

The volume of mail-matter in 1936-37 showed a decrease compared with 1935-36, but is explained by the fact that in the latter year both Jubilee and new pictorial stamps of the Territory were issued, resulting in a keen demand for stamped covers by philatelists all over the world.

The value of money-orders paid at Apia was £4,018 4s. 7d., as compared with £6,527 8s. 10d. for the previous year. Deposits in the Post Office Savings-bank exceeded withdrawals by £10,379 2s. while the amount held on the 31st March, 1937, at the credit of 2,014 depositors was £63,597 7s. 5d. (including interest, £1,480 3s. 2d.). At the conclusion of the previous year the excess of deposits over withdrawals was £9,711 2s. 11d., and 1,715 depositors had a credit balance of £51,738 2s. 5d. (including interest, £1,330 1s. 7d.).

Radio traffic disclosed a further increase in the number of messages, 9,726 being handled, an advance of 1,685 over 1935-36. Receipts also were £469 more than in the previous year.

LANDS AND SURVEY.

Owing to pressure of work in this Department it was found necessary to appoint an additional staff surveyor from New Zealand. Among the numerous surveys carried out during the year may be mentioned that of the area set apart for settlement by local-born young men, referred to in the paragraph headed "Persons of Part Samoan Blood." A great deal of work was also carried out in connection with the Land and Titles Commission.

PUBLIC TRUST OFFICE.

Expenditure amounted to £593 7s. 7d., and revenue to £743 10s., leaving a credit balance of £150 2s. 5d., being £17 5s. 1d. less than in the previous period. A restoration of salaries in July, 1936, more than accounts for this diminution. Funds invested total £8,880 7s. 7d., and the office reserve was increased to £900 by the transfer of £100 from the year's surplus. The remaining profit, £50 2s 5d. was added to the accumulated office profits, which now stand at £4,748 13s. 6d.

The revenue of the office is derived mainly from interest on the invested portion of the accumulated profits of £4,748 13s. 6d. and from commissions. Salaries of staff is the largest expenditure item. The office is self-supporting, and its accounts are separate from those of the Administration; but, as a matter of convenience, all expenditure is made through appropriation of the Samoan Treasury, which is reimbursed at the end of each quarter. Hence the Treasury figures include Public Trust Office expenditure (which is also shown as deduction from the total) but do not show receipts, which are credited direct to the Public Trustee.

The Samoa Public Trust Office was established under the Samoa Public Trust Office Order, 1921, and is separate from the New Zealand Public Trust Office.

PORT AND HARBOUR SERVICE.

Pilotage and harbour services, and maintenance of beacons, lights, and plant continued to function satisfactorily under contract with the Harbourmaster. No serious accident to shipping occurred in the period. A new shipping light was erected on the reef off Faleula to the west of Apia, and considerable work was done in improving reef passages and beacons in Upolu and Savai'i.

STAFF.

Particulars are given in the following table, as at 31st March of each year:—

Services.	Europeans.		Persons of Part Samoan Blood.		Native Samoans.		Native Samoan District and Village Officials.	
	1936.	1937.	1936.	1937.	1936.	1937.	1936.	1937.
Classified departmental staffs—								
Education	4	4	6	6	95	113	..	..
Health	11	*16	3	5	69	90	..	..
Native Affairs (including Savai'i) ..	4	3	1	1	11	11	163	192
Police and Prisons	10	9	2	3	49	54	..	..
Other services	24	26	18	21	23	24	..	..
	53	58	30	36	247	292	163	192
Casual employees	6	2	18	14	21	21	..	..
Totals	59	60	48	50	268	313	163	192

* Includes Bacteriologist, Dispenser, and Hospital Secretary, formerly shown under "Other Services."

The staff is organized on the basis of having a European official in charge of each Department, with a minimum number of other Europeans, with specialist and other essential qualifications required for the work. The remainder of the staff is engaged in Samoa from Native Samoans or persons of part Samoan blood, according to the nature of the service.