

1924.  
NEW ZEALAND.

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# MANDATED TERRITORY OF WESTERN SAMOA

(FOURTH REPORT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF NEW ZEALAND ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED THE 31ST MARCH 1924.

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PREPARED BY DIRECTION OF THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE LEAGUE OF  
NATIONS, PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 6 OF THE MANDATE.

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*Presented to both Houses of the General Assembly by Command of His Excellency.*

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SIR,—

Prime Minister's Office,  
Wellington, N.Z., 5th June, 1924.

I have the honour to forward herewith the Fourth Annual Report on the Mandated Territory of Samoa for the year ended the 31st March, 1924. This report has been prepared by His Excellency the Administrator of Samoa and adopted by the New Zealand Government as its report for the purposes of Article 6 of the Mandate.

A copy of this report has been forwarded direct to each member of the Permanent Mandates Commission, and, as requested by the Council of the League at its meetings on the 12th and 13th December last, one hundred additional copies have been despatched to you direct under separate cover.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

F. H. D. BELL,

The Secretary-General of the League of Nations, Geneva.

For the Prime Minister.

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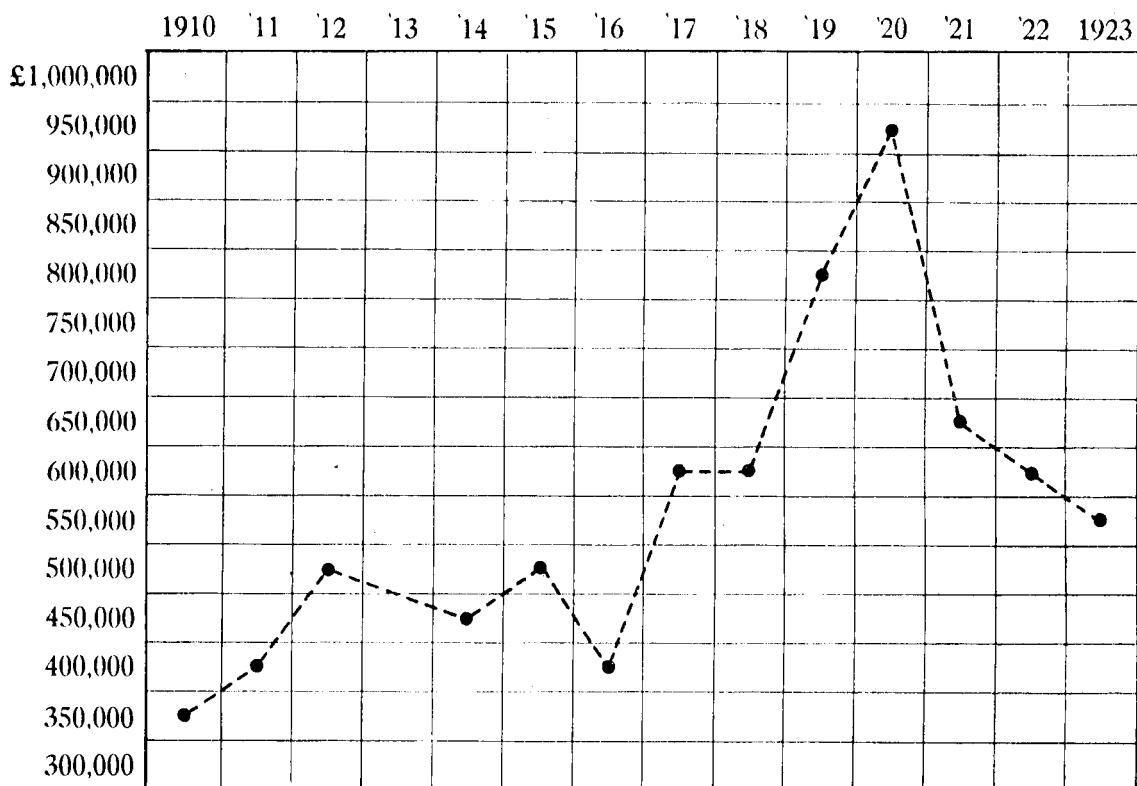
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## ANNUAL REPORT BY THE ADMINISTRATOR FOR THE YEAR 1923-24.

### I. TRADE.

FROM the point of view of trade the past year has been one of depression, and the revenue of the Administration has suffered heavily in consequence. The total trade figures were little more than half those of 1920, which was a record year for trade in Samoa. In making comparisons with 1920 it must be borne in mind that trade conditions were not then normal, owing to the high market values and to excessive imports that year to the extent of nearly £200,000, from the effects of which Samoa is only just beginning to recover. One interesting feature of last year's trade is that in spite of the depression the exports of copra were almost double those of 1920.

TOTAL TRADE VALUES (CALENDAR YEARS).



From the foregoing graph it will be seen that the trade returns have been falling since 1920, and that last year's trade was the lowest since 1917, but higher than any previous to that date. The reduced volume of trade last year was not due to diminished production by the Natives, whose sole contribution to the trade of the Territory is copra, the Native output of this product for 1923 being 10,000 tons, which quantity has been exceeded only on two previous occasions in the history of Samoa—viz., 1919 and 1922.

The principal causes which contributed to the reduced trade during the past year were—(1) Extremely low market price of our products; (2) damage done to plantations by the heavy rains in March, 1923, causing a considerable reduction in the cacao crop; (3) excessive imports over exports during the years 1920-21 to the extent of nearly £342,000, causing an accumulation of stocks by merchants and thereby reducing imports for the years 1922-23.

At time of writing there are indications of increased trade and prosperity. The Natives are responding to the efforts being made to get them to utilize more fully the resources of their plantations. The visible crops are good, and market values are now higher than for the previous year, and other exports for the past two years have exceeded imports by £100,000. For the above reasons I feel justified in predicting greatly increased production, better economic conditions, and improved trade

generally, in the near future, although I estimate only for a good average year in 1924 owing to the fact that Samoa is still suffering from the effects of the aforementioned excessive importations, and consequently the import trade is likely to be below normal for probably the whole of the present year.

## II. NATIVE AFFAIRS.

### POLICY.

The policy of the Government to give primary consideration to the interests of the Native race in all matters of administration is being strictly carried out, and is evidently being appreciated by the Natives themselves, as shown by the report of the Secretary for Native Affairs.

Without absolute confidence in their Government the Natives will not readily respond to instructions given by its officials in their own interests. They prefer their Native customs, and thereby retard their own development. Events comprising the history of Western Samoa have not been conducive to promoting unity amongst the Natives in support of their Government. The confusion which reigned prior to the three Powers assuming control in 1889, the unsettled conditions prevailing during the latter regime (the change of Government in 1899 and again in 1914), followed by four years and a half of uncertainty as to which flag this Territory would be under after the war, also the change from military to civil administration under a mandate granted by the League of Nations in 1920, have all had a disturbing influence on the minds of the Natives, making them feel that the Government was without any fixed policy on Native interests, and that changes might recur any day without their having any voice in their own affairs.

The Native leaders have informed me that these past events in their history created a suspicion in their minds that their country was being exploited, and that the Natives—the real owners of the soil—were not receiving the consideration to which they were entitled.

Recent experience in dealing with the Natives has shown that they desire permanency in the existing Government, and appreciate its sympathetic treatment of their problems. I am pleased to be able to report that they are responding gradually but surely to the gospel of self-help, which is being instilled into them by all Government officials.

### DISTRICT COUNCILS.

The custom of the Natives in making appeals to the Government to do many things for them which they could do equally well for themselves, such as minor repairs to roads, sanitary improvements, &c., is a practice which, if allowed to continue, will retard the object of the Government to educate the Natives to control their own affairs. To obviate this it is proposed to establish District Councils to deal with local matters in each district, such as sanitation, compulsory education of children, maintenance of roads and bridges, compulsory planting and development of plantations, allocation of land, increasing production, remodelling of villages, &c.

### NATIVE LANDS.

Great satisfaction has been expressed by the representatives of the Native race (the Faipules) at the decision of the New Zealand Government not to sell its Crown Estates lands, but to temporarily dispose of them by lease in order that these lands may be available in the future for the Natives should they increase in numbers to such an extent as to ultimately require additional land for settlement.

In considering the future requirements of land by the Natives it must be borne in mind that the present generation of Samoans will not establish new villages inland, where there is plenty of room for settlement. They insist on living quite close to the sea-shore, and would ridicule as inferiors those who lived in the bush. There are evidences of the previous existence of many old village settlements in the bush at some distance from the sea-coast, indicating that in their early history the majority of the Samoan Natives lived there, and not, as they do now, practically on the beach. From stories which have been handed down it is concluded that superstition and danger of being kidnapped by invaders were responsible for this custom.

To-day it would be advantageous to some of the Natives to go and live inland near good water-supplies and within easy reach of their plantations, but their strong resentment to ridicule as "bush Natives" prevents me from effecting any change in this direction and thereby simplifying difficulties in providing land for expansion of some villages on the northern shores of Upolu. For a distance of twenty-five miles of the most thickly populated area of the north coast of Upolu—viz., from Letoga to Mulifanua—the boundaries of either European or Crown Estates land extend for practically fifteen miles either on the sea-front or so close to the sea that villages have no room for expansion. As the Natives must, in accordance with their communal customs, reside in their own territorial or political district, and also will not live inland, provision must now be made by acquiring land for expansion for those villages which require it, in the above-mentioned area.

There are large areas of undeveloped land in Samoa, but every bit of it is owned communistically by a chief or district, and no Natives from one district where land is scarce can go to a district where it is plentiful and acquire it for their own use. Therefore, during the existing stage of social development of the Natives sufficient land for their plantations must be provided for each village in its own political territory. This would constitute a difficult problem for me in dealing with the request of

some of the villages along the twenty-five miles of coast-line referred to previously, but for the decision of the New Zealand Government to "reserve power to the Administrator to define certain areas in any of the leased properties now forming part of the Crown Estates for use when required by the Natives either as village sites or for plantations."

Reservations have now been made of small areas of Crown Estate land adjoining some of the villages which are now situated close to swamps, or whose *malae* (area in front of villages) is being rapidly diminished by the erosion of the sea. On these areas newly modelled villages will be constructed which will be more sanitary and provide for many other improvements over existing Native villages. Also, limited areas of undeveloped land forming part of the Crown Estates have been reserved for Native plantations. Neither of these reservations materially affects the leasehold value of the estates, while they should add considerably to the health and contentment of the Natives concerned.

In all parts of Samoa other than that portion of the northern shore of Upolu previously referred to the Natives have far more land than they will require or be able to cultivate for many years to come, and in some districts do not take full use of those lands they now have under cultivation, either because there are too few Natives to work them or that they can obtain all their needs without doing so.

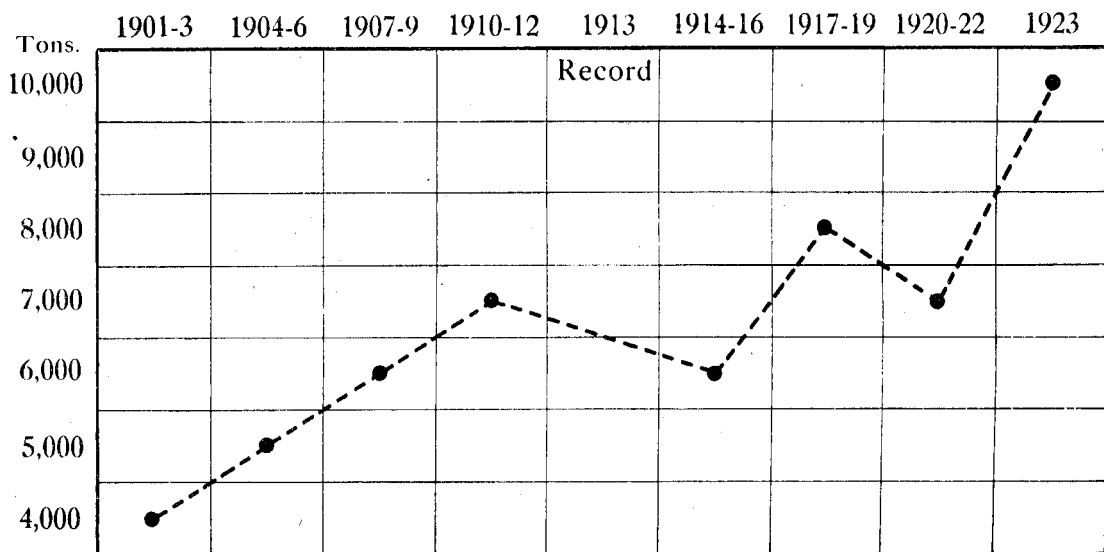
There are great possibilities of further development by private enterprise of uncultivated land for coconut plantations, but Native land for this purpose could only be obtained by lease and under such conditions imposed by the Government that the interests of the Natives would be safeguarded

#### NATIVE AGRICULTURE.

##### *Copra.*

Although the Natives produce 75 per cent. of the copra exported, it is calculated that they could easily increase this amount considerably and so enhance their own wealth as well as the revenue of this territory. That they are beginning to realize the advantages to themselves from increased production will be seen from the following graph. I predict that the increase will be more marked in the near future :—

COPRA-PRODUCTION BY NATIVES, SHOWING AVERAGE FOR THREE-YEAR PERIOD.



##### FAIPULES.

The legislation enacted by the New Zealand Parliament last session whereby the Fono (Council) of Faipules was legally constituted to deal with Native matters has given satisfaction to the Natives generally, and has inspired the Faipules with confidence that under the present Constitution no legislation affecting the welfare of the Samoan race will be introduced without first obtaining the wishes of their people and the advice of their representatives, the Faipules.

In the past the Samoans have not taken much interest in the work of the Faipule Fono, but now, through its newly acquired legal standing and the publication of its proceedings in the Native Press, they are gradually realizing its value as a national institution where the opinions of the people can be made known and where their interests will be safeguarded.

That this Fono (Council) is an active institution will be realized from the following list, giving a few only of the many matters dealt with during the three sessions held during the past year: (1) Compulsory medical treatment of Natives for certain diseases; (2) village sanitation; (3) scheme for increasing production of copra; (4) education matters, including compulsory education of children, &c.; (5) scheme for roadmaking; (6) provision of Samoan labour in substitution of Chinese;

(7) change in land policy allocating a definite area of land to each taxpayer ; (8) establishment of District Councils to carry out the administration of certain local Native matters in each district ; (9) rearrangement of districts for Faipule representation ; (10) investments of money by Natives to be controlled ; (11) establishment of Museum for Samoa ; (12) Native regulations.

The forthcoming visit to New Zealand of Faipule representatives will be greatly appreciated, and should result not only in cementing the good feeling that now exists between the Natives and the Government, but should also be of educational value.

#### EDUCATION OF NATIVES.

Generally speaking the Natives are well educated in the vernacular, and there are very few who cannot read and write, while not a few—particularly those who have been trained in the Mission theological colleges—are comparatively highly educated ; but very few Samoans have a good working knowledge of the English language. Whether it is desirable to institute a system to provide for the teaching of English in all schools is a matter that requires most careful consideration as to its effect on the future development of Samoa and the race.

I have received numerous requests from the Natives to establish Government schools in every district in Samoa, in order that all Native children may be taught English. There is a tendency for some of the Natives to think that the mere learning to speak English will at once invest them with the powers and knowledge of an educated European, and so enable them to obtain appointments as Government officials.

Realizing that the future prosperity and happiness of the Samoans depends largely upon their education being harmonized with their future needs, their surrounding conditions, and the needs of these islands in which they will be compelled to reside no matter how highly they are developed, I have devoted a portion of my time to studying the present system of education and the future needs of the Native race. I have ascertained the opinions of many chiefs, pastors, and teachers on this question. Some recommend confining the teaching of English to the sons of chiefs and orators ; others consider that Government schools should be established all over Samoa, and that English should be made the chief object of study ; while a few would eliminate entirely the English language from Native schools.

I consider that Samoa's most urgent needs are—

- (1.) The education of the people in the laws of health and sanitation, so that the race may become healthy and multiply.
- (2.) To educate them in improved methods of cultivation, and to make them realize that their future lies in developing their lands, and so enhance their prosperity and the economic advancement of Samoa.
- (3.) To train the younger generation in such arts, crafts, and vocations as will enable them to further their own development with less dependence upon European assistance than they are now compelled to receive.

From past experience it cannot be said that those Natives who have learnt English are more keen to stay in their villages and use their knowledge to further the interests of their people, their villages, or their plantations. Rather they tend to leave their homes and seek appointments as Government officials or vocations in Apia, where the vocational needs are so limited that only a small number of Natives can be absorbed.

I am of the opinion that in all Native schools the first object should be to harmonize education with the future needs of Samoa, and to teach pupils to thoroughly acquire the art of writing and reading their own language—a by-no-means small effort—and to insist upon attaining a high standard of efficiency in the mother-tongue as the spoken language. The teaching of English is to be confined to a limited amount of oral or very elementary instruction only, and to reserve the real study of English in written form to the small number of scholars who display special ability and show themselves worthy of assistance to undergo a prolonged course of training in a third-grade school to fit themselves for those vocations in which they could be absorbed.

There are now two Government third-grade schools in Samoa—one in Apia for Native boys of Upolu, and one in Savai'i. These are sufficient to give advanced instruction to selected pupils, and ought to fill all requirements for some years to come, providing the missions will carry on their good work and continue to teach children in their own mission schools ; but the work in these schools requires to be co-ordinated and carried out in accordance with the syllabus prepared by the Superintendent of Schools. To facilitate this co-ordination, and to provide for continuity of policy in education matters, a Board of Education has been appointed, including representatives of all the missions. This Board has had several meetings, and has deliberated on various problems. Its functions are—(1) To co-ordinate the educational activities of various missions in Samoa ; (2) to make recommendations to the Administrator on educational matters ; (3) to assist the Administration in carrying out its educational policy.

This Board has recommended the establishing of second-grade schools, each one of which will serve one or more villages according to the number of children who have passed through the existing village schools, which in future will be for infants only.

Second-grade or intermediate schools are to be controlled by the respective missions, but the Government will assist by inspection, and also provide and pay the salary of one Native teacher for each school. The salaries of Native teachers for these schools is to constitute the subsidy to missions, in lieu of the former system of subsidizing them for education on a *capita* basis without reference to the nature of the instruction given.

A few of these schools are now being established, and it is hoped the number will be ultimately increased so as to provide for every district, and so enable all children to have the opportunity of getting education beyond the standard they are now limited to in their village schools.

#### HEALTH OF NATIVES.

On my arrival in Samoa during March of last year there was an epidemic of dysentery, which extended throughout Western Samoa and continued for several months. Many deaths resulted therefrom, particularly among young children. This afforded an opportunity to make an object-lesson for the Natives in the matter of sanitation, which many villages took steps to improve; but the sanitation is still bad. It is the first and most important problem in Samoa, and will remain so until a thorough education is given in all schools on this subject, and makes its influence felt in the villages and home-life of the Natives.

Another serious drawback to the increase of the Samoan race is the large number of deaths of infants due to improper feeding. These vital matters are receiving the attention of the Chief Medical Officer (*vide* his report herewith).

It is satisfactory to note that, in spite of the large number of what may be termed preventible deaths, the race has increased by 303 during the past year. I am hopeful of a greater increase in future, owing to the fact that Natives are undoubtedly realizing more and more the value of sanitation and medical treatment in preference to their *fa'a Samoa* or ancient Native customs of treating sickness. They have cheerfully agreed to pay £1 per annum as a medical tax in order that their medical service may be a national one, and that all may receive treatment if required for any kind of disability free of any further charge.

A vast amount of good has been done by the Medical Department in treating thousands of Natives for hook-worm and yaws, and thereby effecting a great improvement on the health of the people.

All these activities of the Medical Department could not be carried out were it not for the liberal subsidy granted by New Zealand, and which I trust will be continued in the interests of a splendid race of people, and so materially aid in a gradual and progressive increase in their numbers.

#### EXPENDITURE ON NATIVES.

It will be seen from the departmental report, under the heading, "Finance," that an endeavour has been made to comply with the request of the Council of the League to show separately the revenue derived directly from the Natives and the amounts expended directly on them. These figures are only approximate, and those referring to expenditure do not include the moneys spent on the Medical and Education Departments, which are maintained almost exclusively for the benefit of the indigenous population.

#### III. CHINESE LABOUR.

The reasons for employing Chinese labour in Samoa are well known. If Samoa is to progress it must supply its quota of tropical products to the world's markets. This it cannot now do with its comparatively small Native population alone, and before we can dispense with imported labour we must hopefully await the time when the Samoan race has increased in numbers sufficiently to enable them to cultivate their own lands, and to furnish the necessary labour for those limited areas which are now (and which may be extended in future) cultivated by private enterprise.

During the past year I assembled the employers of Chinese labour and discussed with them the means whereby we could, in accordance with the wishes of the New Zealand Government, place the Chinese labourers on a better footing than the then-existing indenture system. I was impressed by the fair-minded spirit with which the employers dealt with this question, and their desire to be as generous as they could afford to be towards the labourer.

As a result of our deliberations the indenture system was abolished and free labour instituted, whereby any labourer dissatisfied with his employment may give notice to terminate his services and be free to obtain other employment. The wages were increased, with provision for a minimum wage of 3s. per diem for plantation workers. An Ordinance was enacted providing for the new conditions, and became law on the 4th December, 1923. Favourable reports have been received from employers and employees *re* the new conditions, which are apparently giving greater satisfaction to both parties, and better economic results.

During the past year 353 labourers have been repatriated to China—from whom many applications have been received to return here for another term of three years.

It is our desire to reduce the number of Chinese labourers in Samoa to the lowest possible number, and to replace them by Native labour where possible. This is being done successfully to a limited extent on some plantations, and will, I trust, be carried out still further as opportunities arise. Native labour for certain classes of work is very efficient, and does not cost more than Chinese.

Some years previous to 1914 there were nearly 5,000 Chinese and Melanesian labourers in Samoa. In 1914 the number of Chinese was 2,184, and Melanesians 900: total, 3,084. At the present time there are only 938 Chinese labourers under agreement, 29 free Chinese, and 172 Melanesians in Samoa.

With scientific distribution of labour and expert supervision it is considered that the present areas of privately owned or leased plantations under cultivation can be properly maintained with a total of approximately 1,000 imported labourers, supplemented by Native labour where possible, so that the so-called "Chinese labour problem" in Samoa should be less difficult to deal with in future years than it has been in the past.

#### IV. LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

The first election of members to represent the European population of Samoa on the Legislative Council was held on the 23rd January, when the following gentlemen were elected, in the order given: O. F. Nelson, Esq., G. E. W. L. Westbrook, Esq., A. Williams, Esq.

At the opening ceremony on the 5th March the following radiogram from His Excellency the Governor-General of New Zealand was read, and highly appreciated:—

“On the interesting and historical occasion of the first meeting of the recently constituted Legislative Council of Western Samoa, I desire to convey to you and to members of the Council my warmest congratulations. It must inevitably be a matter of satisfaction and pride to the people of Western Samoa that so noteworthy a step forward towards representative government as the institution of a Legislative Council, which is partly elective and partly nominative, should have been made in a period of a little in excess of three years. It is in the confident belief that the Administration will be supported and strengthened under changed conditions that I express, on behalf of the Government of New Zealand, the satisfaction with which the new departure is viewed and our heartiest good wishes for the future.”

“JELlicoe.”

#### V. PUBLIC WORKS.

In 1922 a loan of £100,000 was granted by New Zealand for carrying out certain public works in Samoa. This loan has been expended on roads, hospital extensions, schools, and water-supply for Apia. Only a small amount was expended in out-districts, where many Native villages are in urgent need of good water-supplies. It has therefore been decided to concentrate our efforts, as far as possible, on the latter, before considering any new developmental works.

If no unforeseen emergencies arise it is hoped that in the interests of economy we shall be able to meet our normal public-works requirements out of revenue, and be able to avoid raising any further loans for some time to come, except for absolutely essential services which will be revenue-producing, such as the proposed new wharf for Apia Harbour.

The two urgent needs which have been provided for on this year's estimates are—(1) A retaining-wall along the Apia sea-front; (2) water-supplies in Native villages.

New roads are being continually asked for by the Natives, but these cannot, for financial reasons, be constructed entirely by the Government, and I am glad to say that this fact is being appreciated by the Natives themselves, as the Faipules have agreed to use Native labour and make new roads where required at approximately 1s. per foot.

Recently the Natives have constructed an excellent road, 800 yards long, in the vicinity of Apia. This road was properly formed, metalled, and drained for £190. The same work in a European country would probably cost more than £3,000 per mile. This in itself shows the attitude of the Natives in their desire to help the Government, and has had a far-reaching effect throughout Samoa in showing them how they can help themselves.

#### VI. CROWN ESTATES.

The decision of the Government given in December of last year to lease the Crown Estates is being gradually given effect to. At the time of writing practically all the cacao plantations have been leased, and numerous inquiries are being made by applicants to lease the large copra plantations. I anticipate before the end of the present year all Crown estates—the property of New Zealand—will have been leased to private enterprise.

As the Government has already generously agreed that revenues received from these estates shall be made available to the Samoan Administration, our local revenue will in future be increased by their leasehold value; but this has not been taken into consideration in the estimates for this year, as it is not known what expenses will have to be met in the closing of the accounts and transactions involved in the change over.

#### VII. EUROPEAN COMMUNITY.

I wish to gratefully acknowledge the help received by the Administration during the past year from individuals and organized bodies of the European community of Apia. Various committees have been set up from time to time to investigate and report on local problems for the guidance of the Administration, and I have had no difficulty in getting citizens to come forward and give their advice and assistance in any matter for the promotion of the interests of Samoa. The Welfare League has also willingly co-operated with the Administration whenever called upon. Under these conditions the Administration and citizens have worked harmoniously together to further the prosperity of this Territory.

#### VIII. ADMINISTRATION.

I am indebted to a very efficient staff of Administrative officials, who, in most cases, are required to work harder than is generally realized, and under far more trying conditions than in New Zealand.

Owing to climatic conditions, and the consequent necessity for maintaining efficiency where the staff is depleted through sickness, also the essential provision for long leave of officials at the end of three years' service, the Administration cannot be run as economically as it would otherwise be possible to do.

Owing to the diminished revenue it has been found necessary to reduce the costs of administration, and in order to do this I have had the unpleasant duty of dispensing with the services of officials in some Departments, and also curtailing Governmental activities where this could safely be done without prejudice to the interests of the community.

I regret that a number of the officials employed in Samoa are only recognized as “temporary” under the New Zealand regulations, and therefore cannot contribute to the New Zealand Superannua-



tion Fund, or be absorbed in any other Government Department in the event of their being compelled through service in the tropics affecting their health, or through no fault of their own, to relinquish their appointments here. The remedy would appear to be in the establishment of a permanent service for those tropical islands administered by New Zealand.

The longer an official stays in Samoa—providing he is able to keep physically fit—the greater the value of his services to the Administration; therefore I strongly recommend that the officials of the Samoan Government Service be given a similar permanent status to members of the Civil Service in the Dominion.

#### LEGISLATION.

##### *In New Zealand.*

The Samoa Act, 1921, was amended during the year ended 31st March, 1924, by the Samoa Amendment Act, 1923. (22nd August, 1923.)

The British Nationality and Status of Aliens (in New Zealand) Act, 1923 (applied with necessary modifications to Samoa by section 14).

The following Orders in Council have been passed during the year ended 31st March, 1924 :—

The Samoa Mortgages Extension Order, 1923. (23rd April, 1923.)

The Samoa Customs Consolidation Order, 1923. (3rd September, 1923.)

The Samoan Legislative Council (Elective Membership) Order, 1923. (10th September, 1923.)

The Samoa Customs Consolidation Amendment Order, 1923. (25th September, 1923.)

Appointment of Apia as Port of Entry for the Union (Tokelau) Islands. (25th September, 1923.)

The Ex-enemy Absentee Property (Samoa) Order, 1923. (24th October, 1923.)

Amending the Samoan Crown Estates Order, 1920. (29th October, 1923.)

Amending the Samoa Public Trust Office Order, 1921. (1st February, 1924.)

The Samoa Immigration Consolidation Order, 1924. (1st February, 1924.)

The Samoa Freemasons' Trustees Order, 1924. (1st February, 1924.)

##### *In Samoa.*

During the year ending the 31st March, 1924, the Legislative Council sat on four occasions, and has passed the following Ordinances :—

##### 1923.

No. 8. The Road Traffic Ordinance Amendment Ordinance, 1923.

No. 9. The Cacao Beans Export Ordinance, 1923.

No. 10. The Chinese Free Labour Ordinance, 1923.

No. 11. The Sale of Apia Native Land Ordinance, 1923.

No. 12. The Samoan Women's Property Ordinance, 1923.

No. 13. The Importation of Fruit from Fiji Prohibition Amendment Ordinance, 1923.

No. 14. The Samoan Medical Levy Ordinance, 1923.

##### 1924.

No. 1. The Land for Quarantine Purposes Ordinance, 1924.

No. 2. The Taxation Licensing and Revenue Amendment Ordinance, 1924.

Copies of these several Acts, Orders, and Ordinances have been forwarded to the Secretary-General of the League of Nations and to each member of the Permanent Mandates Commission.

##### *In Great Britain.*

The following Imperial Order in Council has also had effect in the Territory during the year :—

The Merchant Shipping (Administration in Mandated Territories) No. 1 Order, 1923. (25th May, 1923.)

By the Samoa Amendment Act, 1923, provision was made for elective membership of the Legislative Council in addition to official and nominated members as provided in the original Act. The Samoan Legislative Council (Elective Membership) Order, 1923, provided that the number of elected members should be three, and also set up the machinery for the carrying-out of elections, as well as defining the qualifications of candidates for election and qualifications of electors.

The first election under the Order was held on the 23rd January last, when the following citizens were elected to the Council: O. F. Nelson, Esq., G. E. W. L. Westbrook, Esq., A. Williams, Esq.

## DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS.

### NATIVE AFFAIRS.

During the year two Fonos of Faipules were held, at which many matters of importance to the Samoans were discussed and much valuable work done. At these Fonos the Faipules evinced a willingness to carry their share of the responsibility in the good government of these islands.

The Faipules expressed their desire to proceed immediately with the medical tax as a means of bringing about a more comprehensive warfare against disease, and of educating the Samoans along the lines of hygiene and proper sanitation. The desire for better sanitation in villages was discussed, and plans were accepted for remodelling villages with this end in view.

In discussing education the Faipules were strongly in favour of compulsory education. They volunteered to personally insure this being carried out in their respective districts. The Government's policy of establishing three grades of schools and adopting as far as possible the present system to fit in with the policy was agreed to.

In dealing with the matter of compulsory treatment of yaws the Faipules were wholly in favour of an Ordinance whereby restrictions would be imposed on families neglecting to have cases treated, even fining offenders for evading the doctor's inspection. When one thinks of what this conveys to the Samoan mind one is impressed, for the Samoan views yaws pretty much as white mothers view the measles—a necessary infantile ailment. But propaganda on the part of the Medical Department has shown them their error, and the Faipules are prepared to face their districts and enforce the observance of a law which they know is for the people's welfare and health, although against popular belief.

The above are a few only of the many matters discussed. The whole work of the Fonos was carried through in an atmosphere of confidence which augurs well for the future of the Territory.

#### NATIVE OFFICIALS.

During the year drastic alterations have been made in the organization of villages and Native Government officials. Some sixty Pulenu'us have been retired and villages united under one Pulenu'u where previously there were two or three. This reorganization has resulted not only in a saving in salaries but in an increase in revenue. It has also effected a general tightening-up and increased efficiency.

Another reduction in Native officials was in the personnel of the Land and Title Commission, which has been for some years unnecessarily large. Ten members of the Commission were retired, leaving a total of fourteen instead of twenty-four.

#### SAMOAN OFFENDERS ORDINANCE.

It has been necessary to apply this Ordinance to a few offenders during the year, notably to one chief who, through his knowledge of English, had for some years been able to more or less victimize his less enlightened brethren in money matters. His guilt was eventually sheeted home to him, and the effective punishment of divesting him of his title and subjecting him to local banishment was meted out to him and has given great satisfaction. It has in a practical manner demonstrated that the Administration will see that justice is done alike to those of high or low degree.

#### MEDICAL.

In dealing with the care of the health of the people the example set by the Administration has had not only a beneficial result physically but it has been of psychological value to the Samoans. At the commencement of the year the medical tax was an ideal which, though desirable, presented many obstacles, and although acceptable to the majority of the districts there remained some in which the suggestion was received under protest. Propaganda in these districts left the people without enthusiasm. The Medical Department, however, pushed forward the practical side of their work, and the result has been not only good from a physical point of view but it has, to a very large degree, cemented the feeling of confidence in the Administration, and has evoked a practical response from the districts where suspicion lurked, and given unanimous approval of the medical tax. As a result the people are taking a keener and more sensible view of sanitation and health matters. Moreover, they now have a more personal interest generally in the medical work, for they are materially helping towards its support.

#### MALAGAS BY THE ADMINISTRATOR.

His Excellency made very complete *malagas* round the islands of Upolu, Manono, and Savai'i, thus affording him an opportunity of meeting the Natives in their homes and gaining first-hand information as to their various needs and requirements. In all his meetings with the Samoans His Excellency endeavoured to instil the gospel of self-help.

#### CASES DEALT WITH BY THE HIGH COURT (NATIVE DEPARTMENT).

	Total Number of Cases.	Finally disposed of.	Referred to Law and Titles Commission.	Adjourned.
Land disputes .. .. .	20	11	4	5
Title disputes .. .. .	19	1	8	10
Enforcements of judgments .. .. .	188	140	..	48
Civil claims .. .. .	47	39	..	8
Insult .. .. .	9	8	..	1
Contempt of Court .. .. .	8	8	..	..
Wandering pigs .. .. .	27	24	..	3
Theft .. .. .	6	4	..	2
Failure to pay poll-taxes .. .. .	110	74	..	36
Unpaid dog-taxes .. .. .	17	11	..	6
Appeals .. .. .	4	2	..	2
Unpaid Pulenu'u and F.M.P. fines .. .. .	146	105	..	41
Miscellaneous .. .. .	51	33	..	18
	652	460	12	180



*Dysentery.*

An epidemic of dysentery, of which the causative organism was proved to be *B Dysenteriae* (Shiga), was experienced during the year. The epidemic reached its maximum in July, and altogether was responsible for between four hundred and five hundred deaths. Dysentery is endemic in Samoa, but occasionally becomes epidemic, as occurred in 1907 and 1911, in both of which years it was responsible for an actual decrease in the population.

The births and deaths for the years mentioned are :—

			Mean Population.	Births.	Deaths.
1907	..	..	33,442	1,389	1,564
1911	..	..	33,826	1,453	1,827
1923	..	..	33,685	1,701	1,398

*Leprosy.*

Five cases of leprosy were reported during the year. These patients will be removed to the Mokagai Leper Asylum, Fiji, shortly, so that they may receive the benefit of the modern methods of treatment practised there.

## APIA HOSPITAL AND MEDICAL OUT-STATIONS.

## Apia Hospital—

General attendances	..	..	..	..	37,279
European in-patients	..	..	..	..	184
Samoan in-patients	..	..	..	..	663
Chinese in-patients..	..	..	..	..	512
Operations, major ..	..	..	..	..	225
Operations, minor ..	..	..	..	..	270
Chinese out-patients	..	..	..	..	1,320

## Tuasivi District Hospital (nine months' returns)—

General attendances	..	..	..	..	16,038
Samoan in-patients	..	..	..	..	151

All the dispensaries mentioned in last year's report were opened at various times throughout the year, but as the returns are for incomplete periods they have not been included. The District Hospital at Aleipata was not opened until the end of the year under review, owing to delay in completion of the buildings.

NOTE.—The figures for hospital attendances given above include 16,312 injections for yaws and 4,221 treatments for hookworm. In addition to these, 16,054 injections for yaws and 14,236 treatments for hookworm were given in outlying districts, making a total of 32,366 injections for yaws and 18,457 treatments for hookworm given during the year.

## EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

In former years education in Samoa was almost entirely in the hands of the missions, which have done splendid work in teaching practically every Native to read and write in the vernacular. As a consequence the Samoan race is probably the best educated of the Polynesian races. Formerly higher education was not attempted except for the training of pastors, whose duty includes that of teaching in the village schools connected with their respective Churches. Latterly higher education has been carried out by the Government schools at Malifa and Vaipouli, and by the Marist Brothers at Apia. Higher education for girls has been given at Papauta (London Missionary Society), Faleula (Methodist), and Marist Sisters' School, Apia.

The popularity of this higher education to many Native boys and girls has caused many requests to be made by the Natives for the establishing of Government schools in various parts of Samoa. These requests were made without regard to cost, and, more important still, without regard to the present and future occupational needs and opportunities in these undeveloped lands. Outside of Apia, with the exception of the pastors and Native officials, the Natives are obliged to work on their plantations to produce food for their families, and to produce copra for the acquiring of money with which to furnish their individual and communal needs. It was necessary, therefore, to define clearly our policy in regard to the education of the Natives. There was a tendency in the past to set up an expensive system which would overeducate, disturb their social conditions, and cause unrest.

The present low rate of natural increase of the Samoan race, together with their communistic mode of life and the collective ownership of land, very large areas of which are still undeveloped, will keep the Samoans in a backward condition for many years to come, and it would be unwise to force the pace too quickly. The education policy of Samoa, therefore, should not aim too high. It should not educate the Samoan children too much in advance of their surroundings and social conditions, but should have for its object the making of good citizens, inspired with a love for their country and a determination to work for its advancement.

A conference on education was held in August last, at which representatives from all the missions were present, as also was Mr. J. Caughley, Director of Education, New Zealand, who happened to be on an inspection visit to Samoa. The conference decided that it would be in the interests of the Samoans themselves if the teaching of English were curtailed at present. Europeanizing the Natives was unanimously condemned. It was considered that by concentrating in the main on instruction in the vernacular a better influence would prevail. It is not intended to give less knowledge to the Samoans, but a more comprehensive syllabus in their own language will be attempted.

As a result of the conference the following classification of schools was made :—

*Grade I (Missions' Pastor Schools).*—These to be under the sole control of the missions. The instruction to be in Samoan. All children from five to ten years of age will attend.

*Grade II (Mission Schools).*—These schools to be established gradually in each district. The Samoan teacher will be selected by the missions and paid by the Administration. A common syllabus to be followed, in which English will be a subject. In these schools the Samoan child will qualify for his Samoan proficiency certificate, and from these schools will be selected the scholarship boys who will proceed to Grade III schools.

*Grade III (Government Schools—Malifa (Upolu) and Vaipouli (Savai'i)).*—These schools are under the direct control of the Administration, and are taught by white teachers with the assistance of Native teachers. The teaching is in English only, and higher education is provided for. Technical instruction is given in plumbing, carpentry, wireless, typewriting, and engineering.

#### WORK CARRIED OUT DURING YEAR.

##### *Student and Pastor Classes.*

The travelling teacher devoted the whole of his time to these classes until the commencement of the vacation in December. The respective missions have expressed their appreciation of the assistance thus given them, and have expressed a desire for this form of help to be continued.

##### *Teachers' Classes for Grade II Schools.*

In January last a training-class was established at Malifa (Government) School for the purpose of giving special training to the recently selected Samoan teachers about to proceed to the Grade II Schools in Upolu and Savai'i. Thirty-two teachers attended and went through a course of training in the various subjects of the syllabus decided upon for these schools.

##### *Avele Agricultural School.*

This school was established during the year for the purpose of affording Samoan youths an opportunity of receiving instruction in agriculture. Boys before entering Malifa and Vaipouli Grade III Schools will be required to undergo a course of training at Avele. The site selected for this school is well suited for the purpose for which it is intended, and comprises an area of some 120 acres. It is intended to carry out experimental work at the school with a view to testing the possibilities of introducing new products to the Natives.

##### *Examinations.*

During the year proficiency examinations were conducted by Mr. J. Caughley, Director of Education, New Zealand, at the Marist Brothers' School and at Ifi Ifi (Government) School. At the former eight proficiency and one competency certificates were gained, and at the latter seven proficiency certificates.

#### ROLL NUMBERS AND AVERAGE ATTENDANCE AT GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1924.

##### *Roll Numbers.*

Date.	Ifi Ifi.		Malifa.		Vaipouli.	Total.		Grand Total.
	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Boys.	Girls.	
30th June, 1923 .. ..	106	94	182	59	84	372	153	525
30th September, 1923 .. ..	99	95	222	60	182	449	155	604
31st December, 1923 .. ..	94	94	228	60	128	444	154	598
31st March, 1924 .. ..	105	103	218	65	89	412	168	580

##### *Average Attendance.*

Date.	Ifi Ifi.	Malifa.	Vaipouli.	Total.
30th June, 1923 .. ..	172.2	210	75	457.2
30th September, 1923 .. ..	154	244	96	494
31st December, 1923 .. ..	162	255	120	537
31st March, 1924 .. ..	181	241	92	504
Annual average .. ..	167	238	93	498

#### JUSTICE DEPARTMENT.

##### STAFF.

A redistribution of duties on the appointment of the present Chief Judge in September last, and the addition of a Samoan-born officer to the staff, has enabled the Department's work to be carried on efficiently with two officers from New Zealand, instead of three as previously.

There has been no marked change in the number of cases as compared with last year, the slight decrease in civil cases being probably due to the temporary absence of one legal agent and the death of another. Speaking generally, the increased familiarity of the public with the present legal system, which has now been in vogue nearly four years, and the replacement of German law by Ordinances of the Legislative Council, has progressively lightened the work of the Department.

The present cost of the Department in salaries is now less than it has been at any time since 1914.

#### ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.

The Chief Judge at present deals with practically all cases in Apia, whether within the jurisdiction of Commissioners or not, except those now, as heretofore, dealt with by the Chinese Commissioner and the Secretary for Native Affairs. This frees the Crown Solicitor and Prosecutor (who is also a member of the Legislative Council, Registrar of Court, and Registrar of Land) from the necessity of sitting as a Commissioner, and enables him to give his whole time to his other duties.

*Samoan Lands and Titles Commission.*—This Court dealt with eighty-eight cases during two sessions, as follows :—

13th to 29th June, 1923 : Number of cases dealt with, 47. How disposed of : Judgments, 13 ; reconciliations, 5 ; adjournments, 29.

6th November to 3rd December, 1923 : Number of cases dealt with, 41. How disposed of : Judgments, 32 ; reconciliations, 7 ; adjournments, 1 ; dismissed, 1.

*Laws and Ordinances.*—Nine local Ordinances drafted by the Department have been passed by the Legislative Council during the year, and, having received the Administrator's assent, have become law.

A number of amendments to the Samoa Act have been made law by the New Zealand Parliament.

Ten Orders in Council have been made by the Governor-General in Council under the authority of section 45 of the Samoa Act.

#### LAND REGISTRATION.

The return attached shows the number of transactions put through the Land Register :—

##### *Return of Documents registered for Period 1st April, 1923, to 31st March, 1924.*

Conveyances .. .. .	12
Mortgages .. .. .	18
Discharges .. .. .	12
Leases .. .. .	2
Crown grants, including Crown leases .. .. .	18
Miscellaneous .. .. .	26
<b>Total .. .. .</b>	<b>88</b>

#### HIGH COURT OF WESTERN SAMOA.

##### *Annual Return of Revenue for the Year, 1st April, 1923, to 31st March, 1924.*

Fees collected in stamps :—		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Registrar's Office, High Court .. .. .		277	13	0			
Land Registrar's Office .. .. .		53	0	0			
		<hr/>			£330	13	0
Revenue received in cash :—							
Fines, costs, marriage fees, and Court grants .. .. .		1,385	16	10			
Legal fees .. .. .		600	3	0			
		<hr/>			1,985	19	10
		<hr/>			£2,316	12	10

##### *Annual Return of Criminal Cases for the Year, 1st April, 1923, to 31st March, 1924.*

Sitting-days .. .. .	160
Persons charged .. .. .	742
Convictions record .. .. .	618
Dismissed on merits .. .. .	54
Withdrawn by leave of Court .. .. .	80

##### *Annual Return of Civil Cases for the Year, 1st April, 1923, to 31st March, 1924.*

Sitting-days .. .. .	93
Actions filed .. .. .	484
Actions heard .. .. .	428
Judgment given .. .. .	385
Withdrawn or struck out .. .. .	55

#### AGRICULTURAL.

##### COPRA.

This is by far the most important product of Western Samoa, representing last year approximately 90 per cent. of the total value of our exports. The far-reaching effect of anything that can be done to benefit this industry is therefore clearly apparent.

Whilst the quantity of copra exported last year was somewhat less than the quantity produced during the year 1922, still it is pleasing to note that the quality has very considerably improved. The coming into operation of the Copra Ordinance of 1923 has resulted in a gradual improvement in quality. This improvement will undoubtedly become more evident in the near future, and cannot fail to react in a beneficial manner upon the price obtained in the world's markets.

The decline in quantity is attributable to the exceptional gales experienced in March, 1923, and to the unfavourable weather conditions prevailing during that period of the year, which delayed the maturing of the nuts.

The following table shows the quantity and value of the copra exported during the past three years :—

				Tons.	Value.
1921	..	..	..	7,428	£190,520
1922	..	..	..	16,956	£319,333
1923	..	..	..	13,484	£269,995

*Licenses to purchase Copra.*—During the year 156 licenses were issued under the provisions of the Copra Ordinance, 1923; of this number 150 were issued to persons to purchase dried copra and six for the purchase of freshly cut undried copra. Latterly the number of applications for licenses to purchase freshly cut undried copra has increased, and it has been found necessary to divide the Territory into a number of districts. One license will be issued for each area, and the holder thereof will be required to erect and keep in regular use an efficient hot-air drier. To prevent the erection of an excessive number of driers in one district it has been found expedient, from previous experience, to give to the licensee the exclusive right to purchase undried copra within the area specified. The producer will, of course, be at liberty to dispose of his copra in any area he chooses, or to dry the copra himself should he so desire, thus affording ample safeguard against any exploitation on the part of the license-holder. It is hoped that the erection of these hot-air driers will further improve the quality of Samoan copra as well as aid in increasing production.

#### CACAO.

First-class Samoan cacao will always command an assured market, it having been found most valuable for blending purposes for manufacture of the best class of confectionery. Every effort, therefore, is being made to bring our cacao up to a high standard of quality, and with this object in view a modified system of grading has been instituted under the provisions of the Cacao Beans Export Ordinance, 1923, which came into force in November last. Under this Ordinance all cacao-beans prior to exportation have to be examined by a special committee appointed for the purpose. In the case of any parcel of beans which conforms to the standard required by the committee for good-quality cacao the bill of lading relating to such parcel is stamped with the words "Standard Quality Cacao." The committee has power to mark as "Inferior" all cacao which in its opinion would militate against the interests of producers, and also to prohibit exportation of any parcel of beans which in its opinion is unfit for export. Cacao which cannot be classed as "Standard Quality" or "Inferior" is allowed to be shipped on its merits and bears no distinguishing mark as to quality.

Up to the 31st March, 1924, 3,861 bags of cacao have been examined by the committee, and classified as follows :—

					Bags.	Tons.	cwt.	qr.	lb.
Standard quality	..	..	..	..	1,403	91	7	0	2
Below standard quality	..	..	..	..	733	46	18	3	25
Native cacao	..	..	..	..	101	6	10	2	11
Inferior cacao	..	..	..	..	1,581	102	10	2	12
Condemned	..	..	..	..	43	(Weight unknown)			
Totals	..	..	..	..	3,861	247	7	0	22

As time goes on this system of inspection will give confidence to outside buyers in regard to the quality of the Samoan produce and will be reflected on the prices obtained.

The prospects for 1924 as regards output are encouraging, the crops generally being above the average. With normal weather conditions prevailing the export figure for the coming year should treble that of 1923.

#### COTTON.

This product has been the principal subject of discussion by the Native Lands Development Committee, a body recently set up to consider ways and means for promoting greater activity among the Natives in developing their lands.

Many years ago cotton was successfully grown in Samoa, and, although the quality was undoubtedly equal to that produced elsewhere at the time, the competition from other countries where cheaper labour was available, coupled with the low prices, forced the abandonment of this cultivation. The cost of labour should not be a factor in the present movement, however, which is for cultivation of cotton by the Natives themselves.

Several varieties of cotton-seed have been planted for observation purposes, and a further supply is in order. When this comes to hand it will be distributed to selected villages for trial.

#### BEETLE-DESTRUCTION.

Speaking generally, the beetle situation is entirely satisfactory, there being whole districts where very little trace of this pest can now be seen. Close control over beetle-searching is maintained by the Department's Inspectors.

Beetles Collected on Native and European Plantations.  
IN UPOLU.

Quarter.	Native Plantations.			European Plantations.		
	Beetles.	Larvæ.	Eggs.	Beetles.	Larvæ.	Eggs.
1923—April-June .. ..	21,177	638,898	50,787	6,577	85,745	7,485
July-September .. ..	18,834	612,241	71,585	5,586	85,000	4,742
October-December .. ..	21,301	605,023	69,773	3,766	83,790	7,991
1924—January-March .. ..	24,289	635,369	72,058	4,829	65,317	10,788
Totals for Year ended 31st March, 1924	85,601	2,491,531	264,203	20,758	319,852	31,006
Totals for Years 1922-23 ..	101,203	2,945,253	316,397	29,909	504,315	24,530

IN SAVAI'I.  
1st April, 1923, to 31st March, 1924.

Native—				European—			
Beetles .. ..	100,527	Beetles .. ..	2,840				
Larvæ .. ..	2,217,506	Larvæ .. ..	16,943				
Eggs .. ..	47,658	Eggs .. ..	1,109				

FLYING-FOXES.

The presence of this troublesome pest among the coconut-palms became very pronounced at the beginning of the year under review. There has, however, been a noticeable diminution in the number of flying-foxes seen lately in the plantations and around Native villages. The reason for this is most probably that an abundance of food is now available for them in the bush. In the earlier part of last year, owing to the severe weather, food must have been very scarce in the bush, in which case the famished foxes would be compelled to raid the coconut and other cultivations, thus accounting for the excessive numbers observed.

With a view to combatting the flying-fox nuisance a competition was commenced on the 1st January, and is to close on the 30th June, carrying a prize of £10 to the person bringing in the greatest number of feet of flying-foxes during the period specified. In addition to the prize, payment is being made for flying-foxes destroyed at the rate of 1s. for twenty-five.

NATIVE FOOD RESOURCES.

The accompanying return will show to what extent the planting of foodstuffs, &c., has been carried out by the Natives under the supervision of the Inspectors of the Agricultural Department. On the whole, food has been plentiful throughout both islands during the year.

Schedule of Plantings of Native Foodstuffs, &c., for the Year ended 31st March, 1924.  
UPOLU.

Date.	Coconuts	Cacao.	Bananas.	Taro.	Taamu.	Tobacco.	Yams.	Sugarcane.	Kava.	Arrow-root.
1923.										
April-June ..	15,320	980	90,500	570,200	54,210	1,550	27,870	750	990	870
July-Sept. ..	17,050	9,398	79,571	782,468	106,620	60,392	10,271	17,507	5,479	..
Oct.-Dec. ..	36,943	10,355	155,036	887,365	182,702	146,368	48,708	65,160	28,121	..
1924.										
Jan.-Mar. ..	6,100	..	82,320	443,000	50,800	..	660	332,000	900	..
Totals ..	75,413	20,733	407,427	2,683,033	394,332	208,310	87,509	415,417	35,490	870

No account is taken of many thousand Lauie, Laupaogo, Laufala (for mats) and U'a (for tapa-cloth).

SAVAI'I.

Coconuts .. ..	104,076	Taamu .. ..	2,806,893
Cacao .. ..	93,090	Yams .. ..	234,039
Bananas .. ..	1,240,339	Sugarcane .. ..	1,123,488
Taro .. ..	2,269,482	Kava .. ..	194,590



## CUSTOMS AND MARINE DEPARTMENT.

From a trade point of view the financial year just closed has proved the quietest on record for the past seven years. The fact is strongly reflected in the revenue and trade returns for the period. Certainly the estimate of revenue was only £10 short of actual receipts, but the total sum collected was £7,488 less than during the preceding year, whilst the total trade decreased by £90,894.

## REVENUE.

The total moneys collected by the Department from all sources during the year amounted to £68,450, as compared with £75,938 for the previous year. The Customs import duties fell short of the estimate by only £552. Copra export duty was short by £1,269, and cocoa export duty by £546. Importations during the earlier quarters of the year gave promise of a larger Customs revenue than usual, but the subsequent falling-off in receipts in the December and March quarters more than justified the reduced estimate for the whole period.

The additional tariff exemptions made in July last were also responsible for a certain loss of revenue. It is estimated that these concessions cost about £1,717 for the nine months. The export duties were affected by unforeseen circumstances such as devastating gales and a dry season.

The shipping fees exceeded the estimate by about £500; taxes, &c., by £900; miscellaneous by £1,200, whilst lease of sheds, lighters, &c., was £300 below the estimate.

The receipts under the principal headings were as follows, the figures for the previous year also being given for the sake of comparison :—

	1922-23.	1923-24.	Decrease.	Increase.
	£	£	£	£
Import duties .. .. .	45,673	41,948	3,725	..
Export duties—				
Cocoa .. .. .	1,455	954	501	..
Copra .. .. .	14,817	10,731	4,086	..
Shipping fees .. .. .	1,962	2,195	..	233
Lease of export, sheds, lighters, &c. .. ..	889	1,029	..	140
Taxes and Native travelling passes .. ..	10,125	9,495	630	..
Miscellaneous, including sales of medicinal liquor	1,017	2,098	..	1,081
	75,938	68,450	8,942	1,454
			1,454	
Decreases .. .. .	..	..	7,488	

## CUSTOMS.

*Statistics.*

The statistics dealing with the trade and shipping of the Port of Apia for the calendar year 1923 have already been compiled and published. The total trade for the period amounted to £557,655, as compared with £648,549 for 1922—a decrease of £90,894. The exports exceeded the imports by £19,893.

*Imports.*

The total value of the imports during 1923 was £268,881, as against £282,939 for the preceding year, a drop of £14,000. No particular line of goods was responsible for the falling-off, but trade was very dull towards the end of the year, and the importations during the December quarter were considerably below the average.

*Exports.*

The exports for 1923 also showed a decided decline, being valued at £288,774, as compared with £365,610 for 1922—a decrease of £76,836.

*Cocoa* was responsible for £32,000 of this amount. During the year the export of cacao-beans was only 221 tons, valued at £12,787, compared with 765 tons, valued at £44,513, for the previous year. The market abroad during the year was very weak, and local planters found great difficulty in disposing of their stocks at payable prices. Also, the total production for the year was considerably less than in 1922.

*Copra.*—The copra export was 13,484 tons, valued at £269,995; for the previous year it totalled 16,956 tons, valued at £319,333. It must, however, be remembered that 1922 was a record year in this respect, and that the average for the two previous years was only 7,400 tons. Moreover, weather conditions last year were unfavourable to a heavy production, the gales of March, 1923, and the subsequent dry weather militating against a large output.

The bulk of the copra continues to go direct to the Continent of Europe, Germany last year receiving 8,377 tons out of the total export of 13,484 tons, and Holland 1,529 tons. But this does not necessarily imply increased trade with the Continent. Much of the copra is purchased by British firms, who have the nut crushed in the mills in Germany and Holland, whilst the oil so expressed is sent to England for manufacture.

As regards trade from the different countries, the relative positions remain much the same as in 1922, except that the importations from the United Kingdom have increased by £5,000, whilst those from New Zealand and Australia have fallen by a similar amount. The importations from other countries not enumerated decreased by £8,000. The figures for the two years are—

	1922.		1923.	
	Value.	Per Cent.	Value.	Per Cent.
	£		£	
United Kingdom .. .. .	14,202	5.0	19,788	7.3
New Zealand .. .. .	82,596	29.0	77,782	28.9
Australia .. .. .	104,663	37.0	98,301	36.4
United States of America .. .. .	63,345	22.5	62,717	23.4
Other countries .. .. .	18,133	6.5	10,293	4.0
	282,939	100.0	268,881	100.0

*Tariff Changes.*—In July last a number of items were added to the free list, as already stated. It is estimated that the loss of revenue resulting from these concessions amounted to £1,717. The amount was distributed as follows: Animals (living), £72; meat and fish (frozen), £288; butter, £210; rice (unpolished), £260; honey, £5; infants foods, £10; manures, £50; sacks (copra), £756; shooks of undressed wood, £6; machinery (copra and cocoa drying), £60: total, £1,717.

*Rice from Fiji.*—The prohibition against importation of rice from Fiji was removed by an amending Ordinance in November last, importation now being allowed under certain precautionary conditions. This has already led to a fair amount of additional trade with our island neighbour.

#### HARBOUR SECTION.

*Beacons and Lights.*—The new Aga light on Vaca has proved very satisfactory and economical. Lower leading-light has been electrified from Alcazar supply. Apia lights are now reliable, and the authorities have been notified of the change and information inserted on charts. Small beacons around harbour are lit with oil-lamps.

*Buoys and Moorings.*—All moorings lifted, cleaned, and relaid; two old buoys replaced, and heavy 2½ in. cables laid on two buoys. These moorings are now safe for any size vessel.

*Passages.*—This work was taken over from Public Works. New pins supplied to Safune, Salilua, and Palauli, and rocks in Palauli passage blasted, and a considerable amount of clearing-work done in and around Apia Harbour.

*Maintenance.*—All plant regularly overhauled and kept in good order. Two old surf-boats and one towing-launch have been disposed of.

*S.s. "Lady Roberts."*—This ship was brought over from New Zealand in June, 1923, and has proved a very valuable asset, considerably lightening the work of mooring and lifting the heavy anchors and chains in use in this port; also, it has very much improved the mail and passenger service to Pago Pago.

*Overseas Merchant Shipping, Port of Apia, for Year ended 31st March, 1924.*

Quarter ended	—	Steam.			Sailing.			Total.		
		No.	Tons.	Cargo.	No.	Tons.	Cargo.	No.	Tons.	Cargo.
INWARDS.										
June quarter, 1923 ..	British Foreign	16	14,936	2,550	..	..	..	16	14,936	2,550
		1	3,125	110	1	389	283	2	3,514	393
September quarter, 1923	British Foreign	17	18,061	2,660	1	389	283	18	18,450	2,943
		15	13,513	2,270	..	..	..	15	13,513	2,270
	British Foreign	4	8,958	..	1	482	200	5	9,440	200
		19	22,471	2,270	1	482	200	20	22,953	2,470
December quarter, 1923	British Foreign	18	18,936	3,106	..	..	..	18	18,936	3,106
		2	3,408	..	..	..	..	2	3,408	..
	British Foreign	20	22,344	3,106	..	..	..	20	22,344	3,106
		15	17,633	1,701	..	..	..	15	17,633	1,701
March quarter, 1924 ..	British Foreign	2	6,490	78	..	..	..	2	6,490	78
		17	24,123	1,779	..	..	..	17	24,123	1,779
Year ending 31st March, 1924	British Foreign	64	65,018	9,627	..	..	..	64	65,018	9,627
		9	21,981	188	2	871	483	11	22,852	671
		73	86,999	9,815	2	871	483	75	87,870	10,298
OUTWARDS.										
June quarter, 1923 ..	British Foreign	15	17,395	4,493	..	..	..	15	17,395	4,493
		1	3,125	1,227	1	389	..	2	3,514	1,227
	British Foreign	16	20,520	5,720	1	389	..	17	20,909	5,720
		13	10,902	213	..	..	..	13	10,902	213
September quarter, 1923	British Foreign	4	8,958	2,144	..	..	..	4	8,958	2,144
		17	19,860	2,357	..	..	..	17	19,860	2,357
December quarter, 1923	British Foreign	19	21,456	1,555	..	..	..	19	21,456	1,555
		2	3,408	1,131	1	482	..	3	3,890	1,131
	British Foreign	21	24,864	2,686	1	482	..	22	25,346	2,686
		14	17,283	3,178	..	..	..	14	17,283	3,178
March quarter, 1924 ..	British Foreign	2	6,490	275	..	..	..	2	6,490	275
		16	23,773	3,453	..	..	..	16	23,773	3,453
Year ending 31st March, 1924	British Foreign	61	67,037	9,439	..	..	..	61	67,036	9,439
		9	21,981	4,777	2	871	..	11	22,852	4,777
		70	89,017	14,216	2	871	..	72	89,888	14,216

In addition 4 British and 4 foreign warships and 2 yachts entered and cleared the port.

*Total Receipts at Customhouse, Apia.*

(To nearest pound sterling.)

Period 1923-24.	Import Duty.	Export Duty.	Shipping Fees.	Stevedoring and Lease of Sheds and Lighters.	Taxes and Native Travelling- passes.	Other Receipts, including Sale of Medicinal Liquor.	Total Receipts.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
June quarter ..	12,737	3,536	658	301	3,538	370	21,140
September quarter ..	11,837	2,199	437	138	3,630	443	18,684
December quarter ..	10,617	2,478	551	368	1,350	548	15,912
March quarter ..	6,757	3,472	549	222	977	737	12,714
Year 1923-24 ..	41,948	11,685	2,195	1,029	9,495	2,098	68,450
June quarter ..	10,649	3,052	467	267	3,889	203	18,527
September quarter ..	9,087	3,053	403	261	4,701	240	17,744
December quarter ..	16,939	4,454	577	220	765	274	23,229
March quarter ..	8,999	5,713	516	141	770	300	16,438
Year 1922-23 ..	45,673	16,272	1,962	889	10,125	1,017	75,938
Year 1921-22 ..	56,824	14,395	1,779	1,209	9,540	653	84,400
Year 1920-21 ..	79,567	9,563	1,383	4,661 (a)	9,524	3,053	107,751
Year 1919-20 ..	43,022	8,035	746	235	11,268 (b)	448	63,754
Year 1918-19 ..	33,787	7,376	407	787	13,156 (b)	528	56,041

(a) Includes lighterage charges when Administration did stevedoring.

(b) Includes Native *lifago* now collected by Native Department.

## CHINESE DEPARTMENT.

During the year, 353 time-expired Chinese labourers were repatriated. So far it has not been found necessary to replace them.

The new conditions under which the bulk of the Chinese labourers are now working are giving general satisfaction. The increase in wages, combined with the elimination of the penal clauses for labour offences, has had a marked effect on the labourers. They are doing more and better work now that they are being paid by results. Moreover, illness during working-hours is fast disappearing, and malingering is greatly reduced.

Although the new labour terms have been in operation for nine months only of the year, the number of labourers required to report to the Chinese Commissioner for various reasons has greatly reduced, as the following figures will show :—

Reason.	Year ended 31st March, 1923.	Year ended 31st March, 1924.
Medical examination ..	569	56
Complaint by employer ..	1,037	578
Complaint by labourer ..	276	201
Wanted by police ..	50	45
Discharged from hospital ..	189	13
Left work without permission ..	470	189

The number of Chinese labourers in Western Samoa at the 31st March, 1924, was 967, as compared with 1,328 at the end of the previous year and 1,591 at the 31st March, 1922.

The relations existing between the Chinese Consul and the Administration during the year have continued to be most cordial.

Savings of wages totalling £4,422 16s. were remitted to China by Chinese labourers during the year.

## POLICE AND PRISONS.

The criminal statistics set out below show that the number of offences reported during the year was 652, as compared with 752 for the previous year. The proportion of offences to the population was 1.76 per cent. as against 1.98 per cent. for 1922.

The percentage of arrests or summonses resulting from the offences reported was 96.93 per cent., the figures for the previous year showing 96 per cent.

On the 31st March the strength of the Police Force was thirty-three of all ranks, being made up of five Europeans and twenty-eight Native police. This shows a reduction of three during the year. Proportion of police to population, 1 to 1,122.6.

## PRISONS.

The total number of prisoners received at the Gaol during the year was 420, and the total discharged 433.

During the year the prisoners have been employed cleaning and keeping clean Government lands and grounds, and in keeping the Hospital grounds clean in return for medical attendance.

The health of the prisoners has been good: the Gaol Surgeon visits the Prison regularly and attends to all cases of sickness.

#### MENTAL PATIENTS.

The number of patients at the end of the year was the same as at the commencement—viz., two male and two female Samoans.

RETURN SHOWING THE NUMBER OF OFFENCES REPORTED, THE NUMBER OF OFFENCES FOR WHICH PERSONS WERE APPREHENDED OR SUMMONED, THE NUMBER OF PERSONS CONVICTED OR DISMISSED, AND A COMPARISON OF CRIME DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1922, AND THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1923.

	1922.		1923.				Offences reported.	
	Offences reported.	Offences reported.	Number arrested or summoned.	Number convicted.		Number dismissed or withdrawn.	Increase.	Decrease.
Misleading justice—				M.	F.	M.	F.	
Bribery, attempted .. .. .	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Perjury .. .. .	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Perverting course of justice .. .. .	..	1	1	..	..	1	..	1
Escape from custody—								
Escape from legal custody .. .. .	2	1	1	1	..	..	..	1
Offences against morality—								
Adultery .. .. .	13	15	15	8	7	..	..	2
Abduction to carnally know .. .. .	..	30	30	27	1	2	..	30
Aiding abduction .. .. .	..	4	4	3	1	..	..	4
Bigamy .. .. .	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Offences against the person—								
Assault, common .. .. .	69	72	72	61	4	6	1	3
Assault, causing bodily harm .. .. .	10	4	4	3	..	1	..	6
Assault, indecent .. .. .	3	3	3	3	..	..	..	..
Carnal knowledge .. .. .	1	1	1	1	..	..	..	..
Rape .. .. .	4	3	3	1	..	2	..	1
Rape, attempted .. .. .	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Rape, aiding .. .. .	4	3	3	..	..	3	..	1
Manslaughter .. .. .	..	1	1	..	..	1	..	1
Threats to kill .. .. .	..	3	3	1	..	2	..	3
Offences against the rights of property—								
Burglary .. .. .	5	12	8	6	..	2	..	7
Thefts from dwellings .. .. .	8	18	15	9	1	5	..	10
Unlawful entry .. .. .	..	2	2	2	..	..	..	2
Theft .. .. .	113	88	75	45	8	22	..	25
Receiving stolen property .. .. .	..	7	7	5	..	2	..	7
False pretences .. .. .	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Forgery .. .. .	4	2	2	2	..	..	..	2
Shop-breaking .. .. .	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Trespass .. .. .	15	20	20	15	3	2	..	5
Gaming offences .. .. .	12	2	2	2	..	..	..	10
Arms Ordinance—								
Unlawful transfer .. .. .	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Unlawfully in possession .. .. .	7	2	2	2	..	..	..	5
Having unlicensed firearm .. .. .	..	1	1	..	..	1	..	1
Presenting a gun at another .. .. .	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	1
Police offences—								
Breach of the peace .. .. .	40	30	30	18	2	10	..	10
Disorderly conduct .. .. .	..	11	11	8	3	..	..	11
Drunkenness .. .. .	5	14	14	14	..	..	..	9
Cruelty to animals .. .. .	19	9	9	8	..	1	..	10
Indecent acts .. .. .	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Stone-throwing .. .. .	..	5	5	5	..	..	..	5
Damaging property .. .. .	..	3	3	3	..	..	..	3
Insulting language .. .. .	10	1	1	1	..	..	..	9
Converting animals or vehicles to own use .. .. .	..	3	3	3	..	..	..	3
Taking part in an affray .. .. .	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Taking part in a riot .. .. .	9	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
Opium offences—								
Opium-smuggling .. .. .	1	2	2	2	..	..	..	1
Opium-smoking .. .. .	1	1	1	1	..	..	..	..
In possession of opium .. .. .	4	1	1	1	..	..	..	3
Liquor offences—								
Manufacturing liquor .. .. .	2	21	21	16	2	1	2	19
Liquor found on occupied premises .. .. .	..	3	3	2	1	..	..	3
In possession of liquor .. .. .	3	4	4	3	..	1	..	1
Importing liquor .. .. .	2	6	6	5	1	..	..	4
Concealing liquor .. .. .	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	1
Selling liquor .. .. .	2	4	4	3	1	..	..	2
Breach of Distillation Act .. .. .	6	2	2	2	..	..	..	4
Consuming methylated spirits .. .. .	5	30	30	29	..	1	..	25
Samoans consuming liquor .. .. .	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Supplying liquor to Samoans .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

RETURN SHOWING THE NUMBER OF OFFENCES REPORTED, ETC.—*continued.*

	1922.	1923.					Offences reported.	
	Offences reported.	Offences reported.	Number arrested or Summoned.	Number convicted.	Number dismissed or withdrawn.		Increase.	Decrease.
By-law breaches—				M.	F.	M.	F.	
Cattle trespass .. .. .	62	6	6	6	..	..	..	56
Wandering pigs .. .. .	..	10	10	6	2	2	..	10
Insanitary pigsties .. .. .	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Negligent driving .. .. .	43	27	27	26	1	..	..	16
Negligent riding .. .. .	..	7	7	5	..	2	..	7
Driving without lights .. .. .	23	36	36	33	1	2	..	13
Driving without license .. .. .	7	66	66	66	..	..	..	59
Unattended vehicles .. .. .	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	1
Furious driving .. .. .	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Public nuisance .. .. .	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	1
Miscellaneous—								
Restricted immigrants, unlawfully landing .. .. .	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Concealment of birth .. .. .	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Land-weeding Regulations .. .. .	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Dynamiting fish .. .. .	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Shooting pigeons out of season .. .. .	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Breach of Chinese Contract Labour Ordinance .. .. .	180	..	..	..	..	..	..	180
Breach of Pacific Island Contract Labour Ordinance .. .. .	..	44	44	1	..	43	..	44
Breach of Permit Regulations .. .. .	2	2	2	2	..	..	..	..
Breach of Harbour Regulations .. .. .	8	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
Bathing without <i>lavalava</i> .. .. .	..	2	2	..	..	2	..	2
Unregistered dog .. .. .	..	1	1	..	1	..	..	1
Keeping vicious dog .. .. .	..	1	1	..	1	..	..	1
Failing to have collar on dog .. .. .	..	1	1	..	1	..	..	1
Totals .. .. .	752	652	632	470	42	117	3	304

## POST AND TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT.

*Savings-bank.*—The Savings-bank Branch shows a decline. The deposits are £21,850 8s. 8d., withdrawals £25,795 0s. 5d. The total amount (including interest) at credit of depositors is £36,740 1s. 1d., a decrease of £2,513 12s. 4d. on the previous year's total. Although there has been an excess of withdrawals, new accounts are still being opened. During the year 137 accounts were opened and 103 closed, leaving a total of 415, an increase of 34 for the year.

*Private Boxes.*—The boxes have been all let, and arrangements have been made for the erection of additional boxes. The amount of revenue derived from this item is £91 8s. 5d.

*Money-orders.*—The money-orders issued numbered 1,310 for a total of £10,233 15s. 7d.; commission on money-orders amounted to £95 2s. 1d. Money-orders paid were 199, totalling £1,102 13s. 1d.

*Postal Notes and British Postal Orders.*—Sales in this branch amounted to—Notes, £683 5s. 5d.; orders, £98 8s. 2d.

*Post-office.*—Mail-matter delivered and posted in Samoa during the year, estimated from a general average: the numbers were as follows:—

Delivered—							
Letters .. .. .	..	..	..	..	113,000		
Other articles .. .. .	..	..	..	..	81,141		
						194,141	
Registered letters delivered .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	2,635	
Parcels .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	2,331	
Posted—							
Letters .. .. .	..	..	..	..	95,513		
Other articles .. .. .	..	..	..	..	16,068		
						111,581	
Registered articles posted .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	3,053	
Parcels .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	902	

Customs duty amounting to £776 6s. 11d. was collected on parcels.

*Stamps.*—Stamp sales amounted to £1,287 3s. 9d., a decrease of £2,000 compared with last year. This decrease is due to the reduction in postal rates.

*Telephones.*—The fees amounted to £1,206 7s. 10d., as compared with £1,321 11s. 3d. last year. The telephone system is far from being satisfactory. The Telegraph Engineer from Auckland has inspected the system and reported accordingly. In the near future, perhaps, something may be done to bring about a more suitable system.

*Work performed for other Departments.*—Accounts collected for other Departments of the Administration amounted to £5,766 18s. 10d. On behalf of the New Zealand Government, for "miscellaneous receipts" the sum of £994 12s. 1d. was collected, and "miscellaneous payments" amounted to £982 4s. 1d. For the Customs Department, Samoa, £776 6s. 11d. was collected.

## POST AND TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1924.

Year 1923-24.	Mail-matter delivered.					Mail-matter posted.			
	Letters and Letter-cards.	Other Articles.	Registered Articles.	Parcels.		Letters and Letter-cards.	Other Articles.	Registered Articles.	Parcels.
				No.	Duty.				
					£ s. d.				
April-June .. ..	25,900	16,800	499	513	133 11 3	23,700	2,100	825	189
July-September .. ..	30,114	19,296	605	550	205 19 7	21,963	3,816	837	188
October-December .. ..	34,570	25,320	1,026	707	267 15 0	33,560	7,200	525	370
January-March .. ..	22,416	19,725	505	561	169 1 1	16,290	2,952	866	155
Totals .. ..	113,000	81,141	2,635	2,331	776 6 11	95,513	16,068	3,053	902
Totals for previous year .. ..	115,056	80,104	2,229	2,426	649 9 0	102,838	16,559	3,669	1,212

## Money-orders and Savings-bank.

Year 1923-24.	Money-orders issued.			Money-orders paid.		Postal-notes and British Postal-orders.	
	No.	Commission.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	Issued.	Paid.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
April-June .. ..	356	21 4 11	2,262 11 4	42	217 12 5	152 15 10	21 11 4
July-September .. ..	427	26 19 10	2,959 19 7	56	433 8 6	200 5 11	20 15 7
October-December .. ..	480	26 2 7	2,706 0 8	63	288 8 11	181 16 3	33 14 4
January-March .. ..	319	20 14 9	2,305 4 0	38	163 3 3	148 7 5	22 6 11
Totals .. ..	1,582	95 2 1	10,233 15 7	199	1,102 13 1	683 5 5	98 8 2
Totals for previous year .. ..	1,628	97 1 2	10,396 17 8	190	1,248 14 6	660 19 0	101 11 3

## Receipts due to Samoan Administration

Year 1923-24.	Stamp Sales.	Radio Fecs.	Sale of Gazettes.	Miscellaneous Receipts.	Telephone Receipts.	Private Boxes.	Code Addresses.	Collected for other Departments.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
April-June .. ..	419 12 8	479 2 2	2 0 6	2 13 10	397 6 0	5 5 1	0 14 4	1,205 14 2
July-September .. ..	337 11 9	502 0 7	0 19 0	..	299 0 5	0 10 0	0 10 0	1,511 13 8
October-December .. ..	310 6 10	486 17 2	0 3 6	0 15 0	158 0 11	1 0 0	..	2,089 12 4
January-March .. ..	219 12 7	537 19 9	1 4 0	1 0 0	352 0 6	69 13 4	12 0 0	959 18 8
Totals .. ..	1,287 3 9	2,005 19 8	4 7 0	4 8 10	1,206 7 10	76 8 5	13 4 4	5,766 18 10
Totals for previous year .. ..	3,316 16 21	1,605 11 10	9 0 0	5 5 0	1,321 11 3	98 11 3	11 12 4	6,738 14 9

## Savings-bank.

Year 1923-24.	Accounts opened.	Accounts closed.	Deposits.	Withdrawals.	Amount at Credit of Depositors.	Invested.	In Hand.	Accounts Open.
			£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
April-June .. ..	36	22	6,708 1 8	5,073 10 5	40,888 4 8	31,189 0 0	4,494 10 3	395
July-September .. ..	38	30	5,836 5 3	7,151 14 4	38,572 15 7	35,698 0 0	4,443 10 4	403
October-December .. ..	16	25	4,374 16 2	6,926 7 8	36,921 4 1	35,698 0 0	1,244 12 3	394
January-March .. ..	47	26	4,931 5 7	6,643 8 0	36,740 1 1	35,698 0 0	1,130 12 8	415
Totals .. ..	137	103	21,850 8 8	25,795 0 5	..	..	..	..
Totals for previous year .. ..	151	73	30,484 17 0	21,781 1 7	..	..	..	381

## Transactions on Account of the New Zealand Government.

Year 1923-24.	Receipts.				Payments.		
	Superannuation.	Government Insurance.	National Provident.	Miscellaneous.	Pensions.	Superannuation.	Miscellaneous.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
April-June .. ..	229 9 7	30 0 3	4 0 6	2 13 10	121 4 3	52 19 6	13 8 10
July-September .. ..	263 13 0	36 17 4	9 10 11	..	91 1 8	105 19 0	148 8 5
October-December .. ..	124 3 10	25 7 9	6 7 2	5 0 6	81 2 11	79 9 3	12 15 0
January-April .. ..	207 17 1	37 6 0	10 4 3	2 0 1	139 18 9	123 4 0	12 12 6
Totals .. ..	825 3 6	129 11 4	30 2 10	9 14 5	433 7 7	361 11 9	187 4 9
Totals for previous year .. ..	592 7 10	131 9 9	3 17 2	448 10 11	513 1 5	305 16 7	81 15 8

## RADIO STATION.

The station has maintained, without interruption, communication with New Zealand and those island stations for whose radio traffic it is responsible.

A 70 horse-power "Allen" engine and generator to replace the German one which broke down in February, 1923—as referred to in the last report—has now been installed, and has been running for two months. It is proving quite satisfactory, and the station is now complete.

A more comprehensive scheme of weather reporting to shipping was commenced on the 1st October, 1923. Apia-Radio now collects reports from Tonga, Tahiti, Rarotonga, Fiji, Norfolk Island, New Hebrides, and, together with Apia's report, broadcasts the information twice daily during the hurricane season and once daily in the non-hurricane season.

Radio-telegraph communication with Savai'i was inaugurated on the 1st October, 1923, since which date reliable daylight communication has been maintained.

With a view to ascertaining if Samoan boys can be trained to fill positions as operators, a training class has been recently formed. Sufficient time has not yet been spent in training to be able to report on progress.

*Return of Traffic handled by Apia-Radio for the Year April, 1923, to March, 1924.*

Month.	Messages.	Words.	Amount earned by Apia-Radio.
1923.			£ s. d.
April .. .. .	1,352	14,616	288 0 6
May .. .. .	1,261	15,329	287 16 10
June .. .. .	1,207	13,907	268 6 9
July .. .. .	1,202	14,279	267 18 3
August .. .. .	1,392	16,610	322 17 4
September .. .. .	1,324	16,026	307 13 7
October .. .. .	1,275	14,753	275 18 2
November .. .. .	1,228	14,090	270 4 6
December .. .. .	1,240	13,400	255 16 2
1924.			
January .. .. .	1,182	13,517	255 6 6
February .. .. .	1,250	13,931	275 2 4
March .. .. .	1,485	16,720	336 7 5
Total .. .. .	15,398	177,178	3,414 8 4

*Details of Engine-running, Oil-consumption, &c.*

Month.	Total Engine-running Time.	Monthly Consumption Crude Oil.	Consumption per hour.	High-power-Transmitting Time.
1923.	Hrs. min.	Gallons.	Gallons.	Hours.
April .. .. .	120 30	300	2.5	2
May .. .. .	144 45	455	2.9	2
June .. .. .	138 30	350	2.6	2
July .. .. .	136 45	340	2.5	2
August .. .. .	137 15	361	2.6	2
September .. .. .	137 45	389	2.5	2
October .. .. .	142 30	360	2.5	2
November .. .. .	141 15	271	1.9	2
December .. .. .	140 45	374	2.6	2
1924.				
January .. .. .	145 15	393	2.7	2
February* .. .. .	120 00	658	5.5	2
March† .. .. .	96 45	255	2.6	2

\* New Allen engine installed and tested this month.

† Allen started at 24 times, Swiderski 3 times.

## LANDS AND SURVEY DEPARTMENT.

During the year the plan of the business portion of Apia was completed, and the lithographs of same have now been published.

Compass surveys of Native villages, a hydro-electric scheme, and Crown Estates land for Native cultivations were undertaken.

Theodolite surveys of isolated Court grants were made and based on true meridian from stellar and solar observations, and others, as enumerated on the accompanying schedule, connected to the standard coast traverse. The standard coast traverse was extended four miles to the east of Apia, and all surveys within the scope of the work connected up.

Preliminary engineering, road surveys, and of Native water-supplies were undertaken for the Public Works Department.



## WORK FOR THE YEAR.

Class of Work.	Field-work.			Office-work.						
	Acres.	Miles.	Total Cost.	Plans placed on Instruments of Title.		Plans examined.	Plans approved.	Plans drawn.	Tracings.	Lithographs and Maps mounted.
				Leases.	Free-hold.					
Topographical ..	199.75	1.60	£ 7.10	..	3	1	1	..	5	..
Rural ..	240.50	0.10	84.78	3	48	28	10	9	12	..
Town ..	82.25	..	8.60	..	14	..	..	2	9	..
Native ..	3.05	..	7.85	3	..	31	20	5	23	..
Standard traverse—										
Rural boundaries ..	..	0.80	5.85	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Rural roads ..	..	4.85	27.70	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Miscellaneous ..	778.25	10.00	63.85	..	..	5	..	31	70	66
Totals ..	1,303.80	17.35	205.73	6	65	65	31	47	120	66

## PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

## MAINTENANCE OF BUILDINGS.

The usual maintenance of residences and other Government buildings has been attended to. Four residences have been completely renovated, and partial renovations have been effected to five others.

## NEW CONSTRUCTION AND OTHER IMPROVEMENTS.

*Valima*.—Additions were made to the kitchen and laundry, new stoves fitted, with hot-water service, new drying-room constructed, drainage extended, new W.C. fitted, and improvements effected to the ballroom.

*Residence of Secretary to Resident Commissioner, Savai'i*.—A new kitchen and fittings were erected, and the residence thoroughly renovated.

*Schools*.—Sanitary arrangements for the whole of the schools have been completed, and a shelter was fitted up as a school-room and completely renovated. New *fales* were erected as follows: Two at Vaipouli, Savai'i; one at Malifa; three at the Avele Agricultural School (completed); one at the Avele Agricultural School (in course of erection). One of the class-rooms at Malifa was completely renovated, painted, and minor repairs carried out.

*Central Hotel*.—All guest-rooms were mosquito-proofed, renovated internally, and fitted with electric light.

*Hospital, Apia*.—Repairs were effected to all the Native *fales*, to the ventilators in the research-room, and minor repairs executed to the main building. The operating-room was also fitted up.

*Medical Out-stations, Tuasivi*.—A pig-proof fence was erected around the hospital, and an 8,000-gallon redwood tank was constructed.

*Aleipata*.—The new medical out-station at Lalomanu has now been completed, comprising a new residence for the doctor, outbuildings, dispensary, three Native hospital *fales*, nurses' *fale*, two cook-houses, and W.C. for the use of Native patients. The compound, consisting of about  $3\frac{1}{2}$  acres, was fenced in, and provision for water was made by the erection of a cistern of concrete, with a 3,000-gallon capacity.

*Wireless Station*.—A new engine-bed was laid down, and extensions and repairs to the engine-room building were effected.

*Customs*.—Extensive repairs to verandahs and guttering were carried out, and a new car-shed was erected.

*Observatory*.—A hut for atmospheric electrical observations was erected on the reef near the Observatory, and the residences were painted and renovated.

*Native Office, Mulinu'u*.—The offices at Mulinu'u were completely renovated, partitions and counters were fitted, and a records-room and new offices for the Native clerks were erected.

*New Cemetery*.—A portion of the new cemetery was fenced in, and new gates have been erected.

*Old Cemetery*.—The fence was thoroughly repaired, and headstones for the graves of fallen soldiers were erected.

*Copra-drier, Malie*.—A new copra sun-drier for the Natives at Malie was constructed.

*Gaol, Vaimea*.—New posts and rails were fitted around the compound fence, making the latter thoroughly secure.

*S.s. "Lady Roberts"*.—The whole of the internal accommodation-way was removed, hatchings cut forward and aft, and space for 70 tons of cargo provided. A new deck-house, with two W.C.s, was fitted up aft, and one W.C. for Natives was constructed on the port side forward. A new fore-castle-head was fitted, a new funnel made for the galley-range, and all wash-ports and scuppers overhauled. The false deck forward was removed, beams cut out, two gusset plates fitted to hold stanchions and keelson. Two new rooms were also fitted up for the mate and engineer.

## MAINTENANCE OF ROADS.

Stone-crushing was carried out intermittently during the first quarter, after which the plant was closed down, brought into Apia, and thoroughly overhauled,

The following statement shows the principal work carried out :—

*Apia to Mulifanua Road.*—The road from Vaiusu was repaired as far as Malie, 100 chains being rolled, blinded, and tarred, while the balance was re-formed and surfaced with rotten rock. Sixty chains of road at Faleasiu were re-formed by the Samoans under supervision, and a deviation of the road was also completed.

*Apia to Falefa.*—Repairs to part of this road were carried out by the Samoans at Letogo, under contract and supervision, and very satisfactory work was done, including re-forming and metalling. Slips on the road at Letogo and Lotoanu were also cleared by the Samoans.

*New Faipule Road.*—The clearing, formation, and metalling of this road was undertaken by the Natives, and completed under the leadership of Fonoti and the supervision of the Public Works Department. The new road is 50 chains long and 25 ft. in width. No difficulty was experienced in getting the Natives to do roadwork, and inquiries for work similar to the Faipule Road continue to come from all districts.

*Malololelei Road.*—Repairs to the Vailima-Malololelei Road have been carried out.

*Flood-damage.*—A considerable amount of extra work on roads has been necessitated by the damage done by the heavy floods in March, 1923, and this has caused the new work done to be limited.

#### BRIDGES.

Five new bridges were erected in Australian hardwoods at the following places : Apia (Mulivai), Afega, Vaivase, Fagali'i (two).

*Tuaefu.*—This steel bridge was chipped and painted.

*Lufi Lufi.*—A small footbridge for the use of the Natives was erected, the Natives building the stone approaches.

*Solo Solo.*—This steel bridge was chipped and painted.

*General.*—All bridges in Upolu have received minor repairs, but several built in Oregon pine will require to be renewed.

#### ROADS AND BRIDGES, SAVAI'I.

Minor repairs to roads and bridges have been carried out intermittently, and all urgent repairs attended to.

#### APIA WATERWORKS.

A 2½ in. and a 2 in. main was extended from Papaseea Road to Vaiusu for a distance of about 60 chains. The intake to the water-supply was improved, and fifty-two connections were made to the mains during the year, making a total of 306 connections to date.

#### NATIVE WATER-SUPPLIES.

Several minor repairs to native water-supplies were dealt with, and a number of schemes investigated, and the Natives informed of the amounts of money they would be asked to collect if the schemes were proceeded with.

#### IMPROVEMENT OF PASSAGES.

*Savai'i.*—The blasting of passages has now been taken over by the Harbour Department. A number of beacons and pins were made, the passage at Palauli was blasted out, and pins were erected at Safune and Salailua.

#### WORKSHOPS.

The joinery, blacksmiths', plumbers' and painters' shops have been carried on continuously during the year.

#### CLEANING GOVERNMENT GROUNDS, STREET-CLEANING, AND RUBBISH COLLECTION.

The above services in the Town of Apia have all been carried on continuously during the year by the Department.

Arrangements were made locally for an electric supply for street-lighting from the Vaisigano Bridge to the lower leading-light near the Mulivai Stream. This supply has proved to be eminently satisfactory. The lower leading-light has also been electrified.

The rubbish-dump has been considerably improved, loop tram-lines have been installed over the swamp, and the rubbish is now being utilized for reclamation purposes.

#### SURVEYS.

A road over the cliffs at Saleapaga, in Lepa, was surveyed for the Natives, in order to give them a better entrance to their plantations.

#### SUPPLIES PURCHASE DEPARTMENT.

The accompanying return tabulates the work carried out by this Department during the year.

On account of generally falling markets, purchases have been made more favourably than heretofore. The policy of concentrating under the control of the Supplies Purchase Officer the whole of the purchasing required by all departments of the Administration has continued to give satisfactory results, especially from an economy point of view.

Every effort is made to forecast the Administration's requirements in stores and supplies sufficiently early to enable competitive quotations to be obtained in every possible market, and so avoid the loss that must necessarily occur if rush orders have to be placed without competition.

## STATISTICAL FIGURES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1924.

	First Quarter.	Second Quarter.	Third Quarter.	Fourth Quarter.	Total.
(a.) Indents received from Departments.. ..	287	277	218	283	1,065
(b.) Orders placed Locally—					
For the Administration .. ..	310	285	213	191	999
For Samoa Crown Estates .. ..	50	22	2	1	75
(c.) Indents despatched overseas—					
For the Administration .. ..	131	76	59	48	314
For Samoa Crown Estates .. ..	21	34	16	5	76
(d.) Orders placed by agents for indents, included in (c)—					
In New Zealand .. ..	235	160	100	103	598
In Australia, &c. .. ..	107	68	48	31	254
(e.) Overseas invoices dealt with .. ..	316	374	231	183	1,104
(f.) Requisitions issued for stores from Samoa Crown Estates for other Departments	58	64	37	36	195
(g.) Requisitions issued for stores from Public Works Department, &c., for other Depart- ments	174	133	108	105	520
(h.) Value of local purchases—	£	£	£	£	£
For the Administration .. ..	1,145	1,574	736	759	4,214
For Samoa Crown Estates .. ..	460	425	60	60	1,005
(i.) Value of goods imported—					
For the Administration .. ..	6,597	6,477	5,354	4,404	22,832
For Samoa Crown Estates .. ..	3,933	5,944	3,173	1,688	14,738
(j.) Value of goods transferred—					
Between Departments .. ..	1,640	985	812	645	4,082
From Samoa Crown Estates .. ..	214	170	81	223	688
Total turnover of Supplies Purchase Depart- ment for Year ending 31st March, 1924	..	..	..	..	52,759

## OBSERVATORY.

The work of the Apia Observatory embraces the observation of terrestrial magnetism, seismology, atmospheric electricity, investigation of the upper air, meteorology, determination of time, and the general supervision of the stations in the South Pacific weather-reporting system.

## MAGNETISM.

Continuous photographic records of the magnetic elements, declination, horizontal and vertical force have been obtained during the past year. Absolute observations for declination and horizontal intensity were taken about once every ten days, and for inclination about once every three days. The magnetic values were reduced to absolute units, and the following table gives the summarized results:—

	1922.	1923.
Declination (east) .. ..	10° 13·6'	10° 16·3'
Dip (south) .. ..	30° 5·6'	30° 6·6'
Horizontal force, C.G.S. unit .. ..	·35241	·35248
Vertical force, C.G.S. unit .. ..	·20423	·20440
Total force, C.G.S. unit .. ..	·40731	·40746

These values have been communicated to the British Admiralty and to the leading hydrographic offices of the world.

The magnetic character of each day, and the hourly values for those days, decided upon by the Commission de Magnetism Terrestre et d'Electricite Atmospherique, have been sent regularly each quarter to the proper authorities at De Bilt, Holland.

At the time of the eclipse of the sun on the 10th September, 1923, special control observations were taken, and reductions were carried out in compliance with the request of Dr. Bauer, Director, Department Terrestrial Magnetism of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, who is collecting information from all parts of the world for determining the effect of the eclipse of the sun on the earth's magnetism.

## SEISMOLOGY.

Complete records have been obtained for the past year on both the 1000 kg. horizontal component Wiechert seismograph, and the 180 kg. vertical seismograph, except for the period August-October, when the clock mechanism for the former instrument was being repaired in New Zealand.

A monthly report of all seismic disturbances has been sent to Professor H. H. Turner, of the British Association Seismology Committee, and to Dr. C. E. Adams, Government Astronomer for New Zealand, to whom also special wireless reports were sent in regard to earthquakes occurring on the 1st September (Japan) and the 2nd November (off coast New Guinea).

Throughout the year 172 earth-movements were recorded, of which sixteen were remote or distant shocks, the remainder being purely local or having their origin within six hundred miles of Samoa. Thirteen shocks were sufficiently strong at Apia to be reported as felt by individuals.

METEOROLOGY.

Continuous records have been obtained throughout the year of the barometric pressure, temperature, sunshine, wind direction and force, and rainfall. The following table gives a summary of the data for pressure, temperature, and rainfall :—

1923.					Pressure : Mean Daily Value, in Inches.	Temperature : Mean Daily Value, in Degrees Fahrenheit.	Rainfall, in Inches.
January	..	..	..	..	29.78	80.6	18.71
February	..	..	..	..	29.80	80.2	18.20
March	..	..	..	..	29.76	79.8	51.08
April	..	..	..	..	29.86	79.5	9.24
May	..	..	..	..	29.86	79.3	6.97
June	..	..	..	..	29.87	77.9	6.61
July	..	..	..	..	29.88	78.4	3.98
August	..	..	..	..	29.92	78.1	6.04
September	..	..	..	..	29.87	77.9	4.37
October	..	..	..	..	29.90	78.3	3.12
November	..	..	..	..	29.82	78.1	7.89
December	..	..	..	..	29.82	78.9	12.33
Year	..	..	..	..	29.84	78.9	148.54

The year was unmarked by any outstanding events. The Samoan Islands have continued their good fortune to be free from any cyclones or gales. The precipitation during May and June, 1923, was slightly under the normal, and the precipitation during the present rainy season, November-March inclusive, has been 62.04 in., which is 7.53 in. less than the average of the past thirty-four years. The mean temperature for the year 1923 was 78.9° F., the highest temperature, of 91.1° F., occurring on the 24th February, and the lowest, of 65.3° F., on the 16th September. The mean barometric pressure was 29.84 in., with the maximum value of 30.03 in. on the 14th June and 9th October, and minimum value of 29.57 in. on the 7th March.

*Atmospheric Electricity.*—Continuous records of the electrical potential of the atmosphere have been obtained at the land station in the grounds of the Observatory. These records have been reduced and the results analyzed and abstracted. The records and computations have been forwarded monthly to the Department of Terrestrial Magnetism of the Carnegie Institution of Washington.

A special reinforced-concrete observation-house has been constructed in the shallow water inside the reef, about one-third of a mile from the shore. This building has been equipped with a Benndorf electrometer giving a second record of potential-gradient, free from the disturbing land agencies which are present at the station in the Observatory grounds. There are, however, small changes in the electrical conditions in the vicinity of the house, introduced through the rise and fall of the tides. In order to obtain a measure of these effects a tide-gauge of the most modern type has been obtained.

*Upper-air Work.*—During the past year an investigation has been started on the currents existing in the upper air. Beginning in June, 1923, pilot balloons have been set free on every opportunity in which there seemed a reasonable possibility that the sky would be clear for thirty minutes, in which time a free balloon would reach an altitude of three miles. Up to the 31st March 104 balloons had been inflated and released, but for various reasons it had been only possible to follow fifty to the heights desired. The greatest observed altitude reached by a balloon was 13.1 miles, on the 15th December.

Results of the observations of the upper-air currents for those days selected by international agreement have been forwarded to the Commission Internationale pour l'Exploration de la Haute Atmosphere, Kristiania, Norway.

The United States Weather Bureau has given the Observatory on indefinite loan a special balloon plotting-board and accessory scale, a special balance which indicates as well as weighs the amount of hydrogen necessary to inflate a balloon, and a complete and generous supply of the Weather Bureau reduction form. The Canadian Meteorological Service has given a theodolite to enable observations to be taken at a second station. This will allow the rate of ascent to be determined by triangulation and make possible a determination of the vertical air currents.

*South Pacific Weather-reporting System.*—During April, 1923, and from the 1st November to the present, weather reports have been sent twice daily to the Apia Wireless Station for broadcasting. In the trade-wind season, from May to October, only one report a day, at 9 a.m., has been forwarded to the station.

The following stations transmit their reports to Apia, and are under the general supervision of the Observatory : Tahiti, Rarotonga, Nukualofa, Suva, Norfolk Island, and New Hebrides.

The Observatory has compared and furnished standardization certificates for eleven aneroid barometers, and rated six ships' chronometers.

*Time-service.*—Correct time has been supplied regularly at 9 a.m. every morning throughout the year to the Post Office, and twice a week to the pilot-station for firing the noon gun.

Astronomical observations are made once a week to check the Observatory standard clock. A small radio receiving-set has been installed, in January, to obtain the Honolulu time-signals.

#### BOARD OF TRADE.

The second year of its existence has proved one of considerable activity on the part of the Samoa Board of Trade. The functions and general policy of the Board were briefly set out in last year's report, and on those lines work has since been carried out, prominence being given to the encouragement of industry.

#### AGRICULTURAL SHOW AND FAIR.

The first Samoan Agricultural Show and Fair was held on the 2nd and 4th June, 1923, and, considering that this was the first function of the kind promoted in Samoa, it was very successful. Especially was this so in the Industrial Section, where the number of exhibits far exceeded the expectations of the most sanguine.

The show was undoubtedly of great educational value and benefit to the community generally, and, it is hoped, will prove the forerunner of similar and larger displays in future.

#### COPRA.

There was a steady decline in London values during the first few months of the year under review, the price touching bottom in July, when it stood at £22 15s. per ton. From that date the market gradually recovered, until in January last copra stood at the very satisfactory figure of close upon £30 per ton. Local buying-prices moved in sympathy, reaching as high as 3½ cents per pound in Apia. London values receded somewhat subsequently, and at the end of March the price stood at £27 5s.

With a view to increasing the quantity and quality of the copra produced by the Samoans, a district competition was commenced on the 1st January last. The islands have been divided up into a number of copra districts, and it is proposed to award a cash prize of £50 to the district showing for the year—(a) the largest increase in output, (b) the most marked improvement in quality, (c) the greatest improvement in care of plantations. In addition to the cash prize, shields will be awarded to the best district in Savai'i and the best district in Upolu. These shields will be competed for annually.

As a further aid to increased production, the Samoans are being encouraged to erect small hot-air driers, especially in districts where the weather is more or less uncertain. Competitive designs for a small hot-air drier to be erected at the expense of and for the use of Samoan families were invited. A suitable design was eventually accepted, and a sample drier erected at the Agricultural Farm. This was duly demonstrated, and proved so acceptable that a number are now on order for different parts of the Territory. The drier is a very small, compact affair, with a capacity of about 1,000 lb. weight of green copra.

#### CACAO.

For the first nine months of the year just closed the outlook for local cacao-growers was most depressing. Not only were the market prices bad and the demand for this product very short indeed, but the crop itself was an exceedingly poor one owing to adverse weather conditions. In January last, however, prices abroad improved appreciably, as did demands. At first inquiries were slow, but eventually demand for supplies poured in from London, San Francisco, Australia, and New Zealand, until the stocks in hand were almost completely disposed of. Further, the new year's crop was an exceedingly good one: the exports for the March quarter, 1924, totalled 296 tons; or 75 tons more than the total export for the preceding twelve months.

#### MAT AND BASKET MAKING.

The possibilities of finding a market abroad for Native-made mats and baskets is being investigated. It is feared, however, that on account of the comparatively high prices asked by the Natives for their labour, and the irregularity of manufacture and supply, the prospects of success are poor at present.

#### BALANCE OF TRADE.

The total trade for the calendar year ending 31st December last amounted to £557,655, of which imports contributed £268,881 and exports £288,774. The balance of trade has been well maintained, the exports keeping ahead of the imports, in spite of the excessive importations of 1920-21. The following summary of the figures for the past ten years shows the position :—

	Imports.	Exports.	Total Trade.
	£	£	£
1914 .. ..	236,239	220,519	456,758
1915 .. ..	267,091	262,389	529,480
1916 .. ..	180,340	235,415	415,755
1917 .. ..	301,173	320,444	621,617
1918 .. ..	309,396	306,640	616,036
1919 .. ..	291,368	532,500	823,868
1920 .. ..	561,153	386,587	947,740
1921 .. ..	408,892	241,539	650,431
1922 .. ..	282,939	365,610	648,549
1923 .. ..	268,881	288,774	557,655
	£3,107,472	£3,160,417	£6,267,889

## TRADE OUTLOOK.

With regard to the outlook for 1924-25, the year is commencing well. The price of copra is comparatively good, and if cacao prices continue to improve it should enable the planters to get upon their feet again. Both copra and cacao promise to be in fair supply. A fair average year is looked forward to.

## PUBLIC TRUST OFFICE.

The Samoan Public Trust Office, which was constituted under the Samoa Public Trust Office Order of 1921, became a Department of the Administration as from the 1st January last.

## PUBLIC TRUST OFFICE WORK.

During its existence the Office has handled about fifty estates, of an approximate value of £40,000. Though small in number, the estates represent every class of asset imaginable, and the difficulty of administration is frequently quite out of proportion to the value of the property.

The establishing of the Office has filled a real need here, as it will ensure the proper administration of all deceased estates. In a number of cases in the past no such proper steps were taken. As an instance, an estate is now in course of completion where a period of fifty-four years had elapsed between the date of death and the granting of letters of administration.

The fact that deceased estates can now be handled by fully qualified and impartial persons is a matter of considerable public importance in itself, and the Department has the full confidence of the local community.

## CLEARING-OFFICE WORK.

An important function of Public Trust Office has been to act as a clearing-house for the settlement of real property of Germans which was vested in the New Zealand Government under the Samoan Crown Estates Order and for the personal property of German absentees or repatriatees. In addition, the books of all the former German companies have been completed, and these businesses are now being finally liquidated.

## OFFICIAL ASSIGNEE WORK.

The Public Trustee also holds the appointment of Official Assignee, but, owing to the extraordinarily lenient credit system in vogue in Samoa, there has been little work in this direction so far.

## GENERAL.

The Public Trust Office now also carries out the functions of local auditor of Administration accounts.

The fact should be emphasized that the Department is entirely self-supporting. Moreover, by advancing on mortgage some £6,250 of its funds to local planters and others it has been of some assistance during the last year or two of financial stress.

## CROWN ESTATES.

During the year the cost of maintenance of the Crown estates has been reduced by approximately £21,500. This reduction is due mainly to an all-round reduction of labour and decreased cost of recruiting and repatriation charges for Chinese. The average monthly total of labour employed throughout the year was 952, as compared with 1,168 for the previous year.

Unfortunately there has also been a drop in revenue amounting to some £14,000, due to the reduced output of copra and cocoa.

During March-April, 1923, very heavy and prolonged gales were experienced over the whole island, and it is considered by most experienced planters in Samoa that these conditions were responsible for the heavy loss of copra as compared with the previous year. Added to this factor was the very dry spell following after the gales, resulting in a very poor fall of nuts, and the inclusion of a very large percentage of immature nuts right up to November-December.

Whilst the immediate results of the March gales have shown up in a considerable reduction of the copra output, it is thought that the ultimate result may be of considerable benefit to the palms, by producing a stimulating effect upon the root-growth and so producing a more vigorous growth of nuts during the succeeding years.

The poor crop of cocoa-beans may be attributed almost entirely to the March gales. March, April, and May of 1923 were the months when the crop was expected, and reports indicated that a fair crop could be looked for. The harvest proved to be the poorest ever experienced, and the beans of very poor general quality. This year's crop commenced earlier than usual, and reports indicate that same will continue for a longer period than is usual. Every indication points to an exceptionally good crop.

The end of this financial year marks the practical end of this Department as constituted in the past. The change of policy decided upon, and which has been put into effect, now leaves this Department practically free from most activities other than the four plantations—Mulifauna, Vaitete, Vailele, and Magia. It is thought that the recent advertising and activity carried on in New Zealand and elsewhere should result in these plantations being disposed of, thus leaving for the following period only such work as is necessary to finally record the arrangements and liquidate the remaining assets.

## FINANCE.

## REVENUE.

The statement hereunder shows the revenue for the financial year ended 31st March, 1924, including a subsidy from the New Zealand Government; also, for comparative purposes, the revenue for the preceding financial year.

	1922-23.			1923-24.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1. Native taxes .. .. .	9,412	1	6	9,899	2	6
2. Customs, taxes and marine .. .. .	75,468	16	4	68,241	15	11
3. Fees and charges (Court, hospital, &c.), (includes' Native medical subscriptions, £7,327) .. .. .	11,604	14	10	16,969	6	0
4. Post Office and Savings-bank .. .. .	6,421	11	3	5,206	5	1
5. Wireless station .. .. .	4,973	14	5	3,211	19	0
6. Miscellaneous .. .. .	7,369	5	0	6,388	14	1
7. Subsidy from New Zealand Government .. .. .	16,000	0	0	24,000	0	0
Totals .. .. .	£131,250	3	4	£133,917	2	7

NOTE.—The subsidy to the Samoan revenue from the New Zealand Government is based on the additional cost due to the extension of the medical and educational services in the interests of the Native population. New Zealand contributed an extra £6,000 this year in order to cover abnormal losses to roads and bridges caused by the severe and prolonged bad weather at the beginning of the year.

## EXPENDITURE.

The ordinary expenditure for the year ended 31st March, 1924 (excluding special public-works programme as noted below) is as follows, a comparison being shown with the previous year:—

	1922-23.			1923-24.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1. Permanent charges on account of public debt .. .. .	5,323	14	6	4,916	6	7
2. Administrator and Legislature .. .. .	4,833	18	6	7,084	10	2
3. Secretariat .. .. .	2,837	18	6	2,418	0	8
4. Native Department—						
(a.) Head Office and general .. .. .	8,626	14	8	9,546	3	5
(b.) Savai'i section .. .. .	5,999	4	7	5,702	4	10
(c.) Aleipata section .. .. .	854	15	2	608	1	6
5. Treasury, Audit, and Supplies Purchase Office .. .. .	3,732	6	10	3,925	15	3
6. Customs, taxes, and Marine—						
(a.) Customs and taxes .. .. .	2,264	0	5	2,500	12	11
(b.) Harbour Department .. .. .	4,364	7	1	4,106	0	1
(c.) Transport, s.s. "Lady Roberts" .. .. .	..	..	..	3,102	5	4
7. Justice Department .. .. .	3,816	0	10	3,599	0	2
8. Police and Prisons .. .. .	9,422	2	1	8,508	17	4
9. Medical Department .. .. .	25,715	8	4	23,994	10	2
10. Agricultural Department .. .. .	3,786	12	6	5,748	6	10
11. Chinese Department .. .. .	2,207	1	4	1,609	7	6
12. Post Office and Savings-bank .. .. .	5,717	13	6	5,669	5	3
13. Wireless station .. .. .	4,789	0	10	5,329	18	0
14. Education Department .. .. .	6,846	9	9	6,556	0	7
15. Miscellaneous .. .. .	15,479	19	11	14,780	10	9
16. Lands and Survey .. .. .	3,492	14	2	2,113	13	8
17. Public Works Department (general and maintenance) .. .. .	11,452	14	3	16,648	13	1
18. Public Works Department (new works) .. .. .	1,096	0	10	4,541	19	6
Totals .. .. .	£132,658	18	7	£143,010	3	7

## DIRECT NATIVE REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The revenue derived *directly* from the Natives, and the amounts expended *directly* on them, during the year may be stated approximately as follows:—

Revenue derived direct from Natives .. .. .	£18,358
Expenditure directly on Natives .. .. .	£30,000

These amounts are arrived at as follows:—

Revenue derived directly from Natives.		1923-24.		
		£	s.	d.
Native taxes .. .. .	..	9,899	2	6
Native medical levy .. .. .	..	7,327	0	0
Travelling passes .. .. .	..	30	8	0
Survey, land, and titles fees .. .. .	..	564	3	1
Court fees (say) .. .. .	..	500	0	0
Water-rates .. .. .	..	37	10	0
		£18,358	3	7

In addition to the above the Natives indirectly contribute their quota of import duty received owing to Native purchases of goods, but it is almost impossible to arrive at a figure which could be considered as correct. There are also such fees as motor licenses, boat licenses, and shipping fees to be considered.

The second item above (medical levy) represents an annual subscription of £1 per head payable by each adult male Samoan, in return for which medical treatment is free for all Samoans. The Natives themselves are entirely in agreement with the medical levy, and keenly avail themselves of the increased facilities for medical treatment.

*Expenditure directly on the Natives.*

							1923-24.
							£
(a.) Payments directly to Natives :—							
(Salaries and wages (approximate)—							
	Native Department, Samoan staff and officials	..	..	..	..	..	8,500
	Other Departments, Samoan officials	..	..	..	..	..	8,500
	Casual labour employed by Public Works, Harbour Department, &c.						
	(say)	..	..	..	..	..	1,000
(b.) Payments directly on behalf of Natives :—							
	Salaries, European staff, Native Department	..	..	..	..	..	4,200
	Cost of printing <i>Savali</i> (Native Gazette)	..	..	..	..	..	350
	Fono sessional expenses	..	..	..	..	..	700
	Expenses Land and Titles Commission	..	..	..	..	..	670
	Publishing Samoa Act in Samoan language	..	..	..	..	..	110
	Travelling-expenses, Native Department	..	..	..	..	..	850
	Entertainment of Samoans	..	..	..	..	..	400
	Native dog-collars	..	..	..	..	..	60
	Clothing Native police and messengers	..	..	..	..	..	250
	Rations, Police and Prisons	..	..	..	..	..	600
	Upkeep of Samoan lepers at Fiji	..	..	..	..	..	650
	Upkeep Samoan pupils at Auckland	..	..	..	..	..	240
	Educational grant to missions	..	..	..	..	..	500
	Native water-supplies	..	..	..	..	..	300
	Native pensions	..	..	..	..	..	60
	Rents of Native houses	..	..	..	..	..	40
	Rations, Samoan patients and staff at Hospital	..	..	..	..	..	600
	Transport and travelling-expenses, Health Department, in carrying out						
	malagas for treatment of hookworm and yaws (say)	..	..	..	..	..	500
	First Samoan Agricultural show and fair	..	..	..	..	..	400
	Erection of copra-driers	..	..	..	..	..	320
	School food-supplies	..	..	..	..	..	200
							<u>£30,000</u>

NOTE.—In addition to the above the Medical Department and Education Department exist mainly for the benefit of Samoans, and large sums have been spent in these directions. Practically the whole of the expenditure of the Agricultural Department is on behalf of the Samoans generally, while that of the Police Department is mainly incidental to the Natives.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT LOAN ACCOUNT EXPENDITURE.

Expenditure hereunder is paid for out of a loan account fund of £125,000 provided by the New Zealand Government. Of this amount £25,000 has been donated as a gift free of charges, while £100,000 is on loan at 5 per cent. interest and at a sinking-fund rate to repay in thirty years. Since the commencement the expenditure has been as follows :—

							£	s.	d.
1919-20	..	..	..	..	..	..	14,902	0	4
1920-21	..	..	..	..	..	..	29,434	3	10
1921-22	..	..	..	..	..	..	49,229	1	2
1922-23	..	..	..	..	..	..	20,776	16	8
1923-24	..	..	..	..	..	..	5,657	18	0
Total to 31st March, 1924							<u>£120,000</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

This leaves the sum of £5,000 yet to be expended, and this amount has been set aside to be used on Native water-supplies only.

The schedule hereunder gives particulars of the total loan expenditure to 31st March, 1924, showing the various heads :—

Expenditure against Loan Account	..	..	..	..	£125,000
----------------------------------	----	----	----	----	----------



*Actual Expenditure to 31st March, 1924.*

	£	s.	d.
1. Dairy, buildings, &c. .. .. .	..	..	..
2. Stock quarantine .. .. .	..	..	..
3. Hospital extensions—			
(a.) Apia Hospital .. .. .	15,810	15	8
(b.) Tuasivi Hospital .. .. .	3,285	6	4
(c.) Aleipata .. .. .	4,687	0	3
(d.) Leper Station, Fiji .. .. .	1,051	19	1
4. Hotel extension .. .. .	..	..	..
5. Post-office additions .. .. .	996	6	8
6. Ice and cold storage .. .. .	..	..	..
7. Steam-laundry .. .. .	6,169	17	7
8. Electric light, Vailima .. .. .	767	18	0
9. Customs buildings .. .. .	1,016	14	2
10. Motor transport park .. .. .	1,945	0	1
11. Public Works plant .. .. .	2,419	0	2
12. Central Hotel purchase .. .. .	10,000	0	0
13. Hotel equipment and improvements .. .. .	3,520	11	8
14. Apia drainage and waterworks .. .. .	22,136	4	8
15. Hydro-electric scheme .. .. .	..	..	..
16. Channel and passage improvements .. .. .	..	..	..
17. Harbour-dredging .. .. .	377	3	4
18. Native water-supplies .. .. .	4,747	17	10
19. Nurses' quarters .. .. .	..	..	..
20. Wireless quarters .. .. .	2,616	11	1
21. Quarters (renovation) .. .. .	3,945	14	4
22. Quarters (construction) .. .. .	5,266	0	8
23. Police headquarters .. .. .	400	0	0
24. Sea-road protection .. .. .	1,486	11	1
25. Roads and bridges .. .. .	22,182	11	1
26. Sanitation .. .. .	..	..	..
27. Central Office additions .. .. .	750	14	5
28. District schools .. .. .	4,420	14	10
Total .. .. .	£120,000	13	0

TABLE SHOWING A COMPARISON BETWEEN REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE OVER FIVE YEARS.

Year.	Revenue (including Subsidy from New Zealand Government).	Expenditure.					
		Ordinary.		Loan Account.		Total.	
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1920-21 ..	149,026 16 5	147,163 2 2	29,434 3 10	76,597 6 0			
1921-22 ..	135,569 6 10	137,180 18 9	49,229 1 2	186,409 19 11			
1922-23 ..	131,250 3 4	132,658 18 7	20,776 16 8	153,435 15 3			
1923-24 ..	133,917 2 7	143,010 3 7	5,657 18 0	148,668 1 7			
1924-25 ..	127,350 0 0	127,350 0 0	5,000 0 0	132,350 0 0			

NOTE.—In expenditure figures above are included considerable sums set aside as reserves (see balance-sheet); while further sums have been devoted to writing off losses incurred during military occupation, and as a result of actual financial losses in connection with trading concerns carried on for the general benefit of the community. Figures for 1924-25 are according to estimates only.

## A. STATEMENT OF CURRENT ASSETS AND LIABILITIES ON 31ST MARCH, 1923.

<i>Assets.</i>			<i>Liabilities.</i>		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Cash in hand and at bank .. ..	6,269	19 5	Reserves .. .. .	10,549	1 0
Imposts .. .. .	57	13 4	Deposits .. .. .	10,910	16 7
Advances .. .. .	1,435	0 5	Currency notes .. ..	45,000	0 0
German currency .. .. .	95	9 3	Loan Account, N.Z. Government—		
Stores unallocated .. .. .	21,088	0 10	(a) Provided at 5 per		
Loan Works Account—			cent. interest and		
Drainage and water	22,136	4 8	1 per cent. sinking	£	s. d.
supply .. .. .			fund .. .. .	87,000	0 0
Other works .. .. .	92,205	17 4	(b) Provided free of		
			interest (gift) .. ..	25,000	0 0
		114,342 2 0			112,000 0 0
Suspense—			Suspense .. .. .		380 5 6
Chinese Accounts .. ..	1,966	13 11	Surplus and deficit account—		
Trading Accounts .. ..	2,189	18 7	Balance 31st March, 1924 ..		24,308 16 4
		4,156 12 6			
Investments—					
N.Z. Government debentures and in-					
scribed stock .. .. .	55,704	1 8			
	£203,148	19 5		£203,148	19 5

## SAMOAN POST OFFICE SAVINGS-BANK.—STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES ON 31ST MARCH, 1923.

<i>Assets.</i>			<i>Liabilities.</i>		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Cash—Postmaster .. .. .	100	0 1	Balance at credit of depositors including		
Cash—Treasury .. .. .	2,184	6 8	interest to date (£1,102 18s. 9d.) ..	39,255	2 5
Amount due by N.Z. Post Office ..	1,272	15 8			
Investments—					
N.Z. Government inscribed stock ..	35,698	0 0			
	£39,255	2 5		£39,255	2 5

## B. STATEMENT OF CURRENT ASSETS AND LIABILITIES ON 31ST MARCH, 1924.

<i>Assets.</i>			<i>Liabilities.</i>		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Cash in hand and at bank .. ..	2,543	10 8	Reserves .. .. .	12,658	3 1
Imposts .. .. .	50	0 0	Deposits .. .. .	7,418	4 6
Advances .. .. .	4,763	5 7	Currency note-issue .. ..	45,000	0 0
Unallocated stores .. .. .	12,903	2 0	Loan Account, N.Z. Government	120,000	0 0
Loan Works Account—Drainage, water-			Chinese Account—		
supply, &c. .. .. .	120,000	0 0	Repatriation costs, &c. ..	2,963	14 0
Plant .. .. .	786	0 0	Surplus and Deficit Account—		
S.s. "Lady Roberts"—Preliminary ex-			Balance at 31st March, 1924..	15,215	15 4
penses and improvements (ship on loan					
from N.Z. Government) .. ..	1,460	0 0			
Trading Accounts .. .. .	3,065	19 1			
Suspense Accounts .. .. .	553	16 7			
Public Works Loan Redemption Fund					
Investment Account (N.Z. Government					
securities) .. .. .	1,426	1 4			
Investments—					
N.Z. Government debentures and in-					
scribed stock .. .. .	55,704	1 8			
	£203,255	16 11		£203,255	16 11

NOTE.—Regarding assets, these accounts do not include value of land, buildings, and other real property under the control of the Administration, or book debts, department's stocks (except Public Works), furniture and fittings (office and house), horse, trap, and motor transport, &c., paid for out of revenue in previous years. Nor are the assets and liabilities of the Samoa Crown Estates included herein, these being the property of the New Zealand Government.

Revenue is increased by £6,000 extra subsidy from the New Zealand Government, making total subsidy £24,000 for the year.

## STAFF.

Careful attention continues to be given to the question of the staffing of the various Departments, as will be seen from the subjoined table. The increase in number of two as compared with last year is more than accounted for by the increase of five in the number of officers engaged in the Medical Department.

Department.	Report for 1921.	Report for 1922.	Staff as at 31st March, 1923.	Staff as at 31st March, 1924.
Administrator's .. Number ..	Administrator A.D.C. 2	Administrator A.D.C. 2	Administrator A.D.C. 2	Administrator A.D.C. 2
Secretariat .. Number ..	Secretary Assistant Secretary Clerk Typist Typist Typist	Secretary Assistant Secretary Clerk Typist Typist Billeting and Relieving Officer	Secretary Assistant Secretary Clerk Typist Typist Billeting and Relieving Officer	Secretary Assistant Secretary Typist Typist
Agriculture .. Number ..	Director Clerk Farm-managor Inspector Inspector Inspector	Director Clerk Inspector Inspector Inspector	Director Clerk Inspector Inspector Inspector	Director Clerk Inspector Inspector Inspector
Chinese .. Number ..	Commissioner Assistant Commissioner 2	Commissioner Assistant Commissioner 2	Commissioner 1	Commissioner Clerk 2
Customs and Har- bour Number ..	Collector Examining Officer Clerk Clerk Fumigation Officer Harbourmaster	Collector Examining Officer First Clerk Clerk Fumigation Officer Harbourmaster	Collector Examining Officer First Clerk Clerk Fumigation Officer Harbourmaster	Collector Examining Officer First Clerk Clerk Fumigation Officer Harbourmaster
Education .. Number ..	Director Master Assistant Master Assistant Teacher Assistant Teacher Organizing Teacher Organizing Teacher	Director Headmaster Headmaster, District School Mistress Assistant Master Assistant Teacher Assistant Teacher Assistant Teacher Organizing Teacher	Supt. of Schools Headmaster Headmaster, District School Mistress Assistant Master Assistant Teacher Assistant Teacher Assistant Teacher Travelling Teacher	Supt. of Schools Headmaster, District School Headmaster, District School Assistant Master Assistant Teacher Assistant Teacher Assistant Teacher Travelling Teacher Pupil-teacher Pupil-teacher
Justice .. Number ..	Chief Judge Crown Solicitor Assist. Crown Solicitor Registrar, High Court Registrar, Lands	Chief Judge Crown Solicitor Assist. Crown Solicitor and Registrar of Court and Lands	Chief Judge Crown Solicitor Assist. Crown Solicitor and Registrar of Court and Lands	Chief Judge Crown Solicitor Registrar of Court and Deputy Registrar of Lands
Lands and Survey Number ..	Chief Surveyor Chief Draughtsman Field Surveyor Assistant Surveyor Assistant Surveyor	Chief Surveyor Field Surveyor Computing Draughts- man Assistant Surveyor Assistant Surveyor	Chief Surveyor Computing Draughts- man Assistant Surveyor Assistant Surveyor	Chief Surveyor Field Surveyor Computing Draughts- man Assistant Surveyor (Samoan)
Public Works .. Number ..	Engineer in Charge Engineer Cadet Draughtsman Chief Clerk Clerk and Ledger-keeper Storeman Buildings Overseers (2) Road Overseers (2) Foreman Joiner Foreman Plumber Foreman Painter Foreman Mechanic Foreman Shipwright Sanitation Foreman	Engineer in Charge Draughtsman Chief Clerk Clerk and Ledger- keeper Storeman Buildings Overseer Road Overseer Foreman Joiner Foreman Plumber Foreman Painter Foreman Mechanic Foreman Shipwright Sanitation Foreman	Engineer in Charge Draughtsman Chief Clerk Clerk and Ledger- keeper Storeman Buildings Overseer Road Overseer Foreman Painter	Engineer in Charge (included in Lands and Survey Dept.) Draughtsman and Engineer's Assist. Buildings Overseer Road Overseer Chief Clerk Clerk

## STAFF—continued.

Department.	Report for 1921.	Report for 1922.	Staff as at 31st March, 1923.	Staff as at 31st March, 1924.
Health ..	Chief Medical Officer Hospital Supt. Medical Officer Medical Officer Medical Officer Health Officer Dispenser Assistant Dispenser Secretary and Steward Storekeeper Matron Sister Sister Sister Sister Sister Sister Sister Sister Sister	Chief Medical Officer Hospital Supt. Medical Officer Medical Officer Medical Officer District Medical Officer Dispenser Assistant Dispenser Secretary and Steward Storekeeper Matron Sister Sister Sister Sister Sister Sister Sister Sister Sister	Chief Medical Officer Hospital Supt. Medical Officer Medical Officer Medical Officer District Medical Officer Dispenser Assistant Dispenser Secretary and Steward Storekeeper Matron Sister Sister Sister Sister Sister Sister Sister Sister Inspector of Health	Chief Medical Officer Hospital Supt. Medical Officer Medical Officer Medical Officer District Medical Officer District Medical Officer Dispenser Assistant Dispenser Secretary and Steward Storekeeper Typist Clerical Cadet Matron Sister Sister Sister Sister Sister Sister Sister Sister Sister Sister Assistant Pathologist Health Inspector Asst. Health Inspector
Number ..	19	19	20	25
Native Affairs ..	Secretary (also Chief Surveyor) Assistant Secretary Clerk of Court Accountant Chief Translator	Secretary Clerk of Court Accountant Chief Translator	Secretary Assistant Secretary Clerk of Court Accountant Chief Translator	Secretary Assistant Secretary Inspector Chief Translator
Number ..	5	4	5	4
Police ..	Commissioner Inspector Sub-Inspector Sergeant Acct. and Storekeeper Gaoler Constable Constable Interpreter	Commissioner Inspector Sub-Inspector Sergeant Acct. and Storekeeper Gaoler Constable	Commissioner Sub-Inspector Detective Sergeant Sergeant Acct. and Storekeeper Gaoler Constable	Commissioner Sub-Inspector Detective Sergeant Sergeant Acct. and Storekeeper Gaoler Constable
Number ..	9	7	7	7
Postal ..	Postmaster Clerk Clerk Line Foreman	Postmaster Clerk Clerk Line Foreman	Postmaster Clerk Clerk Line Foreman	Postmaster Clerk Clerk Line Foreman
Number ..	4	4	4	4
Resident Commissioners	At Aleipata At Fagamalo Secretary at Fagamalo Agricultural Inspector, Fagamalo	At Aleipata At Fagamalo Secretary at Fagamalo Beetle Inspector, Fagamalo	At Aleipata At Fagamalo Secretary at Fagamalo Beetle Inspector, Fagamalo	At Fagamalo Secretary at Fagamalo Dist. Inspector, Savai'i Dist. Inspector, Savai'i
Number ..	4	4	4	4
Stores ..	Stores-manager Storekeeper Clerk Clerk Typist Clerk	Supplies Purchase Officer Clerk	Supplies Purchase Officer	Stores-manager Clerk
Number ..	6	2	1	2
Treasury ..	Treasurer Accountant Assistant Accountant and Audit Officer Clerk	Treasurer Accountant Assistant Accountant and Audit Officer Clerk	Treasurer Accountant Assistant Accountant and Audit Officer Clerk	Deputy Treasurer Senior Clerk Cashier
Number ..	4	4	4	3
Radio-station ..	Superintendent Senior Operator Operator Operator Operator Operator Operator Engineer Second Engineer	Superintendent Senior Operator Operator Operator Operator Operator Engineer Second Engineer	Superintendent Senior Operator Operator Operator Operator Operator Engineer	Superintendent Senior Operator Operator Operator Operator Operator Engineer Second Engineer
Number ..	9	8	7	8
Miscellaneous ..	Labour Agent	..	..	Billeting and Relieving Officer.
Number ..	1	..	..	1
Grand totals for Administration Departments }	116	103	96	98*

\* Includes 1 Samoan occupying European graded position.

## QUESTIONNAIRE.

### I. SLAVERY.

- (a.) 1. What measures are being taken with a view to insuring the suppression of the slave trade ?  
 2. What results have been obtained ?
- (b.) 1. Is slavery recognized legally ?  
 2. Does domestic or other slavery still exist ? Give statistics.  
 3. What are the principal causes of slavery (gambling, drink, &c.) ?  
 4. Is the pledging of a person recognized legally ?  
 5. Under what conditions can a slave get his freedom ?  
 6. What measures have been taken, or are being taken, to provide for the emancipation of slaves and to put an end to all slavery, domestic or otherwise ?  
 7. Is there any time-limit fixed for the emancipation of slaves ? If in the affirmative, how long is the period ?

- (a.) 1. Slavery does not exist in the Territory.  
 (b.) 1-7. Slavery is not recognized legally.

### II. LABOUR.

- (a.) 1. Have measures been taken to insure, in accordance with Part XIII of the Treaty of Versailles, the taking into consideration of conventions or recommendations of International Labour Conferences ?  
 2. Are these conventions or recommendations being carried into effect ?  
 3. By what other provisions is free labour protected ?
- (b.) 1. What are the measures intended to insure the prohibition of forced labour for purposes other than essential public works and services, and what are the effective results of these measures ?  
 2. For what public works and services is forced Native labour required ? How is this regulated ?  
 3. Are there any other forms of forced labour, such as labour in lieu of taxation, maintenance of highways, &c. ? If in the affirmative, how are these regulated ?
- (c.) 1. How is the recruiting of labour required by private enterprise organized and regulated ? Does Administration participate in this recruiting ?  
 2. Does the Administration allow recruiting in the mandated area of labour for another territory ? If so, under what conditions ?  
 3. Is there any system of indentured (Chinese or other) labour in the Territory ? If so, what are the conditions of indenture, and what steps are being taken to provide for the moral and material well-being of the Natives of the Territory, *vis-a-vis* the indentured labourers ?  
 4. What compulsory and disciplinary measures are authorized with respect to Native labour ?  
 5. What powers has the Administration for controlling labour contracts in order to insure their loyal fulfilment both on the part of the employer and employed, and what powers does it possess to prevent any abuses in this respect ?

(a.) 1-3. Those conventions or recommendations are not applicable in the Territory. Labour has the same protection that similar labour enjoys in the Dominion of New Zealand.

(b.) 1, 2. No measures are necessary, as there is no forced labour.

3. There is no form of forced labour in lieu of taxation. As to maintenance of highways, the weeding and keeping clean of the sides of roads and streets is required of all landowners, Native and non-Native. Suppression of rhinoceros-beetle by collection of beetles, larvæ, and eggs is required of all male Natives, who own most of the coconut-palms, and of all other owners of plantations.

(c.) 1. There is no recruiting of Samoans for definite periods under contract, and no organization exists. Native Samoans are employed as day labourers by private enterprise and by the Administration. Samoans are also encouraged to take contracts for roadmaking, &c.

2. No.

3. Chinese labour is imported by the Administration under the terms of the Chinese Free Labour Ordinance, 1923, for work mainly on the European plantations. A copy of the Ordinance referred to has already been forwarded to the Librarian of the League of Nations. The labourer undertakes to serve in Samoa for a period of three years, and the Administration undertakes to pay the cost of passage to and from Samoa and that the labourer shall receive a wage of not less than 3s. per diem so long as he complies with the terms of the Ordinance. If he is dissatisfied with his employer the labourer is free to seek another employer. Whilst serving in Samoa the labourer is subject only to the statute law of the Territory. The moral well-being of the Samoan Native is not affected by the presence of the Chinese under the conditions existing. Neither is their material well-being affected, except beneficially, through the maintenance of trade and revenue by means of this labour. Further, without this labour the cultivated plantations would soon be devastated by the rhinoceros-beetle, and become breeding-grounds for this pest, and so a real menace to the existence of all Native plantations.

4. None.

5. Chinese labour can be imported by the Administration only, and therefore the allocation of such labour is entirely in the hands of the Administration. An officer called the Chinese Commissioner has been appointed to watch the interest of the labourers. Further, the labourer is free to leave an employer if not satisfied with his treatment, and in case of illtreatment can invoke the protection of the statute law of the Territory. As regards prevention of abuses by the labourer, he is entitled to a day's wages for an honest day's work, and the principle "No work, no pay" applies. The employer is entitled to dispense with the labourer's services if the latter does not carry out his work satisfactorily.

## III. ARMS TRAFFIC.

1. What measures are being adopted to control the traffic in arms and ammunition ?
2. What are the statistics relating to imports of arms and ammunition of different categories ?

1. The Arms Ordinance, 1921, prohibits the importation or sale of arms, guns, or ammunition except under permit and license. All owners of guns must hold a license. There is no smuggling or illicit sale of arms or ammunition. Only single-barrelled muzzle-loading shot-guns are being supplied to the Natives for pigeon-shooting for food-supplies. The number is, in addition, restricted.

2. Following are the details of importations of arms and ammunition : Arms—Fifteen double-barrelled breech-loading sporting shot-guns, No. 12 and 16 gauge ; sixteen single-barrelled breech-loading sporting shot-guns, Nos. 12, 16, 20, and 410 gauge. Ammunition—2,000 rounds No. 22 pea-rifle cartridges ; 67,500 rounds sporting-gun, No. 12, cartridges ; 37,000 rounds sporting shot-gun, No. 16, cartridges ; 59,000 rounds sporting shot-gun, No. 20, cartridges ; 7,500 rounds sporting shot-gun, No. 410, cartridges ; 3 cases sporting shot-gun powder ; 39 cwt. sporting gunpowder ; 243,500 percussion-caps.

## IV. TRADE AND MANUFACTURE OF ALCOHOL AND DRUGS.

1. What steps are being taken to assure the prohibition of abuses of the liquor traffic ?
2. How is the campaign against alcoholism organized ?
3. What are the effects of these measures ? (Statistics relative to the import and to the local manufacture of alcoholic liquors, &c.).
4. What are the countries of origin of alcoholic liquor, other than wine and beer, imported into the Territory ?
5. What measures have been taken to assure the prohibition or regulation of the importation, production, and consumption of dangerous drugs ?

1. The importation and manufacture of all liquor containing more than 3 per cent. of proof spirit is absolutely prohibited by the Samoa Act, 1921, sections 336 to 341, except importation by the Administration for medicinal, sacramental, or industrial purposes (section 340). Such importation and the disposal of liquor so imported is controlled by the Samoa Sale of Intoxicating Liquor Regulations, 1920. Sale to both Europeans and Natives is prohibited except when prescribed by a duly qualified Government Medical Officer and for medicinal purposes only.

2. All liquor on board visiting ships must be declared in writing on arrival, and is at once placed under Customs seal. Such seal must be unbroken when the ship sails. The police and Customs maintain a watch over every overseas vessel. Ships are frequently searched.

3. In all, twenty-two cases were brought before the Court, resulting in twenty-two convictions. Thirteen of these cases were for manufacturing beer from a preparation known as "All-in-one" and by adding sugar, resulting in the liquor being over 3 per cent. proof spirit. Five cases of manufacturing liquor distilled from fermented cocoa-juice were also before the Court, and six cases of smuggling liquor ashore from ships, involving eleven bottles of Chinese whisky, one bottle of brandy, and three bottles of whisky. Smuggling is, by the vigilance of the police and Customs, kept within very small compass, and local manufacture is kept well in hand.

There were fourteen convictions for drunkenness during the year. The majority became intoxicated by consuming methylated spirits, and were men who work on the water-front and have acquired a taste for liquor. This class of person is to be found in every community.

Imports of intoxicating liquors during the year were : For medicinal purposes—Brandy, 70 gallons ; whisky, 459 gallons ; port wine, 59 gallons ; claret, 11 gallons ; ale, 42 gallons ; stout, 556 gallons. For sacramental purposes—Wine, 113 gallons. For industrial purposes—Rectified spirits of wine, 22½ gallons.

4. Whisky—United Kingdom ; brandy—France.

5. The New Zealand Opium Act, 1908, and Amendment, 1910, and regulations made thereunder, are in force in Western Samoa. These regulations are in furtherance of the terms of the Opium Convention, and in particular provide for the introduction of the "imports certificate" system. All precautions are taken by the Police and Customs Departments to prevent illegal traffic in prohibited drugs. All baggage is searched, and all invoices closely scrutinized by the Customs. With the exception of one reputable chemist, all dispensing and sale is done by Administration doctors.

## V. LIBERTY OF CONSCIENCE.

1. What measures are being taken to guarantee liberty of conscience and religion ?
2. What restrictions have been laid down for the maintenance of public order and morality ?
3. Is there free exercise of religious worship and instruction ?
4. If not, what restrictions are there to limit such exercises ?
5. What are the results of such restrictions ?

1. Missionaries in Samoa pursue their calling without restriction. There is absolute freedom of conscience.

2. In general, the restrictive laws for the maintenance of public order and morality are the same as those of the Dominion of New Zealand.

3. Yes.

4-5. There are no restrictions.

## VI. MILITARY CLAUSES.

1. Are there any fortresses or military or naval bases ?
2. What are the forms of Native military organization and instruction ?
3. Are there any police forces, independent of the military, charged with the defence of the Territory ?  
What is the respective importance of these two forces, and the amount spent on each ?
4. In what respect is the military organization of the Mandated Territory different from that in force in the neighbouring possessions of the Mandatory Power ?

1-2. There are none.

3. There is no military organization in the Territory.

## VII. ECONOMIC EQUALITY.

1. What derogations are there to the principle of economic equality as regards—(a) Concessions, (b) land tenure, (c) mining rights (in particular, prospecting), (d) fiscal regime (direct and indirect taxation), (e) Customs regulations (imports, exports, transit) ?
2. What immigration laws are there ?

1. (a), (b), (c), (d). None.

(e.) An import duty of 22½ per cent. on non-British goods, as against 15 per cent. on British goods. German and Austrian goods have not been allowed to be imported without a license from the executive authority, but this restriction is being removed as from the 1st April, 1924.

2. See Samoa Immigration Consolidation Order, 1924.

## VIII. EDUCATION.

1. What steps are being taken for the elementary education of the Natives of the Territory (organization and statistics) ? Is this education free to all Natives, and, if not, in what cases is it free ?
2. What steps are being taken to provide for higher education of the Natives, such as medical, veterinary, and technical ?
3. In what languages is instruction given in the different categories of schools ?
4. Are mission schools compelled to submit to certain conditions ? If so, what ?

1. In the past the elementary education of the Natives has been almost entirely in the hands of the missions, and in the interests of the Natives themselves it is intended that it should remain so. The London Mission Society, the Methodist Mission, and the Roman Catholic Mission principally, and to a lesser extent the Church of the Latter Day Saints and Seventh-Day Adventists, have for many years past carried on the work of education in the Territory, and the proof of the sterling work accomplished by them is in the fact that few, if any, Samoans are unable to read and write in the vernacular.

The organization of the schools is referred to under the heading of "Education Department" earlier in this report.

The numbers being educated by the various missions during the past year were—London Missionary Society, 7,002; Methodist Mission, 2,021; Roman Catholic Mission, 1,874; Latter-day Saints Mission, 485. There are also the Marist Brothers and Marist Sisters' Schools in Apia, with a roll number of 320 and 200 respectively.

The Administration, in addition to a school for white and half-caste children (roll number 208, made up chiefly of half-caste children) has a school for Native boys and girls in Apia, with a roll number of 283, and a school for boys at Vaipouli (Savai'i), with a roll number of 89.

Education in purely Native schools is free, but a small charge is made at schools established for whites and half-castes.

2. *Medical.*—The Education Department arranges for tuition, in English only, for selected half-caste nurses and Native cadets employed by the Medical Department, which is responsible for the following course of training organized by the Medical authorities.

Samoan nurses: Twelve suitable girls, drawn largely through the missionary societies, but not restricted to these sources, are engaged as probationer nurses at the Apia Hospital. They do the work of a probationer nurse in the ward (both European and Samoan) under the supervision of the white Sisters. They receive theoretical instruction from the Matron and Superintendent. The lectures are devoted to general medical principles, to the special diseases prevalent in Samoa, and to the cases of children and infants. At the end of two years they are examined and, if suitable, are sent to out-stations for a further year's service under the District Medical Officer. They are also sent to the mission dispensaries, where they reside. The missionary supervises them, and the service rendered by these trained nurses is much appreciated. The contract terminates at the end of three years, but they may re-engage if they so desire for a further period.

Samoan Medical Cadets: This movement, though in its infancy, has increased steadily during the year. Ten suitable youths are engaged as cadets at the hospital. They help in the practical work in the wards and the out-patient department. They receive theoretical instruction in elementary anatomy and physiology, materia medica, and therapeutics. They receive lectures—theoretical and clinical—in medicine and surgery as it applies to Samoa. No attempt is made to give them a comprehensive knowledge of medicine. Only such diseases as are likely to be seen in Samoa are dealt with, and the aim is to make them thoroughly conversant with the common ailments. They are not encouraged to undertake serious cases beyond their capabilities. Operative work is confined to the opening of superficial abscesses. More serious cases are sent to the hospital. The

course at the hospital lasts two years, and the instruction is carried out by the medical staff. At the end of the third year, if the cadet has made sufficient progress, he is sent to an out-station to work under the District Medical Officer. At the end of that time, if he is suitable, he is given the rank of Native Medical Assistant, and is sent on visits to a district where sickness is unduly prevalent. They all receive laboratory training, assist in the operating-theatre and in the dispensing of medicines. During the year two cadets satisfied the requirements as Native Medical Assistants. Splendid service has been given.

*Technical.*—At the district and high schools conducted by the missions practical instruction is given in carpentry, cabinetmaking, smithery, and practical agriculture. The London Missionary Society also has its own printing-office staffed by mission boys under the supervision of a trained European printer, where most excellent work is done. At all Government schools instruction is given in woodwork, plumbing, wireless operating, typewriting, and elementary engineering.

#### IX. PUBLIC HEALTH.

1. What steps are being taken in the Territory to provide for public health, sanitation, and to combat endemic and epidemic diseases?
2. What provisions are made for medical assistance?
3. What is the actual situation as regards prostitution, and what steps are being taken in this matter?
4. What public-health organization for the investigation, prevention, control, and treatment of diseases exists in the Territory?
5. What endemic diseases are responsible for the greatest morbidity and mortality in the Territory? Please supply as complete statistics as possible regarding the morbidity and mortality attributable to such diseases, where possible by months and age and sex.
6. Please indicate the birth-rate, the death-rate from all causes, and the infant-mortality rate for those portions of the Territory, if any, for which such information may be available.
7. Describe the measures in force for the collection of vital statistics in the Territory?
8. Please supply such other information of epidemiological interest concerning the Territory as may be available, with special reference to the incidence of such serious diseases as sleeping-sickness, &c., where this information does not come within the scope of question 5 above.

1. (a.) Organization and administration: Last year's answer applies.

(b.) Sanitation: Last year's answer applies.

(c.) Endemic diseases: Systematic treatment of yaws and ankylostomiasis has been instituted, and during the year 18,000 Native Samoans have been treated for hookworm with carbon tetrachloride, and 33,000 injections of novarsenobillon have been given for yaws.

(d.) Epidemic diseases: See last year's answer.

2. The organization outlined in last year's answer has now been completed.

3. Section 139 of the Samoa Act, 1921, deals with the suppression of brothels and section 189 of the same enactment deals with common prostitutes loitering and importuning passers-by in a public place. There are no brothels or common prostitutes in Samoa.

4. See 1 and 2 above.

5. Last year's answer applies.

6. See Appendix A.

7. This information was set out in detail in last year's answer.

8. Not applicable.

#### X. LAND-TENURE.

1. What system of land-tenure and forest law exists? How are they legally recognized? What lands are considered as belonging to the State, and what are regarded as communally owned?
2. What measures are being adopted for the registration of landed property?
3. What other regulations for the alienation of land in which Natives or Native communities exercise rights by virtue of heredity or use?
4. What other measures are being taken to protect the rights and interests of Natives and Native communities in respect to land (usuary, forced sale, &c.)?

1. All land is either—(a) Crown land, being the land of former German Government and land expropriated from Germans; (b) European land, being all the other land of which the title is individualized (this is held as by grant from Crown); or (c) Native land, being the land held by Samoans under the usages of the race (these lands are vested in the Crown in trust for the Samoans). (See Part IX of the Samoa Act, 1921).

2. The titles to Crown and European land are registered under an efficient system by the Government. The titles to Native land are, when in dispute, adjudicated on by a Commission, whose proceedings are on record. (See Samoa Land Registration Order, 1920.)

3. Alienation of Native land by sale, lease, or mortgage, other than alienations in favour of the Crown, are prohibited. Leases up to forty years may be granted if in the interests of the Natives. (See Part IX, Samoa Act, 1921, section 280.)

4. Usurious contracts with Natives are unenforceable (see section 366, Samoa Act, 1921). Native land is not capable of being taken in execution, nor in payment of debts of the owner on his disease or insolvency (see section 280, Samoa Act, 1921). No security over property of a Samoan is enforceable without the leave of the High Court (see section 367, Samoan Act, 1921).



## XI. MORAL, SOCIAL, AND MATERIAL WELFARE.

What are, generally speaking, the measures adopted to ensure the moral, social, and material welfare of the Natives? (Measures to maintain the interests, rights, and customs of the Natives, their participation in public service, Native tribunals, &c.)

The *moral welfare* of the Natives has been the care of the missions for nearly one hundred years, and to the missions is due the fact that the whole of the Native people are Christianized and possess elementary education in the vernacular. The missions are the London Mission Society, the Methodist Church in Australasia, the Roman Catholic Mission, the Latter-day Saints' Mission, and the Seventh-day Adventists. Every endeavour is made by the Administration to assist and co-operate with the missions, and it is in complete harmony with them.

Since New Zealand assumed the mandate for the Territory it has instituted equal incidence of the criminal law for Europeans and Natives.

The *social system* of the Natives is based upon the family, at the head of which is a Matai, who is appointed to use the family name or title and to rule over the family. Families are gathered together in villages, and the village is presided over by a Pulenu'u, or Town Ruler, who is chosen by the Matais and appointed by the Government. Every endeavour is made to maintain the authority of the Pulenu'u and Matai, and to preserve beneficial customs whilst eliminating undesirable ones.

The *material welfare* of the Natives, as well as their moral and social welfare, receives the most sympathetic consideration of the Administration—indeed, the progress and advancement of the indigenous inhabitants are always the first consideration.

The land of the Natives is held under their customs and usages, and is preserved to them by the prohibition of alienation (see Samoa Act, 1921, section 278 to 283).

The energies of the Natives are directed to the production of copra from their coconut-palms, and to the production of foodstuffs from their plantations. They produce the greater part of the copra exported. The local price of the copra is regulated by the competition of buyers, and their sales of copra produce to the Natives a sufficiency of money for their needs. They are protected from exploitation in the purchase price of goods required by them, by the provisions of the Samoa Board of Trade Order, 1921.

The administration of the Government of the Natives is entrusted largely to themselves through their own officials. The Fono of Faipules, or Native Parliament, has been given statutory recognition by the Samoa Amendment Act, 1923, and all matters affecting the welfare of the Natives are discussed by the Administration with the Faipules at their Fono, which assembles twice yearly.

The following table will indicate the extent to which the indigenous inhabitants participate in the public service :—

### SUMMARY OF STAFF, SHOWING EXTENT TO WHICH NATIVE SAMOANS PARTICIPATE IN PUBLIC SERVICE.

	Europeans.	Half-castes.	Native Samoans.
Departmental officials .. .. .	83	14	149
Samoa Crown Estates .. .. .	8	3	2
Samoa Public Trust Office .. .. .	2	..	..
Part-time Native officials .. .. .	..	..	318
Temporary officers .. .. .	7	1	4
	100	18	473

NOTE.—In addition to the above, some thirty-eight Samoans and half-castes are engaged as casual employees of the Harbour, Lands and Survey, and Public Works Departments, and as such receive instruction in trades or other useful occupations.

## XII. PUBLIC FINANCES.

The general schedule of receipts from, and expenditure on, the Territory, Budget system, indication of the nature and assessment of taxes.

(a.) See particulars on pages 31 to 34 for receipt from and expenditure on the Territory.

(b.) *Budget System*.—Estimates of revenue and expenditure for the ensuing year are issued on or prior to the first day of the financial year. Under the Samoa Act (section 32) the Administrator, subject to the control of the Minister of External Affairs, New Zealand, directs expenditure from the Samoan Treasury.

(c.) *Nature and Assessment of Taxes* :—

Customs : See Samoa Customs Consolidation Order, 1923.

Building-tax, salary-tax, store-tax, and business licenses : See Taxation Licensing and Revenue Ordinance, 1921.

Personal tax : See Taxation Licensing and Revenue Ordinance, 1921. Personal tax is payable as follows : Every male Samoan seventeen years of age and over—(a) If a Matai, £1 4s. per annum ; (b) if a Taulealea, £1 per annum. Every male person over eighteen years of age not being a Samoan, £1 5s. per annum.

Medical subscription : Every male Samoan seventeen years of age and over pays a medical subscription of £1 per annum in exchange for which universal free medical treatment, medicines, and attention are given to all Samoans. The levying of this subscription was asked for by the Samoans themselves. All persons other than Samoans have to pay for whatever medical treatment and attention they receive.

XIII. DEMOGRAPHIC STATISTICS.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS, IMMIGRATION, AND EMIGRATION.

Return showing the Births, Deaths, and Marriages, also Immigration and Emigration, for the Year ended 31st March, 1924.

—				Births.	Deaths.	Marriages.	Immigration.	Emigration.
Native Samoans	..	..	..	1,701	1,398	153	794	982
Europeans and half-castes	..	..	..	107	20	21	448	505
Chinese labourers	..	..	..	..	6	..	..	434
Melanesian labourers	..	..	..	..	8	..	..	..
Totals	..	..	..	1,808	1,432	174	1,242	1,921

APPENDIX A.

VITAL STATISTICS (SAMOAN).

(In answer to Question IX, 6, of Questionnaire.)

THE Native population of Western Samoa at the census of 17th April, 1921, was 32,601. By the 31st December, 1922, the population had increased to 33,685 (estimated).

During 1923, 1,701 live births were reported, and 1,398 deaths, giving an excess of births over deaths of 303.

The departures from Western Samoa (982) exceeded the arrivals (794) by 188. The population at the 31st December, 1923, was therefore 33,800, a net increase of 115 for the year. The mean population for the year was estimated to be 33,685.

BIRTHS.

The births of 1,701 living children (Samoan) were registered in Western Samoa during 1923, as against 1,622 in 1922. The birth-rate is thus 50·49 per 1,000 of mean population, as against 48·52 per 1,000 for 1922. The number of live births in 1923 is the second highest recorded, the highest being 1,792 for 1912, with a population of 34,239. (Note: Still-births, of which twenty-one were registered during the year, are not included either as births or deaths in the various number and rates given in this report.) Sixteen pairs of twins were registered, of which both were males in seven instances, both females in six, and in three instances one male and one female.

Births of Samoans, Western Samoa, 1923.

				Males.	Females.	Total.
Savai'i	..	..	..	301	296	597
Upolu	..	..	..	557	547	1,104
				858	843	1,701

Births by Months.

		Males.	Females.	Total.		Males.	Females.	Total.	
January	..	71	71	142	August	..	69	61	130
February	..	58	55	113	September	..	71	76	147
March	..	84	73	157	October	..	78	56	134
April	..	67	66	133	November	..	86	65	151
May	..	79	82	161	December	..	52	67	119
June	..	66	81	147					
July	..	77	90	167					
						858	843	1,701	

Deaths of Samoans in Western Samoa during 1923.

Place.	Male or Female.	Still-births.	Age in Weeks.				Age in Months.											Total, 1 to 11 Months.
			1.	2.	3.	4.	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	
Savai'i .. ..	Male ..	4	5	..	..	1	4	4	3	5	3	13	8	9	9	5	6	69
	Female ..	..	4	..	1	2	2	3	2	2	2	4	2	12	8	3	7	47
	Total	4	9	..	1	3	6	7	5	7	5	17	10	21	17	8	13	116
Upolu .. ..	Male ..	10	17	..	2	3	1	8	5	8	11	14	13	10	19	12	26	127
	Female ..	7	8	3	3	4	..	5	5	6	14	7	15	10	17	13	14	106
	Total	17	25	3	5	7	1	13	10	14	25	21	28	20	36	25	40	233
Total Western Samoa	Male ..	14	22	..	2	4	5	12	8	13	14	27	21	19	28	17	32	196
	Female ..	7	12	3	4	6	2	8	7	8	16	11	17	22	25	16	21	153
	Total	21	34	3	6	10	7	20	15	21	30	38	38	41	53	33	53	349

Place.	Male or Female.	Age in Years—1 Year to 10 Years.										Total, 1 to 10 Years.	Deaths over 10 Years of Age.	Age not stated.	Total Number of Deaths.
		1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.				
Savai'i .. ..	Male ..	73	18	5	2	1	1	4	3	2	..	109	91	8	283
	Female ..	42	15	14	5	1	4	3	..	2	2	88	80	4	226
	Total ..	115	33	19	7	2	5	7	3	4	2	197	171	12	509
Upolu .. ..	Male ..	119	30	9	10	4	8	4	3	3	2	192	124	7	472
	Female ..	82	33	15	5	7	11	8	9	2	3	175	106	11	416
	Total ..	201	63	24	15	11	19	12	12	5	5	367	230	18	888
Total Western Samoa	Male ..	192	48	14	12	5	9	8	6	5	2	301	215	15	755
	Female ..	125	48	29	10	8	15	11	9	4	5	264	186	15	643
	Total	317	96	43	22	13	24	19	15	9	7	565	401	30	1,398

DEATHS BY MONTHS.

—	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total.
Males ..	72	67	54	58	71	104	112	68	41	44	37	27	755
Females ..	56	51	62	44	63	91	92	51	32	31	40	30	643
Total ..	128	118	116	102	134	195	204	119	73	75	77	57	1,398

Of the thirty-four deaths shown as occurring during the first week after birth, the majority occurred during the first few hours of life, and must be regarded as the natural result of Native methods of midwifery in cases of difficult labour.

It will be noticed that of the 1,398 deaths, 719 were of children who had not reached the age of two years. This is again referred to elsewhere in this report.

Nine women died in childbirth.

*Epidemic Years.*—A comparison of the returns for 1923 with other years when the country suffered from epidemics may be of interest :—

Year.	Population.	Births.	Deaths.	Excess of Births over Deaths.	Excess of Deaths over Births.	Epidemic.
1907 .. ..	33,354	1,389	1,564	..	175	Dysentery.
1911 .. ..	33,639	1,453	1,827	..	374	Dysentery and measles.*
1915 .. ..	35,554	1,611	1,451	160	..	Measles.
1918 .. ..	38,093†	1,509	8,437†	..	6,928	Influenza.
1923 .. ..	33,685	1,701	1,398	303	..	Dysentery ( <i>shiga</i> ).

\* Measles first visited Samoa in 1893, and caused a large number of deaths, but as records were not kept at that time, no definite figures are available. Its second appearance was in 1911.

† As far as can be judged from the records available, both these figures are considerably overestimated, the figure for deaths being approximately 1,300.

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