

Rubber (*Hevea braziliensis*) is planted to some extent, and export of a good-quality smoked sheet reached 167 tons in 1928. Owing to low prices production ceased entirely in 1933, and no rubber was shipped in that or the succeeding year. In 1935, however, production was recommenced, 25 tons being shipped from the Territory that year, 51 tons in 1936, and 61 tons in 1937.

XXII.—MINES.

There are no mines or any known mineral deposits of value in the Territory.

XXIII.—POPULATION.

Statistics for the year ending 31st March, 1938, are given in the following table :—

Designation.	As at 31st March, 1937.		Births.		Deaths.		Arrivals.		Departures.		As at 31st March, 1938.		Grand Totals.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Europeans ..	254	116	..	2	1	..	168	112	163	91	258	139	397
Persons of part Samoan blood	1,396	1,294	51	56	5	9	101	123	104	133	1,439	1,331	2,770
Natives ..	26,628	25,974	1,278	1,132	435	354	679	436	717	461	27,433	26,727	54,160
Chinese labourers ..	500	..	..	..	5	..	..	..	167	..	328	..	328
Other Chinese ..	17	3	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	18	3	21
Melanesian labourers	81	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	82	1	83
	28,876	27,388	1,329	1,190	446	363	950	671	1,151	685	29,558	28,201	57,759
Totals ..	56,264		2,519		809		1,621		1,836		57,759		

N.B.—Of the 328 Chinese labourers shown as being in the Territory as at 31st March, 1938, two are actually at the Makogai Leper Station. In last year's report one Melanesian labourer was shown as having left the Territory. Actually he was sent to the Makogai Leper Station. As in the case of the two Chinese labourers referred to above, it is considered he should be retained in the Melanesian population figures of the Territory, and, to adjust the total, he has been shown in the above table as an arrival. The total therefore, includes all Melanesian labourers for whom the Territory is responsible.

Figures showing the alteration in population since April, 1921, the date of the first census taken by the New Zealand Administration, are given hereunder :—

Designation.	As at 17th April, 1921.	As at 31st March, 1938.	Total Increase or Decrease.
Europeans and persons of part Samoan blood	2,066	3,167	+ 1,101
Native Samoans	33,336	54,160	+ 20,824
Chinese labourers	1,290	328	— 962
Melanesian labourers	465	83	— 382
Other Chinese	..	21	+ 21
	37,157	57,759	+ 20,602

XXIV.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The following structural work was completed during the year under review :—

Hospital.—Six Samoan *fale* erected at the Apia Hospital; European Hospital extended by an addition to house infectious cases; conversion of one Chinese ward into a dental clinic.

Education.—An additional story erected on the European primary school; a new building to house the post-primary school; a new Native school at Tutaga, Savai'i.

Extensive repairs to many other Administration buildings and the residences of officials were carried out. A new office building was erected at the Apia Observatory, and alterations and repairs were effected to several of the Observatory buildings.

There was considerable roading activity during the year, most of the arterial roads receiving attention, and several of the more important highways being widened, drained, and resealed. A 56 ft. wooden bridge was re-erected, and a total of ten other bridges were the subject of maintenance-work. Test piles were driven for the re-erection in concrete of the Vaisigano Bridge at Apia.

A further extension of the sea-wall along the Apia waterfront was made, and protection work on the Apia-Mulifanua road was also consolidated.

The reticulation system of the hydro-electric service was extended, and the plant has functioned smoothly under its slightly increased load.

Parks and reserves, wharves, water-supplies, and sanitation all received attention during the year.