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*COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS*

# Swaziland

## 1946



LONDON: HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

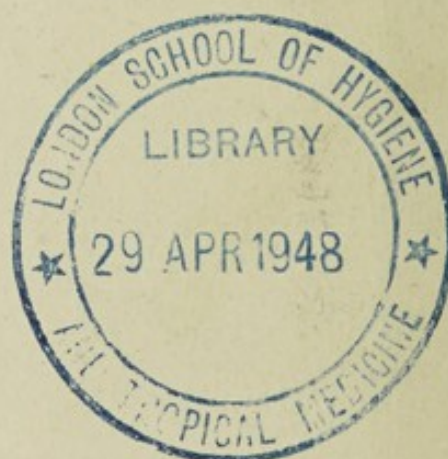
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IN 1940, PUBLICATION OF THE SERIES OF Colonial Annual Reports was suspended. The Reports now being issued cover the events of the first year after the war, and in many cases reference is made to progress during the war years.

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Particulars of the series are given inside the back cover.



COMMONWEALTH RELATIONS OFFICE

# ANNUAL REPORT ON SWAZILAND

FOR THE YEAR  
1946

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## Foreword

SWAZILAND is one of the smallest territories in Africa but in spite of this it is a country of many and complex problems. For this reason the reader who is not already acquainted with its basic problems would be well advised to make a brief study of Part III of this report in order to obtain the background against which the events of 1946 should be viewed. As no annual reports on the Territory have been written since the report of 1938, the reader, who is not aware of the events of the more recent past, would do well to read the brief summary of the years 1939-1945, which has been included as Part IV of this report.

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The cover illustration shows an ox-wagon crossing  
• a drift in Swaziland



## PART I

### Introduction

DURING 1946 Swaziland, in common with every territory which was involved in the recent war, has continued to face the problems of returning to peace conditions. Every Government Department was reduced to a minimum during the war and the year saw the staffing position of the Territory improved by the return of Government Officers who were demobilised and the arrival of a number of newly appointed officers, notably in the District Staff.

Progress has, however, been made in many directions, and, as this progress is almost entirely due to the wise statesmanship of the Government of the United Kingdom in passing the two Colonial Development and Welfare Acts of 1940 and 1945, it is fitting that a grateful tribute should be paid to His Majesty's Government for the generosity and scope of these Acts, the first of which was passed during the darkest year of the war. The second Act, from which Swaziland will receive £830,000 for the ten-year period ending in 1956 has not, for reasons which are given later in this report, begun to have its full effect on the progress of the territory, but Swaziland Europeans and Africans alike are sensible to the great generosity of His Majesty's Government in the time of their grave and continuing difficulties in the post war years.

The most heartening event of the year was the news that Their Majesties the King and Queen and Their Royal Highnesses the Princesses Elizabeth and Margaret would be able, in the course of their crowded visit to South Africa, to visit Swaziland on the 25th March, 1947. This gracious act delighted the whole community of Swaziland who had feared that the remoteness of the territory from the railway might have made a visit from Their Majesties and the two Princesses impossible.

The year saw the return of the last contingent of the 3,800 Swazi troops who served in North Africa and Italy during the war in the African Pioneer Corps. These troops gained the highest reputation for discipline and loyal service and one of the outstanding events of the year was the stand-down parade at Lobamba on the 13th July. 2,800 Swazi Pioneers attended the parade and the salute was taken by the High Commissioner.

A Welfare Officer was appointed to deal with the re-habilitation of the demobilised Swazi troops, the European ex-servicemen who



returned and the smaller number of Europeans who came to settle in the territory.

A depressing event of the year was the reappearance in the territory, after many years, of the tsetse fly bringing the dreaded cattle disease of bovine trypanosomiasis, known in South Africa as Nagana. Immediate steps were taken by the Administration, in collaboration with the Union Authorities, to do everything possible to check this menace. Heavy bush-clearing plant was ordered and in the meantime every effort was made to clear certain areas by hand, to stem the further advance of the fly.

Development, financed principally with the funds made available from the United Kingdom under the Colonial Development and Welfare Acts of 1940 and 1945, continued in the fields of Education, Health, Agriculture and Animal Husbandry and in the new departments of Native Land Settlement and Geological Survey. An account of the advances made in these spheres is included later in this report.

Advance has also been made in the social and political spheres and the Native Authority has been encouraged to play an increasing part in the affairs of the territory.

An interesting development in this direction, and one which will be watched with the keenest interest, is a proposal from the Native Authority that a small representative Committee of the Swazi National Council, with whom the Government could contract business, should be set up. This Committee is to be representative of the various districts, and should serve to speed up discussions with the Native Authority, and to ensure closer and more frequent contact with the Natives in matters affecting their interests. Details are still being worked out, and it may be some little time before the new system can be put into full effect, but the Administration welcomes this considerable advance.

At the same time the European Advisory Council which advises Government on matters which primarily affect European interests is likely to be given a proper legal status: the legislation for this purpose was prepared during the year. Certain of the larger European centres in the territory have sought to attain a measure of municipal responsibility and this question is being considered.

Schemes for the provision of a treated water supply and an extended electricity supply for the capital of the territory—Mbabane—are under active consideration.

Unlike larger and wealthier territories, Swaziland has for many years experienced difficulty in maintaining essential services and balancing its budget. The financial year 1945/46 closed with a surplus of nearly £30,000, whereas a deficit of £5,000 had been expected. This improvement was largely due to unforeseen revenue from Estate Duty and to



additional Postal revenue which was the result of the sale of the Swaziland special issue of Victory postage stamps. This surplus added to the surplus on the 31st March, 1945, gave a total surplus balance of £100,000 on the 31st March 1946. It is expected that the year 1946/47 will close with the reduced surplus balance of £50,000.

#### DEVELOPMENT IN SWAZILAND DURING 1946

Owing to the fact that Swaziland is poor it is true to say that every major development of social services in recent years has been due to the generosity of the United Kingdom in making grants for development under the Acts of 1940 and 1945. A number of development schemes approved under the 1940 Act continued into 1946, but with the passing of the latter Act of 1945 it was planned that they should be absorbed into a ten-year plan of development for which the territory was allocated £830,000.

It was thought necessary, after consultation with the Secretary of State, that the original ten-year plan should be revised; the principal reason for this being that it appeared that too great an amount of recurrent expenditure would remain on the 1st April, 1956, for the slender resources of Swaziland to bear. The abandonment of the ten-year plan made it necessary to continue only with development on certain of the earlier schemes under the 1940 Act, for two years, so that a long term plan for the remaining eight years could be based on sound economic principles; an Agro-Economic survey was approved by the Secretary of State to make recommendations for the drafting of a new balanced plan which would be acceptable to the Government of the United Kingdom. For this reason, the year 1946 was one in which the tempo of development has been slowed down. The account which follows records the progress which has been made during the year.

#### EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

##### *European Education*

The main needs of European education at the time the first Colonial Development and Welfare Act was passed were improved staffing, better classroom and hostel accommodation, and, in particular, more up-to-date equipment for the school, hostel and farm at Goedgegun in the south of Swaziland.

Past experience had shown that the best and most economical way of providing for the European population of the rural areas, particularly in the south, would be to concentrate on the development of the school at Goedgegun into a large school farm on the lines of those established in the Transvaal country districts. The original application, however,



only provided such capital and recurrent expenditure as was most urgently required.

After certain initial delays, due to war time conditions, work was commenced in 1944, and fair progress had been made by the end of 1946. The new classrooms have relieved the congestion which previously existed, and the use of part of the new hostel buildings has put an end to overcrowding in the dormitories and made possible the admission of more boarders.

The school operates as a combined primary and junior high school, with classes from Grade I to Standard VIII, the present limit for compulsory education. Special attention is given to agriculture for the practical demonstration of which facilities exist on the lands which were placed at the school's disposal. Mention must also be made of the improvements in the equipment of school, hostel and farm; in particular the hostel has benefited by the establishment of a fine herd of high-grade Friesland cows which are already in production and should in time provide the hostel with its requirements in milk and butter.

The funds originally voted proved inadequate for the completion of all buildings of the projected programme because of the steep rise in the costs of labour and building materials during the war. The additional expenditure required to regrade the salary scales of the European teachers was provided from General Revenue. Unfortunately, shortly after the adoption of new scales based on those of the Transvaal, that province further advanced its salary scales, leaving Swaziland at a disadvantage in the recruiting of qualified staff. The position is likely to become worse in the near future, since it has been announced publicly that joint action is being taken by all the Union provinces to effect further improvements in the salary scales of their teachers.

The school still relies for its agricultural work on twenty acres of the town commonage, which is, however, inadequate for all purposes. When first the policy of centralising European education at Goedgegun was adopted it was recognised that the school would have to pay due attention to the skills and activities which are of special importance to a rural community in South Africa. At an early stage, therefore, an endeavour was made to establish a successful agricultural project which would not only serve the purposes of practical demonstration but would also provide essential foods for the maintenance of the hostel. The results obtained from the small area under cultivation have been excellent and have been very favourably reported on by the Agricultural Adviser to the High Commissioner. It is, however, apparent that on so small an area of land the school is greatly hampered as regards both agriculture and the maintenance of livestock, and more land will have to be purchased if the objects of the School Farm are to be achieved.



Mention must be made of the fine modern school building for European children which was erected at the Havelock Mine by the Company with the help of a generous grant from Government. The school provides educational facilities for a fairly large mining community.

A building grant of £3,000 was also made to the St. Mark's School at Mbabane, and this, with funds raised by the School, made it possible for the School to build a new dormitory building for the accommodation of the girl boarders. This school provides for the educational needs of European children who live in the north of the territory.

### *African Education*

The year 1946 proved one of great uncertainty for the future of African education. Originally over £200,000 was approved under the Colonial Development and Welfare Act of 1940 for its improvement and development, but curtailment of the programme originally adopted was necessary because the allocation to Swaziland for the Ten Year Plan was less than the Territory had been led to hope.

In the first instance it was considered essential to strengthen the system of primary schools throughout the country with the addition of Standard VII at selected centres as this was of special importance for the admission of students to the more advanced courses of teacher training at institutions in Natal. The first scheme approved contained the initial proposals for these improvements which were still further expanded in a supplementary application. The main purpose of these schemes was to:

Increase the inspectorial and administrative staff; to raise the salary grants of African teachers in primary schools to the level of the new and improved salary scales adopted in the Union in April 1943; also to increase the number of teaching posts in grant-aided and Government schools;

To provide all Government and aided schools with classroom furniture and the more essential school books;

To provide grants for more classrooms at aided schools;

To erect six new Government schools and enlarge those already in existence;

To increase the number of annual bursaries for Higher Primary and Lower Primary courses of teacher training;

To encourage more teachers to train locally for assistant teacher posts in elementary schools.

A special scheme provided for the establishment of a Trades School for Africans at Mbabane.



Agricultural training for African male teachers was provided in a scheme which was to have been linked with a full course of advanced teacher training at Mathapha, the centre projected for the establishment of a full course of secondary education.

The appointment of two European Inspectors of Schools has meant much for the improvement of African education, for in the past the Department was entirely dependent on African Supervisors. The Inspectors of Schools are responsible for keeping in touch with the work of the African Supervisors and also for the inspection of the larger schools. The woman Inspector of Schools is, in addition, concerned with the special requirements of female education. In addition to their normal itinerant duties the Inspectors of Schools also conduct vacation courses for the African teachers, and this offers at the present time one of the best means of stimulating in them a keener interest in their work, especially those who are posted to isolated schools.

The effects of recent improvements in the salary grants of African teachers are best illustrated in terms of enrolment and quality of staff.

In the past four years the number of aided schools has been increased from 91 to 112. Not only do the recorded figures reveal a satisfactory increase to a total enrolment of 7,518 in the Government and aided schools but it is noteworthy that while there has been practically no change in the number of unqualified teachers employed in these schools, the number of those with full professional training and with local training has increased from 22 per cent to about 40 per cent and from 17 per cent to about 23 per cent respectively and that in 1946 72 per cent of the staff had had some form of training.

The erection of six new schools originally planned could not be undertaken owing to limitation of funds and all efforts were concentrated on the erection of the one most urgently required, at Bremersdorp. This school, completed in 1945, was opened early in 1946 with an enrolment of over 200 pupils.

In the main, Government continues to rely on the Missions for the running of the majority of the existing schools and for the opening of new schools in areas as yet poorly served or in which the response is still weak. There are, however, quite a number of localities in which the need for the amalgamation of competing schools would impose a financial burden in respect of buildings and staffing which the Missions cannot afford. It is clear that at the present stage of the country's economic advancement the African communities are unable, on their own, to raise the necessary funds for the erection and maintenance of schools which would satisfy minimum requirements.

In the past one of the most serious weaknesses in the aided schools was lack of classroom furniture and equipment and essential text-books, which in many schools has rendered normal progress impossible and



has resulted in the education of many children suffering. Due to the assistance which has been granted to all Government and aided schools, these defects have, in a large measure, been overcome and children are now able to make good progress.

The assistance granted to Missions for the improvement of classroom accommodation has been on a reduced scale, firstly because of the curtailment of expenditure and secondly on account of the inability of the Missions, owing to shortages of building materials, to undertake much building during the period the assistance was available.

Up to the end of 1946 a sum of £2,000 had been paid out in building grants which represented 40 new classrooms and accommodation for about 1,400 children. At the Mahamba Methodist School in South Swaziland a fine group of hostel buildings has been erected, towards the cost of which Government made a grant of £1,000.

The liberal grant of bursaries has enabled Swazi students to take the higher courses of teacher training at Union institutions. In all, over one hundred bursaries were awarded up to the end of 1946. In the past Swaziland relied very largely on qualified staff recruited in the Union, but the present supply of trained Swazi teachers is rapidly bringing to an end this dependence on teachers recruited from outside the Territory. The supply of teachers is further supplemented by the local training course conducted by the Nazarene Mission at Bremersdorp, which Government granted increased aid. Entrants number between 15 and 20 each year, and the total number from this source permanently employed in the Government and aided schools is now about sixty.

It might be assumed that Swazis who train as teachers in Union institutions are less likely to leave Swaziland for teaching posts in the Union and to a certain extent this is true since most teachers naturally prefer to remain among their own people, provided there is no great disparity in conditions of service. However, because of the smallness of the Territory and its close proximity to the Union, teachers in Swaziland are well acquainted with conditions in the neighbouring provinces and if competent in their work have no difficulty in securing appointments in Union schools. While the position as regards staffing was satisfactory at the end of 1946 and represented a considerable advance on 1942, there is reason to fear that financial stringency may result in the recurrence of the staffing problems of the past.

While the main task confronting Government has been the provision of a sound system of primary schools spread as widely as funds would permit throughout the Territory, it has also been necessary to give some consideration to other forms of training, of which the two most important relate to trade training and agriculture. Two special applications were accordingly submitted and approved. Unfortunately, the subsequent ten-year allocation to Swaziland made it impossible to proceed



with the scheme providing for agricultural training. However, the essential buildings for the establishment of the Trades School have been erected and the first instructors appointed. The school will open in 1947 and is expected to commence with about ten apprentices in the carpentry and building course. The training of African artisans in building and carpentry is directly related to the development of the Territory. At the present time there exists a keen demand for competent African builders, not only in the Department of Public Works but throughout the country, especially among the Missions and European traders and farmers and amongst the Africans themselves, in certain of the more progressive localities.

Some assistance was granted for the staffing of the Swazi National School, an institution which may ultimately provide full facilities for a secondary education.

#### LIVESTOCK AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT

##### *Veterinary Division*

As has been said the most serious event of the year was the return of Nagana to Swaziland. Because of the importance of the cattle industry to the Territory's economy, the gravest view was taken of the reappearance of this disease. A campaign of considerable magnitude aiming at the eradication of the tsetse fly from Swaziland received the approval of the Secretary of State. Pending the arrival of heavy bush-clearing machinery, the Veterinary Division put in hand an interim scheme of bush-clearing by hand. Close co-operation existed from the beginning between the Administration and the Union authorities, whose "smoking" operations in the Gollel area are believed to have had a beneficial effect on the position in Swaziland. The necessary funds for the campaign are to be raised by a special *per capita* levy on adult males in the case of the Native population and a levy on cattle owned by Europeans.

In other respects the animal disease position was very satisfactory. Good progress continued to be made against East Coast Fever and lumpy skin disease. Although the latter spread throughout the Territory and caused some losses in individual herds, it did not interfere, to any extent, with cattle exports to Union markets.

The annual Stock Census taken at the end of the year showed a total of 435,000 head of cattle, of which approximately 77,000 were European-owned: these figures showed a decrease of some 14,000 Native-owned and 19,000 European-owned cattle. This considerable drop in stock was due in part to lumpy skin disease, contagious abortion, to the increased exports of slaughter cattle to markets in the Union of South Africa, but principally to a poor calving season.

Mention should be made here of an outstanding contribution made



by the Native Authority toward the eventual improvement in the Native Reserves. In collaboration with the Director of Livestock and Agricultural Services a scheme for the destocking of the Reserves, the sale of cattle, and the purchase of land was drawn up. It is hoped that the very large sums of money which will become available to the Native Authority will be spent not only on the purchase of land but also on other necessary projects such as fencing, dam construction and tree planting.

Satisfactory progress was made on a Development Scheme for the Improvement of Native Cattle. The necessary buildings, except for the Veterinary Officer's house, were erected and the entire refencing of the farm was completed. A small pure-bred Afrikander herd was purchased and the Swazi foundation herds were established, except for a few bulls and a further hundred cows and heifers.

Towards the end of the year approval was given for a scheme designed to effect an improvement in the curing and marketing of hides and skins exported from the Territory. In co-operation with a Union firm and working through the Cattle Guards at dipping tanks, hides and skins were purchased at prices considerably higher than those hitherto received. The object is eventually to induce Africans to bring all hides and skins in the green condition to the tanks, with the organs from the dead animal for the taking of smears; payment being made on a grade and weight basis. The hides will then be properly salt-cured and after that treatment will realise top prices in the Union markets. Prices will be fixed by Government in consultation with the firm concerned. The results so far achieved have exceeded expectations and prices previously unheard-of in native areas are now being paid.

#### AGRICULTURAL DIVISION

The Division of Agriculture had a very successful year.

The Development Scheme for increased Agricultural Staffing and Grain Storage provided during the financial year 1945-1946 a sum of £3,700 for the addition of one Agricultural Officer and two Assistant Agricultural Officers to the Department's Agricultural Staff (making a total of one Principal Agricultural Officer, one Agricultural Officer and four Assistant Agricultural Officers) and a programme of building grain storage tanks.

The grain storage scheme made good progress, and several thousand bags of maize produced within the Territory were purchased and stored in the tanks for resale. Some maize, rice and kaffir corn was also imported from Portuguese East Africa and the position during the last few months of the year, when there is usually a shortage of foodstuffs, was unusually satisfactory: practically no maize was officially imported from the Union: undoubtedly the efforts of the Agricultural Division



combined with good prices, resulted in a very considerable increase in available foodstuffs.

The additional Agricultural Officer who was appointed late in 1945 was, after a few months, transferred, and after some delay a well-qualified officer was secured to take his place. This Officer was qualified in both Forestry and Agriculture and, in the hope that the Forestry and Conservation Development Scheme in the Ten Year Plan would be approved before the end of the year, he devoted his time to work in connection with forestry, the programme of water supplies in Native Areas, and a preliminary survey of Native Areas in connection with the projected programme of anti-soil-erosion measures.

The two additional Assistant Agricultural Officers were able to give invaluable assistance in the work of the Agricultural Farms but owing to the shortage of foodstuffs it was necessary for the Agricultural staff to devote its main attention to work which would either directly or indirectly achieve an increase in the production of essential food. Though their results were very satisfactory indeed, it meant that very little agricultural extension work could be carried out in the Native Reserves during the year.

The erection of grain storage tanks proceeded satisfactorily; one Assistant Agricultural Officer devoted his attention entirely to this work. In 1946 twelve tanks holding approximately 400 tons were completed and used at Bremersdorp. Three tanks each with a capacity of 100 tons were built and used at Goedgegun and a further three tanks of the same capacity were nearing completion, also at Goedgegun. In addition, metal tanks with a total capacity of approximately 200 tons were purchased and brought into use. Estimates for the 1947 crop indicate that, as a result of these activities and a climatically good season, the importation of food will probably be unnecessary.

A Development Scheme for the provision of water supplies in the arid and low-lying parts of the territory was continued. In the south of Swaziland one work party was severely handicapped by the losses suffered amongst the oxen through the sudden extension of Nagana (bovine trypanosomiasis) to the area in which it was working. In all, some eight or nine dams of varying capacity were constructed during the year in the middle and bushveld areas. Much attention has had to be paid to the maintenance of the dams owing to the damage done to fencing, troughs and taps, by the Natives using them. Steps have, however, been taken to educate the people in their proper use.

At the Experimental Farm which is also financed under the Colonial Development and Welfare Act, investigations continued on the following problems:

- (i) the production of higher-yielding and disease-resistant strains of maize, kaffir corn and ground nuts and of hybrid maize,



- (ii) the development of control methods for witchweed,
- (iii) the development of suitable grass strains for hay, pasture and anti-erosion planting,
- (iv) the study of crop rotation,
- (v) the study of mixed farming.

The food production Scheme which had been started during the war, primarily to raise funds for war charities, but which was extended in later years to help meet the serious food shortages amongst the Native population, was continued during 1946. Taking the demand for fertilizer as a criterion of effort at food production, marked progress was evident. During the war period the use of fertilizer rose from 300 tons to 1,500 tons in 1946, and of this natives used 179 bags of fertilizer in 1939 as against approximately 1,000 bags in 1946.

Vegetable production also was encouraged and it is estimated that in 1946 there were at least fifty times as many vegetable gardens as in 1938. A very small proportion of these vegetables was sold to Europeans, an appreciable quantity was sold to other Natives, but the major part was consumed by the producer; thus raising materially the general nutritional standard. In the same way the production of monkey nuts, mainly for home consumption, increased rapidly during the war period.

#### MEDICAL DEPARTMENT

The most noteworthy, if unspectacular, achievement of the Medical Department in 1946 was the continued capacity of its medical and nursing staff to deal with the progressive increase in the demand for curative and maternity services, despite the lack of a proportionate increase in staff, in hospital accommodation or financial resources. The fact that in one hospital, the figures for 1946 showed that admissions and confinements in hospital increased by 74 per cent and 226 per cent since 1942, and by 27 per cent and 25 per cent since 1945 respectively, serves to indicate the extent to which the work in hospitals has, and is continuing to develop and to stress the need for the provision of additional accommodation sufficient to reduce existing overcrowding, and of improved hospital facilities in general.

Smallpox in a virulent form made its appearance in the Southern District in November and the measures taken to combat the disease were successful in keeping it localised. During the first half of 1946 the Territory experienced one of the most severe and widespread malaria epidemics in its history.

The new anti-malaria drug paludrine has recently become available through commercial channels, and it is hoped to obtain a limited supply for use during the forthcoming transmission season. This drug has been shown to be a complete casual prophylactic against malaria infection of the type which predominates in Swaziland, and the prac-



tical application of this fact in the chemotherapeutic control of the disease under local conditions will be investigated.

#### LEPER SETTLEMENT

Work on this Development Scheme continued throughout the year; its objects are to segregate all infectious cases, to separate and supervise untainted children of leper parents and to return to the community only cured or burnt-out non-infectious cases, so that the disease will be eradicated in Swaziland in the course of one generation.

The Superintendent's house was completed in June, the Native Staff quarters, office and stores block, treatment building and gate house were completed save for the provision of fittings. A block of five houses, of which the first leper village consists, were erected, but doors and shelves remain to be installed. The second leper village is under construction. Work also commenced on the provision of water borne sewerage, ablutions and kitchen for one village. As a considerable amount of work remains to be carried out, there is no prospect of the transfer of patients taking place for perhaps a further year.

#### MALARIA SURVEY

During the years 1945-47 investigations have been carried out with the aim of ascertaining the entomological position in regard to Malaria Vectors in Swaziland and to the extent of malaria amongst the indigenous Natives and their reaction towards the disease.

In the Entomological Survey, mosquito larvae and adults from twenty-eight different observation areas were collected and identified and the mosquito population recorded. The main vector of malaria was found to be the mosquito *Anopheles Gambiae*, which breeds in varying degrees seasonally from year to year. Its breeding is largely dependent on climatic conditions, especially rainfall. The average density of adult *Anopheles Gambiae*, per hut in the bushveld and middleveld areas was recorded and the difference in infestation in the two years of the survey was observed. Its peak density in huts was found to occur between February and April. During the winter months (June to November) breeding of *Anopheles Gambiae* is almost negligible and in consequence the number of adult malaria vectors is too small for any transmission of malaria to occur during these months.

Mosquitoes caught in the different areas were dissected and the sporozoite rate was recorded. It was shown that the infectivity of *Anopheles Gambiae* increased with the advance of the transmission season and varied to a marked extent in the two years of the survey, the peak of infectivity being 3.1 per cent in 1945 and 9.4 per cent in 1946.



The question of the importance of the mosquito *Anopheles Funestus* in the transmission of malaria was also investigated. In spite of considerable breeding of this mosquito in many areas of the bushveld and middleveld the number of adults found in human habitations in all areas was negligible and therefore it was considered safe to conclude that it does not play any part in the transmission of malaria in Swaziland.

In the clinical survey a total of 8,450 rural Natives, the vast majority of whom had had no treatment for malaria, were examined during the transmission and non-transmission seasons. Spleen, parasite and crescent rates, as well as parasite infestations in the different age groups were ascertained and recorded in order to compare the different degrees of immunity in the populations of bushveld and middleveld. The results of these immunological studies were discussed in detail, special reference being made to the infants.

The case incidence of malaria throughout the territory was ascertained as accurately as possible under existing circumstances. The preliminary investigation into child mortality and death rate amongst the rural population was described and the difficulties in obtaining accurate figures were discussed. As a result of the investigations during the survey, proposals for the future work of the malaria unit were submitted and recommendations for the control of malaria in Swaziland were made.

#### NATIVE LAND SETTLEMENT DEPARTMENT

During the war an extensive Native Land Settlement Scheme was approved and introduced for the benefit of the Swazi Nation. The Scheme made provision for some 4,000 landless Swazi families resident as squatters on land owned by Europeans and for such of the Swazi soldiers serving with the forces, as on demobilisation, might wish to be accommodated.

In January, 1944, development was started in the north of Swaziland at Pigg's Peak on a block of land of approximately 30,000 acres in extent on which provision was made for 220 settlers, and all allotments were surveyed, plotted and beacons.

On the 1st February, 1946, the Swaziland Native Land Settlement Proclamation No. 2 of 1946—together with Rules made thereunder—was promulgated. The Proclamation and Rules give complete control of Settlements, covering every phase of the scheme. Two of the more important points covered by this legislation are:

- (a) the control of grazing and the limitation of stock to the carrying capacity of the land; and
- (b) the complete protection and improvement of the soil.



Before promulgation this legislation received the full support of the Native Authority.

Up to the end of 1946 one hundred allotments had been granted to permanent settlers, all of whom had built their new homes and were fully settled. By diverting mountain streams into water channels, water was provided for vegetable gardens in most of the villages. Fourteen miles of road to serve all villages and arable lands (constructed entirely by hand, as tractors at the time were unobtainable), have been completed. All the necessary development buildings for the settlement have been erected.

In January, 1945, development of a second settlement was started on an area of Crown Land of approximately 18,900 acres in extent in the Mkondo Valley near Hlatikulu, in the south of Swaziland. On this Settlement provision was made for 170 settlers and ninety allotments were completed by the end of the year. The Settlement is very deficient in suitable water supplies for domestic purposes, and to provide this essential requirement two earth catchment dams were nearing completion at the end of the year. The construction of five miles of road over very difficult country and of all the necessary buildings for the Settlement were completed.

The development of a third area, in the north east of Swaziland in the Pigg's Peak sub-district was commenced in June. This Settlement area, known as Herefords, is 65,000 acres in extent and is capable of accommodating at least 1,000 settlers. By the end of the year 256 allotments had been surveyed, plotted and beacons, and of these 137 had been allotted.

#### GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

At the beginning of the year much time was taken up by a comprehensive survey of all privately owned mineral concessions not thrown open to prospecting under Government Control, to assess their liability to payment of undeveloped mineral tax, and to the editing and reproduction of the Field Geologist's detailed report on the Haematite Deposits of North Western Swaziland.

Rock-slide cutting apparatus from England was installed in the laboratory as well as the necessary equipment for reproduction of maps and diagrams. Fifty-one rock slides were prepared and examined microscopically. A total of 395 rock specimens were collected, described and filed, as well as other routine laboratory work.

Twenty-four new maps and diagrams were drafted and printed covering geological work, mining claims, Crown Mineral areas and mineral concessions.



### *Mineral Deposits*

Preliminary examinations were made of prospects of asbestos pegged on Mineral Concession No. 25 and Crown Mineral Area No. 14, both near Oshoek; and another occurrence of haematite iron-ore at Darktown on Crown Mineral Area No. 7, Northern District.

The barytes deposit on Crown Mineral Area No. 7 was visited on several occasions: it is now in active production.

A further examination was made of an occurrence of fluorite near Mhlotsheni on Mineral Concession No. 31 Southern District.

A deposit of Kaolin (china-clay) was located and examined by the Field Geologist in the course of geological mapping in the Mahlangatsha area, Central District; this now requires detailed prospecting to estimate the extent of the deposit.

### *Geological Mapping*

The Field Geologist was able to complete 192 square miles of geological mapping in the Mahlangatsha and Kubuta areas in the Central and Southern Districts respectively. This work has yielded much further important evidence in the correlation of the Pongola Series of rocks with the Witwatersrand System of the Transvaal and Orange Free State, and the relationship of the granites thereto.

### *Detailed Prospecting*

A detailed examination and sampling was made of the Kubuta caverns, with the result that it has been determined that no metal or mineral of value has been extracted from them in the past. They represent natural fissures, the entrances of which have been enlarged by the ancients to provide places of refuge.

### *Claims on Crown Mineral Areas*

Some 985 Base Metal Claims were pegged on Crown Mineral Areas Nos. 6, 7 and 14. These were inspected, certified and in some cases, surveyed.

### *Underground Water Supplies*

This work is of increasing importance. Thirteen farms or ranches were visited by the Geological staff, and in some cases surveys were made to select sites for drilling; some 32 being chosen in this way.

Contractors employed by ranchers have been drilling in the bushveld throughout the year at these sites, and others, with considerable success. Yields from 80-3,800 gallons an hour have been obtained.

## PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

The execution of public works during the past year was no easy task owing to the acute shortage of building materials, the inadequacy of road equipment and the problem of the funds available being



inadequate to meet the requirements of the country for the greatly needed improvement of public works.

In spite of difficulties, however, much was achieved. In addition to the execution of numerous minor works, a number of additional Government houses and offices were constructed from funds provided under the Colonial Development and Welfare Act, and, in general the condition of Government buildings showed improvement as a result of increased provision for their repair and maintenance.

Owing to the worn-out condition of the major part of the road plant, and the exceptionally hard road-surface conditions during the abnormally dry winter, road work in 1946 was, of necessity, mainly confined to hardening, culvert construction and road drainage. This work, it is hoped, will pay handsome dividends in the future.

Two major road re-alignments were undertaken during the year, one to circumvent the hindrance of the Sidokoto River between Mafuteni and Balegane, the other on the Mbabane—Pigg's Peak road. Although full construction could not be undertaken owing to the limitation of funds, these alignments represent a small, but definite improvement in the road system.

Extensions to the Mbabane and Bremersdorp Townships, both European and Native, have been investigated; these have been designed on modern town-planning lines.

The Stegi Township water supply is being improved and extended. Extension to the Bremersdorp water supply and the provision of a treated pure water supply for Mbabane have been investigated with promising results.

The Mbabane Electricity Supply was taken over by the Administration at the beginning of April. Investigations with a view to the development and extension of the supply were undertaken.

#### POLICE DEPARTMENT

During the early part of 1946, Brigadier Mavrogordato, O.B.E., was appointed by the Secretary of State to enquire into, and advise upon, the constitution of the Police Forces in the three High Commission Territories and other related questions: he visited Swaziland in May.

Although there was a slight increase in crime during 1946, (there were 4,152 cases reported and known to the Police as compared to 3,744 in 1945), the year was very satisfactory taking into consideration the still depleted state of the Force. The percentage of undetected crime fell from 1.23 per cent in 1945 to 1.1 per cent in 1946.

Seven European recruits, all of whom were ex-Servicemen, were engaged during December and proceeded to the South African Police Training Depot at Pretoria to undertake their course of training.



## PART II

### Chapter 1: Population

THE population of Swaziland has consistently risen during the last 25 years. The last three censuses were taken in the years 1921, 1936 and 1946: the figures given in respect of the 1946 census, except for those in respect of the Native Population, are preliminary ones as the checking and tabulation of the census returns had not been completed at the time of writing.

The European population has risen in 25 years from 2,205 to 3,204 showing an increase of 45.5 per cent. Most of the European settlers are in the middleveld and the concentration of Native population is also in this area. There are European villages at Mbabane the Administrative Capital and Bremersdorp with populations of about 500, and smaller villages at Stegi, Mankaiana, Goedgegun, Hlatikulu, Pigg's Peak and Emlembe; the last being the village attached to the Havelock Asbestos Mine.

The small Coloured community meanwhile has increased from 451 to 735, an increase of 62 per cent. The precise numbers of this community are somewhat obscure as in the recent census a number of them, estimated at approximately 30 per cent, elected to be enumerated as Swazis. The coloured or Eurafrican population has tended to concentrate in definite areas: there is a small settlement near Mbabane and another at Croydon in the lowveld of the Central District. Near Stegi and Hluti there are a number of Coloured persons who own fairly considerable areas of land.

The Native population which in 1921 was 110,295 rose in 1936 to 153,270 and in 1946 to 181,269; an increase in the 25-year period of 64.3 per cent. This considerable increase in Native population, accompanied by an increase in the livestock population, has caused severe erosion in certain areas; the pressure on the land has, however, been relieved to some extent by the Native Land Settlement Scheme mentioned in other parts of this report.

The Swazis are considerable cattle owners and in the same period of 25 years the number of Native-owned cattle has increased from 146,542 to 434,995 head, the figures for European-owned cattle being 63,749 and 77,349 head respectively. As cattle are to the Swazis the symbols of prosperity and as they have as yet little appreciation of quality, further and increasing pressure on the land is resulting. This



tendency may to some extent be checked by a scheme produced late in 1946 by the Native Authority in collaboration with the Director of Livestock and Agricultural Services. This scheme provides for a levy on the herds of all Native cattle owners which will be paid in cattle, the cattle thus collected will be sold and funds accumulated for the purchase of land from European landowners for the Swazi Nation.

## Chapter 2: Occupations, Wages, Labour Organisation

THE principal occupations in Swaziland apart from agriculture are mining, building, trading, and employment on Public Works, and in Government Agricultural and Veterinary Services.

The mining Industry provides employment in Swaziland for some 150 Europeans and 2,900 Africans. The principal concern being the Havelock Asbestos Mine which employs over 80 per cent of the internal Mine labour force. The rate of pay for native labour at this mine is a little over 2s. per shift, free quarters, food and medical attention being provided in addition. The average number of hours worked per week is 48 and the average wage earned approximately £5 7s. 0d. per month when the value of free housing, food and medical attention is taken into account.

Europeans employed in the mining industry receive salaries which range from £100 per month for medical officers and resident engineers to £30 for nursing and clerical staff; foremen and storekeepers receive £45-50 per month. Daily paid European employees receive pay at rates which vary from 17s. 6d. to 27s. 6d. per 8 hour day according to qualifications: all overtime is paid at time and a half and free unfurnished quarters are provided. Medical and Provident Fund benefits are also available to all European employees at the Havelock Mine.

In trading concerns the rates of pay average £240 per annum with free quarters for Europeans and £4 10s. 0d. per month for Africans with quarters and rations provided: a 60 hour week is worked.

There is an increasing building trade in the Territory; in this Europeans receive an average salary of £420 p.a. without quarters, and Africans £5 per month with quarters; for a 44 hour and a 46 hour week respectively.

The Public Works Department provides employment for some 40 Europeans and 410 African and Coloured persons, these figures are subject to considerable variation according to the volume of capital works being undertaken by the Department. The rates of pay for Europeans vary between a mean figure of 11s. 6d. per day paid to



learners and 25s. to 35s. per day for skilled artizans. Semi-skilled Eurafricans receive 5s. to 7s. 6d. per day plus rations. African adult males receive 1s. 5d. to 7s. 6d. per day according to skill and experience; African learners, who are below tax paying age receive 9d. to 1s. 5d. per day. All African employees receive standard rations in addition to the above rates of pay. The hours worked per week range from 44 hours for building staff to 56 hours for engine plant attendants.

The Livestock and Agricultural Department employ African labour, numbers of which fluctuate according to the season from 75 to 300. The rates of pay vary from 1s. 6d. to 2s. per day paid for men; 9d. to 1s. 3d. for women; and 4d. to 8d. per day for young persons. All such labourers are provided with free food during working hours. A number of private ranching, agricultural and forestry concerns also employ a fluctuating number of Africans which at its peak reaches 1,800 persons, the average terms of employment of these are 35s. per month for natives with quarters and rations provided; a 60 hour week is worked. Europeans receive £20 to £25 per month, with quarters provided, for a 60 hour working week.

African Domestic Servants receive, for a 60 hour week, £1 10s. 0d. to £4 per month with rations plus quarters provided. There are 300 Africans so employed in Swaziland.

There are 8,305 Swazis employed in the Union in various occupations: the principal ones being in the Mines 5,996, Farm labour 755, other labour 950 and Domestic Service 253.

The cost of living in Swaziland is closely related to, but slightly higher than, that in the Union of South Africa. It is estimated that the average monthly budget for one European adult, with quarters provided, was £17 16s. 0d. in 1938; this figure has risen in 1947 to £29 12s. 0d. The cost of living of the African population has risen in a corresponding degree.

There is no labour Department in Swaziland and at present there are no Trade Unions though machinery for the latter is provided under the Swaziland Trade Unions and Trade Disputes Proclamation No. 31 of 1942. No labour legislation was promulgated during the year under review.

Provision for Workmens' Compensation exists under Proclamation No. 25 of 1939. Under this law compensation is payable for permanent total incapacity at the rate of £750 or 36 months' wages, whichever is less; for accidents resulting in death £600 or 30 months' wages whichever is less; for partial incapacity, compensation is payable in accordance with a scale based on the percentage of incapacity and the earnings of the workmen over a period of 30 months.

Proclamation No. 73 of 1937 regulates the employment of women, young persons and children in industrial undertakings in Swaziland



and Proclamation No. 21 of 1937 empowers the High Commissioner to prescribe in the Territory the minimum wage to be paid in certain cases by employers to persons employed by them and provides also for the establishment of Advisory Boards in connection therewith. Mines, Works and Machinery Regulations are also in force in the Territory.

The Native Labour Regulations impose a duty on employers of native labour to provide for the proper care and treatment of workers when sick or injured.

The Cost-of-Living Allowance rates in force at the end of the year for Government officials were as follows:

<i>Salary or Wage per annum</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Rate per annum</i>	<i>Rate per mensem</i>
ALL RACES			
Up to £50	Married and Single	£25 10s. 0d.	£2 2s. 6d.
Over £50 to £75	Married	£38 5s. 0d.	£3 3s. 9d.
	Single	£25 10s. 0d.	£2 2s. 6d.
Over £75 to £100	Married	£51 0s. 0d.	£4 5s. 0d.
	Single	£25 10s. 0d.	£2 2s. 6d.
Over £100 to £150	Married	£68 0s. 0d.	£5 13s. 4d.
	Single	£34 0s. 0d.	£2 16s. 8d.
Over £150 to £200	Married	£85 0s. 0d.	£7 1s. 8d.
	Single	£34 0s. 0d.	£2 16s. 8d.
Over £200 to £300	Married	£102 0s. 0d.	£8 10s. 0d.
	Single	£34 0s. 0d.	£2 16s. 8d.
Over £300 to £600	Married	£119 0s. 0d.	£9 18s. 4d.
	Single	£34 0s. 0d.	£2 16s. 8d.
Over £600 to £900	Married	£119 0s. 0d.	£9 18s. 4d.
	Single	£28 0s. 0d.	£2 6s. 8d.
Over £900 to £1,250	Married	£84 0s. 0d.	£7 0s. 0d.
	Single	£28 0s. 0d.	£2 6s. 8d.

The cost-of-living allowance payable to non-Government employees has been laid down by legislation.



## Chapter 3: Public Finance and Taxation

## REVENUE

<i>Head</i>	1940-41	1941-42	1942-43	1943-44	1944-45	1945-46
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Native Tax	46,995	42,089	48,212	44,955	47,573	46,331
Customs and Excise	22,795	31,253	26,746	30,975	35,831	43,879
Posts and Telegraphs	7,840	10,262	16,586	14,464	16,951	42,441
Licences	10,307	10,870	9,059	9,302	10,069	10,993
Income Tax	4,291	29,127	66,554	58,152	92,949	94,086
Transfer Duty	1,447	2,478	4,867	5,531	6,235	4,582
Base Metal Royalty	2,851	8,081	12,583	9,347	16,932	13,532
Other Revenue	20,560	22,561	25,620	33,532	30,698	51,204
	117,086	156,721	210,227	206,258	256,788	307,048
Sale of Crown Land	484	394	1,106	1,096	548	1,481
Development and Welfare Fund	19,035	5,764	5,220	141,567	67,576	183,374
Grant in Aid	52,000	12,000	—	—	—	—
	£188,605	174,879	216,553	348,921	324,912	491,903

## EXPENDITURE

<i>Vote</i>	1940-41	1941-42	1942-43	1943-44	1944-45	1945-46
Resident Commissioner	9,667	10,174	10,635	12,814	13,856	16,581
District Administration	10,170	8,681	9,006	9,472	12,152	13,138
Police	17,167	16,116	17,840	18,572	21,450	25,894
Posts and Telegraphs	6,090	6,597	6,751	7,660	9,478	11,493
Administration of Justice	10,600	9,949	10,008	11,130	14,454	14,190
Public Works Department	3,739	3,424	3,901	5,184	7,369	8,899
Public Works Recurrent	20,972	21,570	22,065	24,835	25,741	31,358
Public Works Extraordinary	12,953	3,524	4,300	9,476	12,429	45,593
Medical	19,266	18,037	19,923	23,323	34,993	44,396
Education	15,506	15,118	17,225	21,088	38,048	85,613
Vet. Agric. and Forestry	30,178	27,947	32,182	38,100	64,693	85,292
Pensions and Gratuities	8,967	12,026	10,273	11,209	10,253	9,010
Native Land Settlement	—	—	—	132,806	21,745	46,062
Geological Survey	—	—	—	—	2,129	8,219
Other Expenditure	13,276	12,783	15,783	12,376	15,045	16,325
	£178,551	165,946	179,892	338,045	303,835	462,063



## PUBLIC DEBT

The Public Debt of Swaziland consists of the following:

Parliamentary Grants-in-Aid: For purposes of	
Land and Agricultural Loan Fund. From	£
1929-30 to 31st March, 1946 . . . . .	3,372
Loans from the Colonial Development Fund:	
From 1930-31 to 1939-40 . . . . .	41,872
Loans from the Development and Welfare	
Fund: From 1940-41 to 1945-46 . . . . .	1,115
	<hr/>
	£46,359
	<hr/>

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES  
AS AT 31ST MARCH, 1946

<i>Assets</i>	£	<i>Liabilities</i>	£
Balances in hands of		Swazi Nation Trust Fund	20,000
Sub Accountants ... ..	11,830	Swazi National Fund ...	1,269
Advances ... ..	17,030	Guardians' Fund ... ..	22,604
Deferred Pay ... ..	428	Suspense ... ..	31,243
Joint Colonial Fund ... ..	206,000	Agricultural Loan Fund ...	2,600
Imprests ... ..	129	Colonial Dev. Fund	
Investments ... ..	13,030	Deposit Account ... ..	16,340
Military Pensions Account	3,885	Dairy Butter Levy Fund ...	2,071
British Govt. Loan Account	5,000	Savings Fund ... ..	4,987
		Butter Export Equalisation	
		Fund ... ..	28
		Barclays Bank (D.C. & O.)	56,025
		Surplus and Deficit A/c. ...	100,165
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	£257,332		£257,332
	<hr/>		<hr/>

## DESCRIPTION OF THE MAIN HEADS OF TAXATION

The main heads of taxation and the amounts collected during the financial year 1945-46 are as follows:

	£
Native Tax . . . . .	46,331
Customs and Excise . . . . .	43,879
Licences . . . . .	10,993
Income Tax . . . . .	94,086
Base Metal Royalty . . . . .	13,532



*Native Tax*

A tax of 35s. per annum is paid by each adult male native who is unmarried or who has one wife. Natives with more than one wife pay 30s. in respect of each wife with a maximum tax of £4 10s. 0d.

Tax is collected by District Officers with the assistance of Tax Collectors appointed by the Native Authority.

*Customs and Excise*

Under the Customs Agreement with the Government of the Union of South Africa, Swaziland receives a share of .147 of the total collection of the Union. Excise duties are collected locally on spirits and beer manufactured in the Union of South Africa, and the amount collected from this source was £7,468.

*Licences*

The revenue under this head is composed mainly of licences levied on Trading, Motor Vehicles, Recruiting Agents, Hotel and Liquor Licences, Banking, Firearms and Game.

The following table gives the classes of licences and the amount collected in respect of each class during the last three financial years:

	1943-44	1944-45	1945-46
	£	£	£
Firearms . . . . .	46	61	188
Recruiting Agents . . . . .	668	697	711
Hotel and Liquor . . . . .	627	579	620
Trading . . . . .	3,137	3,447	3,482
Game . . . . .	218	378	642
Bank . . . . .	125	125	125
Motor Vehicles . . . . .	4,070	4,357	4,558
Prospecting and Mining . . . . .	351	360	611
Miscellaneous . . . . .	60	65	56
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£9,302	10,069	10,993
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

*Income Tax*

The rates of tax imposed for the year 1946 were as follows:

*Normal Tax*

(a) *Married Persons*: Fifteen pence plus one-thousandth of one penny for each pound of the taxable income in excess of one pound. Maximum rate 3s. per pound

*Rebates*: Basic £22; Children £5 each child, dependants £1 10s. each dependant and Insurance 1s. per pound maximum £2 10s. The taxable amount arrived at subject to a surcharge of 45 per cent.



(b) *Unmarried Persons*: Eighteen pence plus one-thousandth of one penny for each pound of the taxable income in excess of one pound. Maximum rate 3s. 3d. per pound.

*Rebates*: Basic £20, dependants and insurance same as for married persons.

The taxable amount arrived at subject to a surcharge of 50 per cent.

(c) *Private Companies*: Same as for married persons but no rebates.

(d) *Public Companies*: Four shillings per pound, no rebates.

#### *Super Tax*

Twenty-four pence plus one four-hundredth of one penny for each pound of the income subject to Super Tax in excess of one pound. Maximum rate 7s. 6d. per pound. Rebate £210 (does not apply to Private Companies except in special circumstances). Taxable amount subject to a surcharge of 25 per cent.

The following table illustrates the incidence of tax on various incomes:

1 <i>Income P.A.</i>	2 <i>Married— No Children</i>	3 <i>Unmarried</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	
			<i>Col. 2</i>	<i>Col. 3</i>
£ 400	£ 2	£ 16	.5	.4
500	12	28	2.4	5.6
600	22	40	3.6	6.6
700	31	52	4.4	7.4
800	41	64	5.1	8.0
900	51	76	5.6	8.5
1,000	62	89	6.2	8.9
1,100	72	101	6.5	9.2
1,200	83	114	6.9	9.5
1,500	115	153	7.7	10.2
2,000	210	264	10.5	13.2
5,000	1,257	1,380	25.1	27.6
10,000	3,765	4,015	37.65	40.15

*European Poll Tax*: A Poll Tax of £3 per annum is paid by every European male of the age of 21 years and over. This amount is allowed as deduction from any Income Tax payable.

*Estate Duty*: The rate of Estate Duty chargeable upon each pound of the dutiable amount is three ten-thousandths of a pound for every completed one hundred pounds or part thereof contained in the dutiable amount, subject to a maximum rate of six shillings and eight pence upon each pound. A rebate of three hundred pounds is allowed from the amount of duty determined under the foregoing formula.



## Chapter 4: Currency and Banking

THE currency in circulation in Swaziland is that of the Union of South Africa. There are two banks in the Territory, Barclays Bank (Dominion Colonial and Overseas) and the Standard Bank of South Africa Limited. The former has branches at Mbabane and Bremersdorp, and the latter in Bremersdorp only.

## Chapter 5: Commerce

### IMPORTS

UNDER the Customs agreement with the Union of South Africa, Swaziland is dealt with as a part of the Union, and for this reason there is no detailed information available in respect of imports during 1946.

### EXPORTS

The principal exports from Swaziland during 1946 were Asbestos, Slaughter Stock, Hides and Skins, Gold, Tobacco, Butter and Tin. These commodities have been listed in the order of the total values exported.

Asbestos is, by a wide margin, the most important and valuable export commodity of the Territory, the Havelock Mine, in the north-western corner of the Territory, being one of the largest asbestos mines in the world. Exports during 1946 amounted to 32,000 short tons valued at £845,000; these figures compared with 23,000 tons valued at £665,000 during 1945.

The cattle industry is the second most important export. During the years some 13,500 head of slaughter stock valued at £202,500 were exported to Union markets: these figures in 1945 were 11,247 and £168,705 respectively. Hides and skins valued at £39,000 were exported in 1946 compared with the 1945 figure of £11,000: these also were exported to the Union of South Africa. Exports of bullion and specie amounted in 1946 to £37,185 as compared with £28,666 in 1945. Other exports from the Territory were tobacco £17,816 (£17,612), butter £14,338 (£20,980), bone meal £1,959 (£2,040), metallic tin £12,331 (£18,346) and barytes £962. The figures in brackets being the corresponding figures for 1945. Barytes is a new product, derived from a small mine which went into production during 1946.



## Chapter 6: Production

THE principal products of the Territory are those detailed in Chapter 5. Mining activity in Swaziland, apart from the Havelock Asbestos Mine, is undertaken by nine small European-managed companies, five of which produce tin, three gold, and one barytes. An average of two Europeans are employed in each concern and less than one hundred Africans.

The Africans are peasant farmers who grow barely sufficient food (chiefly maize and kaffir corn) for their own needs. They are also pastoralists in common with other Bantu tribes, and Kraal manure is playing an ever-increasing part in crop production.

The European farmers are also individual agriculturists or ranchers, but mention must be made of a company now coming into production which has built up a very large tung plantation.

The food produced is practically all consumed within the Territory and in many years this has to be supplemented by imports.

The tobacco industry, which is confined largely to the southern district, is run by a Co-operative which takes in, grades and markets the producers' crops.

The butter-making industry is centred on Bremersdorp, where there is a Creamery. The great majority of the suppliers are Africans who take their milk to cream-separating centres run on semi-co-operative lines, whence the cream is transported by various means to the butter factory at Bremersdorp. Most of the butter produced is exported to the Union of South Africa.

The ranching industry depends for its markets on the Union of South Africa, and cattle on the hoof are exported to Durban in Natal, and to Johannesburg.

## Chapter 7: Social Services

### (i) EDUCATION

As the population of Swaziland consists of Europeans, Africans and Coloured, the educational system falls into three distinct sections, each of which has been developed according to the peculiar needs of the racial group which it serves. Progress has in the main been slow, chiefly because of the country's small revenue, and up to the present it has not been possible to extend educational facilities much beyond the primary school stage. This does not mean, however, that the population is denied access to secondary schools and universities, since excellent institutions exist in the Union of South Africa.



For European children, education is compulsory up to the age of 16 years or the successful completion of Standard VIII. Government schools are maintained at Bremersdorp, Stegi, Havelock Mine, Schuurwekop, Hluti and Goedgegun. In so far as is practicable a policy of centralisation, particularly for the rural areas of the south, has been adopted, and with this object in view the school at Goedgegun is being developed into a large centralised school-farm providing adequate boarding accommodation for a large number of children. In the Northern Area, where conditions are somewhat different from those in the south, such need for a boarding school as exists is to a great extent met by the St. Mark's School, which is a private Government-aided institution operating under the aegis of the Church of the Province of South Africa. In addition to the primary classes, the Goedgegun school has a secondary top up to Standard VIII. The remaining Government schools do not proceed further than the sixth standard. The St. Mark's School is a combined primary and secondary school. In addition to the above-mentioned school there is an unaided Dominican Convent at Bremersdorp. The total average enrolment for all the European schools in 1946 was boys 254, girls 193—total 447.

Native primary education is at present largely the responsibility of a number of Missions, but generous financial assistance is granted by Government in the form of salary and equipment grants. In addition, the Missions support a number of small unaided schools. Apart from 185 schools falling under the direct superintendence of the Missions, there are three National Schools financed from the Swazi National Fund, five Government-controlled central schools and a number of tribal schools, three of which have teachers appointed and paid by Government. The majority of Native schools do not proceed beyond the lower primary classes. Of the ten largest schools which offer the full primary school course, four proceed as far as Standard VII and three as far as VIII. Up to the present it has not been possible to provide full secondary facilities at any of the existing schools, although it is planned to do so at the Swazi National School, Mathapha, as soon as funds permit.

A large number of bursaries are granted each year to native students for courses of study not provided in the Territory, chief among which have been the following: secondary education leading to matriculation, teacher-training courses, agricultural training, and various forms of industrial training for boys and girls.

The Native Trade School at Mbabane, the first buildings of which were erected in 1945 and 1946, will provide courses of training in carpentry and building as well as cabinet making.

Swaziland relies largely on the teacher-training institutions of the Union of South Africa for the training of its Native teachers, but, in addition, a local course of training for assistant teachers in elementary



schools was started in 1938 by the Nazarene Mission, Bremersdorp, with the assistance of an annual Government grant to cover the costs of staffing. The principal object of this course, which is regarded by Government as an interim measure to relieve staffing difficulties in both the aided and unaided schools, is to tide the Territory over until conditions are more favourable for the establishment of the higher courses of training and sufficient funds are available to pay improved salary scales adequate to attract and retain fully qualified staff.

During 1946 the total average enrolment in all registered Native schools was boys, 4,730; girls, 5,953—total 10,683.

The Coloured community is numerically the smallest group in Swaziland, comprising a very wide range of types as well as very varying material and cultural standards. The educational requirements of Coloured children are provided for by three Mission schools, two of which are in receipt of Government assistance. All three schools cover the full range of primary school work and a number of bursaries are available for children in need of assistance who wish to take post-primary school courses at institutions in the Union of South Africa. The average enrolment at the three Coloured schools during 1946 was boys, 92; girls 104—total 196.

It has not so far been possible to do a great deal towards adult education. Small classes are run at the Mbabane and Hlatikulu gaols, and there is also a small adult class for the Africans living in the Mbabane urban area.

## (ii) HEALTH

In the Northern and Southern Districts, coryza, sinusitis, otitis media, respiratory diseases and rheumatic affections, afflictions which are commonly met with throughout the year, were particularly prevalent during and after the summer rains. Following the onset of abnormally heavy rains, which succeeded the prolonged drought of 1945, the Territory was visited, in the first half of 1946, by one of the most severe and widespread malaria epidemics in its history. The population in the middleveld and highveld areas was more seriously affected than that of the bushveld. Malaria admissions to hospital exceeded the maximum reached during previous epidemics by 94 per cent and 26 Europeans acquired primary infections in the Mbabane township, which is normally malaria free. It is estimated that some 50,000 cases occurred in the bushveld and middleveld areas during the course of the epidemic which reached its peak in April. In addition to intensive control measures carried out by the Malaria Unit in townships and in certain rural areas, anti-malaria drugs were widely distributed throughout the Native areas.

Smallpox in a virulent form made its appearance in the vicinity of



Hlatikulu in November, and a fresh focus was detected in the bushveld area, near Lubuli, in December. In all, 6 cases with 3 deaths occurred, but quarantine measures and general vaccination of the population in the infected areas were successful in keeping the outbreak localised.

The incidence of bilharziasis, as reflected by the number of cases attending for treatment at hospitals, continued to increase, and the possibility of introducing a scheme for the synchronised detection and treatment of infected persons and infectious water courses, with the assistance of the staff of the Malaria Survey Unit during the dry season, is under consideration.

Dysentery, diarrhoea and enteritis were extremely prevalent, and 64 cases of diseases of the enteric group were treated in hospital with 7 deaths.

The number of cases of venereal disease showed no marked increase over previous years, but there is reason to believe that these conditions are far more common than the attendances at hospitals and health centres might lead one to suppose. Arrangements are being made to carry out serological surveys amongst selected population groups with a view to obtaining more accurate information regarding the incidence of syphilis among the general Native population.

A Leprosy Survey is being carried out with the object of detecting and isolating infective cases, and bringing early cases under treatment at the stage when they are most readily cured. A new Leper Settlement is in course of construction, and will be ready for occupation in 1947. The relative prevalence of, and mortality arising from the principal diseases treated at hospitals, is shown in the following table:

<i>Disease</i>	<i>In-patients</i>	<i>Out-patients</i>	<i>Deaths in hospitals</i>
Malaria	2,732	7,995	8
Dysentery	261	341	8
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	92	208	10
Syphilis	662	1,344	5
Gonorrhoea	149	410	—
Schistosomiasis	120	327	—

### (iii) HOUSING

With the exception of Mbabane, in which considerable progress has been made in the provision of buildings of a permanent and improved type, more particularly in the business centre, little improvement in the standard of housing in townships has taken place during the year. There is much scope for improvement in general measures of sanitation in the Urban Areas, but progress is retarded by lack of funds.



The inhabitants of the rural areas mainly continue to live in huts of the beehive type, consisting of a wattle framework covered with thatch, but improved housing of burnt-brick construction is being adopted in certain areas, notably in the Southern District. Sanitary facilities are practically non-existent in the Native Areas, where the increase in population, and factors associated with modern travel, give added urgency to the need for the introduction of improved hygiene and sanitation.

*Government Housing: European Officials*

Sixteen new houses, some of which had been started in 1945, were completed during 1946, 11 in Mbabane, 2 in Bremersdorp, 1 in Hlatikulu and 2 at Pigg's Peak. They were all of modern permanent construction, varying in floor area from 1,000 to 2,500 square feet depending on their type.

The accommodation generally provided included a living room (with or without separate dining room) three bedrooms, kitchen, pantry, bathroom, lavatory, etc. Costs varied from approximately £1,200 to £4,000 per house and the total cost amounted to approximately £35,000. In addition major and minor improvements were carried out to certain of the existing houses, the majority of which are of primitive construction, viz, wood and iron or mud brick walls with corrugated iron roofs, without modern amenities. Many of them have long passed the stage at which it is possible for them to be maintained in a habitable condition but severe limitation of funds has made it impossible for an adequate number to be replaced by new modern houses.

The new houses already built were required for additional staff and are not replacements of existing houses: many Government officers are still housed in private dwellings leased by Government, whilst others are accommodated in hotels.

*Government Housing: African Officials*

A start was made in 1946 with the construction of modern houses sited in properly laid out African Townships. Nine houses were completed, 7 in Mbabane and 1 each in Hlatikulu and Mankaiana. The houses are built of hollow concrete-block walls with corrugated asbestos roofs. They provide the following accommodation: living room, 3 bedrooms, bathroom, kitchen, stoep and an outside earth closet. The approximate cost per house was £500.

(iv) SOCIAL WELFARE

The Welfare Officer at Mbabane dealt with a number of applications from ex-servicemen for financial assistance in the form of loans and grants under the Union Government Financial Assistance Scheme and



the Swaziland Rehabilitation Benefits Scheme. Financial Assistance in the form of loans and grants was given in a number of cases.

Pauper Relief is granted to Europeans in the Territory who through infirmity or old age are in needy financial circumstances. This form of relief is only extended to natives in exceptional cases, since under Swazi Custom the nearest relation is expected to support a Native pauper. There were in all thirty-five persons, who drew pauper relief allowances during the year.

No special steps have been taken with regard to juvenile delinquency and there are no probation officers in the Territory. Sporting activities, principally association football, are encouraged in the urban areas in order to provide youths with healthful distraction during their leisure hours.

## Chapter 8: Legislation

THE principal legislation during 1946 consisted of the following:

### PROCLAMATIONS

- No. 2. Swaziland Native Land Settlement Proclamation which provides for the establishment, control and development of a Land Settlement scheme for Natives in Swaziland. This scheme was devised principally for landless Swazis who were living on European-owned farms with little or no security of tenure.
- No. 8. Swaziland Uranium and Thorium Control Proclamation which makes provision for controlling the search for, disposal and export of uranium, thorium and allied natural substances in Swaziland.
- No. 19. Swaziland Motor Vehicle Insurance Proclamation, which provides for the compulsory insurance of motor vehicles in the Territory and matters incidental thereto.
- No. 30. Swaziland Customs Duties (Spirits, Beer and Wines) Proclamation, which revises the rates of duty on these commodities.
- No. 52. Swaziland Provident Fund Proclamation which provides for the establishment of a Fund for certain non-pensionable employees of the Government of Swaziland.



## HIGH COMMISSIONER'S NOTICES

No. 92. Regulations for the taking of the 1946 Census.

No. 200. Regulations for the control of consumption of wheat and wheaten products. This legislation became necessary because of the world shortage of wheat and the consequent necessity to conserve supplies.

## Chapter 9: Justice, Police and Prisons

## JUSTICE

THE Roman Dutch Common Law, "save in so far as the same has been heretofore or may from time to time be modified by Statute" was declared to be in force in Swaziland under Section 2 (1) of the Swaziland Administration Proclamation 1907. All statute laws of the Transvaal in force at the date of this Proclamation were declared to be in force in the Territory. Subsequent laws have been promulgated by the High Commissioner under the powers conferred upon him by the Order-in-Council of 1903 as amended in 1906 and 1909.

Subordinate Courts of the First, Second, and Third Class operate throughout the Territory and are presided over by District Commissioners, Assistant District Commissioners and Administrative Cadets respectively, having jurisdiction within their areas in respect of all offences except treason, murder, sedition, offences relating to coinage or currency, and rape; the last offence may be tried by a Subordinate Court when remitted for trial by the Attorney-General. The following sentences may be imposed by Subordinate Courts: First Class (a) Imprisonment not exceeding two years with or without hard labour (b) Fines not exceeding £100 (c) Whipping not exceeding 15 strokes: Second Class (a) Imprisonment not exceeding one year with or without hard labour (b) Fines not exceeding £50 (c) Whipping not exceeding 8 strokes: Third Class (a) Imprisonment not exceeding six months with or without hard labour (b) Fine not exceeding £10, but no powers to impose the punishment of whipping.

All sentences in Criminal Cases in Subordinate Courts where punishment exceeds three months' imprisonment, a fine of £25 or whipping, except in juvenile cases, are subject to review by the Judge of the High Court to whom a record of proceedings is transmitted by



the Registrar not later than a week after the determination of the case. The Judge on reviewing may confirm the conviction and sentence, or alter or reverse the conviction or reduce or vary the sentence imposed. Any person convicted of an offence in a Subordinate Court may appeal against the judgment to the High Court.

In cases which are beyond the jurisdiction of a Subordinate Court, Preparatory Examinations are held by the local District Commissioner at the request of the local Public Prosecutor. A record of the proceedings is transmitted to the Attorney-General who may after consideration of the proceedings (a) decline to prosecute, (b) indict the accused for trial at High Court, or (c) unless the offence revealed is that of murder or treason, remit the case to be dealt with by the Subordinate Court under ordinary or increased jurisdiction as the occasion demands.

The Judge of the High Court appointed by the High Commissioner has unlimited powers of jurisdiction. When presiding over the High Court which is held twice yearly, he may if desired, be assisted by not more than two Administrative Officers, together with one or more Native Assessors chosen by the Paramount Chief of Swaziland and suitably qualified to aid the Court. Their opinions are considered by the Court but the decision rests with the Judge.

The main types of criminal cases brought before Subordinate Courts are offences against the person and offences against property and civil cases, mostly for debt. The main type of cases brought before the High Court are murder, witchcraft (usually leading to murder), rape and culpable homicide, civil cases and appeals against judgments and sentences imposed by Subordinate Courts. Any person convicted of an offence in the High Court may petition the Privy Council for leave to appeal.

#### POLICE

The establishment of the Swaziland Police Force comprises a Commissioner of Police, eleven commissioned European Officers, thirteen European Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors and 137 Non-commissioned Officers and Police Constables. Apart from normal Police work many extraneous duties, such as Customs and Immigration work, superintendence of prisons, part-time revenue collection, are performed by the men of the Force.

The normal police methods for the prevention and suppression of crime are followed by the Swaziland Police, and regular patrols are made by car, on horse-back and on foot. These patrols are undertaken for the purpose of reporting on conditions in general, checking up on licences, and receiving and investigating complaints made by farmers, miners, storekeepers, Native Chiefs and other persons in the outlying



districts. A Criminal Bureau has been established at Headquarters in Mbabane for the purpose of taking and recording fingerprints, photographing and plan-drawing the scenes of crime for production in Court.

The number of cases reported or known to the Police for 1946 was 4,089 as against 3,744 for 1945 shewing an increase of 345 cases. The increase in crime may be attributed in part to the inevitable increase in crime after the war and in part to the more efficient policing of the Territory brought about by the return of the more experienced European Policemen released from active service and the increase of Native personnel of the Force from 102 to 137.

#### PRISONS

The Swaziland Prison staff consists of three European gaolers and one warder and 48 Native warders including seven Native wardresses.

The principal prisons are at Mbabane, Hlatikulu and Bremersdorp. There are also prisons at Stegi, Mankaiana and Pigg's Peak. The Bremersdorp prison is a substantial masonry building erected before 1899. The other prisons are masonry buildings with corrugated-iron roofs and concrete floors.

At the Mbabane prison, which is typical of the other prisons, the prisoners sleep on grass mats and are provided with sufficient blankets. The prison is examined once a week by a Medical Officer. A block of cells is provided for housing the more hardened type of criminal. There are at present five cells for Natives and two smaller ones for European prisoners and four cells for solitary confinement. There are four lavatories, one workshop, three kitchens, and three bathrooms. This prison is enclosed by a masonry wall.

Female prisoners are isolated from males and are housed in a separate building with a separate yard. There is a kitchen, bathroom, lavatory, two cells for the prisoners, and one room for a wardress. Electric lights have been installed in the cells. Convicted male prisoners are employed on general public works, building and road making.

There are no reformatories in the Territory for juvenile delinquents. In serious cases juvenile offenders are sent to institutions in the Union, in others a sentence on a juvenile is often postponed provided he attends a Mission school for a stipulated period where he is kept under close supervision. In such a case a reasonable allowance is paid to the Mission for his keep.

#### *Juvenile Offenders*

Provision is made for the detention of juvenile offenders in separate cells and they are isolated from adult prisoners. During this year 226



juvenile offenders were tried in the Subordinate Courts for the following offences:

Culpable homicide . . . . .	2
House breaking with intent to steal and theft . . . . .	15
Malicious injury to property . . . . .	4
Stock theft . . . . .	35
Theft . . . . .	58
Assault . . . . .	45
Other offences . . . . .	67

### *Health of Prisoners*

The Director of Medical Services reports that in general the state of health of prisoners was good throughout the year.

### *Remission of Sentences*

Under Prison Regulation No. 153 (as amended by High Commissioner's Notice No. 103 of 1941) every prisoner whose sentence exceeds one month is allowed an ordinary or earned remission of one-third of his sentence according to his conduct and industry, provided that every conviction for a breach of discipline shall cause a loss of as many days towards mitigation as may be determined by the District Commissioner.

### *Criminal Statistics*

#### *Persons proceeded against on charge of crime*

During the year, 5,097 persons were proceeded against before Subordinate Courts for the following crimes:

Culpable homicide . . . . .	42
Other offences against the person . . . . .	1,377
Offences against property . . . . .	1,126
Other crimes . . . . .	2,552

#### *Persons dealt with in Subordinate Courts for crimes and offences*

In the Subordinate Courts 4,729 persons were convicted summarily and as follows:

Imprisonment . . . . .	1,516
Whipping . . . . .	159
Fine . . . . .	2,817
Bound over, cautioned or discharged . . . . .	237

#### *Persons for trial in the High Court*

Fifty persons were committed in the Subordinate Courts for trial in the High Court of Swaziland. Of these 49 were indicted by the Attorney-General for the crimes shown in the following table; 16 were discharged and the remaining 33 convicted.



Murder . . . . .	8
Culpable homicide . . . . .	8
Other offences against the person . . . . .	16
Offences against property . . . . .	0
Other crimes . . . . .	1

*Comparative Table*

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

THE NUMBER OF SUMMARY CONVICTIONS IN THE  
SUBORDINATE COURTS

	1943	1944	1945	1946
Offences against the person . . . . .	1,003	1,217	1,236	1,292
Malicious injury to property . . . . .	47	24	41	51
Other offences against property . . . . .	705	750	712	939
Other crimes . . . . .	834	925	1,174	1,140
Offences against Revenue Laws . . . . .	659	855	649	297
Offences against Master and Servants Law . . . . .	71	69	57	47
Miscellaneous minor offences . . . . .	677	819	802	963
TOTALS	3,996	4,659	4,671	4,729

THE NUMBER OF CONVICTIONS IN THE HIGH COURT  
OF SWAZILAND

	1943	1944	1945	1946
Murder of wife or concubine . . . . .	—	2	1	1
Murder of child . . . . .	—	—	—	—
Murder of other than wife, concubine or child . . . . .	15	5	7	7
Attempted murder . . . . .	3	—	—	3
Culpable homicide . . . . .	8	4	4	8
Rape . . . . .	—	9	4	8
Unnatural crime . . . . .	—	—	—	1
Other offences against the person . . . . .	—	1	—	4
Offences against property with violence to the person . . . . .	—	—	—	—
Other offences against property . . . . .	—	1	—	—
Other crimes . . . . .	—	—	—	1
TOTALS	26	22	16	33



## Chapter 10: Public Utilities

### (1) ELECTRICITY

(a) *Mbabane*. The 65 KW hydro-electric scheme which had been operated by a private company from 1931 was taken over by Government on 1st April, 1946, at a cost of £5,316 on the recommendation of a Consulting Engineer whose services had been retained by Government. An additional £2,184 was provided for immediate capital expenditure and £1,537 was provided for salaries and other running expenses during the first year of operation. It has been estimated that a further capital expenditure of approximately £20,000 will permit the enlargement of the plant, modernisation of the distribution system, etc., so as to enable 150-200 KW to be efficiently supplied throughout the Township. The present high tariff, which is on a sliding scale from 1s. 3d. to 3d. per unit, could then be modified to encourage increased consumption. The scheme is self-contained and is run on economic lines. A profit of approximately £1,000 was made during the first year of operation.

(b) *Bremersdorp*: The existing scheme is operated by a private company, The Swaziland Power Co., which is in the process of erecting a new hydro-electric plant on the Little Usutu River about 7 miles from the township. The new supply will be a modern A.C. supply, instead of the present D.C. supply, and 150KW will be available for business and domestic consumers. The existing tariffs are similar to those at present in force in Mbabane, but it is expected that lower tariffs will be introduced as soon as the new scheme is in operation.

### (2) WATER

(a) *Mbabane*. A report was received from the Consulting Engineers on the proposed installation of a modern pipe-borne water scheme to supply treated water throughout the township. The existing water supply consists of open earth furrows from which water is gravitated or pumped into the buildings supplemented by springs or rain water collected in tanks. The furrow water is unfit for drinking. It has been estimated that the total cost of installation would be about £25,000 and that water could be sold at a very reasonable figure. The Scheme is under consideration.

(b) *Bremersdorp*. A preliminary report was received from the Consulting Engineers on the proposed modernisation and extension of the



existing water works. The present scheme is capable of supplying 38,000 gallons per day of treated water, whilst it is estimated that present consumption would reach 55,000 gallons per day in summer if water were available. It may be assumed that consumption will double over the next 20–25 years. The total cost of modernisation and extension has been estimated at £12,000. The present scheme is operated by the Town Inspector under the District Commissioner and a high tariff is in force graduated from 4s. 3d. to 2s. 6d. per thousand gallons, on a sliding scale. It is considered that were the new scheme operated as a self-contained economic scheme, more adequate supervision could be employed and the tariff substantially reduced.

(c) *Goedgegun and Stegi*. Both these existing schemes supply partially treated water. They are inadequate and steps are being taken to enlarge and modernise them as funds permit.

## Chapter II: Communications

### (I) ROADS

(a) The mileage of scheduled roads are:

Trunk roads	205 miles
Main roads	476 „
Branch roads	443 „

Of these, the trunk and main roads and approximately 150 miles of the branch roads are maintained by the Public Works Department, whereas the balance falls under District Officers who receive annual grants from the Public Works Department for this purpose.

No new roads were constructed during 1946 and no funds were made available for this purpose. The re-alignment of approximately 25 miles of main road was completed during 1946. The Territory's finances have, as yet, not permitted of any bituminous surfacing being undertaken due to the shortage of road plant. The concentration of work was mainly on the provision of adequate road drainage on selected sections. Provision of £26,378 was made for maintenance of roads during the financial year 1st April, 1946, to 31st March, 1947. In addition, £9,668 was expended under Colonial Development and Welfare Scheme D. 564 on Road Plant and Equipment.



## PART III

### Chapter 1: Geography

SWAZILAND is a small country about the size of Wales with a maximum length from north to south of approximately 120 miles and a maximum breadth of 90 miles. The total area is 6,704 square miles or 4,279,655 acres. It is, as it were, an island in foreign territory, enclosed on the north, west and south by the Transvaal Province of the Union of South Africa and on the east by Portuguese East Africa and by Tongaland, now part of the Natal Province.

The Territory consists of three fairly well-defined regions of approximately equal breadth running from north to south. The mountainous high veld on the west is part of the Drakensburg range and rises to an altitude of over 5,000 feet and averages about 3,500 feet. The middle veld averages some 2,000 feet, and the low veld on the east ranges from 500 to 1,500 feet. On the eastern border lies the plateau called the Lubombo mountains cut through by the gorges of the three most important rivers of Swaziland—excluding the Komati River, which flows across the north-western portion of the Territory—the Ingwavuma, the Usutu and the Black Mbuluzi. Immediately west of this plateau, which though broken is mainly very fertile, the ground falls abruptly in rocky cliffs to the Lubombo flats—the only considerable area of fairly level ground in the Territory and about 500 feet above sea level—of highly fertile soil with savannah-type vegetation and grass of great feeding value but with low and generally badly distributed rainfall. Westwards these flats rise by a series of low ridges to the middle veld, where the gorges of the tributary system of the main rivers have opened out into wide rolling valleys offering opportunities for agriculture and mixed farming in more equable climate with a higher and less uncertain rainfall. The soil is, however, inherently less fertile and has deteriorated in the course of continuous cultivation by the Native people. In the high veld the country is broken and often rugged, split by gorges, and the soil is less fertile and the slopes are seldom gentle enough for permanent cultivation. The grazing is less nutritious, especially during the winter when the cattle must be fed if they are to maintain their condition or be used for dairying.

The general picture of the Territory is of a country not comparable with the great agricultural countries of the world or adapted to farming on a large scale, but with scattered moderate-sized areas of good soil and



with an adequate rainfall for growing dry crops in ordinary years. In this it resembles a large portion of South Africa. It is excellent cattle country in the low veld, while the great variety of soils and climates and the facilities for the construction of small irrigation schemes in the middle and in the high veld afford opportunities both for mixed farming and for dairying, as well as for a variety of special crops, such as cotton, oil seeds, citrus and nuts of various kinds. In the low veld irrigation schemes would have to be on a large scale and could in any case only command a very small proportion of the available area.

#### ECONOMIC RESOURCES

##### *Mining*

The really important feature of Swaziland's economy at the present time is mining development.

The early history of the mining industry in Swaziland has been a varied and somewhat tragic one. After the concessions mania of the 'eighties of the last century a considerable amount of money was invested in two gold mines in the north-western mineralised belt, and in the course of working them large deposits of haematite of excellent quality were discovered. The mines were practically shut down in 1916 when mining enthusiasm was centred in Johannesburg. Thereafter the only form of mining to which attention was directed for some years was that of the alluvial tin deposits near Mbabane. While these mines have been of some economic value to the Territory their methods of working are such as to cause very serious disfigurement to the country and considerable damage to the land by erosion. The question will always be a difficult one of balancing the economic benefit to the Territory from the working of the mines against the damage to property and the disfigurement inevitable from alluvial mining, unless the costs of working are radically altered. Tin mining is, however, moribund and accounted for only £1,000 of the £13,000 base metal royalty receipts in the 1946-47 Estimates.

The factor of prime importance in the mining industry at the present time is the Havelock Asbestos Mine, which is apparently assured of a life of at least thirty years at present rates of output and which accounts for approximately 70 per cent of income tax and nearly all base metal royalty receipts.

There have been marked signs of revival of interest in mining, in the Territory during recent years. Gold is still being worked in the Pigg's Peak sub-district (a part of the highly mineralised north-western corner of Swaziland) and a barytes proposition is being developed in the Mbabane sub-district. There are very extensive anthracite coal deposits in the low veld, but these cannot be worked without the construction of a railway. A high-grade calcite deposit in the Southern District has



been investigated. There is a prospect of corundum and another prospect is the development of a rich iron ore deposit in the Pigg's Peak area. Occurrences of columbite and euxenite are known.

In the development of the Territory's mineral resources lies perhaps the quickest route to financial independence. Work in connection with mineral development progressed slowly under a Government Geologist until 1942, when funds were provided under the Colonial Development and Welfare Act for the establishment of a Geological Survey Department. Since then more rapid progress has been possible. Knowledge of the country's mineral resources is still, however, fragmentary, and further assistance is necessary if sufficient information is to become available for the exploitation of the undoubted wealth the country possesses.

### *Livestock*

Swaziland is well suited to cattle ranching, and its cattle are at present the Natives' main wealth. The 1921 census showed a total of 146,542 head of cattle and 163,000 head of small stock. By 1946 these figures had increased to 434,995 cattle and 267,264 pigs, sheep and goats: some 108,127 sheep are, however, winter immigrants from the neighbouring Union farms.

The export of cattle rose from 8,900 head, valued at about £80,000 in 1937, to 13,500 head worth £202,500 in 1946.

In spite, however, of the relatively large increase in population and in export, the general picture is that of a poor slowly-maturing livestock maintained with little knowledge of modern methods and yielding an uneconomic return to the country and to the owner. Another serious aspect of the cattle position throughout Swaziland is the danger from the tick-borne diseases which necessitates constant dipping and internal quarantine measures. Control measures are also necessary along the borders of the Territory to prevent the introduction of diseases such as Foot and Mouth, Lumpy Skin, and more recently Nagana (bovine trypanosomiasis) from the surrounding territories.

Cattle are the Swazis' main wealth and form their main source of income. The improvement of all livestock to ensure a better conformation, a quicker rate of growth, a more plentiful supply of meat and milk and a more certain market is an urgent need. The steps to control disease; to improve breeding; to better animal management and to increase annual income will be slow and costly, but must be undertaken, and these accordingly form part of the programme of development.

The agricultural possibilities of Swaziland are considerable and most crops can be grown. The country's geographical and social conditions do, however, set limits to the economic crops Government should encourage in the immediate future. These are perhaps in order of im-



portance; the food requirements of the population, the cereals forming the staple diet of the Swazi, crops with a ready sale in the neighbouring markets and lastly the crops which within the limits of present knowledge are considered necessary for a well-nourished people.

Cereals are produced by the Swazi mainly to provide food, though he often sells a greater part of his harvest than his needs allow. In the main he produces but a fraction of what his land, under proper management, is capable and his methods are usually such as to reduce still more his future crops.

The cash crops, of which tobacco, tung nuts and grain are the most important, are mostly the produce of the European and Coloured farmer. Their methods vary from the highly specialised agriculture on some of the larger farms to pitiful and destructive scratchings on small allotments. The Territory exported a quarter of a million pounds of tobacco, valued at £18,000, in 1946 and about 150,000 pounds of butter worth £14,500.

### *Forestry*

The soil of Swaziland is following the downward path of that in the neighbouring Native Territories with highly concentrated animal and human populations. The destruction of the indigenous timber and the natural covering of the soil by uncontrolled cutting of trees and overstocking is proceeding at an alarming rate, and the fear is expressed that unless immediate action is taken the country will suffer irredeemable loss.

Although climatic conditions are on the whole suitable, little afforestation has been carried out. Recently a private firm has begun afforestation on a commercial basis in the Mankaiana sub-district on the western border of the Territory. Much more is possible, and important negotiations in this direction were taking place towards the end of 1946.

### COMMUNICATIONS

All transport in the Territory is by road and the road system connects on the south, south-west, west, north and north-east with rail-heads in the Union of South Africa at Gollel, Piet Retief, Breyten, Hectorspruit and Komatipoort respectively. On the east it connects with the rail-head at Goba in Portuguese East Africa.

The main motor road from Johannesburg to Lourenco Marques runs through Swaziland from west to east.

The road motor transport services of the South African Railways Administration and the Portuguese East African Administration, carrying both goods and passengers, operate between Swaziland and the rail-heads in the neighbouring Territories. The cost of maintaining these



services is borne entirely by the Administrations operating them (except that subsidies equal to the motor vehicle licences to which they are liable are paid to them) and the revenues derived therefrom are retained by the respective Administrations.

Private bus services also operate, generally on routes not covered by the railway road-motor services, for the conveyance of passengers, cream and other goods.

The Havelock Asbestos Mine has an overhead aerial cableway thirteen miles long from the Mine to Barberton in the Transvaal for the transport of asbestos in the outward direction and of supplies in the inward direction.

Of railways, so necessary for the development of the country, for example for the exploitation of the coal field in the low veld, there are at present none.

The telephone system connects Mbabane with all district offices. Telegraphic communication exists between Mbabane and Bremersdorp and Johannesburg and Pretoria in the Transvaal.

#### CLIMATE

Rainfall varies considerably both from year to year and from station to station in the same year; it also tends to be concentrated in a few violent storms. The average rainfall at Mbabane in the high veld is 55.6 inches, at Bremersdorp in the middle veld 36.8 inches, and at Sipofaneni in the low veld 26.5 inches. The mean maximum and minimum temperatures in degrees Fahrenheit are respectively 72.7 and 52.8 at Mbabane, 77.7 and 54.1 at Bremersdorp and 84.4 and 59.5 at Sipofaneni.

## Chapter 2: History of the Swazi People

THE SWAZIS are a race allied to the Zulus and speak the same language, with minor modifications. According to themselves the tribe lived originally in Southern Tongaland, whence they migrated about 300 years ago to the Tshiselweni country, that is the country to the west of the Lubombo Range, between the Pongolo and the Great Usutu Rivers. Here they remained until 1815 when, being attacked by Zwide, Chief of the Ndwandwe, the major portion of the tribe, under their chief, Sobhuza, better known as Somhlolo, fled north and settled near the present site of Bremersdorp. The petty tribes or clans of Baroswi, Bavenda or Bapedi origin, then in occupation of Swaziland north of the Great Usutu, were conquered and absorbed. Under Sobhuza and his



successor, Mswazi, they occupied territory up to Barberton in the north and extending towards Carolina and Ermelo in the west, while the tribes occupying what is now the Lydenburg District also paid tribute to the Swazi king.

The Swazis are known to themselves and other Native tribes as Ama-Ngwane, that is, the people of Ngwane, one of their early chiefs, and the country as Ka-Ngwane, the land of Ngwane.

After their flight to the north they were never seriously disturbed, though they were occasionally raided by Zulu tribes from the south, especially after the death of Dingane, who is reputed to have been killed by a Swazi Impi on the southern border, after his defeat by the Boers and his brother Mpande. Subsequently, through the good offices of Sir Theophilus Shepstone amicable relations subsisted with Mpande the Zulu king and his successor, Cetshwayo. In 1879 the Swazis lent assistance to the British in the war against Sikukuku, but they took no part in the Zulu war.

Through the possession of secret medicines, used in the propitiation of the spirits of ancestral chiefs, the Swazi chiefs hold a pre-eminent position as rain makers.

The Native Government consisted of the King and his Council, made up of the Malangeni (the chiefs of royal blood) and the chief indunas of the tribe. The assistance of witch doctors was called in whenever necessary to communicate with the spirits of departed chiefs and to clean the country of sorcerers and other doers of evil. A military system of trained regiments on the lines formulated by Dingizwayo and Tshaka was adopted, mainly, no doubt, as a defence against the Zulus.

In the year 1846 Mswazi ceded whatever rights he had in the Lydenburg District to the Lydenburg Republic. Subsequently he, and later Mbandeni, entered into agreements purporting to cede the whole of the territory to the Republic and to its successor, the late South African Republic. These later cessions were in fact nullified by the Conventions of 1881 and 1884 entered into between Great Britain and the Republic, though the boundaries of the Transvaal laid down in the 1881 Convention constituted a considerable encroachment on what was claimed to be Swazi territory.

In 1921, the Chief Regent Labotsibeni handed over her duties to her grandson Sobhuza, who was duly installed as Paramount Chief. The Chief Regent had a long term of office after the death of her husband, Mbandeni, in 1889, and later, of her son Bhunu. She was a wise chief and did valuable work for her people and country. Her relations with the Administration were always of a friendly nature; she died in 1925. The present Paramount Chief, Sobhuza II, O.B.E., is 47 years of age. He was educated at Zombode in Swaziland and Lovedale in the Cape Province.



HISTORY OF THE EARLY EUROPEAN SETTLEMENT AND  
ADMINISTRATION OF SWAZILAND

During the 'eighties the King Mbandeni, in return for money and other payments, granted concessions to Europeans for various periods. Every conceivable right was granted away, not only for land, minerals, grazing and timber, but also rights for all imaginable purposes, including exemption from taxes, for railways, telegraphs, mining patents, collection of King's revenue and trading. All unallotted land and minerals also formed the subject of concessions.

In 1888 a charter of self-government was granted to the Europeans in the country. Later, in 1890, under a Convention between the British Government and the South African Republic, a provisional Government was, with the consent of the Swazis, set up, consisting of a Government Committee composed of representatives of those two Powers, and a representative of the Swazis, a Government Secretary, Attorney-General and other officials and of a Chief Court. This Court adjudicated on the initial validity of all concessions granted by the King Mbandeni, and with a few exceptions, confirmed the grants in respect of such validity.

In accordance with pledges given to the Government of the South African Republic the provisional Administration came to an end three years later, when the British Government signed a fresh Convention, which permitted the South African Republic to acquire from the Regent and her Council an Organic Proclamation conferring on the South African Republic rights of jurisdiction, legislation and administration without incorporation in the South African Republic. The Swazis refused to sign the Organic Proclamation which had been drafted for them, and accordingly its provisions, with some of those in the 1893 Convention, were embodied in the final Convention of 1894, under which the South African Republic exercised powers of protection, legislation, jurisdiction and administration in Swaziland, subject to the limitations of the Convention.

On the conquest of the Transvaal, all the rights and powers of the late South African Republic passed to Her Majesty, but since the other party to the Convention of 1894 had disappeared, without the limitations therein, an Order in Council under the Foreign Jurisdiction Act was issued in June, 1903, providing that the Governor of the Transvaal should administer Swaziland, and conferring on him the right to legislate by Proclamation.

On the cessation of hostilities a British Special Commissioner, with a small force of South African Constabulary, was sent into the country, and a provisional Administration was established.



## THE LAND

In accordance with the powers granted to him, the Governor issued a Proclamation in 1904 providing for administration and for dealing with the concessions question. The laws of the Transvaal in force at the date of the Proclamation were applied to Swaziland, *mutatis mutandis*. Courts were established with the rights of appeal to the Supreme Court of the Transvaal, and an appeal was permitted from the decisions of the chiefs in civil matters to the Court of the Resident Magistrate. The chiefs were otherwise confirmed in their civil jurisdiction over Natives, subject to the exclusion of usages incompatible with the due exercise of His Majesty's power and jurisdiction, or clearly injurious to the welfare of the Natives.

The Commission constituted under the Proclamation of 1904 to deal with the concessions examined the concessions granting the exclusive rights, except exclusive rights to land and minerals, with a view to their expropriation at their value prior to the commencement of hostilities. The Commission reported in 1906, and the concessions, the subject of its report, were, with few exceptions, expropriated. The Commission subsequently dealt with the question of boundaries of land, mineral and grazing concessions. The general survey of these concessions, necessary to determine the conflicting rights, was also completed. Under the Concessions Partition Proclamation issued in 1907, land and grazing concessions were subjected to a deduction of one-third of their area for the sole and exclusive use and occupation of the Natives of Swaziland and the remaining two-thirds were freed from such occupation, subject to the provision that for five years from 1st July, 1909, no Natives actually resident on such land could be compelled to move therefrom, but after that period they could only continue to occupy such land on terms to be agreed upon between themselves and the concessionaires, these Agreements being subject to confirmation by the Resident Commissioner. Proclamation No. 24 of 1913 provided simple and effective machinery for the removal of Natives from concessions after the period of five years had elapsed. This took place in 1914 and there was no large movement of Natives from concessions. Those who desired to move did so voluntarily and the remainder made terms with the concessionaires and remained on the farms.

Subsequent to the Concession Partition of 1907, fairly substantial areas have been purchased by the Swazi Nation and also by individual Natives and in addition land has been purchased for a Native Land Settlement scheme to which has been added certain Crown Land. The position at present is that of the 2,027,205 morgen comprising the Territory the following areas are available for occupation by Swazis, viz:



Native areas— <i>vide</i> Concession Partition	773,960 morgen
Land purchased by Swazi Nation	45,696 „
Land purchased and Crown Land set aside for Native Land Settlement	164,262 „
Land owned by individual Natives	6,229 „
	<hr/>
	990,147 morgen

*Note:* 1 morgen = 2.1165 acres.

When the few farms purchased by individual Natives are added to this it will be seen that approximately half of Swaziland is available for occupation by Swazis.

The Native Areas are distributed in thirty-five separate blocks scattered over the Territory and the result is a patchwork of land in European and Native occupation. The Native Land Settlement Areas are for the most part adjacent to the pre-existing Native Areas. This interlacing of European by Native Areas has increased the difficulties of administering the Swazis and providing social services for them.

Before the purchase of the Native Land Settlement areas it was estimated that at least 27,000 Natives remained as squatters on European-owned land and it is estimated that some 10,000 Natives are now in the Native Land Settlement areas, most of which still await survey and development.

Mineral rights in Swaziland are held separately from the surface rights and in some cases the former are prior-dated to the latter and in other cases later-dated. The result has been that machinery has had to be devised to rationalise as far as possible the extremely complicated and intricate conflicting rights.

An evil from which Swaziland still suffers is that of "absentee landlordism" in respect of large tracts of European-owned land, which results in these areas not being developed or at the most being used for winter grazing for the sheep of farmers residing in the Union.

### Chapter 3: Administration

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



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

The Laws of the Transvaal were re-enacted, *mutatis mutandis*, and, except where modified by Statute, the Roman-Dutch Common Law was put into force by the Proclamation. A Special Court, now the High Court, having the full jurisdiction of a Superior Court, was established, together with Courts of District Commissioners with a limited jurisdiction.

The Paramount Chief and other chiefs were confirmed in their civil jurisdiction over Natives subject to appeal to the Resident Commissioner, and later to the High Court. Provision was made for the Swaziland Deeds Office and Surveyor-General's Office to remain at Pretoria under control of the officers responsible prior to the date of the Proclamation.

An elected Advisory Council, representative of the Europeans, was established in 1921, to advise the Administration on purely European affairs. The seventh Advisory Council was elected in 1938.

The Territory is, pending projected re-organisation, divided into two electoral divisions, one north and the other south of the Great Usutu River. At present four members are returned for the former and five for the latter division.

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

The traditional system of government among the Swazi people is that of a Paramount Chief (Ingwenyama) acting in conjunction with a Council. The Council is composed of the chiefs and leading men of the nation, but any adult Swazi has the right to take part in its discussions. There is also an Inner Council which functions in connection with matters of routine and which also acts as a body of advisers to the Paramount Chief on personal and family matters.

In 1944 a Proclamation was issued by the High Commissioner recognising the Paramount Chief and Council as the Native Authority for the Territory and investing the Native Authority with power to issue to Natives in Swaziland legally enforceable orders on a wide number of subjects.

The Resident Commissioner keeps in close and constant touch with a somewhat exiguous and loosely formed committee or Inner Council representing the Native Authority, and meets the whole Council, which includes the Paramount Chief and which has been recognised as the



Native Authority, at least once a year, or oftener if the necessity arises, to discuss matters regarded as being too important for the Committee to deal with. Proposals for rationalising the work of the Native Authority have been submitted to and are under consideration by it.

The Paramount Chief and other Native Chiefs continue, by virtue of Proclamation No. 4 of 1907, as amended, to exercise jurisdiction according to Native Law and Custom in all civil disputes in which the Natives only are concerned. An appeal lies to the High Court of Swaziland, whose decisions are final. Criminal cases are tried before Subordinate Courts presided over by European officials. Draft legislation is, however, under discussion with the Native Authority whereby the system of Native Courts will be placed on a well-defined and sound footing backed by proper legal authority.

A further step in developing the Native Administration in Swaziland is envisaged in establishing a Swazi National Treasury. The subject has been broached but must await the completion of the discussions on Native Courts. The present position is that there is a Swazi National Fund established by Proclamation in 1910 and which is under the control of the High Commissioner. The Fund is used primarily for the education of Natives in the Territory and its revenues consist of a deduction of 2s. from every Native tax-receipt issued and from small sums paid as rental for store sites on Native Areas, etc. The Paramount Chief and the Ndlovukazi ("Queen" Mother) are paid subsidies from Government funds amounting to £1,400 and £100 per annum respectively. The Native tax is collected by Government officials and no other chiefs receive salaries or other grants, although of course they, together with their councillors, receive customary fees from litigants.

It will have been seen that there is no "Native Administration" in the Territory in the ordinarily accepted sense of the term. Its emergence will require assistance in the way of the provision of buildings, salaries, etc., and a special reserve and working capital for the Treasury when it is established.

The Coloured community of Swaziland is not formally represented to Government although some of them make use of elected members of the European Advisory Council. Others tend towards the Swazis in sympathy and outlook. There is now evident, however, a marked class consciousness amongst the Coloured people of the Territory and an increasing demand for equal treatment with the European population. There is a Eurafrican Welfare Society whose popularity among the Coloured community and effectiveness waxes and wanes and which represents to Government the views of some at least of the Coloured people.

There are proclaimed townships at Mbabane, Bremersdorp, Stegi, Hlatikulu and Goedegun. In each, an Urban Area Advisory Com-



mittee consisting of certain officials and elected non-officials functions under the Chairmanship of the District Commissioner to advise on the administration and welfare of the township and surrounding urban area.

School committees consisting of not less than five and not more than seven members may, in terms of the Swaziland Public Education Proclamation 1943, be elected for any public European School in the Territory by parents resident in Swaziland who at the time of election have one or more children on the roll of the school. The Committees function under the Chairmanship of the District Commissioner and their powers and duties are to bring to the notice of the Education Department any matter which concerns the welfare and efficiency of the school. The Education Department may also delegate further powers and duties to them.

The Proclamation also provides for the establishment of a School Board for the Territory consisting of members elected by each School Committee and of further members appointed by the Resident Commissioner. The Board functions under the chairmanship of the Director of Education and has power to advise the Resident Commissioner in all matters connected with the provision of schools and school accommodation in the Territory and on other educational matters affecting Europeans which may be referred to it by the Resident Commissioner.

A Board of Advice on Native Education has also been established in the Territory. This is representative of Mission Societies operating in Swaziland, the Native Authority, the Teachers Association and of Government. The Board advises the Resident Commissioner on matters concerning Native education in the Territory.

## Chapter 4: Weights and Measures

With the following exceptions, Imperial Weights and Measures are in use:

Dry measures:

1 ton (short) = 2,000 lbs.

1 ton (long) = 2,240 lbs.

Linear measure:

1 rood = 12 Cape feet.

1 Cape foot = 1.033 English feet.

Liquid measure:

1 leaguer = 2 hogsheads.



## Surface or land measure:

- 1 morgen = 600 square roods.  
 1 square rood = 144 square feet.  
 1,000 Cape feet = 1,033 English feet.  
 1,000 morgen = 2,116½ English acres.  
 1,000 yards = 914 metres.  
 1,000 Cape feet = 314.855 metres.  
 1,000 metres = 1,093.62 yards.  
 1 morgen = 0.8565 hectares.

## Chapter 5: Newspapers and Periodicals

THERE are only two newspapers in Swaziland: *The Times of Swaziland*, published weekly in English and *Izwilama Swazi* (The Voice of the Swazi) published quarterly in Zulu.

## Chapter 6: Bibliography

<i>Title</i>	<i>Publisher</i>	<i>Price</i>
<i>Report on Financial and Economic Situation of Swaziland, 1932</i>	H.M. Stationery Office	2s. 6d.
<i>The Swazi: an Ethnographic Account of the Natives of the Swaziland Protectorate</i> : B. A. MARWICK	Cambridge 1940	23s. 0d.
<i>An African Aristocracy: a study of rank in Swazi Society</i> : DR. H. KUPER	Oxford 1947	30s. 0d.



## PART IV

### Report on Swaziland for the Years 1939-45

#### INTRODUCTION

THE outstanding feature of these years in Swaziland was the loyalty and steadfastness of the whole community, both Native and European. Although remote from hostilities the Territory contributed in every possible way to the war effort: its people remained during the dark years as in the years of victory constant to the cause for which the war was fought and deeply sympathetic towards those countries and allied peoples who suffered more directly in its course.

#### Chapter 1: Overseas War Effort

THE principal direct contribution of Swaziland to the war effort was the recruitment of 3,836 Swazis for service with the African Pioneer Corps. A not inconsiderable number of Swazis also served with Union Defence Forces. The total Swazi male population of all ages was found in the 1946 census to be 87,884, and the recruitment of this number, therefore, represented a very creditable response to the appeal made for the formation of Swazi Units to take part in the war. Training commenced in Bremersdorp and the first contingent left for the Middle East in November, 1941. By the end of 1942 the entire Group was in the Middle East. Eight European members of the Swaziland Administration served with the Swazis in No. 54 Group. This Group was under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel H. Johnson, O.B.E., M.C., until the summer of 1945 when he was succeeded by Lieutenant-Colonel F. P. van Oudtshoorn, M.B.E., a Swaziland Police Officer who had served with the Swazis since the first days of their recruitment.

On their arrival in the Middle East the Swazis were employed in the various theatres of war. In Syria and Palestine, they built roads and fortifications and were engaged in garrison and guard duties. Later they were attached to the Eighth Army and did valuable work in unloading war stores and supplies in docks. They soon became expert in this work and their skill in the handling of high explosives reflected great credit on them. Acting as stevedores they effected a valuable saving in European man-power. The port of Tripoli at one time was almost entirely worked by Swazis: they were also engaged



on many types of pioneer work, as stretcher bearers, or drivers and mechanics in vehicle-salvage parks and ordnance depots. A large number of them were also trained as machine gunners and were used to deal with organised gangs of Italians who were habitually raiding petrol and oil dumps. In their many and varied activities they received the high praise of their employing units and from the Area Commanders of the Middle East and Central Mediterranean Forces. They became well-known for their cheerfulness in the face of hardship and danger, and for the high standard of their discipline and conduct both during the war and in the difficult period following the cessation of hostilities. His Honour the Resident Commissioner, Mr. E. K. Featherstone, C.M.G., visited the Swazi Troops in Italy during March and April, 1945.

Special mention should be made of No. 1991 Swazi Company which under the command of Major D. W. Pasea, an officer released from the Swaziland Police, landed in the assault convoy at Salerno in September, 1943. Although primarily employed as a "smoke" company the Unit was also used on general pioneer duties in company with British, Indian, Basuto, Seychellois and Mauritian formations throughout the "Battle for the Beaches" and in the mountains overlooking Salerno town.

Casualties fortunately were not heavy. 122 men died on active service, the majority from natural causes. Five men were permanently disabled.

For distinguished service, gallantry and devotion to duty the following awards were made to members of the Swazi Group: one O.B.E., one M.B.E., one B.E.M. and 11 Mentions in Despatches.

The Administration maintained a weekly news service for the Swazi members of the African Pioneer Corps giving them in a readable form news items of interest concerning the Territory and its peoples.

*European Volunteers:* From Swaziland's small European population of about 3,000 a total of 296 volunteers served with either the Imperial Forces or those of the Union of South Africa. Twelve of the volunteers lost their lives on active service.

## Chapter 2: The War Period in Swaziland

### ADMINISTRATION

THROUGHOUT the war the Government maintained essential services despite shortages of staff. The depleted staff also exercised the control of scarce commodities, broadly speaking on the same principles and for the same periods as the enforcement of like measures in the Union of South Africa.



## POLICE

Special Border Control Measures were established from the Transvaal Border in the North, along the Portuguese East Africa—Swaziland Border to the Swaziland—Zululand Border in the south. Seven Control Posts were opened under the supervision of European Special Constables who were under the command of the Superintendent of Police at Stegi. The object of these Posts was to control the movements of enemy aliens, and to prevent subversive elements from the Union attempting to take refuge in Portuguese East Africa. Approximately 70 persons were arrested by the Swaziland Police, of whom 80 per cent were enemy aliens.

## MINERAL PRODUCTION

The production of minerals in Swaziland was largely stimulated by the Geological Survey Department financed under the Colonial Development and Welfare Act of 1940. During the period 1939–1945, 800 long tons of metallic tin were produced; in the same period gold production rose from under 1,000 fine ounces to a figure of over 3,500 fine ounces. The production of asbestos rose from 4,500 short tons in 1939 to a peak figure of 32,660 short tons, valued at £886,090, in 1944.

## FOOD PRODUCTION

In 1939 a Food Production Scheme was initiated with the object of raising money for war funds. Land and implements were loaned to the Agricultural Department by a few farmers. However, when it became evident that more implements, tractors and oxen would be required and that these would have to be purchased, the sum of £1,500 originally voted was increased to £7,500. At the end of two years a donation of £2,300 was paid into the Swaziland War Fund: this represented the profits from the Scheme. Later it became clear that money for war funds was less important than the production of food, and every effort was made to make the Territory self-sufficient. Propaganda amongst farmers for greater production met with fair success, but the food shortage, especially as a result of drought, remained serious.

When the vote was increased to £7,500 larger areas were cultivated and all this extra work was done voluntarily by the Agricultural Staff which was augmented by one ex-serviceman. Later most of the farmers who had given their land free of cost demanded payment. Consequently, three blocks of arable land were hired, on the White Mbuluzi, at Malkerns and at Goedgegun. Near Stegi an area belonging to the Paramount Chief was cultivated on the understanding that half the



profits would accrue to him. The aerodrome at Stegi, which was no longer required as such, was also put down to maize and kaffir corn.

Production during 1940-46 was valued at approximately £21,000. In addition to supplying much needed food, seed, which was difficult to obtain, was supplied to farmers and this facilitated production of more food. Towards the end of the war failure of a large proportion of crops throughout South Africa led to an acute shortage of maize. Large quantities of foodstuffs from Portuguese East Africa were purchased and distributed throughout the existing organisation and trade channels, and this helped materially to alleviate the grave food shortage amongst poorer sections of the community. Throughout this period special efforts were made to induce Europeans and Africans to produce more food. The shortage of fertilizer militated against this, and a series of droughts obscured the resultant effort to a large degree.

#### WAR CHARITIES

Contributions totalling £42,281 were made to His Majesty's Treasury and the various war relief organisations.

A part of the free gift to His Majesty's Treasury was contributed by means of a voluntary levy on each head of cattle exported from the Territory and on each head of cattle slaughtered within the Territory.

This effort represented the work of many local committees composed of officials and non-officials who served the respective causes throughout the war years.

### Chapter 3: The Political, Social and Economic Progress During the Years 1939-45

#### NATIVE LAND SETTLEMENTS

DURING the war period an extensive Native Land Settlement Scheme was approved and introduced for the benefit of the Swazi Nation. The Scheme made provision for some 4,000 landless Swazi families resident as squatters on land owned by Europeans and for such of the Swazi soldiers serving with the forces, as on demobilisation, might wish to be accommodated. The area of land required for the purpose was assessed on the basis of an average of 60 acres for each family unit of five.

Approximately 113,000 of the 157,000 acres of land held by the Crown were set aside for the scheme, the remainder being required for other Government purposes.



For the purchase of land a grant of £140,000 was provided in 1943 from the Colonial Development and Welfare Fund of which £134,855 was expended in acquiring a total of 229,875 acres of land from European owners. The total area thus provided for Native Settlement is 342,875 acres, equalling approximately one-fifth of the total extent of the present existing Native areas in the Territory.

An initial grant of £50,000 for development was provided in 1943 and the Native Land Settlement Department was established in December of that year, and with the skeleton staff immediately appointed, survey and other field operations were commenced in January, 1944. Survey and development of approximately 30,000 acres of land for the first settlement near Pigg's Peak was sufficiently advanced during 1944 to provide for the accommodation of 220 settlers. At the conclusion of hostilities some 80 allotments had been allocated to permanent settlers, and the survey and development commenced of a second area in the south near Hlatikulu.

In 1944 a comprehensive five-year plan for the period 1st April, 1944, to 31st March, 1949, was prepared. This envisaged expenditure of £347,525 covering besides Land Settlement operations, the provision and maintenance of all related economic and social services, such as schools, health centres and a furniture factory.

Post-war conditions necessitated drastic reductions and the schools, health centres and furniture factory were eliminated, while the number of dipping tanks, dairy huts and the staff of the Department was reduced in order to bring the cost of the Scheme within a total of £150,000, which was provisionally allocated to the Department under the ten year plan for 1946-1956.

Allotments are held on permanent "leasehold" tenure. Depending on soil fertility and climatic conditions in the various areas, each settler is provided with managed rotated communal grazing for from ten to fifteen head of cattle, and from five to fifteen acres of land for cultivation, a homestead and a garden allotment.

Legislation has been enacted controlling every phase of the Scheme and it ensures that the land is properly cared for and improved by settlers. Stock limitation to the safe carrying capacity of the grazing is imposed. No rent is charged and the object is to establish the settlers on a sound economic basis. The settlers remain within their tribal system but if they default with regard to the conditions laid down in the legislation for the preservation of the land they are not retained as tenants.

It is no exaggeration to say that this Scheme is likely to have the most far-reaching influence, not only in Swaziland, but also in other African Dependencies.



## NATIVE AUTHORITY

The Native Authority gave very valuable assistance in recruiting Swazis, first for the Swazi Company of the Native Military Corps in the Union, second for a labour force to erect the military camp at Piet Retief, and third for the African Pioneer Corps.

During the war special efforts were made to bring the Native Authority into closer touch with the administration of the Territory and into a more realistic understanding of its problems. Regular weekly meetings were inaugurated at which matters of particular interest to the Native Authority were discussed and ventilated, and by this means it has been able to take an increasing part in the administrative, social and economic problems of the Territory.

The position of the Native Authority itself was clarified in legislation entitled the Swaziland Native Administration Proclamation No. 44 of 1944. In it the traditional tribal authority namely, the Paramount Chief acting in consultation with his Council according the Swazi custom, is entrenched as Native Authority for the Territory.

This advance in the task of placing the Native Administration of the Territory on a sound basis was won after a very considerable amount of discussion and argument with the Native Authority which was principally concerned with constitutional problems arising out of the somewhat chequered early history of the Territory. It was followed by equally important discussions regarding the Native Court system and the establishment of a Swazi National Treasury, both of which questions are still under discussion.

## EDUCATION

In the years before the passing of the 1940 Colonial Development and Welfare Act, education in Swaziland had been entirely dependent on such funds as could be made available from the Territory's slender revenues. With the passing of the Act the way was opened for the submission of various applications which aimed at providing the country with a balanced programme for the development of educational facilities for both the European and Native sections of the population.

European education followed from the commencement the lines of the Transvaal, but it had become increasingly apparent that small one- and two-teacher schools, of which a number had been established in different parts of the Territory, could not satisfactorily remedy all the weaknesses associated with isolation, malnutrition and poor social environment. The approval of a Development Scheme (D.178) made possible the adoption of a policy of centralisation at Goedgegun in the Southern District where a large School Farm with adequate classroom and hostel accommodation was started. Steps were also taken during the war years to regrade the salary scales of the teachers, and although



the position is still far from satisfactory the new scales have made possible some improvement in the staffing of the European Schools. Finally, a notable advance was recorded in the raising of the limit of compulsory education from 15 years or the completion of the fifth Standard to 16 years or the completion of Standard VIII. The importance of this amendment is perhaps greater than would at first appear, since an isolated rural community such as exists in Swaziland is apt to underestimate the value of education and in the majority of cases children were withdrawn on completion of Standard V in order to supplement labour on the farm.

Probably the most notable advance of the war period has been in Native Education. As in other Territories the pioneering work in this field had been undertaken by the Missions which up to the outbreak of war had received a measure of assistance from Government. The main weaknesses of the system lay in the lack of control over the opening of schools, poor staffing and inadequate accommodation and equipment. Moreover little or no attention had in the past been given to the different forms of vocational training. The promulgation in 1940 of the Swaziland Native Schools Proclamation provided much needed control and has greatly assisted in eliminating unnecessary competition between rival agencies. Under this Proclamation there were issued in due course regulations laying down for the guidance of Superintendents and Grantees the general standards to be observed in aided schools.

Financial assistance for the payment of improved salary grants as well as grants for equipment, books and buildings was provided under two Development Schemes (D.149 and D.454) which also included provision for the appointment of two European Inspectors of Schools. These appointments have made possible a far more effective control over the schools themselves as well as the itinerant staff of Native Supervisors. Full advantage was also taken of the bursaries offered for teacher training, secondary education and the various courses of vocational training.

Two Development Schemes (D.314 and D.480) provided for the establishment of a Trades School for Natives at Mbabane and for an Agricultural Training Course for Native Teachers. While the Trades School has been established, albeit with a more restricted scope than was originally contemplated, lack of funds due to a reduced total allocation has necessitated the complete abandonment of Scheme D.480. This is to be regretted since the Territory is largely dependent on agriculture for the support of its population.

A development of particular interest during the war years was the establishment of certain Government Native Schools under the direct control of the Education Department. A small number of these schools



are now in existence at centres where the inefficiency of small competing schools rendered action towards amalgamation and centralisation necessary.

Rising costs and the stationary revenue of the Swazi National Fund were instrumental in retarding to some extent the growth of the Swazi National Schools. The immediate requirements of these schools which represent a national effort on the part of the tribe were met from a Colonial Development and Welfare Fund grant which was approved as Scheme D.554.

#### HEALTH

The European Medical Staff of the Administration consists of the Director of Medical Services, four Medical Officers, one Malaria Medical Officer, one Hospital Assistant and Dispenser, and nine European Nurses. Two Mission Doctors, and two Mission Nurses are subsidised by Government.

There are two Government Hospitals—one at Mbabane in the Northern District, and the other at Hlatikulu in the Southern District. In the former, there is accommodation for 4 Europeans and 38 Native patients, while at Hlatikulu accommodation is available for 8 European, 3 Coloured and 47 Native cases. The Raleigh Fitkin Memorial Hospital at Bremersdorp provides accommodation for 8 European, 2 Coloured and 76 Native cases.

There are three Government Health Centres in the Northern District, and six in the Southern District. The Nazarene Mission maintains seven similar institutions, five of which are in the Central District, and two in the Northern areas.

The following table gives figures relating to in-patients and out-patients treated at the Hospitals, during the period 1939-1945:

YEAR	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
In-patients	3,369	3,537	4,311	4,522	4,755	7,755	5,907
Out-patients	13,634	17,548	34,156	42,072	53,745	51,423	56,512
YEAR	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
<i>Malaria:</i>							
In-patients	698	302	398	992	239	640	389
Out-patients		1,018	2,424	4,759	1,342	2,745	2,414
<i>Dysentery:</i>							
In-patients	33	83	105	113	68	236	247
Out-patients		119	282	433	232	745	898
<i>Pulmonary</i>							
In-patients	67	56	55	64	129	105	103
<i>Tuberculosis:</i>							
Out-patients		163	227	125	232	309	337
<i>Syphilis:</i>							
In-patients	233	345	258	314	399	476	583
Out-patients		599	1,815	1,973	2,544	2,593	3,466
<i>Gonorrhoea:</i>							
In-patients	12	24	157	23	44	31	87
Out-patients		313	282	335	276	522	582
<i>Schistoso-</i>							
<i>miasis:</i>							
In-patients	43	61	92	90	108	91	125
Out-patients		263	348	200	507	422	639



A Malaria Survey of the Territory, financed from the Colonial Development and Welfare Fund, was commenced in 1944, and completed its preliminary investigations in 1946. With funds provided from the same source, the construction of a Leper Settlement was begun in 1945, and the work is still proceeding. The provision of a Public Health Organisation is one of the most outstanding needs of the Territory, for there is evidence to suggest that in its absence the incidence of preventable disease is increasing progressively year by year.



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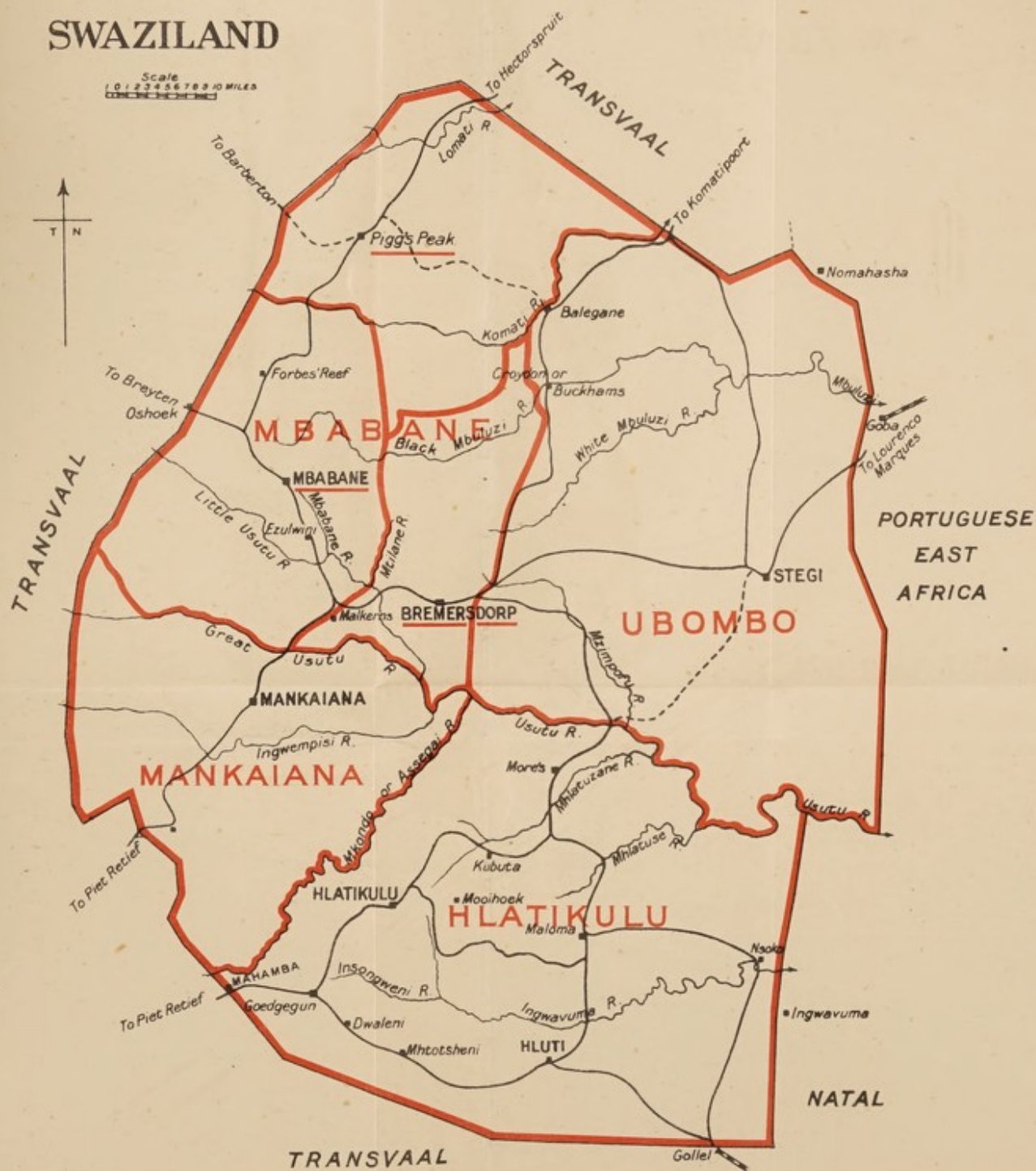
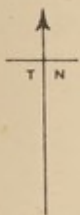


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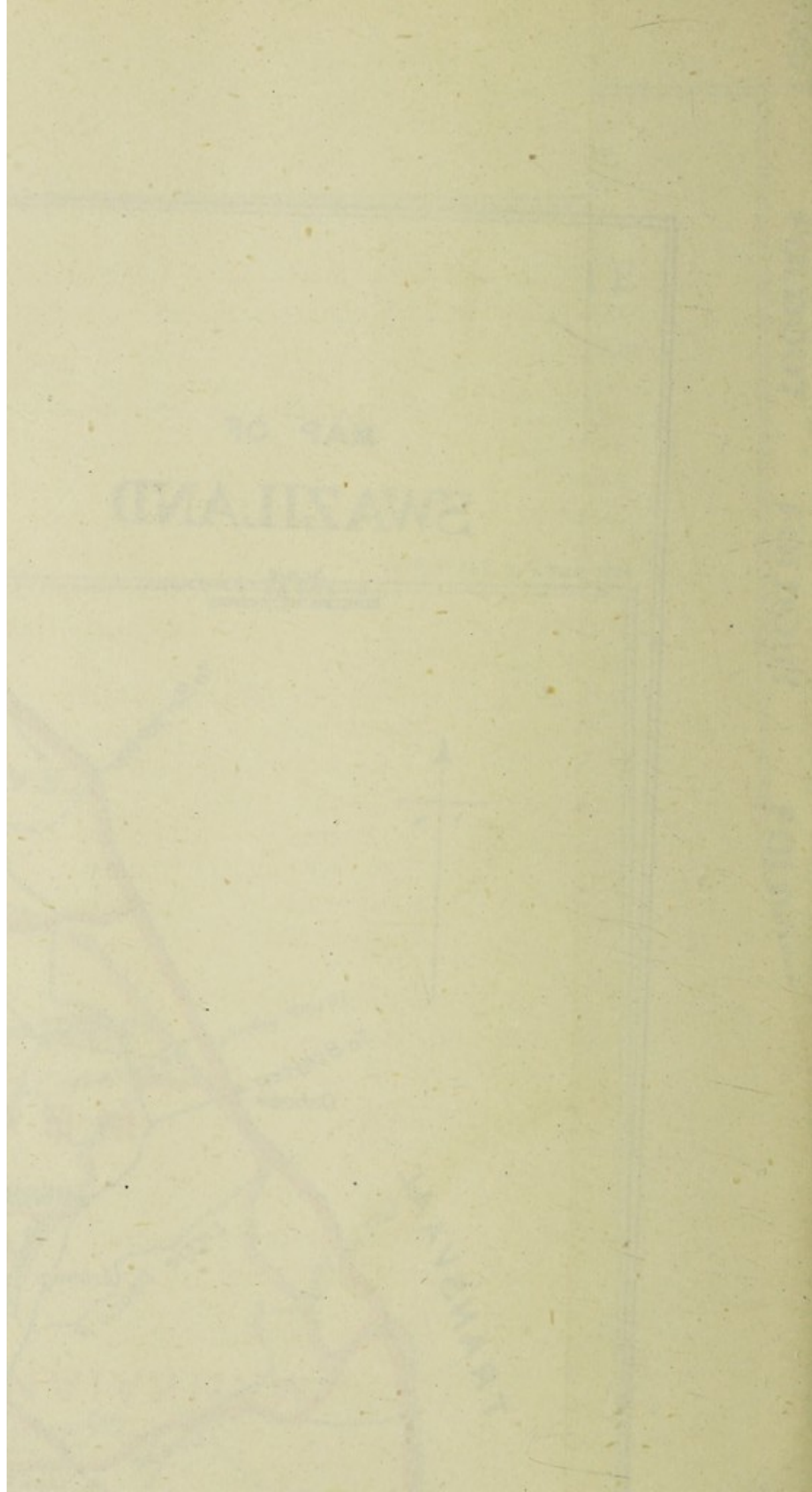
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