X.—JUDICIAL ORGANIZATION.

The Samoa Act, 1921, prescribes the judiciary for the Territory. Almost all judicial functions are performed by the Chief Judge, the one other Judge exercising jurisdiction principally when the Chief Judge is absent from Apia. The two Commissioners of the High Court rarely have occasion to act within their limited jurisdiction. One session of the High Court was held at Sala'ilua in Savai'i.

The Land and Titles Commission is a special branch of the High Court constituted under the authority of the Samoa Native Land and Titles Commission Order, 1924. It is the only Court having jurisdiction to hear and adjudicate upon claims or disputes between Samoans relating to Native land, Samoan names or titles, or succession to any property or rights in accordance with Samoan custom. During the year the Commission was occupied for twenty-eight sitting-days. Judgments were delivered in eleven cases, one case was settled by agreement of the parties, and one adjourned to next sitting of the Commission.

In its civil jurisdiction the High Court recorded judgments in 179 cases; forty-five cases were either struck out or withdrawn. The total sums sued for amounted to £6,610. Particulars of criminal cases are given in the tables hereunder which show a further decrease.

One murder case was heard, the parties involved being all Samoan Natives. The trial lasted four days, and the one accused was convicted of manslaughter and sentenced to seven years' imprisonment.

CRIMINAL OFFENCES IN THE PERIOD 1ST APRIL, 1932, TO 31ST MARCH, 1933.

Offences.	1930–31	1931–32.												
	Offences reported.	Offences reported.	Number arrested or summoned.	Convicted in High Court.				Offences withdrawn or dismissed by High Court.				Increase.	Decrease.
				Upolu.		Savai'i.		Upolu.		Savai'i.			
				M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Misleading justice—													
Escape from lawful custody	11	9	9	9	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Contempt of Court	61	20	20	18	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	41
Offences against morality—													
Adultery	5	4	4	2	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	1
Abduction carnally to know	7	10	10	6	..	2	..	2	..	..	..	3	..
Carnal knowledge	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Offences against the person—													
Assault, common	92	74	74	52	5	8	..	8	1	..	..	..	18
Assault, indecent	6	10	10	8	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	4	..
Assault, causing actual or grievious bodily harm	8	17	16	12	1	..	..	3	..	..	..	9	..
Rape	1	2	2	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..
Murder	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
Manslaughter	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Attempted suicide	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Bigamy	..	2	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..
Buggery	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Offences against property rights—													
Burglary	16	10	8	5	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	6
Theft	171	104	81	62	3	4	1	9	1	1	..	..	67
Wilful mischief	59	18	18	15	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	41
Forgery and uttering	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Receiving stolen property	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Minor offences	40	40	40	27	..	8	..	4	1	..	..	..	..
Police offences—													
Threatening behaviour	6	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Indecent exposure	..	6	6	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	..
Disorderly conduct	27	35	35	18	11	1	1	4	..	..	..	8	..
Drunkenness	5	6	6	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Throwing stones	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11
Taking part in affray	17	19	19	8	..	..	..	10	1	..	..	2	..
Indecent acts	4	2	2	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Resisting police	2	2	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Vagrancy	10	16	16	16	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	..
Witchcraft	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Minor offences	35	19	19	3	1	2	..	10	3	..	..	..	16
Dangerous drug offences (opium)	12	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12
Liquor offences—													
Supplying liquor to Natives	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other offences	6	17	16	15	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	11	..
Arms Ordinance, breaches of	4	12	12	9	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	8	..
Road Traffic Ordinance, breaches of	224	136	136	128	1	2	..	2	2	1	..	..	88
Miscellaneous—													
Failure to pay personal tax	25	197	179	75	..	93	..	8	..	3	..	172	..
Immigration Order	5	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Maintenance of Authority in Native Affairs Ordinance	62	8	8	8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	54
Seditious Organizations Regulations	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Native Titles Protection Order	11	4	4	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Minor offences	28	62	62	39	3	19	..	1	..	..	..	34	..
Totals	987	865	820	559	26	146	2	72	10	5	..	268	390
Net decrease	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	122