## X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

### Railways.

The Territory is linked with the railway system of the Union of South Africa by a short branch line from Maseru to Marseilles on the Bloemfontein-Natal main line. One mile of this line is in Basutoland. The South African railway runs near the boundaries of the Territory and goods are transported by road to the nearest railway station across the border.

During the past year the Road Motor Transport Department of the South African Railways has established a regular service between Fouriesburg and Butha Buthe, Zastron and Mohale's Hoek, and Zastron and Quthing.

### Roads.

The greater part of Basutoland is exceptionally mountainous and in this area all transport is effected by the use of pack animals.

On the western side of Basutoland where there is a strip of agricultural country stretching from north to south, a fairly good road system has been developed. The main roads traverse the whole of this area with branches leading west to the principal points of exit. In nearly all cases the roads are gravelled and carry motor and ox-waggon traffic in all weather. There are, however, a number of unbridged rivers and streams which during flood periods may delay travelling for some hours.

From the main roads a number of feeder roads lead towards the interior. By-roads to trading centres and missions connect with these feeder roads penetrating still further into the interior, but although several roads now cross the first range of mountains, none has yet reached the second range. Feeder roads are maintained by the Government and during the year under review a certain amount of gravelling has been carried out, particular attention being paid to improvements of the drainage.

The by-roads are in some instances unsuitable for any type of traffic except ox-wagons. They are maintained by traders and others to whose stations they lead, and annual Government grants are made towards their upkeep.

On the eastern side of Basutoland in the Qacha's Nek district a short system of roads similar to that described above exists, and the standard reached is much the same as that obtaining on the western side of the Territory.

During the year a causeway has been built over the stream at Kolonyama, a low-level bridge over Motutong stream, and a 40 feet span girder bridge over the Masitise stream. One or two donga crossings have been permanently strengthened by the construction of masonry retaining walls.

On the maintenance side the number of light graders has been increased with the result that costs have been reduced while the road surfaces allow for more comfortable travelling conditions.

A considerable amount of work has been done in reclaiming dongas alongside and parallel to the roads.

The Union Public Works Department completed during the year the two border bridges at Caledon Poort over the Caledon River, and at Maghaleen over the Maghaleen River. The cost of these bridges is shared equally between the Union Government and Basutoland.

The funds allocated during the past two years for the maintenance of roads, bridges and ferries, together with the expenditure on construction work for the same period are tabulated below:—

	<i>Construction Work.</i>	<i>Maintenance.</i>
	£	£
1935 ... ..	5,600	14,120
1936 ... ..	3,000*	12,000*

The following is a classification of the roads in the Territory:—

Gravel: 320 miles main road and 62 miles feeder road.

Earth: 40 miles main road and 70 miles feeder road.

In addition there are 290 miles of by-road which are chiefly earth roads.

#### **Bridle Paths.**

A member of the Public Works Department staff has been engaged during the year on an investigation of the principal bridle paths in the Territory with a view to initiating a programme of construction and maintenance for the principal pack trails in the Territory.

In the meantime allocations have been made to every District Officer and the money has been spent in repairing the worst sections of the bridle paths.

The expenditure on bridle paths for the year 1935 was £640, and for 1936, the estimated expenditure is £1,000.

### **XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.**

There are no agricultural or co-operative banks within the territory; but the Standard Bank of South Africa, Limited, has a branch office at Maseru.

The currency is provided for under Proclamation No. 2 of 1933 and is the same as in the Union of South Africa.

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

### **XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.**

In addition to the road work dealt with in Chapter X a fairly considerable programme of construction work has been carried out during the year.

\* Estimated expenditure.

The new quarters for the Officer-in-Charge at the mountain station of Mokhotlong started in 1935 have now been completed.

Additions doubling the accommodation for patients at Qacha's Nek Hospital are under construction; police quarters, offices and stabling have been built in the districts of Maseru, Mohale's Hoek, Butha Buthe, Qacha's Nek and Mokhotlong; and the stud stable at Maseru has been re-built at a new site.

In Lebribe a Government Intermediate School is in course of erection.

Quarters are being erected in Maseru and Mafeteng and considerable alterations are being made to certain houses purchased for officers in the Agricultural Department.

The usual maintenance work on Government buildings has been carried on during the year.

The water supply at Mafeteng has been augmented by the erection of a pumping plant and a new reservoir. It is anticipated that the water supplies at this camp will now be adequate for many years to come.

The Union Irrigation Department has carried out a programme of boring for water at Quthing and has been successful in finding a good supply.

### XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

#### Justice.

The laws in force in Basutoland include those of the Cape of Good Hope up to the 18th March, 1884, except where repealed or altered by proclamation of the High Commissioner, who is empowered to make by proclamation such laws as may be necessary for the peace, order and good government of the territory.

The Basutoland Courts of Law consist of:—

(a) *The Resident Commissioner's Court*, which constitutes the Supreme Court of Basutoland, and from which an appeal lies to the Privy Council. Under Proclamation No. 10 of 1928 as amended, the constitution of the Resident Commissioner's Court was altered and provision made for the appointment of a Judicial Commissioner. The Court is now constituted by the Resident Commissioner, or, when deputed by him thereto, the Deputy Resident Commissioner or the Judicial Commissioner sitting alone or together; and there may be associated with the Court not more than two officers of the Administration appointed by the Resident Commissioner for the purpose by notice in the Gazette. The Resident Commissioner when present and, in his absence, the Judicial Commissioner, is President of the Court, and the judgment of the Court is the judgment pronounced or approved by the President.

The power conferred on the Resident Commissioner to review and correct the proceedings of Courts or officers may be exercised also by the Judicial Commissioner, and any decision

recorded or action taken by the Judicial Commissioner in the course of such review or correction is of the same force and effect as if it had been recorded or taken by the Resident Commissioner.

(b) *Courts of District Commissioners*, who are empowered to impose sentences not exceeding two years imprisonment with hard labour or fines not exceeding £50, with jurisdiction in civil cases up to £500. These Courts have no jurisdiction to try, as Courts of the first instance, any person charged with treason, murder, attempt to murder, culpable homicide, rape, attempt to commit rape, or sedition.

These Courts are situated in each of the seven districts and in the sub-district of Butha Buthe. A detached Court is also held in the sub-district of Mokhotlong, presided over by an officer exercising minor jurisdiction.

(c) *Chiefs' Courts*.—Under Proclamation No. 2B of 1884 the Paramount Chief and other Native Chiefs of Basutoland were authorized to continue to exercise jurisdiction according to native law and custom in civil and criminal cases within such limits as may be defined by any rules established by the authority of the Resident Commissioner, subject to a proviso that no suit, action or proceeding whatsoever to which any European shall be party, either as plaintiff or complainant, or as defendant, shall be adjudicated upon by any such Chief, save by the consent of all parties concerned. An appeal lies from a decision of any Chief to the Court of the District Commissioner of the District within which such Chief exercises jurisdiction.

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

<i>Nature of Crime.</i>	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.
<b>In Magisterial Courts—</b>					
Offences against the person	351	95	147	137	171
Offences against property	373	558	594	338	366
Offences against liquor laws	20	6	12	19	20
Other crimes ... ..	2,729	1,778	1,327	1,356	2,047
<b>In Resident Commissioner's Court—</b>					
Murder ... ..	10	6	11	2	12
Culpable homicide ... ..	62	68	145(a)	124(a)	67(a)
Attempted murder ... ..	5	4	3	3	3
Rape ... ..	6	5	1	7	3
Other offences against the person.	1	6	7	3	15
Offences against property with violence to the person.	214	94	3	—	10
Other offences against property.	33	45	62	32	34
Other crimes ... ..	1	3	2	1	1

(a) Includes cases of public violence resulting in culpable homicide.



**Police.**

The establishment of the force and actual strength on the 31st December, 1936, was as follows:—

<i>Europeans.</i>	<i>Establishment.</i>	<i>Strength.</i>
Staff Officer ... ..	1	1
Inspectors ... ..	4	4
Sub-Inspectors ... ..	4	3
Chief Constable ... ..	1	1
Assistant Superintendents ... ..	2	3
<b>Total</b> ... ..	<b>12</b>	<b>12</b>
<i>Native Police.</i>		
Sergeant Major ... ..	1	1
Sergeants ... ..	14	14
Corporals ... ..	15	15
Privates ... ..	260	258*

There are in addition two un-uniformed Native saddlers.

*Depot.*—Thirty new recruits were put through the usual training, and 20 men were sent in from the districts for refresher courses.

*Finger Print Bureau.*—During the year, 1,278 slips were received for examination, being an increase of 77 on last year's figures, and included 651 in connection with deportations from the Union of South Africa.

*Health of Police.*—The health of the Police has been good. The death of three of the Native non-commissioned officers is recorded with regret.

*Troop and Pack Horses.*—Considering the extensive patrol work performed, the horses have maintained their condition remarkably well during the year. The casualties are the lowest on record for some years.

*Medals and Commendations.*—During the year, two Long Service and Good Conduct Medals were awarded, and three non-commissioned officers and four privates were specially commended for conspicuous ability in police investigations.

*Deportees.*—During the year, 651 deportees and prohibited immigrants were accepted from the Union on their claims being established to Basutoland domicile. The figures show a decrease of 27 compared with last year's figures. Many of these people are of bad character and, having no means of livelihood, continue their criminal career as is evidenced from Police reports.

*Work of the Police.*—During the year 10,165 patrols were sent out, 13,649 men being engaged. The mileage covered by the patrols was 193,058 while the mileage performed by the men was 238,718.

\* Vacancies to be filled.

### Prisons.

There are gaols at the headquarters of each of the seven districts into which the Territory is divided and in the sub-districts of Butha Buthe and Mokhotlong.

*Buildings.*—All gaol buildings are of stone with iron roofs and cement floors; the inmates are supplied with bed-boards on which to sleep. The majority of cells are built to contain on the average eight to ten prisoners, but there are usually one or two smaller ones for violent or dangerous inmates, or for occasional European convicts. Attached to each prison is an exercise yard and cement baths with water laid on. The cook-house is in the yard and a daily scale of ration as laid down by statute is provided. As no special accommodation exists in the district gaols for female or European prisoners, they are invariably transferred to Maseru.

*Health.*—The health of the prisoners during 1936 has been good, the daily average on the sick list being ten. Ten deaths were recorded during the year. All prisoners are medically examined on admission, and the Medical Officers make regular visits to the gaols, apart from the weekly inspection when they accompany the District Administrative Officer in charge. Prisoners reporting sick are taken to the Government dispensary, and if necessary are admitted to hospital where they are put into the ordinary public wards and treated on similar lines to other patients.

*Discipline.*—During 1936, breaches of prison discipline were few and escapes of prisoners numbered only eight.

*Labour.*—The policy commenced in 1931 of utilizing convicts to a greater extent on road construction and maintenance in the vicinity of the various Government stations has been maintained. Where possible convicts are trained to become useful members of society on release by instruction in such trades as masonry, carpentry, building and other kinds of manual labour.

*Sentences.*—The majority of offenders are given the option of paying a fine in lieu of imprisonment with hard labour. Provision was made by Proclamation No. 55 of 1921 for the punishment of offenders in certain cases, by which the Court may in its discretion:—

(a) postpone for a period not exceeding six months the passing of sentence, and release the offender on one or more conditions; or

(b) pass sentence but order the operation of the sentence to be suspended for a period not exceeding three years on such conditions as the Court may specify in the order; or

(c) pass sentence of a fine or, in default of payment, imprisonment, but suspend the issue of a warrant committing the offender to a gaol in default of payment until

the expiry of such a period not exceeding 12 months as the Court may fix for payment, in instalments or otherwise, of the amount of the fine or until default has been made.

Good conduct remission up to one-fourth of the sentence is allowed on all sentences of imprisonment for six months or more.

*Statistics.*—During the year 3,364 persons passed through the various gaols in the Territory, and of these 2,341 were committed to penal imprisonment. The corresponding figures for 1935 were 2,609 and 1,678 respectively.

*Juvenile Offenders.*—All juvenile prisoners are transferred to Leribe where they are kept segregated from adult prisoners so far as possible. The daily average number of juveniles in prison during 1936 was ten.

#### XIV.—LEGISLATION.

The following is the legislation for the year 1936 which has been proclaimed in the *Gazette*:—

- (1) No. 4.—Basutoland Pensions (Amendment) Proclamation, 1936 (No. 16 of 1934).
- (2) No. 9.—Basutoland Further Appropriation (1934-35) Proclamation, 1936.
- (3) No. 11.—Departmental Offences (Basutoland) Proclamation, 1936.
- (4) No. 12.—Basutoland Death Duties (Amendment) Proclamation, 1936.
- (5) No. 16.—Titles of District Commissioner and Assistant District Commissioner to be borne by Administrative Officers.
- (6) No. 24.—Amending Basutoland Census Proclamation No. 9 of 1904.
- (7) No. 36.—Public Holidays Amendment Proclamation, 1936.
- (8) No. 37.—Fixation of Wages (Basutoland) Proclamation, 1936.
- (9) No. 38.—Basutoland Death Duties (Further Amendment) Proclamation, 1936.
- (10) No. 41.—Basutoland Appropriation (1936-37) Proclamation, 1936.
- (11) No. 43.—Basutoland Trade Marks Registration (Amendment) Proclamation, 1936.
- (12) No. 45.—Repealing Proclamations 64, 67, 70 and 73 of 1935 which prohibited the exportation of warlike stores to Italian territory.
- (13) No. 48.—Basutoland Prisons (Further Amendment) Proclamation, 1936.
- (14) No. 50.—Customs Tariff (Amendment) Proclamation, 1936.
- (15) No. 53.—Basutoland Trading (Amendment) Proclamation, 1936.
- (16) No. 54.—Basutoland Cattle Improvement Proclamation, 1936.
- (17) No. 56.—Basutoland Income Tax Proclamation, 1936.
- (18) No. 62.—Prohibiting the exportation of warlike stores from Basutoland to Spain.
- (19) No. 70.—United Kingdom Designs (Protection) (Basutoland) Proclamation, 1936.
- (20) No. 73.—Basutoland Medical, Dental and Pharmacy (Amendment) Proclamation, 1936.
- (21) No. 76.—Basutoland Native Trading Proclamation, 1936.

## XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The following statement shows the revenue and expenditure for the past five financial years:—

### REVENUE.

<i>Head.</i>	<i>1931-2.</i>	<i>1932-3.</i>	<i>1933-4.</i>	<i>1934-5.</i>	<i>1935-6.</i>
	£	£	£	£	£
Native Tax ... ..	116,783	121,795	90,017	129,312	140,910
Customs and Excise ... ..	80,842	86,161	90,040	104,442	111,633
Posts and Telegraphs ... ..	9,964	9,172	12,906	11,437	14,187
Licences ... ..	7,821	7,855	8,466	8,615	9,181
Fees of Court or Office ... ..	1,042	810	773	361	346
Judicial Fines ... ..	976	783	424	739	431
Income Tax ... ..	3,957	4,040	4,115	5,608	4,036
Poll Tax ... ..	—	—	1,265	1,345	1,334
Fees for Services Rendered ... ..	1,165	1,020	1,023	1,017	1,270
Interest ... ..	3,997	2,473	1,963	1,408	1,303
Wool Export Duty ... ..	19,265	678	8,107	6,786	7,375
Miscellaneous ... ..	8,040	22,094	12,155	12,422	11,294
Education Levy ... ..	13,017	13,853	10,340	14,766	16,241
Civil Servants Salary Deductions.	—	4,676	4,550	2,689	2,148
Colonial Development Fund	—	—	—	1,543	207
<b>Totals ... ..</b>	<b>£266,869</b>	<b>£275,410</b>	<b>£246,144</b>	<b>£302,490</b>	<b>£321,896</b>

### EXPENDITURE.

<i>Head.</i>	<i>1931-2.</i>	<i>1932-3.</i>	<i>1933-4.</i>	<i>1934-5.</i>	<i>1935-6.</i>
	£	£	£	£	£
Resident Commissioner ... ..	12,789	13,280	13,163	13,018	13,600
District Administration ... ..	15,121	15,596	16,157	16,874	17,325
Police ... ..	35,455	33,908	33,386	34,188	33,603
Administration of Justice ... ..	13,255	10,683	13,923	13,674	13,246
Posts and Telegraphs ... ..	11,027	14,065	10,949	10,599	11,990
Public Works Department	5,761	5,166	5,308	5,476	5,621
Public Works Extraordinary.	345	39	493	986	1,597
Public Works Recurrent ... ..	20,516	17,949	20,645	25,493	28,338
Medical ... ..	25,394	24,507	25,712	26,605	29,311
Education ... ..	49,734	51,587	39,352	53,357	57,854
Lerotholi Technical School	5,541	5,195	5,515	6,503	6,205
Agriculture—					
Veterinary ... ..	23,630	12,799	12,598	12,944	12,294
Agricultural ... ..	5,751	7,184	7,351	8,664	9,495
Allowances to Chiefs ... ..	11,628	11,472	11,145	9,413	11,207
National Council ... ..	1,613	1,786	736	1,697	1,715
Leper Settlement ... ..	20,317	19,820	19,671	19,138	18,201
Pensions ... ..	11,242	11,760	14,562	13,962	16,862
Miscellaneous ... ..	6,758	6,243	40,910	15,399	6,419
Capital Expenditure ... ..	4,312	585	538	5,440	3,522
Colonial Development Fund	—	—	—	1,543	—
Census ... ..	—	—	—	—	196
Financial and Economic Commission.	—	—	—	—	207
<b>Totals ... ..</b>	<b>£280,189</b>	<b>£263,624</b>	<b>£292,114</b>	<b>£294,973</b>	<b>£298,808</b>

**Liabilities and Assets.**

The surplus balance at the 31st March, 1936, amounted to £63,812. £35,000 of the surplus balance is on loan to the Swaziland Government at 3½ per cent. per annum. This loan is repayable by 1943.

The detailed statement of Liabilities and Assets at the 31st March, 1936, is as follows:—

<i>Liabilities.</i>				£	<i>Assets.</i>				£
Guardian's Fund Deposit Account ... ..				6,755	On deposit with the Crown Agents for the Colonies, London ... ..				14,000
Sub-Accountants' Suspense Account ... ..				3,309	Crown Agents, London, Current Account ... ..				459
Stores Imprest Account ... ..				13,486	Standard Bank of South Africa Ltd., Deposit Account ... ..				20,000
Basutoland Wool and Mohair Fund ... ..				1,550	Standard Bank of South Africa Ltd., Current Account ... ..				8,431
Basutoland Education Fund				14,008	Balances in hands of Sub-Accountants ... ..				12,170
Bechuanaland Protectorate and Swaziland Tax Account				961	Advances Recoverable ... ..				9,307
Deposits ... ..				5,108	South African Railways and Harbours ... ..				141
				<hr/> 45,177	On loan to Swaziland Administration ... ..				35,000
					Stores Suspense ... ..				9,400
					Bloemfontein Board of Executors & Trust Co. Ltd. (under Judicial Management) ... ..				81
Balance of Assets over Liabilities ... ..				<hr/> 63,812					<hr/> 81
				<hr/> £108,989					<hr/> £108,989

The Wool and Mohair Fund was established under Proclamation No. 39 of 1931 with funds received from the Union Government under Notice No. 1493 dated the 15th August, 1930, in respect of wool and mohair exported from Basutoland together with amounts recovered from persons to whom livestock or other articles have been supplied from monies provided by the Fund. The proceeds of this Fund are devoted to the promotion of the future production of wool and mohair. During the year 1936, 306 pedigree rams were purchased for distribution amongst the Basuto at £2 each.

*Estimated Financial Position at the 31st March, 1937.*—It is anticipated that there will be a surplus of revenue over expenditure for the financial year 1936-7 of £21,976 and that the available surplus balance will amount to £85,788 at that date.

**Description of Main Heads of Taxation.***Native Tax.*

The rate of tax is 25s. for every adult male native domiciled in Basutoland, and in addition 25s. for each wife after the first, but no native is liable for more than £3 15s. od. in any one year for himself and his wives.

The collection was £11,597 5s. od. more than in 1934-5 and was made up of £51,644 Arrear, £88,488 Current (1935-6), and £777 Advance (1936-7) Tax. The drought and depression years account for the large amount of the arrear tax.

*Customs and Excise.*

An amount of £109,915 5s. 6d. was received from the Union Government under the Customs Agreement and represents 88.575 per cent. of the gross Customs revenue of the Union of South Africa for the 12 months ended the 31st March, 1936. Local collections on Union manufactured spirits and beer amount to £1,717 3s. 7d.

*Licences.*

There was no change in the rates paid for the various classes of licences during the year under review.

*Income Tax.*

The rates fixed for the tax-year ended the 30th June, 1935, were the same as those for the previous year and were:—

## (1) Normal Tax:—

(a) In the case of companies, for each pound of the taxable amount, two shillings and sixpence.

(b) In the case of persons other than companies, for each pound of the taxable amount, one shilling and as many two-thousandths of a penny as there are pounds in that amount, subject to a maximum rate of two shillings in every pound.

## (2) Super Tax:—

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

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

The following abatements were deducted from the taxable income of any person, other than a company, for the purpose of determining the taxable amount:—

*Abatements:—*

(a) Primary £400.

(b) Life insurance and similar allowances. A deduction not exceeding £50 is made in respect of premiums paid

during the period of assessment on policies under which the taxpayer, his wife or minor children are insured against death, accident or sickness.

(c) A deduction not exceeding £10 is allowed for fees or subscriptions paid during the period of assessment to any friendly or benefit society.

(d) £100 for each unmarried child or step-child who was alive during any portion of the year of assessment and was or would have been under the age of 21 years on the last day of the year of assessment.

(e) A sum of £30 for each dependant of the taxpayer.

The total of the abatements and allowances is reduced:—

(1) In the case of every such taxpayer (i) who during any portion of the period in respect of which the assessment is made was married; or (ii) who during the whole or any portion of the period in respect of which the assessment was made was divorced, but maintained during any portion of that period a child of his own or a step-child who was or would have been had he lived under the age of twenty-one years on the last day of the year of assessment in respect of which, or portion of which, the assessment is made, the reduction shall be by one pound for every completed ten pounds by which the taxable income of such person exceeds six hundred pounds or when the period assessed is less than twelve months, by which it exceeds so much of six hundred pounds as is proportionate to the period assessed: Provided that for the purpose of this paragraph any person who was a widower or widow during the whole or any portion of the period in respect of which the assessment is made shall be assessed as though he had been married throughout that period and any person who has been separated under a judicial order or written agreement throughout that period shall be assessed as though he had been divorced throughout that period.

(2) In the case of all other persons to whom paragraph (1) of this sub-section does not apply, the reduction shall be by one pound for every completed pound by which the taxable income of any such person exceeds three hundred pounds or, when the period assessed is less than twelve months by which it exceeds so much of three hundred pounds as is proportionate to the period assessed. In the case of persons other than companies the assessment is subject to a rebate of 20 per cent.

*Companies.*—In the case of companies an abatement of £300, which is subject to reductions in accordance with paragraph (2) above.

*Super Tax* is payable (other than by a public company) on a taxable income exceeding in the aggregate £2,500 in any year

of assessment. The taxable income of any person determined for normal tax purposes is the amount upon which the super tax is assessed.

There is an abatement of £2,500 and this is diminished by £1 for every £1 by which the income, subject to super tax, exceeds £2,500.

Dividends accruing to non-residents are exempt from super-tax provided such dividends are not paid or payable within the territory.

The sources from which taxable incomes were derived and the amount of tax paid for the tax years 1934 and 1935 are as follows:—

<i>Source.</i>	1934.	1935.
	£	£
General Traders ... ..	4,077	2,505
Civil Servants ... ..	786	669
Employed persons ... ..	58	96
Others ... ..	597	583
Non-residents ... ..	90	183
	<u>£5,608</u>	<u>£4,036</u>

The numbers of incomes assessed for current tax and the total amount of taxable incomes in the categories shown are:—

<i>Numbers.</i>	<i>Categories.</i>	<i>Total of Taxable Incomes.</i>
	£	£
8	500 and under	2,706
34	501-750	21,959
26	751-1,000	22,497
17	1,001-1,500	19,942
5	1,501-2,000	8,536
4	Over 2,000	15,173
—		<u>£90,813</u>
94		
—		

#### *Stamp Duties and Fees on Documents payable by means of Stamps.*

The duties and fees payable are specified in the Schedule to Proclamation No. 16 of 1907 as amended and are classified under the following heads:—

Arbitrations and Awards.

Bonds.

Courts of Law (District Commissioners' Courts).

Civil Cases (Resident Commissioner's Court).

Acts or Deeds of Donations.

Leases.

Master's Office: (a) Insolvency.

(b) Orphan Chamber.

Office Fees and Transfers and Miscellaneous.



Estate Duty is payable in terms of the Basutoland Death Duties Proclamation of 1935 at  $\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. upon the first £2,000 and up to 17 per cent. on £75,000 and over, and the rates of Succession Duty vary from 2 to 10 per cent.

#### *Wool and Mohair Export Duty.*

This duty remained at  $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per lb. for the period 1st April 1935 to 31st March 1936. The increased collection as compared with the previous year's total is due to improvement in the health of sheep and goats and the improved pasture conditions.

#### **Poll Tax.**

The rate is fixed at £2 per annum payable half-yearly on the 1st January and the 1st July by all adult males domiciled in Basutoland who are not liable to pay Native Tax. In the case of failure to pay any one instalment of the tax within the period provided, a further sum of 2s. for each month or part of a month is payable.

#### **Posts and Telegraphs.**

The revenue amounted to £14,187 during the financial year ended 31st March, 1936, and the expenditure to £11,990.

During the financial year 1935-6 postal and money orders to the value of £24,212 were issued and £37,036 paid.

The Union Post Office Savings Bank system is in operation in Basutoland, and the following deposits and withdrawals at post offices in the territory were made during the financial year 1935-6:—

		£
Deposits	... ..	30,545
Withdrawals	... ..	22,395

Basutoland has its own postage and revenue stamps. There are eleven denominations ranged in the following order, the first ten being postage and revenue stamps;  $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d., 1s., 2s. 6d., 5s., 10s., and for revenue purposes only £1. The respective colours are green, red, purple, blue, grey, light brown, orange, dark brown, blue-purple, olive and black. One design only is used, which contains a vignette of His Majesty the King, placed above a scene depicting the Maluti mountains and the Orange River, while in the foreground is a representation of a crocodile—the emblem of the ruling house of Moshesh.

#### **Civil Servants' Salary Deductions.**

The deductions from the emoluments of civil servants in the Territory, which had been imposed during the financial crisis, were discontinued as from the 1st April 1936.

**Johannesburg Agency.**

The Report on the Financial and Economic Position of Basutoland dated January, 1935, recommended the permanent establishment of this Agency (page 58) and all three High Commission Territories now participate and contribute towards the cost of maintenance.

Revenue is collected from the Basuto, Bechuana and Swazis working in the Transvaal industrial and mining areas, and the functions of the Agency are now extended to general welfare work. (A fuller report of the work of this Agency will be found under Chapter XVI, Labour.)

The total revenue collections for 1936 as compared with 1935 are:—

	1935.	1936.
	£	£
Basutoland ... ..	38,163	39,833
Bechuanaland Protectorate ...	4,253	4,974
Swaziland ... ..	1,443	4,996
	<u>£43,859</u>	<u>£49,803</u>

The collections on behalf of the Bechuanaland Protectorate Administration commenced in May 1934, and in June 1934 for Swaziland.

**XVI.—LABOUR.**

The following table shows the number of passes issued during the past three years to enable natives to leave the territory to take up or seek employment in the Union of South Africa:—

	1934.	1935.	1936.
Mines:—Gold ... ..	22,994	29,502	34,877
Coal ... ..	156	472	627
Diamonds ... ..	220	83	229
Manganese ... ..	—	—	305
Total Mines ... ..	<u>23,370</u>	<u>30,057</u>	<u>36,038</u>
Agriculture ... ..	6,700	5,584	6,964
Miscellaneous labour ... ..	8,372	9,852	13,878
Totals ... ..	<u>38,442</u>	<u>45,493</u>	<u>56,880</u>

The gold mines play a large part in the economic position of the Territory, employing annually large numbers of Basuto. At the close of the year 1936, 45,399 Basuto were employed on these mines.

In addition to Basuto employed on the gold mines, there is a fairly large number in industrial employment in the Witwatersrand area.

Many of the Basuto on the Witwatersrand remit money to their families in Basutoland through the Native Recruiting Corporation, Limited, and the Native Deposit and Remittance Agency, and a large percentage of the natives recruited for the mines defer a portion of their earnings for payment to them on their return to Basutoland. Many of them also make remittances through the post, and it is estimated that an amount at least equal to the amount remitted through other channels is remitted in this way, though statistics cannot be obtained. During the year under review a sum of £131,805 was remitted by Basuto to their families through the Native Recruiting Corporation, and £105,917 was paid out as deferred wages, whilst a sum of over £8,000 was paid out through the Native Deposit and Remittance Agency and through other sources.

During the year 1932 an office was opened temporarily in Johannesburg for the purpose of collecting tax from Basutoland natives employed on the Witwatersrand. At the beginning of 1933 the Agency was re-opened and it has been maintained ever since. The Agency at first dealt only with the collection of revenue, but its functions were soon extended in the direction of dealing 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 to them whenever required.

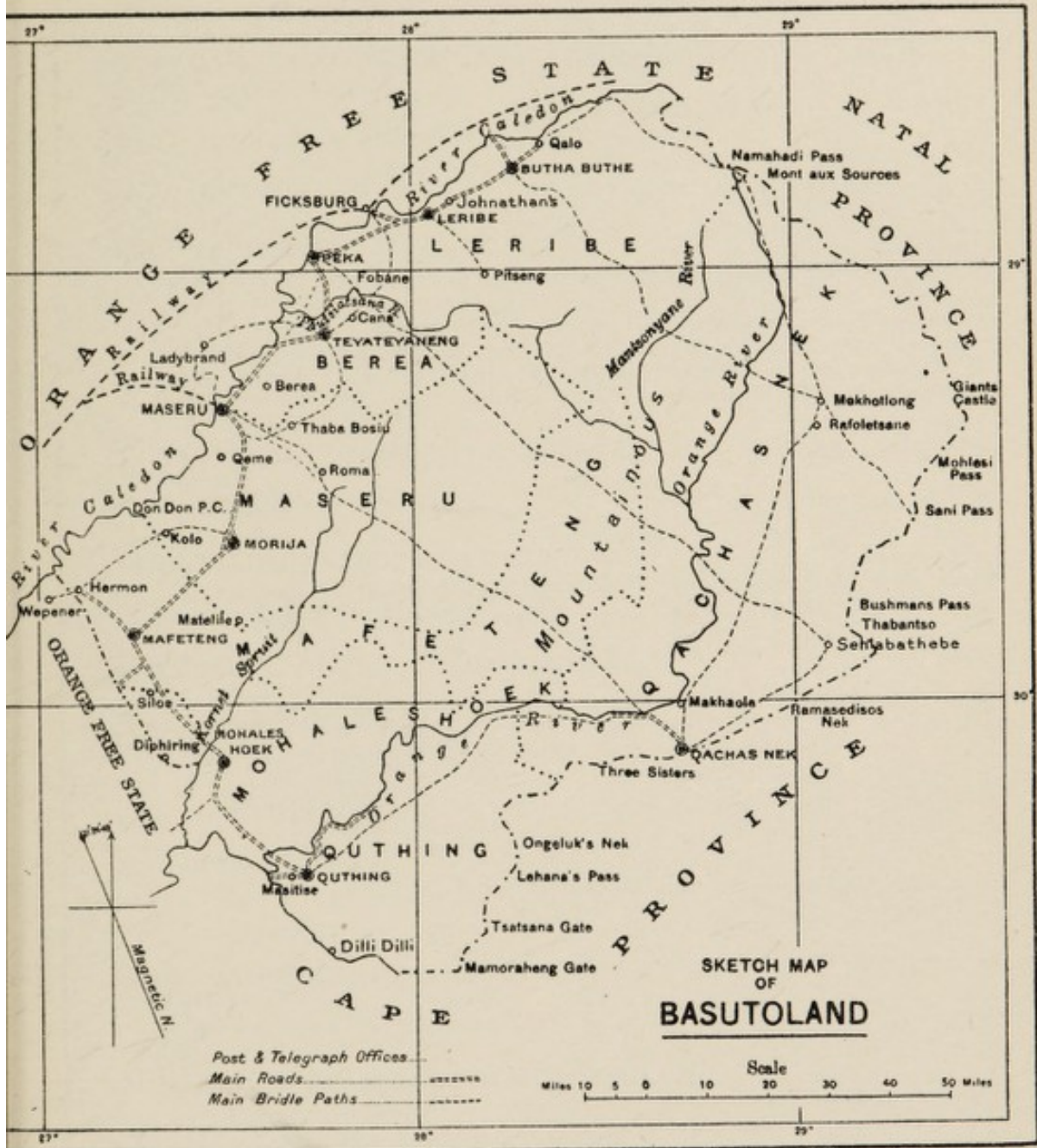
The Bechuanaland Protectorate and Swaziland now share in the Agency which thus deals with natives from all three High Commission Territories, both in regard to the collection of taxes and in general welfare work.

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#### APPENDIX.

##### PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO BASUTOLAND.

- "The Basutos" by Sir Godfrey Lagden, K.C.M.G., 2 vols.—Hutchinson.  
 "History of the Basuto"—D. F. Ellenberger and J. C. Macgregor.  
 "The Basuto of Basutoland"—E. A. T. Dutton—Jonathan Cape.  
 Report on the Financial and Economic Position of Basutoland (Cmd. 4907)—  
 His Majesty's Stationery Office ... .. 3s. 6d.



The map shows the boundaries of the Basuto Land, which is bounded to the north by the Orange River, to the east by the Orange River, to the south by the Orange River, and to the west by the Orange River. The map also shows the Orange River, the Orange River, and the Orange River.



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