

SESSION II.
1923.
NEW ZEALAND.

MANDATED TERRITORY OF WESTERN SAMOA

(THIRD REPORT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF NEW ZEALAND ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF) FOR
THE YEAR ENDED THE 31st MARCH, 1923.

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

STR,—

26th June, 1923.

I have the honour to forward herewith the third annual report of the Government of New Zealand on the administration of the Mandated Territory of Western Samoa. Copies of the Orders in Council and Ordinances referred to in the report have been forwarded to you under separate cover.

A copy of this report has also been forwarded direct to each member of the Permanent Mandates Commission.

I have, &c.,

F. H. D. BELL,

The Secretary-General, League of Nations, Geneva.

For the Prime Minister.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RIGHT HON. THE PRIME MINISTER.

31st May, 1923.

I FORWARD herewith the third annual report on the administration of Western Samoa, which has been prepared by my direction, pursuant to Article 6 of the Mandate for that Territory. There is again attached to this report certain of the questions in the questionnaire which was submitted by the special Mandates Commission of the League of Nations, and the answers thereto as at the 31st March, 1923. In future the information particularly desired by the Commission will, unless the Commission otherwise requests, be incorporated in the annual report.

During the year ended the 31st March last Colonel R. W. Tate, C.M.G., C.B.E., the first Administrator of Western Samoa under the civil constitution, completed his term of service, covering in all a period of four years, and was succeeded by Major-General G. S. Richardson, C.B., C.M.G., C.B.E.

I desire to take this opportunity of placing on record my appreciation of the faithful and excellent service rendered by Colonel Tate in Western Samoa. His was the onerous and difficult task of changing over from a military Administration to Civil Government, of meeting all the problems and troubles which are ever the legacy of war, and of carrying on through a period of great commercial and financial depression. The conditions in the mandated territory to-day testify to the success of his work.

I have received from Major-General Richardson, the new Administrator, a short statement of the impressions he has formed since assuming the duties of his office, and this will be laid on the table of both Houses of the General Assembly of the Parliament of New Zealand with the third Mandate report for the information of honourable members.

F. H. D. BELL,

For the Minister of External Affairs,

MEMORANDUM FOR THE HON. MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

Apia, Samoa, 10th May, 1923.

I TOOK over the duties of Administrator on the 16th March last, and during the intervening eight weeks I have been able to meet the citizens of Apia, to visit some of the outlying villages, and also to make a superficial inspection of the various Government Departments. I have also met and conferred with the Faipules. The impressions and opinions that I have formed from my observations are—

1. *European Residents.*—The Europeans of various nationalities are very loyal, and most anxious to assist the Administration to promote the welfare of Samoa. Applications have been received for British nationality from residents who object to being "British protected persons" and desire to become straight-out British subjects. Their applications should be granted.

2. *Electoral Representation.* The citizens of Western Samoa are most anxious to be granted direct representation on the Legislative Council as a first step towards self-government. There are many matters which concern the welfare of Samoa now requiring attention, but which I would prefer should be dealt with by a Council on which the people concerned are directly represented. For the above reasons I recommend that the necessary legislation to give effect to the wishes of the local citizens be passed into law at an early date.

3. *Administration Officials.*—I have frequently met most of the officials in conference, and am satisfied that Samoa is fortunate in having men of their type. They are for the most part very efficient, hard-working, and have ideals beyond their own personal interests. The future welfare of Samoa and its people is constantly in their minds, and governs their actions in all their administrative duties.

The future welfare of officials who serve for long periods in the tropics, and suffer in consequence impairment to their health, is the responsibility of the Government. At present these Samoan officials, who are not permanent members of the New Zealand Civil Service, have a very poor outlook. If they break down in health as a result of their service in Samoa they must leave their employment, whereas a permanent New Zealand Civil servant employed in Samoa can return to his Department in the Dominion. Furthermore, while the New Zealand Civil servant can be superannuated, the purely Samoan official has no Government provision made for his old age or premature retirement through ill-health arising from his duties in the tropics.

Some of the most valuable officials here are not Civil servants. They are, however, doing their very best for Samoa, and I feel sure the Government will in return do its best for them by establishing a permanent service for officials serving in the tropics and the outlying possessions of New Zealand, and also permit them to become contributors to the New Zealand Superannuation Fund.

4. *Natives.*—The Natives are loyal, happy, and contented; they are proud to be associated with the British Empire. In all my official visits I have been received with extraordinary enthusiasm and expressions of loyalty. The Samoan has, however, no thought for to-morrow, and no vision as to the future of these islands. He does not realize that in the economic progress of Samoa he must play a greater part in future for its development if he is to remain the dominant race. The excellent education that is now being given to the young will change the psychology of the Samoan of the next generation. It will be my duty to co-operate with all who have the future welfare of Samoa at heart, the leading teachers, missionaries, citizens, and officials, with a view to formulating some policy for the inculcation of a true, loyal, and national spirit into the minds of the young Natives, and promoting aims and ideals to guide them in their future lives.

Here in Samoa is a splendid but backward Native race whose development to their present stage has been solely carried out by the wonderfully good work and self-sacrificing efforts of the missionaries, which are in evidence everywhere in this Territory. The further development of the Natives has been made a sacred trust for the people of New Zealand, who will, I feel sure, avail themselves of the ample opportunities to render a portion of the financial and other assistance which they now so readily give for similar activities further afield.

5. *Medical.*—At each village I visited on my official malagas I arranged for all the children to be inspected, and I formed the opinion that the health of the Natives is generally very good, but that more attention is necessary in the outlying districts to provide medical treatment for the two most common tropical diseases here—yaws and hookworm. I am pleased to report that the Medical Department is now organizing a complete national medical service, so that treatment will be within easy reach of all Natives in any part of this Territory. The effect of this scheme will not be fully shown for twelve months.

I cannot speak too highly of the doctors in the Samoan service, and I urge that they be made permanent official of the New Zealand Public Health Department, so that, should they break down in health through service in the tropics, they can get a change of employment in New Zealand. Medical work in the tropics is of a special nature, and doctors should be encouraged to remain in the Samoan or other tropical islands when they have acquired a knowledge of tropical diseases; but we shall never be able to build up an efficient tropical medical service if provision is not made for the future of those who sacrifice their ordinary profession and bodily health by serving on a temporary basis in Samoa.

6. *Improvements in Apia.*—There is an urgent need for better wharf accommodation in Apia Harbour. It is also necessary for the health and comfort of the residents, and particularly the Europeans, that electric lighting should be installed. Both these matters are being carefully gone into, and it is hoped that the New Zealand Government will give the necessary initial assistance for the carrying-out of these essential public works, which I am confident will pay more than an adequate revenue to provide for interest, sinking fund, and upkeep.

7. *Communications.*—Both sea and land communications are bad, but your approval of the Government steamer "Lady Roberts" being transferred to Samoa will supply a great need and give satisfaction to the residents. Wireless telephonic communication between the islands is an urgent necessity, but it is hoped that a wireless set will be installed between Savai'i and Apia this year. The Apia telephonic system is extremely bad, but the provision of a new system must wait till the more important public works have been carried out and the financial position improves.

8. *Finance.*—Every effort is being made to reduce expenditure and to carry out the Administration as economically as possible. The outlook for the present year is good, but I am of the opinion that New Zealand will not be able to carry out its obligation under the Mandate, particularly in regard to improving the education and medical services for the Natives, without granting financial assistance to Samoa for some time to come.

9. *Crown Estates.*—Samoa has weathered the post-war period of financial adjustment and depression remarkably well. To a considerable extent this is due to the determination of the New Zealand Government to maintain and improve the Samoan Crown Estates. These estates, representing German plantations assumed under the Treaty of Peace, are scattered all over Samoa, and had been allowed to become "run down" in condition. Their assumption and management in the early stage was an expensive matter, and in addition the prices for tropical produce have been, and in the case of rubber and cocoa still are, considerably below cost of production. Inevitable loss has occurred, but there is some compensation for this loss in the consideration that the economic structure of Samoa would have been seriously impaired had they been abandoned. A considerable amount of development has been carried out, and should produce rates return to a profitable figure their value should prove to have increased. The future of these plantations is receiving my consideration.

GEORGE S. RICHARDSON, Administrator.

REPORT.

The following report has been compiled from information and data furnished by the Permanent Heads of the several Departments concerned with the administration of the Territory :—

LEGISLATION.

IN NEW ZEALAND.

The following Orders in Council have been passed during the year ended 31st March, 1923 :—

- Amending the Samoa Treasury Regulations, 1920. (26th September, 1922.)
- Amending the Samoan Crown Estates Order, 1920. (4th October, 1922.)
- Amending the Samoan Crown Estates Order, 1920. (24th October, 1922.)
- Amending the Samoan Sale of Intoxicating Liquor Regulations, 1922. (30th October, 1922.)
- Samoa Bankruptcy Order. (4th December, 1922.)
- Samoa Death Duties Order. (4th December, 1922.)
- Samoa Post and Telegraph Amendment Order, 1923. (12th February, 1923.)
- Additional Regulations relating to Samoa Treasury and Samoan Crown Estates Account. (12th February, 1923.)
- Samoa Public Service and Treasury Regulations. (9th March, 1923.)

IN SAMOA.

During the year ending the 31st March, 1923, the Legislative Council has sat on twelve occasions, and has passed the following Ordinances :—

- No. 1, 1922 : Water-supply Offences Ordinance, 1922.
- No. 2, 1922 : Taxation Licensing and Revenue Amendment Ordinance, 1922.
- No. 3, 1922 : Building Alignment Ordinance, 1922.
- No. 4, 1922 : Land Surveys Regulation Ordinance, 1922.
- No. 5, 1922 : Police Offences Ordinance, 1922.
- No. 6, 1922 : Samoan Offenders Ordinance, 1922.
- No. 1, 1923 : Dog Registration Ordinance, 1923.
- No. 2, 1923 : Arms Amendment Ordinance, 1923.
- No. 3, 1923 : Copra Ordinance, 1923.
- No. 4, 1923 : Merchandise Price List Ordinance, 1923.
- No. 5, 1923 : Horse-racing Ordinance, 1923.
- No. 6, 1923 : Chinese Contract Labour Control Amendment Ordinance, 1923.

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

NATIVE AFFAIRS.

In the month of April, 1922, an extraordinary Fono of the Faipules was called to consider the Samoa Act.

The Samoan translation of the Act was distributed among the Faipules, and three days were spent in explaining its meaning clause by clause. There is no doubt that this work, which was enthusiastically entered into by the Faipules, laid the foundations for a better understanding of New Zealand's desires for Samoa.

The regular Fono of Faipules was held in the following June, when much good work was accomplished. The tone throughout evidenced a desire to "let the past be the past," and to present a more consolidated front for the future. At the conclusion of the Fono, speeches of loyalty to New Zealand and confidence in the Government and Administration were made by the Faipules.

In November an official Malaga, occupying twenty days, was undertaken by the Administrator. The districts of Manono, Falelatai, Lefaga, Falealili, Lepa, Lotofaga, and Aleipata were visited, and demonstrations of loyalty were general throughout the tour.

The second ordinary Fono of Faipules was held in December, when several Ordinances affecting the Samoans were considered.

The most important measure discussed, however, was the proposed medical tax. In exchange for this tax it is proposed to institute free medical attention for the Samoans, with dispensaries and Medical Officers at certain centres throughout the Group. After discussion, the Faipules agreed that a tax was preferable to individual payment, and, while suggesting that the tax should not exceed £1 per head of the present taxpayers, they left the matter in the hands of the Administrator. In agreeing to this tax the Faipules have shown their confidence in the Government.

It is gratifying to record that any discontent or dissatisfaction that may seem to have existed at the commencement of the year has entirely disappeared, and to-day, as the Faipules said in their farewell address to Colonel R. W. Tate, C.B.E., C.M.G., the retiring Administrator, on the 13th March, 1923, "The flame of loyalty to New Zealand, our guardian, burns brightly." The attitude of the Faipules and of the Samoan people to-day augurs well for the future. The coming year should show the results of a settled condition and contented mind by a closer attention to local industries on the part of the Natives and a greater unity between all classes of the community.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH.

ADMINISTRATION.

During the greater part of the year this Department consisted of two separate divisions:—

- (a.) Clinical, medicine, and hospitals, under the control of the Chief Medical Officer ;
 (b.) Public hygiene, under the control of the Medical Officer of Health.

In February, on the departure of the Chief Medical Officer, the two divisions were amalgamated, the Medical Officer of Health becoming Chief Medical Officer.

In May, 1922, an Inspector of Health was appointed. The duties of this officer have been somewhat varied. In addition to his ordinary duties he has supervised the Apia water-supply, and prepared plans and specifications for, and supervised the work of installation of, a number of household drainage schemes.

During the year the Board of Health made the following regulations:—

- No. 4: Regulations as to rubbish and refuse containers.
 No. 5: Regulations as to the prevention of the breeding of mosquitoes.
 No. 6: Regulations in respect of buildings, drainage, and the structure and cleansing of privies.

In January, 1923, dysentery (bacillary and amœbic) was added to the list of notifiable infectious diseases.

QUARANTINE.

During the year 104 visits of inspection were paid to vessels arriving at Apia from overseas, including two which stopped at the entrance to disembark passengers. In no case was it found necessary to withhold pratique.

As Sydney was not declared a clean port (as regards plague) until the 1st March, 1923, precautionary measures against the introduction of this disease into Western Samoa were continued throughout the year. The restrictions imposed have now been removed.

Western Samoa is kept in constant touch with the outside world in the matter of infectious diseases by means of weekly wireless messages from New Zealand, giving existing conditions, in so far as they are known, in New Zealand, Australia, and the various island groups of the South Pacific. In these weekly messages is also included any information of immediate value to Samoa contained in the fortnightly health abstracts cabled from London. The abstracts are also forwarded every month by mail-steamer. This up-to-date knowledge of conditions existing in those countries with which Samoa is in communication is an added safeguard against the introduction of epidemic diseases.

The new quarantine site at Mulinu'u has been definitely decided upon, and preparations for the erection of the necessary buildings are now in progress.

The following table shows the particulars of inspection of vessels for the year under review:—

Quarter.	Port Health Inspections.				
	Vessels inspected.	Pratique granted.	Passengers.		Crew.
			European.	Native.	
1922—April-June	27	27	Returns not available		..
July-September	30	30	..	..	..
October-December	26	26	165	189	573
1923—January-March	21	21	114	152	470
Totals	104	104	279	341	1,043

FOOD AND DRUGS.

The activities of the Department under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act have been for the most part confined to inspection of canned meats. During the year considerable trouble was caused by the importation of canned meats which became badly blown within a week or two of landing. As the result of action by this Department and the Apia Chamber of Commerce the position has improved. This improvement is not shown in the quarterly returns of meats condemned, but this is due to some meats imported in the quarter October-December being condemned in the following quarter, and also to the condemnation of other brands of meats than those originally at fault.

During the year, 32½ sacks of rice were seized. The seizure was confirmed by the Court. Particulars are given in the next table:—

Quarter.	Meats condemned.	Rice seized.
	lb.	Sacks.
1922—April-June	253½	..
July-September	900	..
October-December	3,330	32½
1923—January-March	2,909½	..
Totals	7,393	32½

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The figures given in the table below cannot be taken as an accurate return of the prevalence in Western Samoa of the diseases listed. They are the figures compiled from notification of cases which have applied for treatment to the Hospital at Apia or the medical out-station in Savai'i. During the first half of the year notification was unsatisfactory, but has now improved.

The extension of the medical service throughout the Territory, as outlined in the answers to the questionnaire of the League of Nations, will result in more satisfactory control of infectious diseases.

Medical Report.—Public Health Division.

E = European; S = Samoan; C = Chinese.

Quarter.	Typhoid Fever.			Encephalitis Lethargica.			Pulmonary Tuberculosis.			Leprosy.			Venereal Disease.			Gonorrhoeal Ophthalmia.			Dysentery (Bacillary).					
	E.	S.	C.	E.	S.	C.	E.	S.	C.	E.	S.	C.	E.	S.	C.	E.	S.	C.	E.	S.	C.			
1922.																								
April—June ..	2	2	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
July—September ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
October—December ..	1	3	0	0	1	0	0	6	5	0	0	1	0	0	3	0	3	0	1	0	2			
1923.																								
January—March ..	0	2	0	0	1	0	1	11	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	3	13	9			
Totals ..	3	7	2	0	4	0	1	18	5	0	0	2	0	4	6	0	4	0	4	13	11			

Quarter.	Measles.			Influenza.			Pneumonia Influenza.			Fulminant Influenza.			Pneumonia.			Epidemic Parotitis.			Total.			
	E.	S.	C.	E.	S.	C.	E.	S.	C.	E.	S.	C.	E.	S.	C.	E.	S.	C.				
1922.																						
April—June ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12
July—September ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
October—December ..	3	26	0	0	4	0	0	2	0	0	3	0	0	15	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	80
1923.																						
January—March ..	1	0	0	0	6	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	33	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	90
Totals ..	4	26	0	0	10	0	0	3	0	0	4	0	1	48	1	0	2	0	0	2	0	183

APIA HOSPITAL AND TUASIVI DISTRICT HOSPITAL.

The numbers of in-patients, as indicated in the attached return, show a slight increase over the numbers of last year, and it is gratifying to note that more cases have remained in hospital until the completion of their treatment. It is the exception nowadays for a patient to be removed by relatives before a cure is completed. The increase is really greater than is shown by the figures. Formerly it was the custom to admit many cases of ankylostomiasis for treatment, which necessarily lessened the percentage of serious cases. These cases were admitted primarily because thymol was the treatment of choice, and this drug is too dangerous for domiciliary treatment.

Recently the practice of admitting hookworm cases has been discontinued, and, with the introduction of carbon tetra-chloride, they are now treated as out-patients. Consequently this year's figures include a greater proportion of serious cases.

<i>Apia Hospital.</i>				<i>Tuasivi District Hospital.</i>			
General attendance ..	..	..	5,093	Attendance ..	..	..	1,509
European in-patients ..	..	..	196	Samoan in-patients ..	..	..	231
Samoan in-patients ..	..	..	569	Samoan out-patients ..	..	..	922
Chinese in-patients ..	..	..	569	Operations ..	..	..	45
Chinese out-patients ..	..	..	4,504				
Operations*	..	..	144				

* Under the heading of "Operations" at the Apia Hospital are included only major operations requiring a general anæsthetic. The records of minor operations are incomplete, but would average about twenty-five per month.

Lepers.—As indicated in last year's report, the lepers in Samoa were safely transferred to the excellent leper hospital at the island of Makogai, in the Fiji Group, where they are maintained and medically treated under an agreement between the Government of Fiji and the Government of New Zealand at the cost of the Samoan Administration.

TRAFFIC IN OPIUM AND DANGEROUS DRUGS.

The following information has been included in the annual report at the special request of the League of Nations (*vide* letter received from the Secretary-General dated Genoa, 30th May, 1922) and in the form drawn up by the Advisory Committee on Traffic in Opium and other Dangerous Drugs.

1. *General.*—On the 31st July, 1922, new regulations made under the New Zealand Opium Act became law 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, and this system is now in operation.

2. *Regulation of Imports and Exports.*—The importation of opium in a form suitable for smoking was during the year under review entirely prohibited, and that of opium in a form which may be made suitable for smoking was subject to the "imports certificate" system. There was only one importer apart from the Government, and quantities imported were negligible.

3. *Internal Regulation of the Manufacture, Sale, Distribution, Use, &c., of the Drug.*—There is no general prevalence of the drug habit. Isolated instances occur among Chinese indentured labourers. There is a small illicit traffic with Fiji, where raw opium is believed to be obtainable by illicit purchase from Indians. One European was convicted of smuggling, and fined £50.

4. *Particular Drugs: Raw Opium.*—(a) Not produced in the Territory; (b) none imported; (c) none imported; (d) none imported; (e) none exported.

5. *Prepared Opium.*—The import, manufacture, and use is prohibited. There has never been any smoking among the national population. Among the alien population the Chinese only are addicted to smoking, and that in isolated cases only. There were six convictions for being unlawfully in possession of opium. All the offenders were Chinese. Fines from £1 to £50 were inflicted. Effectual co-operation with Fiji continues.

6. *Morphine.*—No imports, manufacture, or exports.

7. *Heroin.*—No imports, manufacture, or exports.

8. *Medicinal Opium.*—Medicinal opium is imported by the Administration for use in the Public Hospital by its medical officers. There is only one other importer, a local chemist, and the amount of medicinal opium imported by him was negligible.

9. *Cocaine.*—No imports, manufacture, or exports.

10. *Other Drugs.*—No imports, manufacture, or exports.

11–14. *Miscellaneous.*—There is nothing to communicate under these heads.

EDUCATION.

GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS.

There has been a very large increase in the number of pupils attending the Government schools during the past year, as the following table will show:—

Number on Roll at	Ifi Ifi School.		Malifa School.		Vaipouli School.	Total.		Grand (Total.
	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys only.	Boys.	Girls.	
31st March, 1923	112	108	180	63	84	376	171	547
31st March, 1922 .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	172	124	296
Increase during year .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	204	47	251

Subjects of Instruction.—At Ifi Ifi School (for white and half-caste children) the subjects of instruction have remained much the same as during the previous year, excepting that less time has been devoted to drawing and music and more time given to English and arithmetic. It may be unfortunate that more time cannot be allotted to handwork and nature-study, but the struggle with English demands extra time and attention.

At Malifa School (for Native children) there is still greater need for more time and attention to be given to English, and during the past year it was deemed advisable to curtail the syllabus of instruction in the other subjects of the curriculum to enable the teachers to devote greater attention to this all-important subject so far as Native children are concerned.

At Malifa School also an endeavour is being made to foster Samoan handicraft, and instruction is now being given in basketmaking and mat-weaving. With this end in view the services of a Native expert weaver and basketmaker have been secured.

Proficiency Examination.—Fifteen pupils presented themselves for this examination, the principal papers for which were set in New Zealand. Of this number thirteen passed with proficiency, one with competency, whilst only one failed.

Scholarship Boys at St. Stephen's School, Auckland.—The reports received from the headmaster of St. Stephen's School on the work of the four Samoan scholarship boys are most encouraging. Two more scholarship boys from the mission schools were sent up to St. Stephen's School in February last.

Continuation Classes.—In order to meet the desire of students who are at work during the day, continuation classes to prepare candidates for the Proficiency Examination were held in the afternoons from 4 to 6 p.m. during the year. These classes were well supported by ambitious pupils, chiefly from offices in Apia. Five of these pupils sat for the Proficiency Examination, of whom four were successful in passing.

Secondary Classes.—Secondary classes have now been established at Ifi Ifi for the benefit of those pupils who have passed the Proficiency Examination and who desire to further their education. The work in these classes is practically on the lines of a junior high school in New Zealand.

Commercial Classes.—Classes in typewriting and shorthand have been commenced both at Ifi Ifi School and at Malifa. Tuition is given by two local pupil-teachers who have undergone a course of training.

MISSION SCHOOLS.

The missionary bodies have done, and continue to do, great work in the education of the Native children of these islands, through the establishment of village schools. These village schools are under the charge of Native pastor teachers. The Administration is assisting the missions in the beneficent work which they have undertaken, by furthering the training of these pastor teachers in English and modern school methods. With this end in view classes are held during the afternoons, at which the Government-school teachers are required to instruct the pastor teachers in English, school method, writing, drawing, and singing. These classes are well attended, and the work is enjoyed by both pastors and teachers.

A travelling teacher has also been appointed who visits the pastor teachers remote from Apia and imparts instruction in their own districts.

The most harmonious relations exist with the leaders of all the Samoan missionary bodies, of whom one and all are most anxious to assist in co-ordinating as far as possible the work of educating the young Samoans

POST AND TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT.

Savings-bank.—The Savings-bank Branch again shows an increase of business. During the year 151 accounts were opened and 73 closed, leaving a total of 381 accounts—an increase of 80 for the year. Deposits amounted to £30,484 17s. and withdrawals to £21,781 1s. 7d. The total amount (including interest) at credit of depositors is £39,253 13s. 5d.—an increase of almost £10,000 on the previous year's total. The opening of branches of the bank at Fagamalo, Savai'i, and Aleipata should result in a large increase of deposits.

Private Boxes.—The boxes are all let and arrangements have been made to have additional boxes erected. The fees from this source amounted to £98 11s. 3d.

Money-orders.—The money-orders issued numbered 1,628, for a total of £10,396 17s. 8d. The commission on money-orders amounted to £97 1s. 2d. 190 orders, totalling £1,248 14s. 6d., were paid.

Postal Notes and British Postal Orders.—Sales in this branch amounted to £660 19s., and notes to the value of £101 11s. 3d. were paid.

Post Office.—Mail-matter delivered in Samoa during the year shows a marked increase, and it is estimated from a general average that the numbers were as follows:—

Delivered—

Letters	..	..	..	..	..	115,056
Other articles	..	..	..	..	..	80,104
						195,160
Registered letters	..	..	..	..	..	2,299
Parcels	..	..	..	..	..	2,426

Posted—

Letters	..	..	..	..	..	102,838
Other articles	..	..	..	..	..	16,559
						119,397
Registered articles	..	..	..	..	..	3,669
Parcels	..	..	..	..	..	1,212

Stamps.—Stamp sales amounted to £3,316 16s. 2d., an increase of over £600 on last year's total.

Telephones.—The fees amounted to £1,321 14s. 4d., as compared with £1,193 10s. 9d. last year.

Work performed for other Departments.—Accounts collected for other Departments of the Administration amounted to £6,738 14s. 9d. On behalf of the New Zealand Government, for miscellaneous receipts, the sum of £1,196 5s. 8d. was collected, and miscellaneous payments amounted to £900 13s. 8d. The amount collected for the Customs Department was £649 9s.

RADIO STATION.

The working of the wireless station has been well maintained during the past twelve months. During the year a permanent daylight schedule with Rarotonga was inaugurated, this being rendered possible by improvement in reception at Apia.

An interesting event during the year was the reception by Apia Radio Station of wireless concerts sent out by the Honolulu broadcasting station. As the distance between the stations is 2,223 miles, the achievement is very satisfactory, and in this connection the following extract from a communication from Honolulu might be quoted: "The reception of radio telephone broadcast signals at a distance over 1,500 miles from the Honolulu broadcasting stations is indeed a very remarkable achievement; therefore the reception of speech and music at Apia, Samoa, reflects great credit upon the personnel operating the radio equipment at that station."

A serious accident occurred in February, when the flywheel of one of the engines burst, wrecking the engine and charging-set, but fortunately work continued uninterrupted by the use of the second set.

Month,	Total Engine-running Time.	Monthly Consumption Crude Oil.	Consumption per Hour.
	Hrs. Mins.	Gallons.	Gallons.
1922.			
April	44 45	228	5.0
May	58 30	251	4.3
June	60 0	292	4.8
July	54 15	259	4.8
August	50 45	244	4.7
September	57 30	316	5.3
October	72 0	345	4.8
November	72 0	360	5.0
December	67 45	470	6.9
1923.			
January	64 30	422	6.5
February	63 30	436	6.8
March	63 15	420	6.6

The following is a summary of the traffic handled during the year:—

TRAFFIC HANDLED BY APIA RADIO, 1ST APRIL, 1922, TO 31ST MARCH, 1923.

Month.	Forwarded.		Received.		Transmits.	
	Messages.	Words.	Messages.	Words.	Messages.	Words.
1922.						
April	212	2,103	232	2,286	658	6,503
May	244	2,725	255	2,659	724	7,325
June	192	1,911	226	2,116	795	8,319
July	270	2,908	259	2,601	757	7,136
August	304	3,428	278	2,856	794	8,021
September	256	2,808	238	2,210	624	5,972
October	244	2,642	259	2,721	763	7,140
November	250	2,488	263	2,653	735	6,621
December	329	3,102	273	2,489	651	6,579
1923.						
January	224	2,392	235	2,079	643	5,303
February	176	1,808	222	1,747	610	5,465
March	246	2,762	235	2,508	752	7,615
Totals	2,947	31,077	2,975	28,925	8,606	81,999

The amount earned by Apia was £3,372 1s. 8d.

AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

A survey of the events of the past year as affecting the agricultural interests of Samoa affords ground for not a little satisfaction, inasmuch as distinct progress has been achieved in several directions, while there has been a steady reaction from the depressed market conditions of the previous year.

COPRA.

Quite the most remarkable feature of the past twelve months has been the extraordinary increase in the copra export, as revealed in the trade statistics supplied by the Customs Department. The advance could hardly have been anticipated in view of the depressed state of the market and the consequent low price received by the producer throughout the first nine months of the year.

Although in the early part of the year values were at their lowest, the Department did everything in its power to encourage the increase of output, both the European Inspectors and the Pulefaatoagas (Native Land Inspectors) bringing all possible influence to bear on the Samoans to clear their plantations of fallen nuts and to cut the copra. Nevertheless, much of the crop goes to waste through nuts being left to rot on the ground.

In order to further increase the export of copra to any considerable extent it is necessary to (1) increase the number of coconut palms, and (2) ensure that that part of the crop which is now wasted shall be utilized.

As regards (1), the Department is closely concerning itself with the encouragement of new cultivations (as far as is consistent with the duty required from the Samoans of keeping their lands clean) with very gratifying results, as will be seen from the figures as to new plantings contained in the accompanying table. As to (2), the Inspectors—Native and European—endeavour to impress on the Samoans the desirability of removing all fallen nuts from their plantations. This is also necessary to ensure clean cultivation, for if the nuts are allowed to remain where they fall they take root and grow, choking up the neighbouring palms, with the result that the trees affected by this negligence do not bear as they should, or at all.

CACAO.

Following on the stagnation of trade experienced throughout 1921, the year just ended has shown a period of slow but steady recovery in the cacao industry. The Natives, too, appear to be taking more interest in the cultivation of this crop than previously, but as a rule their plantings are intended to meet their own requirements only. There has been no outbreak of canker during the past year to justify alarm. Sporadic appearances of the disease occur from time to time, but on the whole the general situation may be considered as satisfactory.

NATIVE FOOD RESOURCES.

Formerly, plantings by the Samoans were carried out in a more or less haphazard fashion, but an attempt is now being made to place this work on a regular and systematic basis. According to the procedure now adopted, the Inspector and the Pulefaatoaga on their quarterly inspection meet the chiefs of each village, and the question of new plantings for the ensuing quarter is discussed and details agreed upon. Care is taken to see that the work required is fixed on a reasonable scale. In this way friction is avoided, while the substitution of regularity and method in place of haphazard cultivation should react beneficially on the Samoan character by inculcating habits of foresight and method in providing for the people's needs.

A tabulated statement is appended, showing that under this scheme, in addition to the provision of Native foodstuffs, 229,436 coconuts and 28,997 cacao-trees have been planted during the past year. The past year has in fact constituted something of a record in planting operations, and latterly it has been found necessary to curtail the work to enable weeding and cleaning up to be performed about the new cultivation. In former years it has occasionally happened that the Administration has received applications from the Samoans for assistance owing to a shortage of food, but there should be no need for applications of a like nature in the future.

The two European Inspectors have done much useful work by instructing the Samoans in proper methods of planting. Special attention has been given to the method of planting coconuts and cacao.

BEETLE-DESTRUCTION.

Reviewing the work of the past twelve months it can confidently be reaffirmed that the beetle is completely under control. The work of beetle-destruction has been carried on with undiminished vigor and there are now whole districts where very little trace of the beetle can be seen. This gratifying state of affairs has been achieved by the single method of clean cultivation combined with the weekly search. The Samoans now search at their own convenience, bringing in their weekly quota every Monday forenoon. The quota is fixed by the Department according to the state of the plantations in each area, and in some cases has had to be lowered almost to the vanishing-point on account of the scarcity of beetles in certain localities.

In every country where the coconut-beetle is found it is recognized that the sovereign remedy for the pest is clean cultivation, and experience shows that the pest increases in proportion as this precaution is neglected.

FLYING-FOX.

This formidable nuisance, so destructive to the fruit crop (especially to mangoes) shows no sign of abatement. During the year the Department has interested itself in the question of coping with the pest. In Queensland and in New South Wales, where its ravages are very pronounced, experiments have been made with liquid fire and mustard-gas, but it is understood that these dangerous expedients gave no adequate results. For the present the Department is relying on shooting as the most practical method of dealing with the flying-fox in Samoa, and issues of ammunition are allowed in exchange for a certain number of flying-fox feet. Although this method was tried only during the last few months of the year, it has so far achieved a fair measure of success, and will be continued.

AGRICULTURAL FARM.

Increased efforts have been made to supply the public of Apia with fresh vegetables, so desirable in the tropics in the interests of the health of the community. As evidence of the increased output of the farm it is interesting to note that the receipt from the sale of vegetables, &c., amounted to £921 5s. 8d. for the year just closed, as against £552 19s. 6d. for the previous year.

It has been demonstrated at the Agricultural Farm that most vegetables usually associated with more temperate climes can, with a little trouble, be successfully cultivated in Samoa, even on the lower lands approximating sea-level. Experiments with herbs and flowers are now under way.

The citrus-trees imported from California for experimental purposes nearly two years ago are making healthy headway, with the exception of one or two varieties of limes and pomoloes.

Future Prospects.

The prospects for the future are bright, as the possibilities of agricultural development in the Territory have by no means been exhausted. A promising field for enterprise lies in the cultivation of pineapples and bananas and in the promotion of a pineapple-canning industry.

Statement of Revenue derived from the Government Farm at Tulale for the Year ended 31st March, 1923, compared with that for the Preceding Year.

	£	s.	d.
1922—April to June	200	15	11
July to September	304	15	10
October to December	234	15	5
1923—January to March	180	18	6
Total for 1922-23	£921	5	8
Total for 1921-22	£552	19	6

Beetles collected on Native and European Plantations in Upolu for the Year ended 31st March, 1923.

Quarter.	Collected on Native Plantations.			Collected on European Plantations.		
	Beetles.	Larvæ.	Eggs.	Beetles.	Larvæ.	Eggs.
1922—April–June	24,893	722,424	83,296	7,982	165,653	6,181
July–September	28,173	746,923	98,837	8,449	124,900	6,648
October–December	25,137	791,709	81,753	6,211	110,416	5,669
1923—January–March	23,000	684,197	52,511	7,267	103,346	6,032
Totals for year ended 31st March, 1923	101,203	2,945,253	316,397	29,909	504,315	24,530
Totals for year 1921–22	137,088	3,848,734	442,206	46,867	582,199	29,667

Native Plantings in Upolu (including replanting of Old Areas) for the Year ended 31st March, 1923.

Period.	Cocoanuts.	Bananas.	Tobacco.	Taros.	Taarus.	Kava.	Yams.	Sugarcane.	Breadfruit.	Cacao.
1922.										
April–June	22,650	102,941	7,370	318,948	37,744	15,842	800	83,118	..	..
July–Sept.	178,596	400,214	251,270	1,035,200	202,556	52,765	14,587	564,036	..	7,175
Oct.–Dec.	18,160	52,500	44,140	162,745	29,770	13,640	14,895	58,220	..	17,160
1923.										
Jan.–March	10,030	57,135	20,250	64,750	10,125	5,363	4,050	14,040	741	4,662
Totals	229,436	612,790	323,030	1,581,643	280,195	87,610	34,332	719,414	741	28,997

CUSTOMS AND MARINE.

REVENUE.

Although the total receipts slightly exceeded the estimates, there was a falling-off as compared with the previous year, the receipts from all services amounting to £75,938 for 1922–23, as against £84,400 for the year 1921–22. This fall can be attributed to the falling prices of goods being reflected in an *ad valorem* tariff, and to the more cautious importing by merchants in their fear of being caught with large stocks on a falling market.

IMPORTS.

The most noticeable feature in 1922 was the comparative rise in imports from the United States of America and Australia and the fall from the United Kingdom and New Zealand. The figures are:—

	1922.		1921.	
	£	Per Cent.	£	Per Cent.
United Kingdom	14,202	5	56,032	13½
New Zealand	82,596	29	132,830	32½
Australia	104,663	37	109,226	27
U.S. America	63,345	22½	73,310	18
Other countries	18,133	6½	37,494	9
Totals	282,939	100	408,892	100

The United States have always had an advantage in oils, timber, motor-cars, and certain machinery, but in 1922 they improved their position in drapery and tinned fish, while Australia has held its position with regard to flour and biscuits. The importation of soap, sugar, paper, stationery, and motor-car parts from that country have increased. The large importations of drapery from England in 1921 were not repeated in 1922—in fact, many of the imies were re-exported under drawback when prices dropped. New Zealand is still supreme in tinned and keg meat and in butter, though the falling prices are reflected in the value of imports.

EXPORTS.

The outstanding feature has been the shipping of the bulk of the copra direct to Europe instead of to San Francisco. The figures are:—

	1922.		1921.	
	£	Per Cent.	£	Per Cent.
United Kingdom	72,856	23	15,635	8
New Zealand .. .. .	..	..	915	½
Pago Pago .. .. .	..	..	850	½
U.S. America	29,044	9	173,120	91
Holland	24,678	8	..	..
Denmark	118,562	37	..	..
Germany	74,193	23	..	..
Totals	319,333	100	190,520	100

SHIPPING.

The main feature has been the replacement of sailing-vessels loading for San Francisco by steamers bound for Europe. The figures in detail are set out in the accompanying tables.

Port Facilities.—Improvements effected during the year include the installation of an "Aga" light as a leading-light on Vaea Hill, and the laying-down of an Admiralty-type buoy at the mail-boat moorings.

Statistics.—The accompanying tables set out the position in detail for the past year :—

RECEIPTS AT CUSTOMHOUSE, APIA.

(To nearest Pound Sterling.)

Quarter ended	Import Duty.	Export Duty.	Shipping Fees.	Stevedoring and Shed Fees.	Taxes and Native Travelling-passes.	Other Receipts.	Total Receipts.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
June, 1922	10,649	3,052	467	267	3,889	203	18,527
September, 1922	9,087	3,053	403	261	4,701	240	17,744
December, 1922	16,939	4,454	577	220	765	274	23,229
March, 1923	8,999	5,713	516	141	770	300	16,438
Totals, year 1922-23	45,673	16,272	1,963	889	10,125	1,017	75,938
Totals, year 1921-22	56,824	14,395	1,779	1,209	9,540	653	84,400

Overseas Shipping, Port of Apia.

Quarter ended	—	Steam.			Sailing.			Total.		
		No.	Tons.	Cargo.	No.	Tons.	Cargo.	No.	Tons.	Cargo.

INWARDS.

June, 1922	British	22	15,585	2,272	1	229	323	23	15,814	2,595
	Foreign	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
September, 1922	British	22	15,585	2,272	1	229	323	23	15,814	2,595
	Foreign	24	11,048	2,293	..	..	..	24	11,048	2,293
		3	5,488	7	..	..	..	3	5,488	7
December, 1922	British	27	16,536	2,300	..	..	..	27	16,536	2,300
	Foreign	22	15,385	2,746	..	..	..	22	15,385	2,746
		1	136	..	1	496	262	2	632	262
March, 1923	British	23	15,521	2,746	1	496	262	24	16,017	3,008
	Foreign	18	14,386	1,459	..	..	..	18	14,386	1,459
		..	..	..	1	496	..	1	496	..
Year ended 31/3/1923	British	18	14,386	1,459	1	496	..	19	14,882	1,459
	Foreign	86	56,404	8,770	1	229	323	87	56,633	9,093
		4	5,510	7	2	992	262	6	6,502	269
Year ended 31/3/1922	British	90	61,914	8,777	3	1,221	585	93	63,135	9,362
	Foreign	72	71,594	11,155	..	..	..	72	61,594	11,155
		5	2,822	59	4	2,465	745	9	5,287	804
		77	74,416	11,214	4	2,465	745	81	66,881	11,959

OUTWARDS.

June, 1922	British	24	15,955	2,884	1	229	..	25	16,184	2,884
	Foreign	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
		24	15,955	2,884	1	229	..	25	16,184	2,884

Overseas Shipping, Port of Apia—continued.

Quarter ended		Steam.			Sailing.			Total.		
		No.	Tons.	Cargo.	No.	Tons.	Cargo.	No.	Tons.	Cargo.
OUTWARDS—continued.										
September, 1922	British Foreign	23	9,413	1,220	..	..	..	23	9,413	1,220
		2	2,766	1,753	..	..	..	2	2,766	1,753
		25	12,179	2,973	..	..	..	25	12,179	2,973
December, 1922	British Foreign	23	14,542	1,639	..	..	..	23	14,542	1,639
		1	2,717	2,880	1	496	..	2	3,213	2,880
		24	17,259	4,519	1	496	..	25	17,755	4,519
March, 1923	British Foreign	19	14,404	3,935	..	..	..	19	14,404	3,935
		..	..	..	1	496	..	1	496	..
		19	14,404	3,935	1	496	..	20	14,900	3,935
Year ended 31/3/1923	British Foreign	89	54,314	9,678	1	229	..	90	54,543	9,678
		3	5,483	4,633	2	992	..	5	6,475	4,633
		92	59,797	14,311	3	1,221	..	95	61,018	14,311
Year ended 31/3/1922	British Foreign	70	71,224	5,664	..	..	..	70	71,224	5,664
		5	2,822	6,410	4	2,465	2,660	9	5,287	9,070
		75	74,046	12,074	4	2,465	2,660	79	76,511	14,734

LANDS AND SURVEY.

During the year the resurvey of the whole of the former municipal district of Apia has been practically completed, and it is hoped to be able shortly to issue detailed plans of the area. About eleven miles of the standard coast traverse westward from Apia was also completed, together with about two miles of connecting traverse, thereby linking up various isolated surveys in the plantation district. The practical result of this is that some 12,000 acres of former surveys have now been tied on a common meridian, which will prove to be of great value for future adjacent surveys and reference purposes.

Surveys in connection with water-supply schemes for Vailele Plantation and for the Fasito'o District were also undertaken for the Public Works Department.

The enclosed schedule sets out in tabulated form the various other works carried out by the Department.

RETURN OF WORK COMPLETED BY LANDS AND SURVEY DEPARTMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1923.

Quarter ending	L. & T. Com. Surveys.		Official Surveys.				Private Surveys.				Resurvey of Apia.		Standard Coast Traverse.		Official Plans.	Private Plans.	Official Tracings.	Private Tracings.	Fees Earned by Department.
	Number of Sections.	Area in Acres.	Number of Sections.	Area in Acres.	Number of Sections.	Area in Acres.	Number of Sections.	Area in Acres.	Number of Sections.	Area in Acres.	Number of Sections.	Area in Acres.	Number of Miles.	Number of Secs. connected.					
30/6/22	15	45	13	65	1	942	24	65	..	..	48	640	..	..	5	33 ^a	26	42 ^b	£ 271 5 3
30/9/22 ^c	..	..	2	1	1	200	3	24	7	70	309	2158	..	..	17	14 ^d	15	64 ^e	193 16 0
31/12/22	..	..	2	10	..	..	5	12	28	280	..	..	11 ^f	11	1	10	8	16	143 5 8
31/3/23 ^g	..	..	2	1	..	..	..	..	1	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	91 19 6

^a Includes 14 for Land and Titles Commission.

^b Includes 31 for Land and Titles Commission.

^c Also 2½ miles pipe-line traverse, Fasito'o, and 1 mile Vailele. [NOTE: 17 plans of circuit surveys completed, but internal work not yet finally complete.]

^d Includes 6 for Land and Titles Commission.

^e Includes 52 for Land and Titles Commission.

^f Two miles connecting traverse linking up about 12,000 acres of plantation area. Internal work resurvey of Apia completed connection of about 447 sections.

^g Rainy season, practically no field work done. Owing to absence of staff, internal work to complete circuit surveys was not finished in circuits 16-23.

FINANCE.

REVENUE.

The revenue for the financial year ended 31st March, 1923, including a subsidy of £16,000 from the New Zealand Government, is as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Native taxes	9,412	1	6
Customs and Marine	75,468	16	4
Fees of Court, &c.	11,604	14	10
Post Office and Savings-bank	6,421	11	3
Wireless	4,973	14	5
Miscellaneous	7,369	5	0
Subsidy from New Zealand Government	16,000	0	0
	<u>£131,250</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>

NOTE.—The subsidies to the Samoan revenue from New Zealand are based on the additional cost of the Medical and Education Departments expended since the New Zealand Government accepted the Mandate, and on the cost in excess of revenue of the wireless station.

EXPENDITURE.

Ordinary Expenditure (excluding Special Public-works Programme, paid for out of Loan).

	£	s.	d.
PERMANENT CHARGES.			
Permanent charges on account of public debt	5,323	14	6
Administration and Legislature	4,833	18	6
Secretary	2,837	18	6
Native Department	8,626	14	8
Savai'i section	5,999	4	7
Aleipata section	854	15	2
Treasury	3,732	6	10
Customs and Marine	2,264	0	5
Harbourmaster's section	4,364	7	1
Justice Department	3,816	0	10
Police Department	9,422	2	1
Medical Department—			
(a.) Clinical Division	24,044	13	10
(b.) Public Health	1,670	14	6
Agricultural Department	3,786	12	6
Chinese Department	2,207	1	4
Postal Department and Savings-bank	5,717	13	6
Wireless Department	4,789	0	10
Education Department	6,846	9	9
Miscellaneous	15,479	19	11
Lands and Survey Department	3,492	14	2
Public Works Department—			
Maintenance	11,452	14	3
Non-recurrent	1,096	0	10
	<u>£132,658</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>7</u>

Extraordinary Expenditure of Public-works Programme.

This programme is being paid for out of a "Loan Account" of £125,000 provided by the New Zealand Government. Of this amount, £25,000 is a gift, and the remaining £100,000 is lent at 5 per cent. interest and a rate of sinking fund to repay in thirty years. Since the commencement of this programme expenditure has been as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Prior to March, 1920	14,902	0	4
1920-21	29,434	3	10
1921-22	49,229	1	2
1922-23	20,776	16	8

Total extraordinary expenditure to 31st March, 1923 .. £114,342 2 0

Details of Public Works extraordinary expenditure are :—

	Expenditure. 1922-23.			Expenditure from Commencement.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Hospital, Apia, out-stations and leper station	2,648	12	10	20,148	1	1
Post Office additions .. .. .	..	..	..	996	6	8
Steam-laundry .. .. .	..	..	..	6,169	17	7
Electric light, Vailima .. .. .	..	..	..	767	18	0
Customs extensions	165	8	8	1,016	14	2
Motor-transport work .. .. .	..	..	..	1,945	0	1
Public Works plant	15	15	0	2,419	0	2
Hotel purchase .. .. .	..	..	..	10,000	0	0
Hotel equipment and improvement	855	7	6	3,520	11	8
Apia Waterworks	2,665	4	0	22,136	4	8
Harbour and channel-work—Plant and improvements	231	15	8	231	15	8
Harbour-dredging	2	19	2	145	7	8
Native water-supplies	1,992	5	2	4,597	12	10
Wireless quarters	1,764	4	11	2,262	3	2
Quarters (renovations) .. .. .	..	..	..	3,945	14	4
New quarters .. .. .	..	..	..	5,266	0	8
Police-station headquarters .. .. .	..	..	..	400	0	0
Reclamation for protection of roads	491	14	0	1,486	11	1
Roads and bridges	6,454	19	0	22,182	11	1
Additions to central office .. .. .	..	..	..	750	14	5
District schools	3,488	10	9	3,953	17	0
Totals	£20,776	16	8	£114,342	2	0

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE COMPARED SINCE COMMENCEMENT OF CIVIL GOVERNMENT, 1ST MAY, 1920.

Year.	Revenue, including Subsidy.			Expenditure, Ordinary.			Expenditure against Loan Account of £125,000.			Total Expenditure.			Surplus: Ordinary Expenditure over Revenue.			Deficits: Ordinary Expenditure over Revenue.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1920-21	149,026	16	5	147,063	2	2	29,434	3	10	176,497	6	0	1,963	14	3	..	..	..
1921-22	135,569	6	10	137,180	18	9	49,229	1	2	186,409	19	11	..	..	..	1,611	11	11
1922-23	131,250	3	4	132,658	18	7	20,776	16	8	153,435	15	3	..	..	..	1,408	15	3
1923-24 (estimate)	126,310	0	0	126,878	3	4	10,657	18	0	137,536	1	4	568	0	0	568	3	4

NOTE.—As against the amounts shown as deficits, revenue funds totalling £10,549 1s. have been set aside out of revenue during these periods (principally during 1920-21), and considerable sums devoted to the writing-off of losses incurred during the military occupation.

TABLE A.—STATEMENT OF LIABILITIES (LIQUID) AND ASSETS ON THE 31ST MARCH, 1923.

<i>Assets.</i>		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	<i>Liabilities.</i>		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Cash in hand .. .. .	..	576	2	5	..	..	..	Reserves .. .. .	..	..	..	..	10,549	1	0
Cash at bank .. .. .	..	5,693	17	0	..	..	..	Deposits .. .. .	..	..	..	..	10,910	16	7
Imprests .. .. .	..	..	..	..	6,269	19	5	Currency notes .. .. .	..	..	..	..	45,000	0	0
Stores unallocated .. .. .	..	..	..	..	57	13	4	Loan Account, New Zealand Government—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
German currency .. .. .	..	..	..	..	21,088	0	10	(a.) Provided at 5 per cent. interest and 1 per cent. sinking fund ..	87,000	0	0	..	..	..	..
Advances .. .. .	..	..	..	..	95	9	3	(b.) Provided free of interest as a gift	25,000	0	0	..	..	..	..
Loan Works Account—	..	..	..	..	1,435	0	5	Suspense .. .. .	..	..	..	..	380	5	6
Drainage and water-supply .. .. .	..	22,136	4	8	..	..	..	Excess assets over liabilities .. .. .	..	..	..	..	24,308	16	4
Other works .. .. .	..	92,205	17	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
					114,342	2	0						112,000	0	0
Suspense—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..						..	..	..
Chinese accounts .. .. .	..	1,966	13	11	..	..	..						..	..	..
Trading accounts .. .. .	..	2,189	18	7	..	..	..						..	..	..
					4,156	12	6						..	..	..
Investments—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..						..	..	..
New Zealand Government debentures and inscribed stock .. .. .	..	..	..	..	55,704	1	8						..	..	..
					£203,148	19	5						£203,148	19	5

TABLE B.— STATEMENT OF ASSETS (LIQUID) AND LIABILITIES ON THE 31ST MARCH, 1922.

<i>Assets.</i>		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	<i>Liabilities.</i>		£	s.	d.
Cash in hand .. ..	..	212	9	8				Reserves .. ..	..	9,211	8	6
Cash at bank .. ..	..	1,689	19	2				Deposits .. ..	..	11,354	10	9
					1,902	8	10	Suspense .. ..	..	10,003	14	2
Imprests .. ..	..				118	7	5	Loan Account—				
Unallocated stores ..	..				12,476	17	2	Provided under Fi-				
German currency .. ..	..				95	9	3	nance Act (N.Z.),				
Advances .. ..	..				21,424	15	4	1921–22, section 26				
Loan Works Account—								(a u t h o r i t y f o r				
Water-supply .. ..	..	19,471	0	8				£100,000 loan), at 5				
Other works .. ..	..	74,094	4	8				per cent. interest and				
Stores .. ..	..	18,000	0	0				1 per cent. sinking				
					111,565	5	4	fund	£	s.	d.	
Investments — N.Z. Go-								Provided by N.Z. Go-	77,000	0	0	
vernment debentures								vernment free of in-				
and inscribed stock ..	..				55,704	1	8	terest and sinking				
								fund	25,000	0	0	
										102,000	0	0
								Currency notes .. ..	..	45,000	0	0
								Excess of assets over				
								liabilities .. ..	..	25,717	11	7
					£203,287	5	0			£203,287	5	0

Both revenue and expenditure slightly exceeded estimates, a deficiency of £1,408 15s. 3d. ordinary expenditure over revenue resulting. The Stores Department has been finally closed up, and a considerable quantity of their holding in stores was charged against revenue, thus throwing a heavier charge on certain expenditure than was estimated. Practically all revenue items showed an improvement except import duties; these showed approximately an 18 per cent. decrease, due rather to decreasing values of goods than to any falling-off of business.

As regards expenditure, practically all Departments show a considerable decrease except the Medical and Education Departments. The latter are being expanded continually, the finance being supplied by the New Zealand Government subsidy, which is approximately assessed to cover the increased expenditure of these services since the assumption of the Mandate. Strict economy has been enforced, and all Administration services have been thoroughly overhauled and numerous economies effected.

TAXATION.

Reductions in taxation have been effected. Apart from the fall in *ad valorem* import duty referred to above, postal rates have been reduced, and the cocoa-export tax, while not remitted, has been returned to producers in the form of a bonus on all other than absolutely inferior cocoa produced. Further reduction in taxation is being considered for the next financial year. A death-duty tax was brought into effect for the first time in 1923, but no revenue has yet resulted from that source.

TRADE PROSPECTS.

These are good. The unfavourable trade balance against Samoa has been more than righted, and the price of copra, which is the mainstay of Samoan prosperity, is, at the moment, remarkably good. European plantations are having a hard struggle to carry on owing to the long depressed price of cocoa and the high cost of the 1920–21 Chinese immigration. The Government has extended financial assistance to these plantations, and they are for the most part being maintained in good order. Lower labour costs are in sight, but cocoa-prices must rise if these plantations are to become really profitable. Further references to Samoan trade prospects will be found in the Board of Trade report.

SUPPLIES PURCHASE DEPARTMENT.

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

Whilst carefully guarding against any undue accumulation of stocks, every effort has been made to maintain sufficient reserves of such stocks as are essential to the efficient working of the service.

On account of falling markets it was not deemed advisable to enter into contracts covering periods of spread delivery except in the case of rice. So far as the contract for this commodity was concerned, it proved, as in the previous year, to be extremely advantageous, in that our purchase price was lower than the market rate at any time during the currency of the contract, and in addition continuity of supply was secured.

Competitive quotations were obtained for all local purchases, and quotations were invited from New Zealand, Australia, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America for all overseas purchases.

The advent of a direct steamer service between London and Apia, with reasonable freight rates, offers the advantage of securing supplies direct from manufacturers in the United Kingdom at low cost, and the benefits thus derived more than compensates for the extra time required to effect

delivery after the placing of orders. As an instance of the saving to be effected by purchasing certain lines in the United Kingdom, cement might be quoted as an example:—

	Per Ton.
	£ s. d.
Price schedule by New Zealand Stores Control Board	5 12 6 (at Auckland).
Freight, Auckland—Apia	2 17 6
	8 10 0
	8 10 0
Price quoted, United Kingdom	2 17 0
Freight, London—Apia	2 10 0
	£5 7 0
	£5 7 0

The latter is best English, packed in casks, which, on account of the local climate, is much more satisfactory than the method of packing in bags.

JUSTICE.

The work of the Department has been satisfactorily carried on by the existing staff, which is the same in number and personnel as it was last year. There has been a big increase in the number of cases since 1921, and consequently in the work of the staff. The increase is more on the civil than on the criminal side, the number of cases in the former class (principally small debt cases) showing a marked advance on the previous year, probably owing to the prevailing bad times. Conditions having improved, there will no doubt be a falling-off in the number of civil cases during the coming year.

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.

Returns.—The returns attached show the number of civil and criminal cases dealt with by the Court. The Chief Judge dealt with the more serious criminal cases and the more important civil cases, and the Commissioners with all the lesser offences and with the civil claims up to £20. There have been no appeals either from the Chief Judge to the Supreme Court of New Zealand or from the Commissioners to the Chief Judge. A reference to the report of the Police Department will show that most of the offences in the returns are of the usual lower-Court class, and the number of convictions for serious offences during the year comparatively small.

Samoan Land and Titles Commission.—This important Court, presided over by the Chief Judge, with three European Assessors versed in the Samoan land customs to assist him, and with twenty Samoan Commissioners, also chosen for their knowledge of such customs, to advise the Court, dealt with forty-two cases—some being very important ones. There have been only four applications for rehearings, which fact indicates that this system of settling disputes between Samoans over their communal lands and their names or titles (which are highly valued and jealously guarded by the Samoans) is a satisfactory one.

Laws and Ordinances.—Fourteen Ordinances have been drafted, of which thirteen have received the Administrator's consent. The number tends to decrease now that the former German local Ordinances are largely replaced by the Legislative Council Ordinances. There has been no amendment to the Samoa Act, 1921 (Constitution Act), but several important Orders in Council have been made in New Zealand by the Governor-General on the advice of his Executive Council.

Land Registration.—The return attached shows the number of transactions put through the land register, which is kept by the Registrar of the High Court.

Companies Registration.—During the year the Companies Act of New Zealand, with certain modifications, was brought into force, and as a result private companies have been incorporated to carry on the business of merchants and island traders. The Registrar of the Court undertakes the duties of Registrar of Companies in addition to his other duties.

HIGH COURT OF WESTERN SAMOA AT APIA.

Return of Civil Cases for the Period 1st April, 1922, to 31st March, 1923.

Quarter ending	Sitting Days.	Actions filed.	Actions heard.	Judgments given.	Withdrawn and struck out.
1922.					
June	27	281	101	91	10
September	24	172	117	105	12
December	26	118	139	130	9
1923.					
March	22	119	137	116	21
Totals	99	590	494	442	52

Return of Criminal Cases for the Period 1st April, 1922, to 31st March, 1923.

Quarter ending	Sitting Days.	Persons charged	Convictions recorded.	Dismissed on Merits.	Withdrawn by leave of Court.
1922.					
June	32	238	208	22	8
September	37	141	126	10	5
December	40	181	139	32	10
1923.					
March	50	162	122	29	11
Totals	159	722	595	93	34

HIGH COURT OF WESTERN SAMOA, ALEIPATA DIVISION.

In respect of Civil Procedure for Period covering 1st April, 1922, to 31st March, 1923.

Number of days on which Court sat	35
Number of actions commenced	100
Number of actions heard	100
Number of judgments given	100

In respect of Criminal Proceedings for Period covering 1st April, 1922, to 31st March, 1923.

Number of days on which Court sat	14
Number of persons charged	17
Number of cases heard	17
Number of judgments given	17
Number of cases dismissed	8

LAND REGISTER, WESTERN SAMOA, AT APIA.

Return of Documents registered for the Period 1st April, 1922, to 31st March, 1923.

Conveyances	34
Mortgages	15
Discharges of mortgages	24
Leases	21
Miscellaneous	19
Total	113

HIGH COURT OF WESTERN SAMOA, AT APIA.

Return of Fines and Fees for the Period 1st April, 1922, to 31st March, 1923.

Fines and costs, criminal cases	£	s.	d.
	1,254	9	0
Fees in civil cases collected by means of stamps, including land registration	535	6	0
Total	£1,789	15	0

N.B.—Does not include fees collected at Savai'i, Aleipata, Native Department, and Chinese Department.

POLICE AND PRISONS.

The criminal statistics accompanying this report deal with all offences reported during 1922, and show an aggregate net increase of 188 on the figures for 1921. This increase, as will be seen from the tables, is mainly in minor offences.

The proportion of offences to the population was 1.98 per cent. as against 1.52 per cent. for the previous year.

The percentage of arrests or summonses resulting from the total offences reported during the year was 96 per cent.—the figures of the preceding year being 95 per cent.

So far there are no confirmed criminals here of the type known in New Zealand and other countries. The communal customs and habits of the Samoans are responsible for many of the petty thefts committed.

During the year advantage was taken of the resignation of the Inspector (for health reasons) to reduce the commissioned officers of the Police Department to two—viz., a Commissioner of Police and a Sub-Inspector. As the Force lacked a man trained and experienced in the investigation of crime and offences, a detective-sergeant was secured on loan from the New Zealand Police Department.

The European members of the Force are and have been fully occupied in general police work and extraneous duties, which are increasing as time goes on. With few exceptions the Native police do not understand or speak English, consequently instruction and direction has to be given in their own tongue. They are loyal, and obedient, and useful.

PRISONS.

The total number of prisoners in gaol on the 31st March, 1923, was 35 as against 40 on the 31st March of the previous year. The daily average of prisoners in gaol during the year was 37.83.

During the year the prisoners have been employed clearing Government lands in and about Apia, procuring all firewood required at the prison, and keeping the prison and premises clean and sanitary. Their health has been good. The gaol surgeon attends the prison regularly and deals with all cases of sickness.

MENTAL PATIENTS.

The number of patients at the end of the year was the same as at its 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, AND COMPARISON OF CRIME DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1921, AND YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1922.

Apia, Samoa.

Offences.	1921.		1922.				Offences reported.	
	Number of Offences reported.	Number of Offences reported.	Number of Offences in which Arrest or Summons resulted.	Number convicted.		Number dismissed or withdrawn.	Increase.	Decrease.
Misleading justice—				M.	F.	M.	F.	
Bribery	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Bribery, attempted .. .. .	..	1	1	..	..	1	..	1
Contempt of Court	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Obstructing course of justice	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Fabricating evidence	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Intimidating with sses	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Perjury .. .. .	..	1	1	..	..	1	..	..
Escapes and rescues—								
Escape from legal custody	2	2	2	1	..	1	..	..
Offences against morality—								
Adultery	4	13	13	10	3	..	..	9
Bigamy .. .. .	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	1
Offences against the person—								
Wounding with intent	12	1	1	1	..	..	..	11
Assault, conspiring to	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Unlawfully inflicting wounds .. .. .	..	1	1	..	..	1	..	1
Assault, bodily harm .. .. .	..	8	8	7	..	1	..	8
Assault, common	42	69	63	52	2	9	..	27
Manslaughter	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Threatening to kill	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Carnal knowledge	2	1	1	..	..	1	..	1
Murder, attempted	8	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
Suicide, attempted	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Murder, conspiring to commit	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Rape, attempted	5	2	2	..	..	2	..	3
Rape .. .. .	..	4	4	3	..	1	..	4
Rape, aiding .. .. .	..	4	4	2	2	..	..	4
Indecent assault	4	3	3	1	..	2	..	1
Offences against the rights of property—								
Theft from dwelling	5	8	4	4	..	..	..	3
Theft	128	113	97	78	4	14	1	15
False pretences	2	1	1	1	..	..	..	1
Burglary	2	5	4	2	..	2	..	3
House and shop breaking	27	3	..	..	..	..	..	24
Forgery	6	4	4	3	..	1	..	2
Fraud	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Receiving stolen property	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Fraud, attempted	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Trespass	2	15	15	15	..	..	..	13
Embezzlement	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Gaming offences	16	12	12	9	..	3	..	4
Arms Ordinance—								
Unlawful transfer .. .. .	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	1
Unlawfully in possession	3	7	7	6	1	..	..	4
Arms, failing to register	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Police offences—								
Breach of the peace	54	40	40	30	1	7	2	14
Cruelty to animals	14	19	19	6	..	13	..	5
Drunkenness	1	5	5	5	..	..	..	4
Indecent acts	2	2	2	2	..	..	..	..
Insulting language	3	10	10	6	3	1	..	7
Taking part in an affray .. .. .	..	6	6	6	..	..	..	6
Taking part in a riot .. .. .	..	9	9	7	..	2	..	9

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

Offences.	1921.		1922.				Offences reported.		
	Number of Offences reported.	Number of Offences reported.	Number of Offences in which Arrest or Summons resulted.	Number convicted.		Number dismissed or withdrawn.	Increase.	Decrease.	
Intoxicating-liquor offences—				M.	F.	M.	F.		
Samoans consuming liquor	1	7	7	7	..	..	..	6	..
Supplying liquor to Samoans .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Smuggling liquor	6	2	2	2	..	..	..	..	4
Breach of Distillation Act	6	6	6	2	..	4	..	..	..
In possession of intoxicating liquor	1	3	3	3	..	..	..	2	..
Selling intoxicating liquor .. .. .	..	2	2	2	..	..	..	2	..
Manufacturing intoxicating liquor .. .. .	..	2	2	2	..	..	..	2	..
Consuming methylated spirits .. .. .	..	5	5	3	..	2	..	5	..
Lunacy	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Offences <i>re</i> opium—									
Opium-smoking	6	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	5
Opium-smuggling	2	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	1
Opium, unlawfully in possession	18	4	4	4	..	..	..	..	14
Miscellaneous—									
Indentured labour unlawfully entering Samoan house	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Stills, unlawfully having	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Restricted immigrants, unlawfully landing	9	4	4	3	..	1	..	..	5
Concealment of birth .. .. .	..	2	2	..	..	..	2	2	..
Land-weeding regulations .. .. .	..	4	4	2	2	..	..	4	..
Dynamiting fish .. .. .	..	4	4	4	..	..	..	4	..
Shooting pigeons out of season .. .. .	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	1	..
Breach of Chinese Contract Labour Ordinance	48	180	180	165	..	15	..	132	..
Breach of Harbour Regulations .. .. .	..	8	8	8	..	..	..	8	..
Breach of Permit Regulations .. .. .	..	2	2	2	..	..	..	2	..
By-law breaches—									
Cattle trespass	41	62	62	40	16	4	2	21	..
Obstructing thoroughfare	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Negligent driving	17	43	43	36	..	7	..	26	..
Furious driving .. .. .	..	3	3	3	..	..	..	3	..
Driving without lights	12	23	23	20	1	2	..	11	..
Defective pig-fences	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Driving whilst unlicensed	1	7	7	7	..	..	..	6	..
Insanitary pig-sty .. .. .	..	5	5	3	2	..	..	5	..
Totals	564	752	722	589	37	98	7	353	165

PUBLIC WORKS.

1. BUILDINGS.

Maintenance of Buildings.

The usual maintenance of residences and other Government buildings has been attended to. Nine residences have been completely renovated.

New Construction and other Improvements.

The following statement shows the most important constructional work carried out:—

Government House, Vailima.—The dining-room and adjacent veranda have been mosquito-netted.

Schools.—The interiors of the Government schools, Apia, were renovated throughout. Two open-air class-rooms were constructed. Sanitary accommodation for the whole of the schools has been almost completed. A large double-compartment septic tank to provide for seven hundred pupils, together with a modern system of drainage to serve both the schools and three teachers' residences, has been installed.

Central Hotel.—New fences have been provided and a garage built. The kitchen has been altered and renovated.

Hospital, Apia.—The isolation compound, including sanitary annexes, double fencing, drainage, &c., has been completed. All buildings, new and old, have been connected up with the new sewerage scheme. A complete system of concrete paths has been constructed, to serve every portion of the hospital.

Sisters' Quarters.—The whole building, including verandas, has been mosquito-netted and exterior-painted.

Wireless Station.—A new residence, provided with septic tank, fencing, &c., complete, was erected for the Superintendent. The single men's quarters were painted.

Customs Sheds.—The roofs of all the Customs buildings were painted. The area used for landing and sorting cargo was paved with 6 in. of reinforced concrete. The passenger-landing was also concreted, and a concrete path provided to the Customs Office.

Malololelei Rest-house.—A gravitation water-supply scheme was installed.

Epidemic Memorial.—A memorial, consisting of a marble cross on a concrete substructure, was erected at Vaimca Cemetery. Substantial fences were constructed and concrete kerbs provided around all graves.

Clock-tower, Apia.—This work was completed.

Lands and Survey Office.—A new office was fitted up for the Lands and Survey Department.

Bench-mark, Apia.—A permanent bench-mark was constructed in front of the Public Works Office, and its level relative to mean sea-level as determined from tide-gauge readings ascertained.

Vaipouli School, Savai'i.—A hydraulic ram and redwood cistern was installed and the water-supply completed.

Leper Station, Nu'utele.—The buildings outside the actual leper compound were dismantled, and are being transported to Apia as circumstances permit.

Crown Estates.—A considerable amount of painting-work has been carried out for the Crown Estates.

2. ROADS.

Stone-crushing was carried on intermittently during the year. For several months the plant was loaned to the Crown Estates. The following statement shows the principal work carried out:—

Apia to Mulifanua Road.—The metalling of this road was completed to the vicinity of Vaiusu Village. The new work received one coat of restar during the year. Between Toamua and Faleula 90 chains of the road has been metalled and rolled. 44 chains of the road in Vaiusu Village has been re-formed, surfaced with rotten rock, and rolled; 49 chains of similar work has been carried out in the vicinity of Malie. A repair gang traversed the whole road during the dry season and carried out general repairs, the most important work being in Fasitootai.

Apia to Falefa Road.—Formation work was continued on this road until the end of the dry season. Work was so advanced on the 4th August that motor-cars reached Falefa Falls, a distance of 15½ miles from Apia.

Malololelei to Siumu Track.—A considerable amount of improvement work was carried out to this track.

Sea Erosion.—At many points, particularly in the vicinity of Apia, continual attention is required to prevent sea erosion. A considerable amount of such minor protective work was carried out.

Flood Damage.—In February and March, 1923, considerable damage was done to all roads and bridges in the Territory, not only by floods but also by high seas. On the 13th February there occurred in Apia a precipitation of 8·7 in. in three hours. Between the 5th and 16th March a cyclonic storm occurred, accompanied by excessively high tides, rough seas, and very heavy rainfall. At Aloisa, a few miles from Apia, a precipitation of 95·9 in. in thirteen days was recorded. It is estimated that the damage to roads and bridges in March amounted to £3,000.

3. BRIDGES.

Fuluasou Bridge.—The decking of this steel bridge has been completely renewed in Australian hardwoods.

Moataa Bridge.—This bridge has been raised and repaired.

Mulivai Bridge, Apia.—This steel bridge is unsafe, and a commencement has been made with the erection of a new bridge in Australian hardwoods. To deal with the traffic during construction a temporary bridge has been erected.

General.—Practically all the bridges in Upolu received minor repairs during the year. The floods of February and March, 1923, washed away three small structures which have been replaced with temporary structures until materials arrive for reconstruction. The Fagali'i and, Vaivase bridges, built of Oregon pine, will shortly be replaced by new structures in Australian hardwoods.

4. ROADS AND BRIDGES, SAVAI'I.

Gaguemalae to Faia'ai Road.—Extensive repairs to this road were carried out by the Natives by contract.

Salailua to Lata Road.—Formation of this road was completed.

Samatau Bridge.—This bridge was reconstructed.

Gataivai Footbridge.—A new bridge in Australian hardwoods has been completed.

Safune Footbridge.—A new light footbridge has been erected.

Safotu Bridge.—This bridge was repaired.

Salcaula Bridge, near Matautu.—This bridge was repaired and the approaches re-formed with coral.

5. APIA WATERWORKS.

The 2 in. main in Matautu Street was completed. A 4 in. main into the Customs yard, to furnish a good water-supply for the waterfront and give fire-protection to the Customs buildings, was completed. A 6 in. main, 63 chains in length, was laid from Tivoli Road to Taufusi Road. Ninety-three connections were made to the mains during the year, making a total of 306 connections to date.

6. NATIVE WATER-SUPPLIES.

Fasitootai Scheme.—This scheme was carried out to completion. It involved the laying of 18,700 ft. of pipe, varying in size from 2½ in. to 1 in. in diameter, and the construction of an 8,000-gallon concrete reservoir.

Other Schemes.—A number of other schemes were investigated, and the Natives concerned informed of the amounts of money they would be asked to collect if the schemes were proceeded with.

7. CONCRETE CISTERNS.

Tafutafoe, Sava'i.—A 12,000-gallon reinforced-concrete cistern was completed. Similar circular reinforced-concrete cisterns, all of 12,000-gallons capacity, have been constructed at the following villages in the Island of Manono: Faleu, Salua, Apai, Lepuai.

8. IMPROVEMENT OF PASSAGES.

Upolu.—This work was prosecuted with vigour until there occurred an unfortunate accident in which the foreman in charge was killed by an explosion of gelignite.

The following passages and channels received attention during the year: Puipaa, Faleula, Vaitele, Malua, Le Auva'a, Saanapu, Siumu, Samatau No. 1, Samatau No. 2, Siafaga to Falelatai, Matautu, Savaia, Vaice.

A large number of pins were installed in the channels inside the reef between Vailele and Mulifanua.

9. WORKSHOPS.

Joinery-shop, blacksmiths' shop, shipwrights' shop, garage, and mechanical workshop were carried on continuously until the 1st October, when, on account of reduction in public-works activities, the shipwrights' and mechanical workshop were handed over to the Crown Estates. The joinery-shop is still carried on in a minor way.

10. STREET-CLEANING, CLEANING GOVERNMENT GROUNDS.

Sanitation, Street-lighting, and Rubbish collection.—The above services in the Town of Apia have all been carried on continuously during the year by the Department.

11. SURVEYS.

A preliminary survey for a hydro-electric scheme for the Town of Apia has been carried out.

New Wharf, Apia.—The construction of a small wharf near the Customs sheds is under consideration, and preliminary plans have been prepared.

12. STAFF.

Further reductions have taken place during the year, the number of the classified staff at the beginning and end of the year being twelve and eight respectively.

CHINESE DEPARTMENT.

The number of Chinese labourers in Samoa at the 31st March, 1923, was 1,328, as against 1,591 at the end of the previous year, 255 having been repatriated and 8 died during the year. In the case of those who died leaving relatives in China, compensation equivalent to one year's wages was remitted to the latter through the Chinese Consul.

On the plantations the task-work system continues to be followed as far as practicable, and appears to give satisfaction to the labourers, as they are thus free to attend to their own affairs as soon as the standard task has been completed, instead of being compelled to work for a specified number of hours each day.

The relations existing between the Chinese Consul and the Administration during the past year have been most cordial, which would indicate that the Consul appreciates that the Administration honestly endeavours to deal fairly by the labourers.

RETURN OF LABOURERS REPORTING TO THE CHINESE DEPARTMENT DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1923.

Reason.	April- June.	July- September.	October- December.	January- March.	Total.
Medical examination	130	213	209	17	569
Complaint by employer	263	324	270	180	1,037
Complaint by labourer	35	58	98	85	276
To sign contract	9	5	1	8	23
Sent by employer—no complaint	71	92	49	28	240
Wanted by police	1	19	5	25	50
Seeking new employment	175	203	135	31	544
Wanted by Commissioner	40	21	29	21	111
Discharged from hospital	110	54	17	8	189
Discharged from custody of police	102	152	167	129	550
Repatriation affairs	91	20	69	25	205
Remittances .. .. .	..	..	10	2	12
Deferred pay .. .. .	..	..	18	29	47
Private affairs	75	112	201	60	448
Left work without permission	91	179	154	46	470
Totals	1,193	1,452	1,432	694	4,771

It will be noticed that there is a large decrease in the number of labourers calling at the office of the Commissioner during the last quarter compared with the previous quarters of the year. This is accounted for in the following manner: (1) Coolies for medical examination now report direct to the Crown Estates hospital, and are not recorded in this department except under special circumstances; (2) practically all the unemployed have either been repatriated or have secured employment.

BOARD OF TRADE.

As a result of the abnormal trade conditions of 1920 suspicion and considerable ill-feeling was engendered between the Samoan people and the traders, leading to the institution by the Samoans of a boycott. The boycott was carried out with vigour, and resulted in considerable losses to the mercantile community. A Cost-of-living Commission was set up to investigate the position, and one of the recommendations made by the Commission in its finding was the formation of a Board of Trade to deal with complaints of exploitation and overcharging. As a result the Samoan Board of Trade Order was passed by Order in Council, and the Board of Trade came into being in June last.

The Board consists of a Chairman nominated by the Administrator, a member elected by the Apia Chamber of Commerce, and a representative of the Native race nominated by the Faipules.

FUNCTIONS AND GENERAL POLICY.

The functions and general policy of the Board are, briefly, as follows: (a) Investigation of industries, the making of regulations as to their control and maintenance, the suppression of victimization, unfair competition, overcharging, &c.; (b) the assembling and publishing of data and statistics of value to commerce, industry, and planting; (c) the encouragement of industry, the revival of neglected industries, and the promotion of new where practicable.

While taking steps to combat exploitation, the Board has endeavoured to avoid becoming too preoccupied with the many "trader grievances" indicated in (a) above, but to deal with these in some proportion to the progress achieved in those functions included in (b) and (c). In this way it is hoped to secure a constructive policy, and enlist the interest, confidence, and co-operation of the whole community.

COPRA.

Much time and thought has been devoted to a thorough investigation of the copra industry, which is the very life-blood of Samoa's commerce. It is essential that the producer should receive as fair a price as the market permits if output is to be increased and industry and prosperity built up.

With the data collected in the course of its investigations the Board hopes that it may succeed in the not-distant future in having copra placed beyond the possibility of exploitation, in the same manner as primary products are sometimes placed in other countries, such as butter and cheese in New Zealand, for instance.

COCOA.

The plight of the European cocoa-planters in July, 1922, was extreme. Not only had the quality of Samoan cocoa fallen, but the financial condition and the unorganized state of the cocoa-planters was forcing them to sell at any price they could get. The price in July, and for some months prior, ranged from £35 to £45 per ton—a price much below the cost of production. Proposals from the Board of Trade whereby a price per ton was guaranteed of £50 for unwashed and £55 for washed cocoa, and in addition the planter was given a bonus of £2 a ton for all cocoa that passed a quality test, were agreed to by the Administration. As a result the local price for cocoa immediately rose by from £15 to £20 a ton. This increased price, if not yet really profitable, enables the planter to carry on.

It can therefore be claimed that the action of the Board of Trade has for the present saved the independent planters from bankruptcy, and, by encouraging improved quality in cocoa by offering a bonus for beans up to a specified standard, is restoring the standing of Samoan cocoa-beans to that of some of the foremost in the world.

AGRICULTURAL AND INDUSTRIAL SHOW.

With a view to encouraging Samoan arts and crafts and industries, and ascertaining exactly what these are and what are of commercial value, the Board of Trade has organized an agricultural and industrial show, which is to be held in June, 1923. The Samoans have entered into the project enthusiastically, and it is anticipated that from six to eight thousand exhibits will be housed. The show will result in a considerable temporary addition to the population of Apia, and should provide a great stimulus to business, and will be of great educational value by providing an opportunity of ascertaining the possibilities of various industries and branches of agriculture.

BALANCE OF TRADE.

Prior to 1919 the value of the exports for the Territory balanced the value of the imports. From the beginning of 1919, however, the relation between the exports and the imports became upset, as also occurred in other countries than Samoa during the post war period. It is gratifying to record that trade in Samoa has already recovered its equilibrium, as will be seen from the following figures:—

	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
1919	291,368	532,500
1920	561,153	386,587
1921	408,892	241,539
1922	282,939	365,610
March quarter, 1923	54,113	115,505
	<u>£1,598,465</u>	<u>£1,641,741</u>

The price of copra is good, and business is reviving on a solid foundation.

APIA OBSERVATORY.

The work carried out at Apia Observatory embraces a study of the earth's magnetism, earthquakes, meteorology, and atmospheric electricity. Each of these four main branches requires subsidiary activities, including the determination of time, tide-observation, and storm-forecasting.

During 1922 continuous records were obtained of temperature, barometric pressure, rainfall, humidity, and sunshine. The monthly maximum and minimum of temperature and of barometric pressure, and the monthly rainfall, are given in the following table :—

1922.	Temperature.		Pressure.		Rainfall (Inches).
	Maximum.	Minimum.	Maximum.	Minimum.	
January	33.7	23.9	60.5	50.5	27.16
February	33.2	21.2	60.2	53.9	8.38
March	32.3	23.6	62.9	54.4	11.68
April	32.9	23.7	62.0	54.4	5.44
May	31.4	22.8	61.8	56.2	13.71
June	32.0	21.6	62.9	56.1	4.81
July	31.1	19.1	62.2	56.3	1.58
August	32.2	22.2	63.4	56.8	5.24
September	31.1	21.9	63.2	57.3	9.81
October	31.4	22.2	63.3	55.4	10.11
November	32.5	22.8	61.1	53.4	14.57
December	31.5	23.0	62.9	49.4	23.92

The rainfall work has been extended in co-operation with the Crown Estates Department, so that rainfall records are now taken at thirteen stations on Upolu. These records are of use not only to the Crown Estates management in a study of products suitable for their plantations, but also to the Department of Public Works in determining the quantity of water available for hydro-electric development. The stations with the greatest and least rainfall are Aleisa and Vaitele. For the past three months their rainfall is as follows: Aleisa—January, 29.17 in.; February, 16.41 in.; March, 117.82 in. Vaitele—January, 17.28 in.; February, 17.02 in.; March, 49.02 in.

On account of the heat and humidity of the tropics the meteorological instruments corrode rapidly. It has been necessary to make large replacement orders for 1923, including a new anemometer, thermograph, hygrometer, sunshine-recorder, and thermometers. These instruments will place the meteorology work on a better basis.

An important branch of the weather work consists in the preparation of daily reports which are broadcasted by the wireless station. In addition to this broadcasting by the Apia Radio by the courtesy of the Hon. the Postmaster-General of New Zealand, all storm-warning messages sent from the Apia Observatory to the Awanui Radio-station will be broadcasted by the latter for the benefit of shipping outward bound from the Dominion to the Pacific.

During the hurricane season, November to April inclusive, statements are sent out at noon and 10 p.m. of the barometric pressure, wet-and-dry-bulb thermometer, wind direction and force, and cloudiness. During a cyclone messages are sent out as circumstances dictate. In the cyclone of March, 1923, wireless statements were broadcasted in regard to the position of the storm-centre and direction of its path. The Apia Observatory has been made the station for the receiving, analysing, and publishing of the weather data from Suva (Fiji), and Nukualofa (Tonga), Norfolk Island, Vila (New Hebrides), Tutuila (American Samoa), Papeete (Society Islands), and Noumea (New Caledonia).

If a vessel's stay in the harbour permits, barometer comparisons are made with the Observatory standard, and certificates given to the ship's officers. Chronometers are rated. Both these services are done free of charge.

In connection with both seismic and magnetic work it is necessary to have time observations correct to 0.3 second. Observations are made bi-weekly on the sun, and the correction on the standard clock determined. The clock is used in rating ships' chronometers, in answering telephone requests for correct time, and in giving the signal for firing the noon gun.

The atmospheric electric work is carried out under the direction of the Department of Terrestrial Magnetism of the Carnegie Institution of Washington. The results are of importance in a study of the earth's magnetism and in obtaining a knowledge of static disturbances in wireless telegraph. A laboratory was built in April, 1922, for this work, and since then records of potential gradient have been obtained. In order to get away from the effects of land and of uneven surfaces, a special laboratory has been built by the Public Works Department in the shallow water inside the reef. The observations should be of unique importance in giving the electrical conditions of the atmosphere as they exist over the great ocean areas.

The Observatory has its great importance and use in giving information in regard to the vast areas of the South Pacific Ocean. The Observatory, started in 1904 by the University of Gottingen, and continued with increasing ardour until the war cut off its financial support, has been guided through a critical period of transfer of ownership by the New Zealand Scientific Honorary Board of Advice to the Department of External Affairs. Attention is drawn to the seventh resolution of the World's Scientific Conference held in May, 1922, at Rome, namely: "7. That the steps already taken

by the New Zealand Government regarding the continuation of the Apia Observatory in Samoa are highly commended, and it is hoped that the New Zealand Government may find it possible to provide for the continued full activities of the Observatory."

Full reports of the magnetic, meteorological, and seismological work of the Samoan Observatory are being printed separately, and copies will be sent to the Secretary-General of the League of Nations.

RAINFALL FOR THE YEAR 1922, AS RECORDED AT THE OBSERVATORY, MULINU'U.

Month.	Rainfall. (Inches).	Month.	Rainfall. (Inches).
January	27·16	August	5·24
February	8·38	September	9·81
March	11·68	October	10·81
April	5·44	November	14·57
May	13·71	December	23·92
June	4·81		
July	1·58	Total	137·11

STAFF.

Careful attention continues to be given to the question of the staffing of the various Departments and, as will be seen from the subjoined table, a further reduction has been effected during the year, making a total reduction of twenty during the past two years.

Department.	Report for 1921.	Report for 1922.	Staff as at 31st March, 1923.
Administrator's .. Number ..	Administrator A.D.C. 2	Administrator A.D.C. 2	Administrator. A.D.C. 2
Secretariat .. Number ..	Secretary Assistant Secretary Clerk Typist Typist Typist 6	Secretary Assistant Secretary Clerk Typist Typist Billeting and Relieving Officer 6	Secretary. Assistant Secretary. Clerk. Typist. Typist. Billeting and Relieving Officer. 6
Agriculture .. Number ..	Director Clerk Farm-manager Inspector Inspector Inspector. 6	Director Clerk Inspector Inspector Inspector 5	Director. Clerk. Inspector. Inspector. Inspector. 5
Chinese Number ..	Commissioner Assistant Commissioner 2	Commissioner Assistant Commissioner. 2	Commissioner. 1
Customs and Harbour .. Number ..	Collector Examining Officer Clerk Clerk Fumigation Officer Harbourmaster 6	Collector Examining Officer First Clerk Clerk Fumigation Officer Harbourmaster 6	Collector. Examining Officer. First Clerk. Clerk. Fumigation Officer. Harbourmaster. 6
Education Number ..	Director Master Assistant Master Assistant Teacher Assistant Teacher Assistant Teacher Organizing Teacher Organizing Teacher 8	Director Headmaster Headmaster, District School Mistress Assistant Master Assistant Teacher Assistant Teacher Assistant Teacher Organizing Teacher 9	Superintendent of Schools. Headmaster. Headmaster, District School. Mistress. Assistant Master. Assistant Teacher. Assistant Teacher. Assistant Teacher. Travelling Teacher. 9
Justice Number ..	Chief Judge Crown Solicitor Assistant Crown Solicitor Registrar, High Court Registrar, Lands. 5	Chief Judge Crown Solicitor Assistant Crown Solicitor and Registrar of Court and Lands 3	Chief Judge. Crown Solicitor. Assistant Crown Solicitor and Registrar of Court and Lands. 3
Lands and Survey Number ..	Chief Surveyor (included in Native Department) Chief Draughtsman Field Surveyor Assistant Surveyor Assistant Surveyor 5	Chief Surveyor Field Surveyor Computing Draughtsman Assistant Surveyor Assistant Surveyor 5	Chief Surveyor. Computing Draughtsman. Assistant Surveyor. Assistant Surveyor. 4

STAFF—continued.

Department.	Report for 1921.	Report for 1922.	Staff as at 31st March, 1923.
Public Works ..	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.
Number ..	16	13	8
Medical	Chief Medical Officer .. Hospital Superintendent .. 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 Superintendent .. 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 Superintendent. 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. 20
Number ..	19	19	20
Native Affairs ..	Secretary Assistant Secretary Clerk of Court Accountant Chief Translator	Secretary Clerk of Court Accountant Chief Translator	Secretary. Assistant Secretary. Clerk of Court. Accountant. Chief Translator. 5
Number ..	5	4	5
Police	Commissioner Inspector Sub-Inspector Sergeant Accountant and Storekeeper Gaoler Constable Constable. Interpreter.	Commissioner Inspector Sub-Inspector Sergeant Accountant and Storekeeper Gaoler Constable	Commissioner. Sub-Inspector. Detective Sergeant. Sergeant. Accountant and Storekeeper. Gaoler. Constable.
Number ..	9	7	7
Postal	Postmaster Clerk Clerk Line Foreman	Postmaster Clerk Clerk Line Foreman	Postmaster. Clerk. Clerk. Line Foreman. 4
Number ..	4	4	4
Resident Commis- sioners	At Aleipata At Fagamalo Secretary at Fagamalo .. Agricultural Inspector, Faga- malo	At Aleipata At Fagamalo Secretary at Fagamalo .. Beetle Inspector, Fagamalo..	At Aleipata. At Fagamalo. Secretary at Fagamalo. Beetle Inspector, Fagamalo.
Number ..	4	4	4
Supplies Purchase ..	Stores-manager Storekeeper Clerk. Clerk. Typist. Clerk.	Supplies Purchase Officer .. Clerk.	Supplies Purchase Officer.
Number ..	6	2	1
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.
Number ..	4	4	4

STAFF—*continued.*

Department.	Report for 1921.	Report for 1922.	Staff as at 31st March, 1923.
Radio-station ..	Superintendent Senior Operator Operator Operator Operator Operator Operator Chief Engineer Second Engineer.	Superintendent Senior Operator Operator Operator Operator Operator Engineer Second Engineer.	Superintendent. Senior Operator. Operator. Operator. Operator. Operator. Operator. Engineer.
Number ..	9	8	7
Labour	Agent.		
Number ..	1		
Grand totals for Administration Departments	116	103	96

WESTERN SAMOA.

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT TO LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

FOR PERIOD 1ST APRIL, 1922, TO 31ST MARCH, 1923.

QUESTIONNAIRE.

IT has been considered desirable to again attach to this report certain of the questions in the special questionnaire (and the answers thereto) as at the 31st March, 1923, which appeared as a supplement to the Second Mandate report of last year. In future, the information particularly desired by the Special Mandates Commission will be incorporated in the annual report under the respective Departments.

I. SLAVERY.

Last year's answers apply.

II. LABOUR.

Last year's answers apply.

III. ARMS TRAFFIC.

1. *What measures are being adopted to control the traffic in arms and ammunition?*
See last year's answer.
2. *What are the statistics relating to imports of arms and ammunition of different categories?*
Firearms imported during the year ended 31st March, 1923: two double-barrelled B.L. No. 12 gauge sporting shot-guns; one No. 16 gauge sporting shot-gun, S.B., B.L.; 11,500 No. 12 gauge sporting shot-gun cartridges; 4,000 No. 16 gauge sporting shot-gun cartridges; 3,500 No. 20 gauge sporting shot-gun cartridges; 500 No. 24 gauge sporting shot-gun cartridges; 500 No. 22 pea-rifle sporting cartridges; sixty empty brass shot-shells; 3,000 percussion caps; 1,000 felt wads; 1,000 cardboard wads.

IV. TRADE AND MANUFACTURE OF ALCOHOL AND DRUGS.

1. *What steps are being taken to assure the prohibition of abuses of liquor traffic?*
See last year's answer.
2. *How is the campaign against alcoholism organized?*
See last year's answer.
3. *What are the effects of these measures (statistics relative to the import and to the local manufacture of alcoholic liquors, &c.)?*
Smuggled liquor is scarce and dear—as high as £5 per bottle. "Home brew" is difficult to stamp out, but the severe sentences are having a salutary effect, and the sale of such liquor is kept in small compass. In all, four cases of smuggling were taken to Court, two for liquor and two for opium. All were successful.
Imports during the year: For medicinal purposes—Whisky, 164 gallons; brandy, 40 gallons; port wine, 50 gallons; stout, 122 gallons. For sacramental purposes, nil (fresh supplies come in April, 1923). For industrial purposes—Rectified spirit, 10 gallons.

4. *What are the countries of origin of alcoholic liquors, other than wine and beer, imported into the Territory?*

Whisky—United Kingdom via New Zealand and Australia; brandy—France via Australia.

5. *What measures have been taken to assure the prohibition or regulation of the importation, production, and consumption of dangerous drugs?*

See last year's answer.

V. LIBERTY OF CONSCIENCE.

Last year's answers apply.

VI. MILITARY CLAUSES.

Last year's answers apply.

VII. ECONOMIC EQUALITY.

Last year's answers apply.

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?*

These islands owe the deepest debt of gratitude to the missions, to which almost altogether the work of education has been left in the past. The London Mission Society, the Methodist Mission, and the Roman Catholic Mission, principally, and to a lesser extent the Church of Latter-day Saints and Seventh-day Adventists, have for years past carried on the work, and to their efforts must be attributed the fact that few if any Samoans are unable to read and write in the vernacular. The work, however, is carried on by separate entities, and is unco-ordinated and cannot reach as far as they themselves would wish. Our policy is to encourage and supplement their work and to take it further, in the hope that a satisfactory national system of education may be built up.

The pastors of the London Missionary Society and the Methodist Missions are not only pastors, but also school-teachers, and it is part of the pastor's duty to carry on a school in his village. So it arises that in every village there is at least one school, and in some two or three. The subjects taught are reading (Samoan), writing, arithmetic, scripture, English, and geography, and also, in some schools, history.

There are also the Marist Brothers' and Marist Sisters' Schools in Apia. In both schools, boys and girls, as the case may be, of all classes are admitted—white, half-caste, Native. The roll number of the Marist Brothers' School is 300, and of that number 140 are pure-blooded Natives. The roll number of the Marist Sisters' School is 170, and of that number about fifty are pure-blooded Natives.

The Administration has also schools, and these schools are being developed. In Apia, in addition to the school for white and half-caste children (roll number 220—attended for the most part by half-caste children) there is a school for Native boys and girls, with a roll number of 243. The District School at Vaipouli, on the Island of Savai'i, has opened with a roll number of eighty-four. White, half-caste, and Native children are admitted.

Number being educated by missions at village schools, district schools, high schools, and colleges: L.M.S. Mission, 7,671; Methodist Mission, 2,030; Roman Catholic Mission, 1,800; Latter-day Saints Mission, 460.

All education by the missions is, generally speaking, free, but in the Government schools (for Natives) education is free to all those who have been selected by examination, or by privilege as in the case of the Government School, Laumua, a school built in German times by several villages according to certain agreements which are still respected by the Administration. A charge is made at the Marist Brothers' School, the Marist Sisters' School, and the Government School (for whites and half-castes). At the Mormon schools no charge in money is made, but help in kind is expected.

2. *What steps are being taken to provide for higher education of the Natives, such as medical, veterinary, and technical?*

Samoa has not yet reached the stage for higher education, but a beginning has been made at Government School, Ifi Ifi, where secondary classes have been established to prepare candidates for the Public Service Entrance and the Matriculation Examination, New Zealand. It is gratifying to report that one candidate, from the Medical Department, is preparing for the Medical Preliminary Examination, two from the Lands and Survey Department for Surveyor's Examination, and several from the Education Department for the Teacher's Examination.

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.

Samoaan nurses: 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 the 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. The contract terminates at the end of three years, but they may re-engage, if they so desire, for a further period.

Samoa cadets: This is in its infancy. 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 instructions 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 senior 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.

Veterinary.—No arrangements have been made for training in this particular work, but up to the present the services of experienced white officials employed by the Agricultural Department and Crown Estates have been availed of.

Technical.—Leulomoega High School: At this school the London Missionary Society have had for years a carpenter's shop where instruction is given in carpentry and cabinet-making; training is also given in smithery and instruction in practical agriculture.

Methodist High School and College, Lufi Lufi: Practical instruction in carpentry and cabinetmaking has been given in these and other Methodist district schools, and it is hoped to extend the work.

Government schools: At all Government schools instruction in woodwork is given.

Scholarships.—Six boys have been sent to New Zealand to attend St. Stephen's College, Auckland, for a period of three years' general education. It is proposed to send four boys every year.

3. *In what languages is instruction given in the different categories of schools?*

In all Government schools instruction is given entirely in English. Instruction in English is also given at the Marist Brothers' and Sisters' Schools, Apia, likewise at all Mormon schools. The Administration has recently appointed a travelling teacher to assist in the teaching of English at Malua L.M.S. College; at Piula Methodist College; at Moa Moa Roman Catholic College. The only other language in which instruction is given is the Native tongue—Samoaan.

4. *Are Mission schools compelled to submit to certain conditions? If so, what?*

Mission schools are not compelled to submit to certain conditions as yet, but in the near future it is hoped that registration of all schools in Samoa will take place. This will enable the Superintendent of Schools to enter all village schools. Compulsory attendance at these schools will then follow.

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?*

(a.) ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION.

A preliminary survey of Western Samoa in 1920 showed the necessity for the establishment of a Division of Public Hygiene in addition to the Division of Clinical Medicine and Hospitals already established. By the Samoa Health Order, 1921 (*New Zealand Gazette* Extraordinary, No. 17, of 16th February, 1921), a Department of Health was formed, consisting of the two divisions mentioned above. Under this order a Board of Health was also set up, with power to make regulations for the conservation and promotion of the public health. The Samoa Act, 1921, section 34, altered the constitution of the Department of Health, and in February, 1923, the two divisions were amalgamated, the Medical Officer of Health becoming also Chief Medical Officer.

Since its inception in 1921 the Board of Health has made the following regulations:—

No. 1: Regulations for the Sale of Intoxicating Liquors.

No. 2: Regulations for the Purpose of Preventing and Checking the Spread of Infectious Diseases.

No. 3: Regulations providing for the Registration of Births and Deaths of Samoans.

No. 4: Regulations as to Rubbish and Refuse Containers.

No. 5: Regulations in respect of Buildings, Drainage, and the Structure and Cleansing of Privies.

No. 6: Regulations as to the Prevention of the Breeding of Mosquitoes.

The Administrator, on the advice of the Board of Health, has, by notice in the *Gazette*, added the following diseases to the infectious-diseases schedule of the Samoa Health Order:—

- (1.) Venereal disease (gonorrhœa, syphilis, soft chancre, venereal warts, venereal granuloma).
 - (2.) Dysentery (bacillary dysentery, amœbic dysentery).
- Beriberi has been made a notifiable disease.

(b.) SANITATION.

(1.) *Water-supplies*.—In Apia and several of the Native villages gravitation water-supplies have been installed. In a few villages where such supplies are not possible storage tanks have been constructed. The Natives appreciate the advantage of a permanent and good water-supply, and the number of villages desiring such is increasing.

(2.) *Disposal of Excreta*.—In Apia the crude sanitation of the past is being gradually replaced by modern installations of septic tanks, &c. In the Native villages propaganda is necessary in order that the enlightened co-operation of the Natives may be obtained. This matter is again referred to under (c) (1) Uncinariasis.

(3.) *Disposal of the Dead*.—In the past the Native burial customs have not been interfered with to any marked extent, but the question of enforcing the use of common burial-grounds situated in selected areas is under consideration.

(4.) *Food Sanitation*.—The New Zealand Sale of Food and Drugs Act, 1908, with all regulations made thereunder, is in force in Western Samoa.

(c.) ENDEMIC DISEASES.

Of the more important tropical diseases only three are prevalent in Western Samoa, viz.—(1) Uncinariasis; (2) frambœsia tropica; (3) filariasis. Influenza, of the ordinary inter-epidemic type, and measles must be considered as endemic in the Territory.

Uncinariasis.—It is estimated that over 90 per cent. of the Natives harbour hook-worms. Although the percentage of infected individuals is high, the degree of individual infection is comparatively low; but, notwithstanding this, the almost universal infection has without doubt a debilitating effect. The worm most commonly found is the *Necator americanus*, the *Ankylostoma duodenale* being rarely found. The work of the International Health Board (Rockefeller Foundation) has been closely studied, both in their reports and in the field in Queensland and Fiji, and the work of bringing hookworm under control in these islands is being carried out on the same lines. The Board has kindly supplied lanterns, slides, charts, and a hookworm film at cost price. The work has already commenced in Savai'i, and a second unit will take the field in a few weeks. The islands are being taken systematically, village by village, the procedure being an illustrated lecture in the evening followed by treatment with carbon tetrachloride early the next morning. It is anticipated that this systematic campaign will be completed before the end of the year. Preventive measures—the installation of sanitary latrines—will be carried out in conjunction with this campaign as far as possible.

(2.) *Frambœsia tropica*.—This disease is very prevalent, especially amongst the younger members of the community. The Samoans, however, now recognize the value of treatment by arsenical injections, and are freely offering themselves for treatment.

(3.) *Filariasis*.—The report of the special investigation of this disease carried out by Dr. O'Connor, of the London School of Tropical Medicine, will give an exhaustive survey of the whole question. Its publication is awaited with interest.

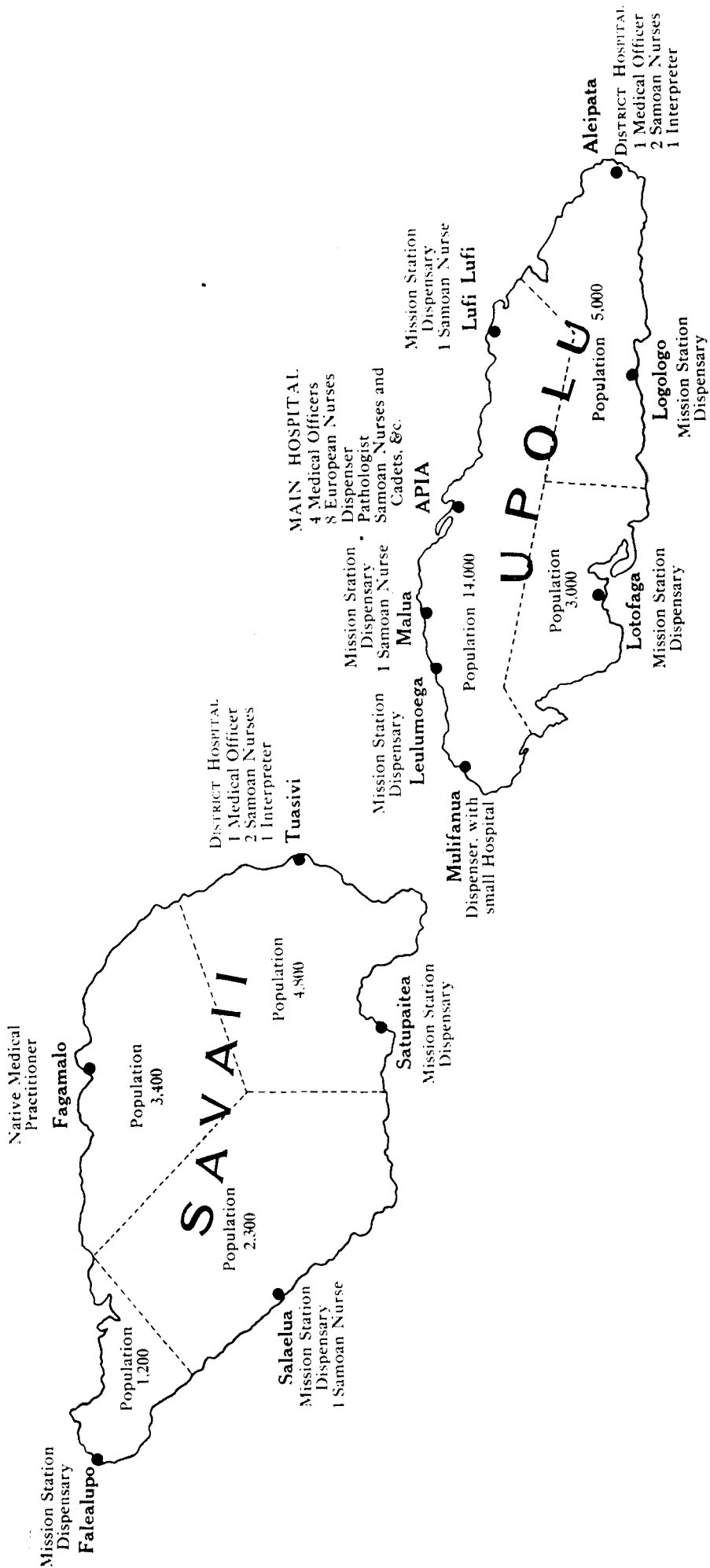
(d.) EPIDEMIC DISEASES.

There are ample powers for dealing with an outbreak of epidemic disease. On the appearance of any infectious disease the Medical Officer of Health, on the authority in writing of the Administrator, may exercise any or all of the wide powers conferred on him by sections 19 and 20 of the Samoa Health Ordinance, 1921. Under the Samoan Quarantine Order, 1920, ample powers are given for dealing with shipping from overseas, both as to infectious diseases and any other disease the introduction of which into Western Samoa might constitute a danger to the public health.

Weekly radiograms as to health conditions in New Zealand, and, when occasion arises, as to conditions in the other island groups in the Pacific, are received from New Zealand. The fortnightly health bulletins received in New Zealand from London are also forwarded for our information.

2. *What provisions are made for medical assistance?*

The provisions made for medical assistance during the year under review were the same as those reported in last year's questionnaire. Reorganization of medical finances, and also of the Medical Service, has made it possible to extend the activities of the Department, and therefore it is advisable to give not an account of the organization of the past, but what is now being carried out and will be completed in a few months. The accompanying map shows the position of the various stations.



MAP SHOWING PORTION OF MEDICAL STATIONS, AND POPULATION SERVED BY THEM

(a) Apia Hospital: Established about 1904. Consists of European, Samoan, and Chinese sections, operating-theatre, laboratory, and offices. It has a staff of three medical officers, eight qualified nursing sisters, with Samoan cadets and nurses in training.

(b.) Tuasivi Out-station, Savai'i: Opened in 1921. Staff—one medical officer, one Samoan cadet, and two trained Samoan nurses.

(c.) Aleipata Out-station: To be opened as soon as the buildings have been erected. Staff—as for Tuasivi out-station.

(d.) Fagamalo Out-station, Savai'i: To be opened in May, 1923. Staff—a Native medical practitioner who has had eleven years' experience in the Apia Hospital.

(e.) Dispensaries at the mission stations at Malua and Lufi Lufi (Upolu), and Salaelua (Savai'i): A trained Samoan nurse will be allotted to each of these stations. These mission stations have been provided with drugs in the past, and have done splendid service. Now that Samoans are being given free treatment the work of these stations will be increased.

(f.) Dispensaries at the mission stations at Falealupo and Satupaitea (Savai'i), and in the Faleletai, Falealili, and Safata districts (Upolu).

(g.) Dispensary at Mulifanua: Worked in conjunction with the Crown Estates' Mulifanua Plantation.

All these dispensaries will be visited at regular intervals by a medical officer.

3. *What is the actual situation as regards prostitution, and what steps are being taken in this matter?*

Section 139 of the Samoa Act, 1921, reads as follows:—

“139. (1.) Every one who keeps a brothel is liable to one year's imprisonment.

“ (2.) A brothel is a house, room, or place of any kind whatever kept or used for purposes of prostitution.

“ (3.) Any one who acts as a person having the management, care, or control of a brothel shall be deemed to be a keeper thereof whether he is in fact a keeper thereof or not.

“ (4.) The owner or occupier of any house, room, or place who knowingly permits the same to be used as a brothel shall be deemed to be a keeper thereof whether he is in fact a keeper thereof or not.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS SUBMITTED BY THE PERMANENT MANDATES COMMISSION (see League of Nations).

—Document C 550, M 332, 1922, page 5, paragraph 3. The questions there numbered 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 are here renumbered 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8, to preserve sequence.

4. *What public health organization for the investigation, prevention, control, and treatment of diseases exists in the Territory?*

See 1 and 2 above.

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.

Owing to the scattered condition of the population, the presence of only two medical stations in the Territory, and the conservatism of the Native as regards medical treatment, it has been impossible in the past to obtain even comparatively accurate statistics. Too many of the deaths are of young children, chiefly from gastro-intestinal disorders. A study of the tabulated statistics of patients treated in Apia Hospital (as given in the annual report for 1922-23) gives an indication of the chief conditions requiring attention in Western Samoa.

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.*

The estimated Native population as at the 31st December, 1921, was 33,068. The births for the year numbered 1,622 and the deaths 899. Calculated on the average population for the year, the birth-rate was 48.52 per thousand and the death-rate 26.89.

The method of registration of deaths, introduced in 1905, only enables statistics according to age to be grouped as under:—

Tamameamea	..	..	Infant boy	..	Birth to six months.
Tama	..	..	Boy	..	Six months to adult (16-18).
Taule'ale'a	..	..	Adult	..	From 16 to 18 years onward.
Teinemeamea	..	..	Infant girl	..	From birth to six months.
Teine	..	..	Girl	..	From six months to marriage (17-20).
Fafine	..	..	Adult	..	From marriage onwards.

So far as can be estimated from the returns available, one-third of the deaths are of “adults,” and two-thirds are “infants,” “boys,” and “girls.”

7. *Describe the measures in force for the collection of vital statistics in the Territory.*

As a result of the unsatisfactory conditions existing regarding the registration of births and deaths of Samoans, the Board of Health introduced new regulations in 1922: “Regulation No. 3—Regulations providing for the Registration of Births and Deaths of Samoans.” As the Native officials responsible for the notifications of births and deaths had to be instructed in their duties and the necessary forms had to be obtained, the regulations did not operate until the 1st January, 1923. Each year accurate statistics of the births and deaths of all those born after that date will be available. A copy of the regulations is appended.

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 2 above.

See 1 and 5 above.

REGULATIONS PROVIDING FOR THE REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS OF SAMOANS.

The Administrator, acting on the advice of the Board of Health, and in pursuance of the powers and provisions of the Samoa Health Order, 1921, doth hereby make the following regulations providing for the registration of births and deaths of Samoans, and doth declare such regulations come into force on the day of , 1922.

1. These regulations may be cited as the Board of Health Regulation No. 3.
2. (1.) The Administrator may from time to time appoint such persons as he thinks fit to act as Registrars of the Births and Deaths of Samoans.
- (2.) Until such time as the Administrator may determine, the Pulenu'u in each village, and the Fa'amasino in each district, will act as Registrars of the Births and Deaths of Samoans.

REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS OF SAMOANS.

3. (1.) Within seven days after the birth of any Samoan child born on or after the 1st day of April, 1922, the following particulars shall be furnished to the Pulenu'u of the village, and to the Fa'amasino of the district, in which the child was born:—

- (a.) Date of birth.
- (b.) Place of birth.
- (c.) Christian or first name.
- (d.) Sex of the child.
- (e.) Condition of child (whether alive or dead when born).
- (f.) Name of the father.
- (g.) Residence of father (village and district in which father resides).
- (h.) Name of mother.
- (i.) Residence of mother (village and district in which mother resides).
- (j.) Signature of informant.
- (k.) Residence of informant.
- (l.) Date of registration.
- (m.) Signature of official registering the birth.

(2.) The father and the mother of the child shall be responsible for duly furnishing to the Pulenu'u and to the Fa'amasino the particulars hereinbefore referred to in respect of the birth of any Samoan child.

4. (1.) On receipt of the particulars of the birth of any Samoan child as aforesaid the Pulenu'u and the Fa'amasino shall enter the same in the Register of Births, and on a duplicate sheet to be supplied for the purpose by the Native Affairs Department.

(2.) On receipt of any particulars of the birth of any Samoan child, notwithstanding that the full particulars required by these regulations have not been furnished, the Pulenu'u and the Fa'amasino shall enter the particulars furnished in the Register of Births and on the duplicate sheet as aforesaid.

(3.) The said register shall be in the form No. 1 in the First Schedule hereto, or to the effect thereof.

(4.) Upon completing the entries in the register and on the duplicate sheet aforesaid the Pulenu'u and the Fa'amasino shall request the informant to sign the same.

REGISTRATION OF DEATHS OF SAMOANS.

5. (1.) Within seven days from the date of the death of any Samoan occurring on or after the 1st day of April, 1922, the following particulars shall be furnished to the Pulenu'u of the village and to the Fa'amasino of the district in which the death occurred:—

- (a.) Date of death.
- (b.) Place of death.
- (c.) Name of deceased.
- (d.) Residence of deceased (village and district in which deceased resided).
- (e.) Age of the deceased (if known).
- (f.) Sex of the deceased.
- (g.) The name of the father of the deceased.
- (h.) Residence of the father of the deceased.
- (i.) The name of the mother of the deceased.
- (j.) Residence of the mother of the deceased.
- (k.) If deceased married, name of husband or wife.
- (l.) Number and sex of children living (if any).
- (m.) Cause of death.
- (n.) Signature of informant.
- (o.) Residence of informant.
- (p.) Such other particulars as the Administrator may from time to time determine.

(2.) Every person present at the death is responsible for the notification of such death, and they shall choose one of their number to furnish to the Pulenu'u of the village and to the Fa'amasino of the district the particulars hereinbefore referred to.

6. (1.) On receipt of the particulars of the death of any Samoan as aforesaid, the Pulenu'u and the Fa'amasino shall enter the same in the Register of Deaths and on a duplicate sheet to be supplied for the purpose by the Native Affairs Department.

(2.) On receipt of any particulars as to the death of any Samoan, notwithstanding that the full particulars as required by these regulations have not been furnished, the Pulenu'u and the Fa'amasino shall enter the particulars furnished in the Register of Deaths and on the duplicate sheet aforesaid.

(3.) The said register shall be in the form No. 2 in the First Schedule hereto, or to the effect thereof.

(4.) Upon completing the entries in the register and on the duplicate sheet aforesaid the Pulenu'u and the Fa'amasino shall request the informant to sign the same.

7. (1.) On the death of any Samoan who has been attended in his last illness by a registered medical practitioner, that practitioner shall sign and deliver, or cause to be delivered, to the Secretary for Native Affairs a certificate on a form to be provided for the purpose by the Secretary for Native Affairs, stating to the best of his knowledge and belief the causes of death (both primary and secondary), the duration of the last illness of the deceased, and such other particulars as may be required by the Secretary for Native Affairs.

(2.) The immediately preceding subclause of this regulation does not absolve any persons mentioned in subclause (2), clause 5, of these regulations from the duty of reporting such death to the Pulenu'u of the village and the Fa'amasino of the district in which the death occurred.

(3.) The particulars set forth in the certificate required under subclause 1 of this regulation shall be entered, together with the name of the certifying medical practitioner, in the Register of Deaths kept by the Secretary for Native Affairs.

GENERAL.

8. (1.) Every Pulenu'u shall forward at once to the Fa'amasino the duplicate sheets of all registrations of the births and deaths of Samoans effected by him.

(2.) Every Fa'amasino shall forward, by the first available Government messenger, the duplicate sheets of all registrations of the births and deaths of Samoans effected by him and by the Pulenu'u of his district, to the official mentioned below:—

Savai'i—The Resident Commissioner, Fagamalo;

Aleipata—The Resident Commissioner, Aleipata;

Upolu (other than Aleipata)—The Secretary for Native Affairs, Apia;

who will forward such duplicate sheets to the Secretary for Native Affairs at monthly intervals.

9. The registers kept in pursuance of these regulations by the Secretary for Native Affairs shall at all reasonable times be open to the public on payment of the search fee set forth in the Second Schedule hereto, and the Secretary for Native Affairs shall, on application by any person, and on payment of the fees set forth in the said schedule, issue certificates of any entries in the said registers.

10. Every person required by these regulations to furnish particulars in respect of any matter who, without sufficient cause, fails to furnish such particulars, and every Pulenu'u and Fa'amasino who fails to comply with the requirements of these regulations, shall be liable for a first offence to a fine not exceeding two pounds (£2), and for a second offence to a fine not exceeding five pounds (£5); and any person who knowingly furnishes false particulars shall be liable to a fine not exceeding twenty pounds (£20).

11. The fees set out in the Second Schedule hereto shall be payable to the Secretary for Native Affairs in respect of the matters therein specified, and shall be accounted for by him to the Treasury in Apia.

X. LAND TENURE.

Last year's answers apply.

XI. MORAL, SOCIAL, AND MATERIAL WELFARE.

Last year's answers apply.

XII. PUBLIC FINANCES.

See particulars of revenue and expenditure for year ended 31st March, 1923, on pages 14 to 16 of the report: otherwise last year's answers apply.

XIII. DEMOGRAPHIC STATISTICS.

Births, Deaths, Marriages, Immigration, and Emigration.

RETURN SHOWING THE BIRTHS, DEATHS, MARRIAGES, IMMIGRATION, AND EMIGRATION FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1923.

	Births.	Deaths.	Marriages.	Immigration.	Emigration.
Native Samoans	1,602	1,000	128	807	1,194
Europeans and half-castes	90	19	23	517	414
Chinese indentured labourers .. .. .	..	6	..	18	261
Melanesian and Polynesian indentured labourers	2	2	4
Totals	1,694	1,027	151	1,342	1,873

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