

1937

Kenya

No. 38072

SUBJECT. CO 533/479

Native affairs dept. Annual Reports.

Previous 1936

Subsequent 1938

G.I.

1. A/COL. SEC. . . . . 3 PM. . . . . 8-10-37.  
Tfs. 12 copies of Annual Report on Native Affairs, 1936.  
(Spares to Library).

NATIVE.

Review paper  
and 1st Packet

2. CROWN AGENTS \_\_\_\_\_ 17-11-37.  
Enquires whether amounts indicated may be paid and the  
accounts to which chargeable.  
(Including £2.11.9d. for 250 copies of Native Affairs  
Annual Report, 1935)

No 2

As regards payment of £2.11.9 for the  
Kenya Native Affairs Report, CA may  
be authorised to pay from Kenya Fund.

*Cloby White*

As regards Annual Report, refer to

No 1

Rever after action on No 2 is finished.

*Cloby White*  
20/11

No 2. The o/a is in order, except for  
the reference to demand 3679 which  
is in respect of another item of  
printing not at all connected with  
the Native Affairs Dept. Report.

*W. H. M. M. M. M.*  
27/11/37

DESTROYED UNDER STATUTE

Crown Agents 10/12/37

request early reply be returned to (No. 2)

I submit drafts <sup>private</sup> br. CA.

Clark White 2/12

(Mrs came to me this evening, I have put it in red as the remainder is nearly a fortnight old)

Y. Baine to me for No. 1.

J.J. Baine 23/11

Up to CA. (2 and) 23/11/37

Recire to the Master for No. 1

Note - H on Amman eps

I had been hoping for an opportunity to comment on ~~the Report~~ the Report for 1936 (No. 1), but have been prevented by more pressing matters.

Mr. Christian has however now informed me that the copies for sale have now arrived & he has asked for authority to publish the Report.

I accordingly permit for this authority, after which the file shall be circulated for comment.

J.J. Baine 24/11

to submit you direct U.S. pt. is required.

J.J. Baine  
H. Parker  
particulars in manner of J.J. Baine

Sir C. B. Atkinson

Submitted for authority to publish.

A. J. D. Arne 4.1.

Published

Oct 6. 1. 38

(Job 2 via office & copy spread)

Arrangements for publication of the Report has been sent to Sir C. B. Atkinson. He returns to Paris. J.J. Baine

Not done J.J. Baine

Mr. Atkinson 11/10/38 Enquires whether L.H.S. 11 charges by S.O. for supply of 250 copies of 1936 Report may be paid from Kenya funds.

? as in d.h.

Onwards 15.11

The

The charge is in respect of printing covers of other details connected with publication. It is higher by £1-11-9 than the one in respect of the 1935 report, but doubtless there are good reasons for this increase & I do not suggest that we question it. J.M. Miskin  
2/10

6 to C.A. — min. (Sand) 28.10.38

*[Handwritten signature]*

Note — This is an Agency publication  
We can have up to 12 copies for office use.

N.P. Demand  
no N. of 30 Jan 1939

EMMSMO 6.2.39

38072/38  
~~38~~ 6

C. O.

- Mr. Marshall 19
- Mr. Christian 20/10/38
- Mr. Paskin 22/11/38
- Mr. A. J. Dawson
- Sir H. Moors
- Sir G. Tomlinson
- Sir J. Shuckburgh
- Perms. U.S. of S.
- Parly. U.S. of S.
- Secretary of State

O. D.  
24 OCT  
1938

Shipping Dept.  
Crew A pens.

DRAFT. miscell.

(5) Reference you made in  
 letter of 11<sup>th</sup> October about H.H.  
 Stationery Office account regarding  
 the Annual Report on Native  
 Affairs of Kenya (C.O. demand 3994)  
 — the account is in order &  
 the sum of £4.5.11. shd be  
 paid from Kenya funds.

(Sgd) J.J. Paskin  
 E.A. Dept.  
 C.O.

FURTHER ACTION.

8.5/1126

East African Department,

COLONIAL OFFICE.

The following item appears in an account received from H.M. Stationery Office for miscellaneous supplies during the period ended June, 1938:-

	10 OCT 1938	
" 3994 (G.O. demand)	250 Ann. Report on Native Affairs of Kenya, 1936.	£. s. d. 3.18.10.
Plus 10% Departmental charges		- 7. 1.
		<u>4. 5.11d."</u>

May we pay from Kenya funds, please?

*Waley*

Sh. as department,  
Cr. Office,  
11.0 fr 1938.

HJL/RDS

38072/37

C. O.

- Mr. C. G. White 22/12
- Mr. Parkin 23/11
- Mr. Lee 23/11
- Sir H. Moore.
- Sir G. Tomlinson.
- Sir C. Bottomley.
- Sir J. Shuckburgh.
- Perm. U.S. of S.
- Parly. U.S. of S.
- Secretary of State



CA. Shipping Dept.

DRAFT minute

Your minute 55/1126 of the 17th of November

with the exception of the reference in connexion with the Kenya Native Aff. Report, 1935, to Colonial, " para. 3679, which does not refer to the Native Affairs Report but to another item of printing, the accounts set out in your minute are in order.

£ 2/11/9 should therefore be charged to Kenya funds and £26/15/10 to the funds of the EA Agricultural Station, Amami.

(Signed) F. G. LEE.

EA Dept.  
Co.

23rd December 1937

FURTHER ACTION.

21

RECEIVED  
18 NOV 1937  
C.O. REGY

85/11/26

No dupl.

East African Department,  
COLONIAL OFFICE.

The following items appear in an account received from H.M. Stationery Office for miscellaneous supplies during the period ended June, 1937.

- 250 copies Kenya Colony and Protectorate Native Affairs Department Annual Report 1935	£2. 7. 1d.
Plus 10% Departmental expenses	<u>    4. 8d.</u>
	£2. 11. 9d.

Colonial Office Demand (3679-3784)

1125 copies East African Agric. Research Station Annual Report 1935-36	£23. 8. 11d.
Plus 10% Departmental e	<u>    2. 6. 11d.</u>
	£25. 15. 10d.

Colonial Office Demand 3678

Will you please let us know if the amounts may be paid, and the accounts to which chargeable.

*Walter*  
Crown Agents Shipping Dept.  
17th November, 1937.

*2*

*16521/5/36 c.n.*  
*Copy right*  
*16521/5/37*

EJL/HH



THE SECRETARIAT,  
NAIROBI,  
KENYA:

WHEN REPLYING  
PLEASE QUOTE  
No. S. D/ Leg. Co. 26/3/8/58  
AND DATE

REC.

13 OCT 1937

C. O. REGY

8 October, 1937

The Acting Colonial Secretary  
of the Colony and Protectorate  
of Kenya presents his compliments  
to the Under Secretary of State  
for the Colonies, and has the  
honour to forward twelve copies  
of the undermentioned  
publication:

Annual Report on Native Affairs,  
1936



COLONY AND PROTECTORATE OF KENYA

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ANNUAL REPORT

ON

NATIVE AFFAIRS

1936

1037

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY THE GOVERNMENT PRINTER  
NAIROBI, KENYA COLONY

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# ANNUAL REPORT ON NATIVE AFFAIRS, 1936

## CHAPTER I

### ADMINISTRATIVE

Mr. H. R. Montgomery, C.M.G., was on duty as Chief Native Commissioner throughout the year.

2. The arrangement detailed in the Annual Report for the year 1934, by which the Chief Native Commissioner was relieved of much routine work and became the adviser on native affairs, was maintained during the year. The Chief Native Commissioner travelled extensively throughout the Provinces, and was thus able to keep in close touch with conditions and developments in the Native Reserves.

3. The death occurred in the European Hospital, Nairobi, on the 20th inst. of Captain Martin Mahony, who was at that time District Commissioner, West Suk, Turkana-Ex. District.

Captain Mahony a few years earlier contracted a severe illness while serving in the Northern Frontier District, from which he was never completely to recover. Under the burden of ill-health he carried on his work with unfailing cheerfulness. By his death the Colony has lost the services of a valued and efficient officer.

The death took place on the 10th December of Sheikh Mohamed bin Ali bin Khamis El Mazruj, Liwali of Mombasa, and by his death Government was deprived of the services of a very loyal and valued officer.

Sheikh Mohamed bin Ali's first appointment under Government was in the year 1900. He became Mudir of Changamwe in the year 1913, Assistant Liwali of Mombasa in 1920, and had held the post of Liwali since the year 1923.

4. The following awards were made to officers and natives during the year:—

*Companion of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George—*

Mr. H. R. Montgomery, Chief Native Commissioner,  
Mr. H. R. E. E. Welby, Provincial Commissioner.



*Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire  
(Civil Division)—*

*Lt.-Col. E. L. B. Anderson, District Officer.*

*Member of the Civil Division of the Order of the British  
Empire—*

Mohamed Sudan.

Mohamed Sudan, an Arab, started his career in the year 1896 at the age of nine, and in his early days served in military expeditions as an interpreter in Uganda and Somaliland and with the King's African Rifles in this Colony.

He was transferred to the Provincial Administration in which, at the time of his award, he had served twenty-four years and was a Special Grade Clerk in the Northern Frontier District.

This decoration was presented by His Excellency the Governor at an Investiture held on the 23rd June on the occasion of His Majesty's Birthday.

5. The King's Medals for Chiefs and Certificates of Honour, the award of which was commented on in last year's Report, were presented during the year. No further awards were gazetted.

6. Mr. Welby retired from the Administration on the 2nd July after twenty-five years' service in the Colony and with an enviable record of good work performed.

7. The Labour Section and the Native Registration Section remained at the strength of the previous year, and the reports of the officers in charge are appended to this report.

## CHAPTER II

### POLITICAL AND GENERAL

The start of the year was overshadowed by a cloud. The death on the 20th January of His beloved Majesty King George V was an occasion of general sorrow. Memorial services were held at district headquarters all over the Colony, and were attended by countless natives.

The abdication of King Edward VIII and the succession of King George VI, both of whom had previously visited the Colony, were accepted with little comment by the natives in general. In the progressive Nyanza and Central Provinces

many now read the newspapers, and it was feared that the news as presented might have grave repercussions. Anxiety, however, was speedily allayed, and it is clear that the loyalty to the British Crown and the present holder remains undiminished.

2. The year can be recorded as one of prosperity in the Native Reserves. An adequate rainfall, soaring prices, absence of locusts, abundance of employment with improved wages, all militated to make it a record one. The amazing recuperative power of the native in areas where the spectre of famine had been but a recent visitor was exemplified by the fact that in the Kitui District the tax collection amounted to a sum two-and-a-half times as much as that of the previous year.

3. Though the tale is one of unprecedented progress and development in the Nyanza and Central Provinces, it is also a fact that hand in hand with apparent enlightenment marches the secret power of Laibonism and witchcraft, the roots of which are deep seated in the life of the people, and can only be eradicated by the educational facilities and patient administration.

4. The Native Tax collection amounted to £544,897, a figure which is an improvement over the previous year of some £40,000. The reduced rates of tax payable in certain areas, which were introduced during the previous year, were maintained.

Difficulties were experienced in the collection of tax, and often amongst natives in the reserves where money was most plentiful. This matter is a source of some anxiety to the Administration, and is thus described by the District Commissioner, Central Kavirondo:—

"There is a noticeable tendency on the part of the natives to avoid taxation, and tax collection is becoming more difficult each year. It is not due to poverty or to dissatisfaction, but to the fact that the African is coming to realize that, by lying low, he may avoid payment. It is not so much the incapacity to pay as the attitude of mind, which is adverse to paying, coupled with the increased wants of the natives and his womenfolk. Another factor is the publication, both on the platform and in the Press, of the view that the native is overtaxed. Finally, during the years of depression it was obviously necessary to increase the numbers of exemptions, but it is another matter to get those who have been exempted in times of depression back to the

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4. The Native Hut and Poll Tax collection amounted to £544,897, a figure which shows an improvement over the previous year of some £40,000. The reduced rates of tax payable in certain areas, which were introduced during the previous year, were maintained.

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idea of paying again in times of prosperity. It has been a most unpleasant duty, but there has been a definite tightening up in the matter of exemptions."

Native authorities were increasingly used as the year wore on for the collection of tax, thus freeing Administrative officers for more productive work.

The "Kodi" stamp system of collection was introduced at the beginning of the year. Its value was slow to be appreciated in certain areas, but, as the year advanced, the system became more and more popular with officers and natives alike, and at the end of the year 1,560,654 of these stamps, of the value of Sh. 1, had been sold.

5. In consequence of certain allegations made during 1935 by Archdeacon Burns in Legislative Council, as to abuses perpetrated by native authorities in the collection of tax, a Commission under the chairmanship of Mr. Justice Webb, and including the Chief Native Commissioner, was appointed to inquire into allegations, and their report was submitted to Government in August. In the Commission's opinion it was evident that abuses had occurred, but they were neither prevalent nor grave in character having regard to the state of civilization of the people. Certain recommendations were made which have been or are being carried out.

The existence of the Commission made the collection of tax an even more difficult business, for, during the course of their inquiry, they visited certain Native Reserves and investigated the complaints which were submitted. This step, though undoubtedly necessary, instilled into the native authorities a fear that they would lay themselves open to prosecution if they exerted any pressure, however legitimate, on recalcitrant taxpayers, and also led to rumours that in certain cases tax was to be reduced or lifted completely.

6. The report of Sir Alan Pim, the special financial commissioner, was received in the Colony in September. Sir Alan Pim made certain recommendations which affected Africans in respect of taxation; the most important of which were that the taxable age of natives should be raised to 18, and a reduction made on account of extra huts. (The first recommendation has already been put into operation.) He also recommended that a special tax officer should be appointed in each of the larger districts and thus relieve Administrative Officers of this work, a proposal which will gradually be given effect. Other recommendations which would affect the

Reserves included increased pay for Chiefs, the relieving of Local Native Councils of responsibility in regard to famine relief, the cost-of-Native Tribunals, and certain district and departmental reorganization.

7. The Provincial Commissioners held their statutory meetings in Nairobi in April and October, and among important subjects discussed were the higher education of natives at Makerere College, Jeanes School teachers, the popularization of the Post Office Savings Bank among natives, the compulsory registration of native marriages, births and deaths, and the registration on a cash valuation of the marriage dowry, soil erosion, and native taxation.

As a result of the discussion on native taxation a Committee, consisting of the Treasurer and the Chief Native Commissioner, was appointed to—

"Review the present system of direct native taxation, both as regards incidence and method of collection, and with particular reference to the possibility of eliminating the hut as a basis of assessment of the tax."

The Committee visited many native districts in accordance with the terms of reference, and suggested alternative forms of taxation.

They recommended that the sum of £550,000 was, in existing circumstances, a fair annual contribution from direct taxation, but were unable to recommend any alteration in the form of taxation.

Their recommendations to appoint specialist tax officers and to reduce the plural hut assessment coincided with those made by Sir Alan Pim. Among other recommendations were the imposition of an automatic penalty of Sh. 2 on every tax outstanding on the 31st July, and the appointment of local *ad hoc* exemption courts to deal with remission of tax in individual cases.

8. The problem of soil erosion has been the subject of earnest consideration during the year. In March a questionnaire was circulated to all members of the Administration, including memoranda prepared by the Agricultural Department, with a view to discovering the extent of the mischief in all Native Reserves and the steps being taken to combat the problem. As a result of their replies an agricultural officer was appointed towards the end of the year to make a detailed investigation in each district.

9. The Italo-Ethiopian hostilities made the administration of the Northern Frontiers a matter of some difficulty and anxiety, but in the Native Reserves they appear to have made little impression on the minds of the people or to cause them to feel that the matter affected them in any way. Pastoral areas benefited by the fact that stock values increased considerably and natives were able to carry on a profitable trade.

10. His Excellency the Governor, Sir Joseph Byrne, visited South Kavirondo in January to open the Agricultural Show held at Kisii. This show proved most successful. Opportunity was taken by other Departments to stage exhibits, and the Provincial Commissioner writes that the items which seemed to leave most impression on the natives were the medical model house, the educational film, and the band of the King's African Rifles.

His Excellency also visited the Macalder Mine and the Gold Mining Syndicate in the same district.

In February His Excellency visited Kitui, in the Central Province, and in April was at Lamu, on the coast. In June he went to Kisumu to open the new Jubilee Market, and visited the Native Reserves and mining areas in both the North and Central Kavirondo Districts. His Excellency was in residence at Mombasa in May, July and August, and again in November, and on the 22nd December on the occasion of his departure from the Colony.

These various visits to native reserves were much appreciated.

#### Nyanza Province

11. The year has been politically quiet and economically prosperous. It is possible to record progress in many directions. The natives improved their production of economic crops both in quantity and quality. The cotton crop improved from 11,970 bales for the 1935-36 season to approximately 17,000 bales for the 1936-37 season.

12. The Provincial Commissioner estimates that the wages earned by natives in the Province rose by some £20,000; the value of their agricultural and veterinary produce exported increased by £108,000, and the income accruing to them from these three sources alone amounted to £608,500. The amount paid in hut and poll tax and Local Native Council rates was about £229,000. It is therefore evident that the spending power of the natives was large. Though money was spent on

ploughs, and other farming implements, bicycles, soap, cigarettes, it is estimated that the clothing bill represented 60 per cent of the whole outlay.

It is not possible to direct where and how money is spent, but it is hoped to influence in the future the taste towards better housing and furniture.

13. There has been no political trouble of any magnitude in the Province, but relations between the Chiefs and their people have sometimes been strained.

During the past five years or so tendencies have increasingly appeared for groups or sub-clans to break away from the authority of the locational Chief, until, in several locations of the North Kavirondo District, scarcely even perfunctory attention is paid to him, and each family group of any importance demands to have separate official representation. This tendency, already common in North Kavirondo, is spreading to the other Kavirondo districts.

In North Kavirondo various incidents have occurred during the year of subversive action against Chiefs (even to enforcing the power of witchcraft against them), but as the year advanced, the incidents were handled by the District Commissioner in such a way as to bring about realization among the people that, while genuine grievances receive redress, complaints against Chiefs proceed from the personal ambition or subversive tendencies found in the locality, and this is leading to a better spirit. Nevertheless the fact remains that in no less than ten of the twenty-four locations of North Kavirondo there is a perpetual spark that is liable to flare up and cause trouble.

In the Central and South Kavirondo Districts the same tendencies exist, but are not so pronounced.

14. Some years ago a policy was instituted of employing the heads of family groups as administrative sub-headmen with the title of *mlango*. As family groups have split up by a natural process into smaller units, the head of each fresh sub-unit clamours for the same recognition, with the result that there is constant bickering and jealousy, or, in proportion as a Chief has influence with two or three groups in his location, he is out of favour with the rest.

It has been decided to remove the *mlangos* from the paid staff, and already effect to this decision has been made in five locations. The important functions that a family head group plays in the life of the tribe will not be forgotten, and their customary prominence as *liguru* or *jodong gweng* in matters

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In North Kavirondo various incidents have occurred during the year of subversive action against Chiefs (even to enticing the powers of witchcraft against them), but year advanced, firm and patient handling by the District Commissioner induced an increasing realization among the natives that, while genuine grievances receive redress, complaints against Chiefs prompted by mere personal ambition or subversive tendencies found no sympathy, and this is leading to a better spirit. Nevertheless the fact remains that in no less than ten of the twenty-four locations of North Kavirondo there is a perpetual spark that is liable to flare up and cause trouble.

In the Central and South Kavirondo Districts the same tendencies exist, but are not so pronounced.

14. Some years ago a policy was instituted of employing the heads of family groups as administrative sub-headmen with the title of *mlango*. As family groups have split up by a natural process into smaller units, the head of each fresh sub-unit clamours for the same recognition, with the result that there is constant bickering and jealousy, or, in proportion as a Chief has influence with two or three groups in his location, he is out of favour with the rest.

It has been decided to remove the *mlangos* from the paid staff, and already effect to this decision has been made in five locations. The important functions that a family head group plays in the life of the tribe will not be forgotten, and their customary prominence as *liguru* or *jodong gweng* in matters

9. The Italo-Ethiopian hostilities made the administration of the Northern Frontiers a matter of some difficulty and anxiety, but in the Native Reserves they appear to have made little impression on the minds of the people or to cause them to feel that the matter affected them in any way. Pastoral areas benefited by the fact that stock values increased considerably and natives were able to carry on a profitable trade.

10. His Excellency the Governor, Sir Joseph Byrne, visited South Kavirondo in January to open the Agricultural Show held at Kisii. This show proved most successful. Opportunity was taken by other Departments to stage exhibits, and the Provincial Commissioner writes that the items which seemed to leave most impression on the natives were the medical model house, the educational film, and the band of the King's African Rifles.

His Excellency also visited the Macalder Mine and the Gold Mining Syndicate in the same district.

In February His Excellency visited Kitili, in the Central Province, and in April was at Lamu, on the coast. In June he went to Kisumu to open the new Jubilee Market, and visited the Native Reserves and mining areas in both the North and Central Kavirondo Districts. His Excellency was in residence at Mombasa in May, July and August, and again in November, and on the 22nd December on the occasion of his departure from the Colony.

These various visits to native reserves were much appreciated.

#### Nyanza Province

11. The year has been politically quiet and economically prosperous. It is possible to record progress in many directions. The natives improved their production of economic crops both in quantity and quality. The cotton crop improved from 11,970 bales for the 1935-36 season to approximately 17,000 bales for the 1936-37 season.

12. The Provincial Commissioner estimates that the wages earned by natives in the Province rose by some £20,000; the value of their agricultural and veterinary produce exported increased by £108,000, and the income accruing to them from these three sources alone amounted to £608,500. The amount paid in hut and poll tax and Local Native Council rates was about £229,000. It is therefore evident that the spending power of the natives was large. Though money was spent on

ploughs, and other farming implements, bicycles, soap, cigarettes, it is estimated that the clothing bill represented 60 per cent of the whole outlay.

It is not possible to direct where and how money is spent, but it is hoped to influence in the future the taste towards better housing and furniture.

13. There has been no political trouble of any magnitude in the Province, but relations between the Chiefs and their people have sometimes been strained.

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connected with inheritance, marriage and land management will be retained.

On another aspect of this question the Provincial Commissioner writes:

"There is a second reason for taking stock of our native administrative organization and considering its future. The very rapid economic expansion that has been taking place during the past few years postulates, for its continued success, an equal progress in administrative method. As development proceeds, a native departmental staff of agricultural, veterinary and health workers, tribal police, schoolmasters, and medical assistants all come into being. The Chief, from being a simple mediator between Government and the people, becomes transformed into a sort of chairman of committee, a general vivifying agent and source of inspiration. The problem of his proper headquarters and boundaries is then found to depend increasingly on economic circumstances, such as the direction of communications and trade, rather than on sub-clan groupings or memories of family feuds. Further, as native departmental staff becomes more qualified for its work, it commands higher wages, and it is important on the score of expense that the number of nuclei should not be unnecessarily large. The unit must be large enough to carry its staff.

"We therefore find that, at the very time when sub-clan influences are at work trying to split up the locations, economic argument points to the necessity for their enlargement."

15. It might have been hoped that increased prosperity would have impaired the efforts made by the North Kavirondo Central Association to create grievances. Unfortunately it was not the case. The membership increased, and consisted of some 300 vocal and semi-literate natives, the majority of whom were adherents of the Church Missionary Society and Friends Missions, with a sprinkling of Islamized Wanga.

"They have endeavoured to their utmost, but with little success, to unearth legitimate grievances, and have therefore been reduced to reverting to their demand, refused repeatedly, for a paramount chief; to suggesting that Local Native Council funds are misspent by the District Commissioner and should be controlled entirely by natives; and to exhorting the missionaries, who have taught them what little they know, to cease occupying land in the native reserve and return whence they came.

The District Commissioner writes:—

"It is from the southern locations that the majority of the young agitators spring, and there is no remedy at hand to counteract the malady, as was the case with wattle in Kikuyu, where the prosperity resulting from the bark industry reduced the influence of the malcontents to such a marked degree.

"It must not be thought that North Kavirondo is retrogressing. It is going ahead, and would proceed faster but for the inherent suspicion with which every action of Government is regarded."

16. The move of the Laibons from the Kericho District continued, and the most influential members of the Laibon clan joined the settlement already established in Gwasi in the South Kavirondo District. Sixty-four men, 95 women, and 151 children, with their stock, proceeded thither, and the remainder will follow them very shortly.

Of the Laibon settlement, the District Commissioner, South Kavirondo, writes:—

"I believe Laibon are happy in their present area. There is, however, a problem that we have still to overcome, that is, intermarriage. I have discussed with the Laibon ways and means, and the only solution appears to be for them to marry in the Bakoria."

"A batch of girls was consequently sent to that area, and three of them married. This, I hope, will prove to be a solution, though the language question in these marriages is difficult.

"In their area the Laibon have dispersed; and are now living under conditions more approximating their natural habits, and most of their young men are now employed by the Tsetse Fly Overseer in bush clearing connected with the fly barriers. The elders have asked that they be allowed to have a Chief of their own, but I have turned down this request; explaining that they must give up the idea of maintaining their distinct identity, and make up their minds to become gradually absorbed into the locations at present existing, each of which has its Chief already.

"Considering their origin and reputation, they are behaving very well."

It is evident that many of the Kipsigis retain their respect for the Laibons' alleged powers, but it would not appear that

any malign influence over the tribe has been exercised during the year.

Much time and thought have been given to the problem of the establishment of an internal system of government to take the place of the government by occultism—the government by Laibons—which has been removed.

On this question the District Commissioner writes:—

"This presents difficulties, since any government to be effective requires the willing obedience of its subjects, and the stem of all the words relating to the pre-Laibon administration are based on the stem *iruok*, or *iruoch*, with the essential meaning, not of 'command', but of 'advice'. Moreover, the Kipsigis seem to have had no sanctions capable of making advice mandatory. The effective force of advice depended on personality. The communal oath appears to have been unknown."

17. Stock thieving, which is the besetting sin of the Kipsigis, was formerly regarded as sport associated with manhood, but it has now taken an economic turn and the acquisition of wealth rather than of merit is its main object. It has become stock-stealing rather than stock-raiding, and more a police problem than an administrative one.

A large number of stock thefts were reported from the Luo border, where Luo and Kipsigis work hand in hand and frequently drive the stolen stock to farms in the settled area, where concealment is comparatively easy. Large numbers, however, were recovered at the end of the year.

The Luo were advised to brand their cattle and concentrate them in large *bomas* at a distance from the border, and there has been much less theft in the latter half of the year in consequence.

A good deal of stock thieving also took place on the Masai and Tanganyika Territory borders, the length of which prevents effective patrolling.

#### Central Province

18. It is pleasing to record that, generally speaking, the natives were absorbed in economic to the exclusion of political problems, and the year was marked by contentment and the absence of political unrest.

Such difficulties and grievances as existed were notable for the restrained and dignified manner in which they were presented.

Intensity of feeling, however, marked the dissatisfaction of the Kiambu Kikuyu with the settlement recommended by the Land Commission Report, and the administration of this district has called for much tact and wise handling.

In May a District Officer was deputed to undertake an inquiry into the claims of Kikuyu right-holders in the Kiambu farm areas, and land grievances again came into prominence. He investigated some 365 claims and estimated that the persons involved, including women and children, were approximately 4,262.

19. With the reluctant consent of the Local Native Councils concerned, some 4,000 acres of forest areas adjacent to other Kikuyu districts were put at the disposal of the Kiambu Kikuyu but though this assured the Kiambu leaders of the active sympathy of Government and eased the tension, it soon became clear that the allocation of a few thousand acres was merely a temporary palliative and would not satisfy the requirements of the many thousands of landless Kikuyu, who temporarily reside on the farms, and could not look forward to the acquisition of land of their own on which to make permanent homes.

The fact that Government was giving sympathetic attention to the major land problem was known to the leading elders, and accounts for the irritable attitude at all important meetings at which the problem has been discussed. But the disquiet continues unrelentingly, and incidents, such as a rush of returning squatters from farms with nowhere to go, have caused the smouldering fears to burst into flame, and sometimes led to requests which it is neither possible nor desirable to fulfil.

In October the Chief Native Commissioner attended a meeting of the Kiambu Local Native Council, at which the members again put their case with a clarity, agency and restraint that earned general commendation.

They were assured that an equitable settlement of their grievances was being sought for, and at the end of the year the problem was still receiving the closest attention of Government.

20. The Provincial Commissioner pays tribute to the people of his Province—European and native alike:—

"One point it is important to emphasize: in all this discontent, in all this disquiet over the land question, is

that no attempt has been made to air grievances other than by constitutional means, or to obtain redress through any other channel than the administrative authorities.

The District Commissioner, Kiambu, says, 'taxes have been paid without friction, chiefs and leading elders have, without exception, kept in close touch with the Administration, the young, semi-educated generation seem to have lost much of their aggressiveness, submit more cheerfully to authority, and even seek advice from their elders occasionally.'

'My experience bears out this statement. In *barazas* in the locations I have been struck by the large number of young men present, by the sobriety of speech even when contentious questions were discussed, and the general friendliness of demeanour.

'In regard to the land question, a special tribute is due to European land-holders, on whose farms reside a number of Kikuyu right-holders. They have in most cases displayed a tolerance and forbearance worthy of all praise when confronted with a tense and irritating situation, as a result of the inevitable delay in implementing the recommendations of the Land Commission.'

The same attitude on the part of natives is also conspicuous in the Fort Hall and South-Nyeri Districts, where the atmosphere at many meetings with Kikuyu has invariably been one of gratifying cordiality.

That such a state of affairs exists reflects credit on the tact and discretion of the Administrative Officers concerned.

21. The arrival in the Kikuyu Reserves of a negro archbishop of the African Orthodox Church was commented on last year. He has been occupied in baptising and teaching the tenets of the church he has established, and has identified himself with the independent schools movement, which started in 1930 as a result of the controversy over female circumcision. The management of the schools was originally vested in a body called the Kikuyu Independent Schools' Association, but in the Kiambu District an offshoot called the Karinga Schools Association is in control.

Of the whole movement the District Commissioner, Fort Hall, writes:—

'In actual fact, however, the movement is a manifestation of nationalism in a somewhat acute form, and it is generally anti-European, although its leaders have so far

been careful with regard to their attitude towards Government. In their ignorant impatience they completely overlook the many important things, not easily or quickly acquired, which are so necessary for the conversion of the primitive individual into a competent citizen of a civilized state. They have got it into their heads that the Government and the missionary societies have it in their easy power to establish innumerable schools for the immediate and wholesale Europeanization of the African, but that this is not being done because we are jealous of our racial supremacy.

This matter will be dealt with further under 'Education.'

22. During the year very little has been heard of the activities of the Kikuyu Central Association or the Kikuyu Provincial Association. With returning economic prosperity and a progressive people, it is appreciated that such grievances as do exist receive Government's sympathetic consideration.

23. It is an interesting fact that, in spite of the march of progress, the primitive belief in the power of witchcraft continues undiminished, though enlightened public opinion condemns the practice. In Fort Hall District a serious state of affairs was reported in the latter half of the year on the institution of an *mbumba* in the area north of the Maragua River; and 100 *mbumba* were taken, most of whom pleaded guilty to the charge, were sentenced to terms of imprisonment.

In Embu District the *mbumba* ceremony was held in each location, when the *muma* oath was taken by all adult males against the practice of witchcraft.

In the Kamba areas the evil is widespread, but the District Commissioner, Kitui, writes that while on *safari* in Mumoni he was summoned to a *baraza* of women who were really anxious to stop the practice amongst their sex, and took an oath amongst themselves against it.

24. Drunkenness and the resultant crimes of assault and hurt, an outcome of increased prosperity, continued to cause some anxiety, but except by prohibiting the growing of sugar it is difficult of control, and, apart from the value of sugar as a food, it is effective as a crop in soil improvement. Destruction of sugar-mills in both the Kikuyu and Ukamba Districts took place, and in Machakos District, where the evil is widespread, 200 were destroyed and the owners prosecuted.

25. In Nairobi, in May, it was decided to remove the native location of Pangani, which had long been a blot on the landscape on the road to Muthaiga.

It was obvious that this could not be undertaken without a good deal of resistance on the part of the-occupiers.

In June, His Excellency the Governor received a deputation of nine Pangani elders, and informed them that Government and the Municipal Council had definitely decided to remove Pangani for health reasons. He asked Pangani residents to assist the Municipal and Native Affairs Officer in this difficult task, making a special appeal to the elders, who were reasonable individuals with creditable careers behind them, to co-operate and thus avoid hardships and ensure Pangani being removed in the best possible manner.

Before any demolition was commenced the Municipal Native Affairs Officer interviewed every householder in Pangani and compiled a doomsday book, dividing them into three sections:—

- (a) Those who had not been in Nairobi any great length of time and still had strong reserve connexions;
- (b) Those who had become detribalized, but had no dependants; and
- (c) Those who were detribalized and responsible for dependants.

By the conversion of dormitories in the existing municipal housing scheme, and by the erection of houses in the native location of Pumwani, accommodation for some of the evicted people was provided, and at the end of the year '86 out of a total of 309 houses had been demolished.

26. The incidence of plague in the Kikuyu districts caused some anxiety, but a determined attack on rat destruction was sustained without remission, and the fact that the administrative cadre was at full strength made it possible to detail an administrative cadet in certain districts to supervise the work for some months of the year, and this enabled substantial success to be achieved.

The problem of soil erosion and the steps taken to combat it will be detailed in a later chapter. In the Machakos District annual reports for some ten to fifteen years have stressed the alarming rate of the progress of erosion in the more thickly populated areas. Much time and energy have been given to tackling the problem, but the present state of the areas worst affected shows that the gloomy prognostications of past years have been only too well-justified, and that the fringe of the problem has only been touched.

When it is realized that the extent of the area requiring treatment exceeds 600 square miles, the magnitude of the problem will be appreciated. It is one which cannot be solved without the aid of the people themselves, and it is not evident that they appreciate the crucial position to which their methods of cultivation and their persistent overstocking have reduced their valued heritage—their land. Unless they show a change of heart and consent to carry out the teaching perpetually given them by Forest, Agricultural and Administrative officers, famine and consequent emigration seem the inevitable vista before them.

#### Rift Valley Province

27. Throughout the Province the year has on the whole passed off uneventfully and quietly. The Italo-Ethiopian War caused no political reaction, but economically it was beneficial as several thousand head of cattle and many tons of hay were exported to Italian-Somaliland.

The main native employees on the farms are Kikuyu, the majority of whom are squatters. In view of the large quantities of maize grown by the squatters, the Marketing of Native Produce Ordinance was brought into force in the Nakuru District, and has worked well, and been of assistance in raising the price paid for the produce.

28. The District Commissioner, Nandi, in his annual report, states that—

"Towards the end of the year it became apparent that all was not well with the Nandi. Several Indian shops in the district were broken into, stock thefts increased in number beyond all reason, and the attitude of the *moran* was insubordinate and defiant. Orders given by Government Headmen were not obeyed, and even a Local Native Council dairy and a hide *banda* were broken into and the ghee and hides stolen."

It was at once surmised that the Laibon clan was at the back of all this disorder, probably at the instigation of the Chief Laibon, Barserion arap Kimanye, who had been deported to Meru in the year 1923 and allowed to return to Nandi in 1930. He was at once warned that his deportation warrant had not been cancelled, only suspended, and that if it was found that he was not using his influence on the side of law and order the question of deporting him once again would be considered. The Laibon clan were also informed of this warning, *barazas* were held in various locations, and a

general tightening-up of discipline was carried out. By this means good results were immediately obtained. The Nandi themselves came forward to give information about stolen stock, and a number of stock thieves were arrested.

Contempt for orders issued under the Native Authority Ordinance were dealt with by the Native Tribunals themselves and the result was that by the end of the year a very marked improvement in the general demeanour of the *moran* had taken place.

The Provincial Commissioner writes:—

"There is no doubt in my mind that the activities of the Laibon clan have to be most closely watched, any relaxation leading at once to trouble. The Nandi themselves are terrified of the members of this clan, and would do anything rather than get into trouble with them, and it will, I am afraid, take many years of educational and religious teaching before they see Laibonism in its true light.

"As it transpired during the year that a number of Nandi were living in the Cherangani area of the Marakwet-Elgeyo Reserve, where they had undoubtedly been carrying on a trade in stolen stock, arrangements were made for them to be rounded up and returned to their own district. This was done, and 15 Nandi, with 766 cattle and 688 sheep and goats, were escorted back to their country.

"Economically the year has been a prosperous one, although crops were poor on account of excessive rain, yet the higher price obtainable for cattle has more than compensated the people.

"One other point of general interest is that in August I once more allowed the Kapchepkendi clan to go out as squatters, provided that they had first completed six months on the farm as casual labourers. The ban on this clan, which prevented them from squatting, had been imposed in 1933, and it was felt that they should once more be given a trial as squatters with the proviso that it would be reimposed if they could not behave themselves.

"In my 1935 annual report I mentioned that trouble was likely to arise between Kikuyu and Nandi squatters on farms. Although at the beginning of the year clashes did occur, a better feeling became more prevalent as time went on."

29. A steady improvement has been noticed in the Samburu. A Police Levy Force was imposed in the middle of

February, as the *moran* of the II Kiliko age grade continued committing murders in order to blood their spears. The Levy Force had a most salutary effect, and was removed at the end of the year.

Apart from their murdering and stock-thieving habits, the Samburu have shown themselves to be amenable to administration, and, if the *moran* of the new age grade will carry out the orders issued by the elders, further spear-blooding should not occur. The administration is cultivating the new age grade through their leaders, the Laigwanak. The most important of these has been elected to the Local Native Council, and at all *barazas* they are given every opportunity for expressing their views.

A point of note is that the period for which this new age grade may remain as *moran* has been reduced from seven to three years, and it is significant that some of these *moran* have asked to be allowed to marry before even the three years were up. This permission has been readily granted.

The return of a number of Samburu living in the Marsabit district was agreed to by the Officer in Charge, Northern Frontier, but had to be postponed owing to reactions on the Frontier arising out of the Italo-Ethiopian War.

The District Commissioner writes:—

"The II Kiliko had passed out by July, and the new age grade, the Lemurkurie, had been initiated. The elders, entirely on their own initiative, issued orders forbidding the eating of meat in the bush or the giving of beads to the maidens by the new *moran*. Both these practices tend most to cause the frenzy which the young warrior works himself into before going to blood his spear. In the first place a lot of young warriors, for days lying up in a secret forest retreat, doing nothing but eating meat and sleeping, begin to brag and outdo one another with tales of daring until some of them, worked up into the required state of frenzy, tightening up their red clothes, grabbing a little dried meat and their two spears, go off to foreign lands, and a murder follows. In the other case, a young warrior gives beads to his girl; she sings about him, she taunts him to deeds of bravery, and so he goes off to blood his spear."

30. The Turkana living in Samburu are a problem, and an endeavour will be made to concentrate them with some Dorobo at Wamba in the Mathews Range, where reasonably good land for cultivation is available, but they are wandering people and it is not easy to anchor them.

The District Commissioner reports:—

"The Turkana are as elusive as ever, and they move up and down through the almost impossible country south-west of Lake Rudolf at will: El Barta empties itself and Kerio fills up when patrols are out on the opposite side. This makes their administration difficult. The boundary of Turkana is so near, and Turkana headquarters at Lodwar so far. The Levy Force patrolled all along the Kerio-Sugota border in October and November.

"The Turkana problem is a difficult one; it is entirely economic; they cannot live in their own land, and so infiltration into Samburu, Laikipia, and Isiolo is steady and increasing. They come in as poachers or almost slaves; their richer relations on El Barta will do nothing for them, so they live everywhere in the bush and eat up everything, from an elephant to a lizard, that they can lay their hands on. Unless they are settled they will penetrate further and further. They are becoming a menace on Laikipia already, for they are virile, fertile and hardy. It is hoped an agricultural settlement may be made for some of them somewhere on the western base of the Mathews Range."

31. There are two sections of Wandorobo—the Laikipia and the Samburu

The former are crafty and clever, having learnt much from their association with the Laikipia settlers. There is no doubt that they enter and leave Samburu as they like; they are behind any trouble there is in the district, and probably behind most of the stock thefts.

The Samburu Wandorobo were an extremely shy lot of people living, or rather existing, on the various mountains. They were always in a state of semi-starvation, relying on a diet consisting of meat, roots, and honey.

It redounds greatly to the credit of Assistant Inspector Slatter, of the Levy Force, that he was able to get into touch with them and persuade them to leave their erstwhile haunts and establish themselves in a settlement at Wamba. They were taught and encouraged to cultivate and, until their crops were reaped, they were granted a small ration of *posho*. The cost to Government was only £75, and there is every hope of the settlement proving a success. Three hundred of these people have now established themselves at Wamba, and it is hoped that it will not be long before those few who still remain in the hills come and join them.

32. The Baringo District is inhabited by Kamasia, Njempis and East Suk, while there are a few Wandorobo in the forests.

The usual bickerings have taken place between the Kapurin Kamasia and the Njempis over the question of grazing, and between the Kabarnet and Lembus Kamasia and the Southern Elgeyo on account of petty stock thefts from each other: No serious clash, however, took place.

Relations between the Turkana and the Suk were somewhat strained, as the former accused the latter of murdering ten of their number during the past year or two. A settlement was arranged between the District Commissioner, Baringo, and the District Officer, Lodwar, when all cases were fully investigated. Very little direct evidence could be obtained as to the truth of these accusations, and it appeared most unlikely that these murders had taken place. Eventually the accused Suk took the "spear-oath" denying the allegations, and the Turkana expressed themselves satisfied with this solution.

Law and order have on the whole been well maintained, though the South Mbari have at times proved insubordinate and truculent, and are indulging in the pastime of stock-thieving. For a considerable amount of blame attaches to witch-doctor Kamasia, witch-doctor, Kipsange arap Chesire, wife of a head of his profession, was convicted and sent to Kwale. There is little doubt that he was responsible for a severe outbreak of stock-thieving in the Eldoret district, as he supplied charms to thieves which were supposed to grant them immunity from detection.

33. The Elgeyo-Marakwet District was a difficult one to administer owing to lack of communications, a road down the escarpment presenting some difficulty. However, this has been overcome, and the road from Tambach into the Kerio Valley was completed and improved, while a road running all along the Kerio Valley was also constructed over a distance of 60 to 70 miles. This latter is still in its initial stages, and motor transport can only proceed over it slowly and, in parts, with difficulty.

Earlier on in the year a considerable amount of feeling was worked up against a number of witch-doctors, and it was essential that these latter should be removed from the district in order to avoid the occurrence of serious trouble, which would probably have resulted in the killing of all of them.

Luckily, in October, an order for the deportation to the coast of five of them was made. This had the effect of calming things down. The Elgeyo-Marakwet are exceedingly superstitious about witch-doctors and witches, and when thoroughly frightened are prepared to go to any length to rid themselves of such an unpleasant neighbour.

#### Coast Province

34. Generally the districts have been free from strife and political disorder. In Mombasa, however, there was one serious fracas in the Native Town between the Bajun and the Swahili, directly due to the behaviour of Faridi, a son of the ex-Sultan of Zanzibar, who, with a friend, whilst under the influence of liquor, interfered with a woman whose relatives took up the cudgels on her behalf. The Police were called out, and later the matter was settled by the opposing factions themselves. Considering the many and various tribes living in Mombasa, it is wonderful how peaceful the inhabitants are.

35. The long rains were adequate and food plentiful, and the period of depression seems to be passing. The planting of cotton is going ahead, and the value of the cashew crop is becoming more and more recognized.

36. Lamu had a temporary boom during the Italo-Ethiopian War, when there was a ready market for grain, ghee, oils, and native roofing materials, and the opening up of lorry routes to the border and Northern Frontier brought considerable prosperity. A more permanent improvement is the extraordinary boom in the *boriti* trade, which has largely exceeded that of previous years.

37. The return of the Kasigau to the mountain of the same name, which was their old home, was much appreciated by those people who, since the War, have been living in the Teita Reserve and on a sisal plantation.

The recommendation in para. 1231 of the Kenya Land Commission Report has been carried out. The owners of L.R. 4881 have agreed to sell their land to the natives for £1,400, subject to restrictions regarding reservation of timber and removal of the factory. The necessary money has been voted from the Taveta War Compensation Fund held by the Local Native Council.

38. Tax collection on the Coast did not prove very easy, but the attitude of passive resistance, so noticeable last year, has been partially broken down by a definite campaign of the

District Commissioners, and in the end collection was very good.

The system of payment by means of "Kodi" stamps has proved very popular, and is partly responsible for the great improvement in the payment of hut and poll tax during the year.

Though economically the Nyika tribes have progressed during the year, socially no advance can be recorded. The District Commissioner attributes this to drink and venereal disease; and there is substantial truth in this opinion. A further contributory factor is the weakness of the tribal headmen, who lack personality and exert little influence over their people.

#### Masai District

39. The most notable features of the year under review have been the satisfactory rains and the consequent return of the Masai to a modicum of prosperity, the freedom from any serious outbreaks of stock raiding (at least, by Masai), and the return to power and real authority of Chief Parsaloi Ole Galishu, more usually known as Legalishu.

40. A more disciplined frame of mind has been evidenced not only in regard to payment of tax but in the obedience of the *moran*, if somewhat unwillingly on occasions, to the orders issued by the Administration.

Such orders have taken the form of breaking up the *moran manyattas* after the holding of the Euronoto ceremonies by the left-handed age of the *moran*, paid work on roads, recruitment and training for tribal police, regular police, and K.A.R., inoculation and vaccination of stock against disease, and the surrender of criminals to justice.

The Officer in Charge rightly states that this policy of reorganizing the tribe on a peace footing and adapting it to modern ideas must perforce be extremely slow, and too much cannot be expected in a short time.

41. The force of this statement was brought to the attention of Government by two serious outbreaks of lawlessness, and which the District Commissioner, Narok, aptly describes.

"The work of 1936 was to some extent arrested by two outbreaks of stock-thieving which occurred in Tanganyika and raised the old problem of the inter-territorial boundary. In the raids which took place in the first half of the year the Purko *morani* of both age groups took cattle from the

Ikoma, Maswa and Meatu areas. They assembled for their raids in Tanganyika, and the junior *moran* established a *manyatta* at Kirtalo, although they were all of Kenya families. During the latter half of the year the Loita and Lataiyuk raided the Wasukuma. They too set out from the Loliondo area. In each case about 100 *moran* were tried and convicted. The proportions in the case of the Purko raids were roughly 50 alleged Tanganyika Masai to 50 from Kenya, and of the Loita and Lataiyuk, 80 from Tanganyika and 20 from Kenya. The proportions are misleading, because all Purko, Loita, and Lataiyuk are, in fact, from Kenya, and they were never allowed to build their *manyattas*, or even villages, in Tanganyika until eight years ago.

The effect of allowing them to migrate has been to divorce them from such tribal authority as existed. The difficulties created by this situation have been apparent in tracing stolen stock and apprehending stock thieves, or, at an earlier stage, in preventing the *moran* from preparing for a raid.

Great difficulty was encountered in obtaining news of raids made across the border and in intercepting raiders on their way back to this country. A conference was therefore held at Ngorongoro, attended by the Provincial Commissioners of the Lake and Northern Provinces of Tanganyika, with their District Officers, and the Officer in Charge, Masai, with the District Commissioner, Narok.

42. The recommendations of the conference were to the effect that quick and direct communication by road between Narok and Loliondo in Tanganyika Territory is essential, that telegraphic news of each and every raid must be made without delay to all District Officers in both Masai territories, and that the co-operation of the Royal Air Force and the King's African Rifles should be sought, the former for speedy transport, and the latter, if possible, for helio stations.

Since when the Royal Air Force stationed at Nairobi have been of the greatest assistance in dropping messages, transport of officers, and in making reconnaissance flights.

43. During the year all the left-handed age of the *moran* performed their Ewonoto (feast following circumcision) ceremonies, and wished to remain in their *manyattas* for an indefinite period of time, during which they would have been a potential danger for raids and other lawlessness.

Chief Legalishu and the sponsor elders gave orders that the *manyattas* should be broken up, and this was done after a certain amount of defiance by the *moran*. The elders in the Kajjado District followed the example of Legalishu, and *moran manyattas* in their area were also broken up.

On many occasions Legalishu has emphatically recommended the total abolition of the *moran* system, which would enforce the youths to remain in their fathers' villages and under their control.

This matter was prominent among subjects discussed at a large *baraza* and at a gathering convened by Legalishu at his own village. There is a good deal of opposition to Legalishu's plan. The Masai of other sections are not inclined to agree that it is feasible or desirable. Legalishu's influence is undoubtedly again on the increase, and he may be able to carry his point so that this is adopted at the next ceremonial dance ceremony, which will be held during the course of a year or so.

44. Early in the year the combined Masai Councils petitioned the Government for the rectification of their external boundaries, and that the Mile Zone, the northern end of the Chiv and the Trans Rombo areas were essential to their account of the valuable water supplies and grazing areas.

Subsequently the Masai Councils to give up some 300 square miles of their reserve in exchange for the above-named areas, but at the end of the year no decision had been made.

At the instance of the combined Masai Council, the Njoro Settlers' Association and the Ngong farmers, steps were taken to evacuate Kikuyu. Many were returned to their own reserve.

45. The District Commissioner, Narok, is to be congratulated on the construction during the year of a fine stadium at Narok out of an area that in the past was an eyesore of rocks, dust and weeds.

In October, a most successful inaugural athletic meeting was held, at which the Officer Commanding the Northern Brigade of the King's African Rifles and the Officer Commanding the Royal Air Force attended. The presence of three Air Force planes and the K.A.R. Band gave novelty to the proceedings, and a large number of Masai, young and old from every part of the country attended.

The Officer in Charge writes:—

"There is no doubt whatsoever that frequent occasions at which the Masai *moran* can legitimately display their physical prowess by means of sports and games will become an important factor in civilizing the Masai youth, and in replacing the feats of physical endurance and daring indulged in in stock raiding in the past."

#### Northern Frontier District

46. The Italo-Ethiopian conflict overshadowed normal administrative activities throughout the year. Control of the Frontier was in the charge of the civil administration, and the Officer in Charge removed his headquarters temporarily from Isiolo to Moyale to handle the situation. He states that the year 1936 was the most difficult year known in Frontier administration.

47. He describes the more important events on the Frontier thus:—

"The year opened with the rout of Ras Desta's forces at Malka Dida and shortly after with the arrival on 31st January of General Angostini's column at Malka Murri, where our boundary turns westwards from the River Daua. General Graziani halted his forces on a line Muggeli-Malka Guba-Malka Murri, and proceeded to resume his original attack on Harar. Another incident of note was the desertion into Kenya, across the Daua River in January, of some four hundred Eritrean regular Italian soldiers. In accordance with instructions, they were disarmed and eventually detained in a special camp at Isiolo, where they still were at the close of the year.

"The next phase was the lavish distribution of arms and ammunition by the Italians, mainly to the Gurre resident on the Ethiopian side, who proceeded to murder and pillage their ancient tribal enemies, the Boran and Gabbra. To counter these attacks the Boran obtained a certain number of rifles from the Ethiopians, as well as some help from their garrisons at Mega and Moyale. For five full months chaos reigned along the border between Malka Murri and Moyale, causing the greatest anxiety ever known in the history of the Frontier to the Administration. All efforts were concentrated, firstly, in preventing the 'fire' which raged on the other side from spreading into Kenya territory; and secondly on preventing the possession of arms by our tribesmen.

"Two instances occurred along this sector of the Frontier. They were an incursion by Ethiopian troops in the vicinity of Gemudda, and a more serious one by the Italian forces in the Jara area. The latter resulted in the loss of two Kenya Police Constables whilst the District Commissioner was patrolling in that area.

"Late in June the Italian forces resumed their advance west, capturing Mega on 24th June and Moyale in Abyssinia on the 26th. During the latter attack the Kenya station, which was hardly half a mile away to the south, came under considerable fire resulting, in spite of previous precautions, in one woman being wounded and one cow killed. Most of the buildings, both in the Boma and bazaar were hit. It may be of interest to record that, when it was seen that further resistance was useless, the Ethiopian flag, which had flown for some many years opposite to us, was deposited with the District Commissioner on an undertaking being given that it would be preserved with respect.

"Again the policy of arming tribesmen was resumed, in spite of our urgent recommendation to the contrary. Since, however, the eastern area was more arid, only one serious incident among the tribesmen occurred—at a place called Gogai, in the northern Kenya territory.

"The year closed with our endeavours to preserve the trans-frontier water supply enjoyed under the Anglo-Abyssinian Treaty of 1907.

The British Consulate for Southern Abyssinia at Mega was evacuated on the 9th of May.

48. The construction of landing grounds continued during the year, and by the end of the year twenty had been examined and passed by the Royal Air Force.

In January, Air Chief Marshal Sir Robert Brooke-Popham, Commanding the Air Force in the Near East, accompanied by Major Furse from the Colonial Office, visited Moyale.

49. The "blood bill" was refreshingly low, particularly away from the Frontier, and the behaviour of the tribesmen, especially the Somalis, was commendable.

It was also surprising when one realized how the situation on the other side was likely to arouse their fighting and looting instincts. The explanation is probably due to the fact that the Somali was quick to see that under the ægis of our

flag there was money to be made by the sale of stock without suffering any of the inconveniences of tribesmen under the Italian flag.

50. It had been announced at the end of the previous year that individual taxation would be enforced. At first there was some protest, but an amount of over six times the original estimate was obtained, and by the end of the year there was no sign either of dissatisfaction or of any desire to return to a communal basis.

#### *Turkana District*

This Extra-Provincial District comprises the Districts of Turkana and West Suk.

The year has been one of prosperity for both districts. Rains have been good in Turkana—indeed, quite unparalleled—grazing has been plentiful, and in West Suk crops have done well. Few incidents have occurred in either district to mar a year of general tranquility. Our Northern Frontier has been completely free from raiding, and relations between the tribes on either side have reached a degree of friendliness hitherto unknown.

52. The conflict in Ethiopia has done little if anything to disturb the peace. It is true that the Ethiopian officials at Namaraputh have been either unable or unwilling to control trespassing by our Merillé neighbours on grazing that is not theirs, but even confiscation of stock, to which recourse had to be had in the end, failed to produce any hostile reaction, and the situation on the border has throughout the year been a matter of congratulation.

53. To the south, where Southern Turkana borders on West Suk, relations between Suk and Turkana have been so amicable that the usual annual meeting between the two tribes was not held, for the good and sufficient reason that neither tribe had any complaint to make against the other.

54. The District Commissioner, Turkana, describes the area under his administration in these words:—

"Turkana District, an area computed at 24,000 square miles, consisting of sand, volcanic outcrops and waterless rivers, varied by occasional mountain ranges, scorched by an unrelenting sun, and connected with civilization by a single link which descends two precipitous passes, liable at any moment to be severed by rainstorms or landslides, has its headquarters at Lodwar, with a subsidiary station at Lokitaung."

The tribesmen still regret the closing of Kaputir, the former headquarters of Southern Turkana, with the proximity of an officer to whom they can come for a swift solution of their problems. The administration of this area has been complicated by the serious illness of Chief Abong, the most influential personality in Turkana, and the District Commissioner pays tribute to his personality in that with relaxed supervision the area, save for the ill-timed opportunism of one section of the inhabitants, has remained entirely peaceful.

55. The climatic factor rules the destiny of Turkana, and the year has been the most prosperous within living memory, and was marked by unprecedented rainfall (the record maximum not only having been exceeded but almost doubled), flowing rivers, abundance of pasture, and, perhaps best of all, external and internal tranquility.

The District Commissioner writes:—

"Former officers will learn with incredulous amazement that Lodwar Peak was draped in a mantle of green, and that officers on tour were incommoded by the wealth of herbage through which they had to march."

"In normal years it has been obligatory for the Turkana to sustain themselves for grass and water in the territories of their neighbours, but this year has witnessed a reversal of the situation, and on all sides the former donors of concessions have expressed a desire to profit from Turkana prosperity. Nevertheless, the tact and ability of border chiefs have averted all danger of incidents."

56. Contact with Ethiopian officials during the year has been negligible, and visits from them to Namaraputh have been rare. Fitarauri Haile Mariam was there in February and March, and two sittings of the Lukiko (the Border Court) were held, but, owing to the absence of the Donyiro Elders, little was accomplished. Opportunity was taken of placing two requests before the Fitarauri, namely that the various Turkana who reside among the Abyssinian tribes should be returned, and that grazing of Merillé stock between Consul's Rock and Todenyang should be prohibited. The first problem had to be adjourned pending the conclusion of the Italo-Ethiopian campaign; as the question of the fate of their accumulated stock presented a serious difficulty.

57. The Western Abyssinian Consulate at Maji was closed during the month of May owing to the international

situation, and internal intelligence became meagre and unreliable. Rumoured events which might have entailed repercussions on the border did not materialize.

It is pleasing to record that relations between the Abyssinian tribes and the Turkana remained excellent, and both Merille and Donyiro visitors have frequently presented themselves at Lokitaung.

58. Border administration has not been without difficulty. In June a concentration of Merille twice penetrated into Kenya territory. In August hostilities broke out between the Merille and the Hamma. The Donyiro were alleged to have allied themselves with the Hamma, and as both the Merille and the Donyiro openly announced their intention of seeking refuge in Kenya if attacked, the situation was pregnant with possibilities. Several elders who actually crossed the border, when punished for this infraction, requested that the Government of Kenya would include them in its administration, as they were disgusted by the invertebrate attitude adopted by their nominal rulers. Trespass of this amicable nature occurred for a period of two to three months.

59. The Abyssinian authority at Namaraputh expressed sympathy, but with a reduced garrison could give no practical expression of it, and at the end of the year there was still a considerable quantity of Merille stock along the Kenya boundary.

The District Commissioner reports that—

"Elders of the Donyiro, when interviewed, expressed no enmity against the Merille, and professed, and, by their presence in *baraza*, demonstrated the existence of perfect harmony with their blood relatives, the Turkana, whose active assistance they have vainly solicited.

"It is evident that both the Merille and the Donyiro have at length appreciated the fact that the Kenya authorities are anxious to obtain their friendship; and by establishing personal contacts to foster a spirit of cordiality between them and the Turkana, a change from the not very remote past when both sides viewed one another in the light of human targets."

The abundant rains experienced made it possible to keep the Turkana well to the south of the Red Line for most of the year.

60. Administration along the other borders of this huge country presented difficulties. Events of the year have helped to remove temptation to trespass from the Dodoth of Uganda, but it cannot be hoped that they have abandoned their specious claim to the Oropoi Valley.

61. In April the Karamojong invaded Turkana at Lunyen, and were followed by the Suk administered by Uganda, to whom the abundant pasture of the Turkana plains proved too tempting.

On a report from the non-commissioned officer in charge of a Police patrol that a clash between the Turkana and the Suk was imminent, the Officer in Charge and the District Commissioner, Turkana, proceeded to the scene. An excited mob of some three to four hundred Turkana, all armed and avid for battle, was encountered, but were ably held in check by their chiefs. Further, an armed Suk was discovered and arrested. Investigations having proved that the infestation of Suk was on a very large scale, a message was dispatched to the District Commissioner, Moroto, who promptly arrived and informed the Suk that he could not support their claim to the area occupied, and a considerable difficulty returned them to undisputed.

62. A *baraza* between representatives of the Turkana, Karamo and as a result two agreements were drafted, at, finally settling the dispositions in the disputed area.

63. The Todenyang fishing village has become a focus for all the indigent members of the lake sections, and the population exceeds 200, despite endeavours to check its growth.

A trade in grain with the Merille of the 'Omo Delta is fast developing.

This village is notable for the number of its juvenile inhabitants, and evokes the conjecture that possibly a fish diet is inducive of fertility. There have been no indications of Merille hostilities directed against the fisher-folk, and, owing to the lack of available booty, none is to be anticipated, save possibly as a show of bravado or by way of reprisal, as in 1933.

64. The experiment started in the year 1934, designed to meet the needs of paupers and infirm, of conducting fishing operations at Fergusons Gulf continued. It was hoped to

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64. The experiment started in the year 1934, designed to meet the needs of paupers and infirm, of conducting fishing operations at Fergusons Gulf continued. It was hoped to

develop a local industry, but there are drawbacks, and the District Commissioner reports:—

"The depreciation and the cost of upkeep and wages are considerable, so that unless adequate Government funds are available the enterprise is doomed to extinction. Repairs to nets with local materials have proved impracticable. Contemplation of the vast quantities of edible fish available engenders regret that such a potential source of wealth appears incapable of development. A single haul of the seine net frequently produces a catch of tilapia (*ngage*) that would realize £10 in the Nairobi market, could it but be transported thither."

65. In the West Suk District the year has been a good one for the Suk, and the general increase in the prices of primary products has benefited them to a limited extent. There has been no shortage of food, while the heavy demand for their labour in the Trans Nzoia district has enabled them to meet their hut tax without difficulty.

As in the past, the tribe has been apathetic and conservative, refusing to abandon any of their destructive methods of agriculture and suspicious of any suggestion for their betterment.

Nevertheless, there are indications, especially in Mwina and Wei Wei locations that the educational work in agriculture carried out by Mr. G. H. Chaundy, Principal of the Government African School, is slowly making itself felt, and the demonstration seed plots are of the greatest benefit to the district. Before the initiation of these plots the only crops grown were Wimbi and mtama. In the locations mentioned, maize is now being grown in increasing quantities, while sweet potatoes, English potatoes, arrowroot, tomatoes, beans, and bananas are all being grown in small quantities by the natives.

66. The country does not lend itself to road making, but the lack of communications is a great handicap to the development of the district.

Rumours circulated in Trans Nzoia in January of unrest among the Suk. It transpired, however, on investigation, that a Suk *Weregoin* or *Laibon* residing at Karita in Uganda had been indulging in prophecy to the following effect:—

(a) That war would break out between the Europeans and another European nation.

(b) That Suk young men would be taken by force by Government to serve as *askaris*.

(c) That a pestilence would overwhelm the world, wiping out everyone except a handful of Suk, as a consequence of which the Suk would "inherit" all the Turkana cattle.

The prophet, however, insured against the loss of his reputation by adding that the events would either happen in January—or not at all.

The District Commissioner, Moroto, on inquiry, found that the *baraza* from which these prophecies of impending doom were disseminated took place at Karita, was largely a rain-making ceremony, and was attended by the *Karamojong* chiefs.

67. The situation on the Suk-Elgeyo boundary has caused the establishment of a Suk-Marakwet Tribunal to be discussed.

68. On the last day of the year the administration of the Kacheliba trading centre was transferred to Uganda.

#### LOCAL NATIVE COUNCILS

The number of Local Native Councils operating in the Colony was increased to twenty-one by the inauguration in November of the Samburu Council. The Samburu area, though virtually in the Northern Frontier District, is under the administration of the Provincial Commissioner, Rift Valley Province.

2. At Appendix A are given the credit balances of all Councils, while the balance-sheet of the South Kavirondo Local Native Council, made out in the form approved by Government, is quoted as Appendix E.

Appendix D shows that considerable sums of money were spent by each Council during the year.

3. The generous bequest of Mr. W. F. G. Campbell, a retired Provincial Commissioner, of £2,000 to certain Local Native Councils was referred to in last year's Report. The money was received during the year, and the Machakos and Kitui Councils benefited to the extent of £800 each, and the Teita Council by £400.

The Machakos Council intends to spend the greater portion of the bequest on the erection of a Baraza Hall and guest houses for chiefs and elders visiting Machakos. The Kitui Council wished to spend their money in erecting a primary school, but Government was unable to approve the proposition, and at the end of the year no decision as to the expenditure of the money had been reached: The Teita Council decided to spend the legacy in the building of permanent markets and godowns at Tavga, Mwatate, Msau, Kungu, and Mwanda-Bura.

4. The Councils of the Central and Nyanza Provinces, and that of Nandi District, showed an increased sense of responsibility and passed many important resolutions having bearing on the development of the people they represent. The other Councils did useful work, and are becoming year by year increasingly efficient.

#### Nyanza Province

6. The estimated revenues for the year were:—

Councils	Rate	Rents	Tribunal Fees	Other Sources	Total
North Kavirondo ..	£ 9,700	£ 1,760	£ 3,000	£ 1,534	£ 16,004
Central Kavirondo ..	7,600	700	1,860	2,270	12,320
South Kavirondo ..	8,300	1,200	1,200	1,760	12,460
Kipsigis ..	900	330	150	200	1,580
Total	£ 26,400	3,990	6,200	5,763	42,353

The Councils voted £8,111 to the cause of education, £9,424 to agriculture and land measures, £6,130 to the construction of roads and bridges, and £3,281 to medical activities.

The North and South Kavirondo Councils imposed a rate of Sh. 2; the Central Kavirondo Council one of Sh. 1/50, and the Kipsigis Council a rate of Sh. 1.

7. The North Kavirondo Council is a somewhat unwieldy body, possessing 66 members, but, in the opinion of the District Commissioner, it did a great deal of useful work during the year. The standard of debate is high, and the members have learned to argue with no lack of politeness.

8. The more important resolutions passed during the year by the Central Kavirondo Council dealt with the gazettement of trade centres, the setting aside of land for sector schools, and market rules.

The District Commissioner writes of the Council, of which he is president, in eulogistic terms:—

"I am honestly astounded at the efficiency, intelligence, and tractability of the Central Kavirondo Local Native Council, the reasonableness and dignity of the manner in which discussions are carried on, and the respect shown to the officers of Government who are doing their best to assist the native members with their deliberations."

9. Of the work of the South Kavirondo Council the District Commissioner reports:—

"The members of the Council of this District are a moderate and well-balanced body of men. While I find them reasonable, there are certain subjects on which they hold strong views, and, contrary to the popular belief, cannot always be persuaded to fall in with every suggestion. It is refreshing to find a sense of responsibility developing, as they have been to in the past."

"Since their visit in December, members are discussing the possibility of increasing the rate by 50 cents in 1938, the extra income to be utilized in providing chiefs' offices and residences."

"The estimated closing balance as at the 31st December was £7,445, whereas the actual closing balance was £7,612, slightly in excess of the estimate, and, despite a heavy programme of work including the refund of £955, this balance has been increased from £6,551 at the opening of the year."

"The most important new resolution was that dealing with the erection of schools and churches."

The sum of £955 mentioned above was in respect of the yearly refund to Government due since the famine of 1931, and was the only sum expended on famine relief by Councils during the year.

10. Of the work of the Kipsigis Council the District Commissioner, Kericho, writes:—

"The Council decided that its native name should be *Tuiyer Ap Ngootik*, translated by members as 'The meeting of those who lift up the tribe,' though its real meaning is

rather 'Meeting of Law-givers'. The Council has probably done its best to achieve the uplift, as its translation of its self-chosen title implies, but lack of funds among other things has prevented any spectacular advance. It has recognized certain abuses in tribal custom, and done what it can to eradicate them. It has also devoted a large share of its income to education.

"The constitution of the Council is a rather unusual one. It is based on the principle that every location except the small one near the *homas* is represented officially by its Chief and unofficially by an elected member. There is rarely any obvious clash of opinion between the equally balanced official and unofficial members, but the latter have one or two reactionaries among their number who form in effect a noisy opposition party and, by a skilful use of the Council's propensity for unanimity, sometimes 'get away with it', the Council's attitude being 'let us leave it over for future consideration rather than quarrel about it.' None the less, there are signs of a growing readiness to express an individual opinion in debate."

#### Central Province

11. The work of Local Native Councils in the Province was increasingly valuable; the members showed a fuller appreciation of their duties and responsibilities, and the decisions reached increase in importance with the gain of confidence by the members. The interest taken by the general public in these meetings is intense and widespread, and is shown by the large gatherings which assemble at the Local Native Council buildings in order to listen.

The Provincial Commissioner writes:—

"It is invidious to differentiate between respective Councils where all have done good work, but the Kiambu and Fort Hall Councils have, under good guidance, shown outstanding discretion in the handling of problems and the promotion of schemes for native welfare."

12. Throughout the year the Kiambu Local Native Council showed considerable concern about land matters, and, at the last meeting held during the year, it was decided to start a register of *Githakas* with a view to putting the land system on an efficient basis.

The Local Native Council cess was raised to Sh. 2/50 for the year in order to provide funds for the building of a maternity ward at Kiambu.

The amount collected in cess for the year was £3,349, as compared with £2,778 for the previous year.

The District Commissioner records:—

"Great interest is always shown by members in everything which concerns the welfare of the tribe, and especially is this the case when education or medical matters are being discussed.

"The standard of debate and general behaviour of members improved with each meeting, and they can now discuss even their land grievances in a dignified and restrained manner."

13. The Fort Hall Local Native Council was always ready to support any measure calculated to be in the interests of sound progress. The appointment of a small sub-committee to assist the President in framing the estimates gave much satisfaction to all the members, and it was a step which did much to facilitate business.

While the political or reactionary members were always ready to seize any opportunity for ventilating their views, they never did so without propriety.

Among the new laws passed by the Council during the year, the most important were the provision of money for produce inspection and market, the passing of resolutions for the compulsory registration of marriages, births and deaths.

14. Resolutions passed by the South Nyeri Council included:—

- (i) The provision of additional markets for the efficient working of the Marketing of Native Produce Ordinance;
- (ii) Rules for ensuring safety to persons excavating for common minerals;
- (iii) Financial provision for combating plague and promoting other sanitary measures in the Reserve.

15. The most important debates in the Embu Local Native Council this year resulted in:—

- (i) The acceptance of the Standard Resolution in regard to the erection of schools and churches;
- (ii) Acceptance of the scheme for the reorganization of locations, reducing the number from thirty-one to twenty-four;

(iii) The voting of a sum of money to erect a godown at Sagana to be leased to the Kenya Farmers' Association;

(iv) An agreement to hand over seven hundred acres of reserve land in Mwea to the East African Power and Lighting Co., required for water power purposes, with a recommendation that the monetary value of the land offered in exchange should be paid into Local Native Council funds.

16. The Machakos Local Native Council gave attention to the principle of granting 33-year leases in the township, the Native Marketing Ordinance and Rules thereunder, and numerous applications under the Native Land Trust Ordinance, and passed several resolutions on the subject of reconditioning.

Cess was paid at the rate of Sh. 2 in the Ulu section of the Reserve and at Sh. 1 in the Kikumbulu area, and, with arrears for the previous year, accounted for £4,855 of the revenue collected, and the Council ended the year with the satisfactory surplus balance of £9,738.

17. The financial position of the Kitui Council improved during the year. The Council decided that arrears of rates should be remitted, which proved to be a wise decision, and the cess for the year was well paid.

18. The total revenue and expenditure for the Councils for the year were as follows:—

District	Revenue	Expenditure
	£	£
Embu	3,364	3,393
Meru	2,251	1,396
Fort Hall	5,138	4,547
Kiambu	5,431	5,206
Kitui	4,806	2,884
South Nyeri	3,854	2,924
Machakos	8,112	6,204
TOTAL	£ 32,956	26,444

### Rift Valley Province

19. The District Commissioner, Nandi, reports:—

"The Councilors are a progressive body, and take a keen interest in the affairs of the Reserve. They are always ready to express their views on any matter which may come before them, and do not merely agree to the President's proposals."

The Council allocated the sum of £3,000 for the building of a new hospital at Kapsabet, but at the end of the year only £250 of the amount had been spent.

20. The Elgeyo councillors visited all three Kavirondo Districts during the year, and were much impressed by the progress and development. The councillors have since shown a more progressive spirit, but it is doubtful if they put this into practice in their locations.

A Development Officer was engaged during the year, who since his arrival has been employed on road work, the building of camps, and the supervision of Local Native Council shambas.

21. In November a Local Native Council was inaugurated in Samburu, and the elders were granted a sum of £1,000—the balance of the amount collected for the payment of the Levy Force—should be credited to the fund of the Council.

The members showed a very sound appreciation of their duties as councillors, and it is hoped that the Council will prove of real use in assisting the progress and development of the tribe.

### Coast Province

22. The Giriama Local Native Council held four meetings alternately at Kilifi and Malindi Stations, and discussed mainly agricultural, veterinary and medical subjects. The Council's finances are in a very healthy state, half the revenue being derived from rents, timber royalties, and a milk cess.

The Council members tend to be too complacent, but at the last meeting held the educated ones showed greater interest.

23. The members of the Digo Local Native Council took a somewhat languid interest in the proceedings, but there are indications that things are slowly improving in this respect. Of the two principal tribes, the Duruma are by far the most

vocal. On one subject the Council displayed very strong feelings, and that was the question of the Waa School lease, which had not been agreed to by the end of the year.

Financially the Council had an excellent year, the revenue being more than the estimate by an amount far exceeding expectations.

The estimate was for £845, and the actual collection was £1,726. The large surplus was due chiefly to a windfall of £548 from royalties on a fuel-cutting concession at Samburu.

The largest single item of expenditure was the vote of £222 for agricultural services. Another important item was the expenditure of £50 on village sanitation, and a grant of £25 was also made to the veterinary farm at Mariakani, and a new well was sunk at Mrima.

24. Of the work of the Teita Local Native Council the Provincial Commissioner writes:—

"In some locations there is awakening an appreciation of what the Local Native Council is doing for the benefit of the people generally. The members appear to take more interest in the proceedings than in the other two Councils.

"Valuable discussions took place with regard to the restriction of drinking by young persons and women and, notably, approval was given to the issue by headmen of orders for soil control.

"Wundanyi Estate, which is financed by the Local Native Council, is becoming increasingly important as a centre of agricultural teaching, and the examples given there of soil control, composting, planting of stop-washes, etc., are having a perceptible influence on the surrounding people."

#### *Masai District*

25. Both the Narok and Kajiado Councils met on four occasions during the year, one being a combined meeting at Ngong.

The more important subjects discussed were:—

- (a) The question of Kikuyu impenetration into the Masai Reserve, on which it was strongly recommended that they should be ordered to leave and desist from cultivating;
- (b) Rectification of boundaries;
- (c) The granting of a lease to Messrs. Liebig's of 10,000 acres near Athi River;

(d) the rescinding of the resolution restricting occupation in the four-mile zone on the Nakuru district boundary;

(e) Agreement to hand over an area of forest of approximately 100 square miles in extent, west of the Mara River, for supervision by the Forest Department;

(f) Increasing the Magadi Company's fuel concession areas by another 70 square miles, which will bring the revenue to the Kajiado Council under this head to approximately £1,000 per annum.

The Officer in Charge reports that the proceedings of both Councils were conducted with interest, sense and good feeling.

#### *Turkana District*

27. The West Suk Council voted a cess of Sh. 1 for the year 1937. This is the first time this Council has imposed a cess on the district.

The Southern-Turkana Local Native Council was dissolved in the previous year. It has not been possible to reach agreement as to the disposal of the surplus funds of the Council, and they have been placed to the credit of the Natives' Trust Fund.

## CHAPTER IV

### NATIVE TRIBUNALS

Native Tribunals functioned satisfactorily and proved their value during the year. In the Nyanza and Central Provinces they increased in efficiency and also performed useful service in the settled areas.

2. Under the provisions of the original Ordinance, which was enacted in 1930, they were instituted for a period of three years, and, by the amending Ordinance of 1933, their life was extended for a further three years. Owing to the fact that the Secretary of State asked for a full report to be submitted on the working of the Tribunals in 1937, it was not deemed an opportune moment to make them permanent, and, by a motion moved in Legislative Council in November their operation was extended for a further year.

3. The number of tribunals varies from 34 in the Central and 48 in the Nyanza Provinces, to two in the Northern Frontier District.

In Nyanza, 13,656 civil and 5,619 criminal cases were tried, while in the Central Province the numbers were 8,793 and 8,934 respectively.

#### Nyanza Province

4. In the Central Kavirondo District the nineteen locational tribunals had been reduced to five divisional tribunals in the previous year.

They now sit fortnightly, while the Appeal Tribunal sits once a month. The tribunals are becoming more and more controlled by the natives themselves, and the District Commissioner reports that—

"The feeling that Chiefs had against the tribunals is slowly dying down, and they are beginning to understand that the tribunals are there to help them."

Regarding the Appeal Tribunal he states:

"Ezekiel Kasuku, the President of the Appeal Tribunal, has proved to be a tower of strength to the Administration. He has suggested several useful ideas of his own, and will give his honest opinion about ideas of District Officers. His tribunal is a model of decorum and efficiency, and the majority of decisions do not require alteration on appeal to the District Commissioner."

During the year schemes of reorganization on the same lines have been evolved for both North and South Kavirondo and Kericho Districts.

5. The following comparative table shows the number of civil and criminal cases heard by Native Tribunals and the appeals therefrom to the District Commissioners' and Provincial Commissioners' Courts for the last two years.

The fact that there are so few appeals among so large a number of cases testifies to the good work which the tribunals are doing.

#### CASES TRIED BY NATIVE TRIBUNALS

NATIVE TRIBUNALS	Criminal Cases		Civil Cases		Appeal Tribunal	Appeal to D.O.		Appeal to P.C.	Criminal Cases revised by D.O.		Criminal Cases revised by Attorney General
	1935	1936	1935	1936		1935	1936		1935	1936	
North Kavirondo	2,296	1,453	6,759	6,688	13	20	1	66	71	7	12
South Kavirondo	1,271	2,000	2,000	2,938	45	85	12	124	129	20	4
Kericho	1,895	2,725	3,314	3,252	64	142	1	36	224	31	14
Kisumu-Londiani	87	1,197	267	451	—	2	—	70	10	2	3
	33	32	33	33	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	5,552	5,616	13,072	13,660	5	1,113	3	268	497	60	33

### Central Province

6. Of the work of the tribunals in his Province, the Provincial Commissioner writes:—

"There is no doubt that the Native Tribunals in the Central Province, with their system of paid members, divisional instead of locational units, panels from which members are chosen in rotation, and central appeal tribunals, are outstandingly successful in the administration of justice. Members of the tribunals have a much greater sense of responsibility than formerly, and bribery (if any exists at all) has been reduced to a minimum. There are thirty-four tribunals in the Province, including five appeal tribunals.

"One of the great features of the Kikuyu Native Tribunals is the number of land cases which are annually brought to them for trial, and in fact constitute the majority of cases referred to District Officers and the Provincial Commissioner on appeal. It is a sign of the increasing land consciousness, which in turn is due to the rising demand for land and its more intensive use."

7. In the Kiambu District, tribunals have continued to work satisfactorily, and the reorganization which took place in the year 1933 has been more than justified. Accusations of corruption have now virtually ceased, and membership of a tribunal carries considerable prestige throughout the district.

The fact that in 37 appeals from the Central Tribunal to the District Officers' Court judgments were altered in only three cases speaks well for the soundness of this tribunal.

8. In the Fort Hall District the Kandara and Kigumo Tribunals were amalgamated in August, and the panels of all the tribunals in the district were also sufficiently enlarged to permit of the changing of the sitting members in such a way that no member sat for more than one month during the year. These two measures gave general satisfaction to the people.

9. The District Commissioner, Kitui, records that, after hearing several appeal cases, he held a *baraza* of elders to satisfy himself on certain points. The elders were delighted at the opportunity for discussion, and showed by their unanimity that their laws and customs are still intact, though adaptable to the changing conditions of civilization and peaceful rule.

The hearing of appeal cases provides a useful opportunity for District Officers to gain knowledge of native laws and customs.

10. The following is a comparative table of civil and criminal cases heard by the Native Tribunals in the Province in the years 1935 and 1936:

District	1935		1936	
	Civil	Criminal	Civil	Criminal
Kiambu	1,007	1,083	1,087	1,159
Fort Hall	1,353	1,329	1,516	1,686
Ehmbu	1,040	1,003	1,207	1,221
Meru	670	3,673	343	1,293
South Nyari	1,611	850	1,699	1,376
Machakos	896	1,336	941	1,130
Kitui	1,427	788	1,028	1,287
Nairobi	254	93	262	100
TOTAL	8,858	8,239	8,793	8,934

### Rift Valley Province

11. The Kitale Native Tribunal heard 528 cases, and closed the year with a balance of £67, having spent £125 on the erection of a tribunal hall.

In Eldoret a tribunal with 10 members, made effective during November. It sits every day, and the members were drawn from existing unofficial tribunals, and represent all main tribes who work in the area.

The Kikuyu Native Tribunal sitting at Nakuru decided 214 cases, and ended the year with a credit balance.

12. In the Nandi District there are seven tribunals which do their work well, but the Nandi are not a litigious people. They tried 133 criminal and 238 civil cases during the year.

The Samburu Tribunal is more at the moment a general meeting of elders to ratify their own judgments.

### Coast Province

13. The Mombasa Tribunal sits daily for two hours, and heard 472 criminal cases and 347 civil cases.

14. In the Kilifi District, the Central Tribunals at Kaloleni for the southern area and at Ganze for the northern area sit regularly for a fortnight each month during the year. The Kaloleni Tribunal heard 1,300 and the Ganze Tribunal 1,200 civil and criminal cases, including in each instance about 250 hut and poll tax cases. They are comparatively efficient, and

the trial of hut tax cases has not only relieved magistrates of a mass of tedious routine work but is approved by native opinion.

Government headmen have been removed from these tribunals and in the sub-district of Malindi. It was found that the work made too great a demand on their time and confused executive with judicial functions.

15. In the Digo District the tribunal system was reorganized after discussion with the Local Native Council. No alteration in the number of tribunals was made, but the tribunals were made to sit in permanent session, and for this purpose each tribunal was reconstituted with a panel of thirty members and a quorum of five.

The meeting place of the Duruma and Kamba Tribunals was moved from Kwale to Kinango, and that of the Gwirani Tribunal to Gazi, the Mizichenda Court alone remaining at Kwale.

The Provincial Commissioner reports:—

"The success of the reforms far exceeded all expectation, and there was a rush of business from the beginning, which has continued with but slight diminution ever since.

"Up to the present they have taken no cases under the Native Hut and Poll Tax Ordinance, as it was considered unwise to saddle the new courts with so unpopular a task at the beginning of their existence. But next year work of this nature will be delegated to them.

"The Duruma Court has shown a high standard of efficiency, including a most gratifying energy in dealing with criminal offences, and there can be little doubt that the Duruma wazee as a whole exercise much more authority over their young people than is the case in most tribes to-day."

16. In the Teita District satisfactory progress continued in all three tribunals, and improvement was shown in the enforcement of their decrees.

The sessions of all three tribunals were attended regularly and only one civil and two criminal decisions were altered upon revision, a fact which reflects much credit upon the elders and particularly upon the presidents.

The attitude of the tribunals towards the hearing of hut and poll tax cases changed, and they dealt with defaulters during the year.

#### *Masai District*

17. There is little litigation among the Masai, and the Officer in Charge reports that though tribunals for each of the divisions have received their warrants only five of such tribunals hold anything like regular courts.

#### *Turkana District*

18. Relations between the Suk and Turkana have so improved that it was not considered necessary to hold a meeting of the border court during the year.

The West Suk Tribunal sits at Kapenguria twice a month. It is an unpopular institution, and difficulty is experienced in persuading elders to serve on it.

#### *Northern Frontier*

19. Both the Wajir and Garissa Native Tribunals functioned well, and the District Commissioner, Garissa, reports that they were of great assistance in settling cases which depend on native law and custom, the terms of which the people understand.

### CHAPTER V

#### TRADE

The year can be recorded as one of increasing prosperity in nearly all the Native Reserves.

Native produce, due to a great extent to inspection services and improved marketing arrangements, achieved better quality and commanded higher prices. The value of stock also improved.

2. The Marketing of Native Produce Ordinance was applied to the Central Province in June.

The Ordinance was applied to the Nakuru District of the Rift Valley Province, and is confined to maize grown by native squatters.

The Marketing Officer reports as follows:—

"The former practice was for the native traders, a large number, to traverse the reserves, visiting individual holdings or waylaying women on their way to market, and purchasing the produce at a price well below fair market value.

The application of the Marketing Ordinance has completely put an end to this practice. All produce of the specified kinds for sale, except that sold by one native to another for purely local consumption, is now brought to the gazetted market centres or to trading centres. In the former, licensed native traders have demarcated plots and approved stores; the price for the day offered for each type of produce is displayed on a board, and a standard half-bushel measure is used by the buyer. All trading centres are market centres, and the same rules apply to these as to the fixed centres within the reserves. The Local Native Council godowns are at certain of the trading centres.

"In the market centres in the reserves the number of plots made available is restricted to the number of native traders considered sufficient to deal with the volume of produce normally coming into the particular market centre. Plots for each type of trade are situated sectionally; the traders buying specified foodstuffs (maize, beans and potatoes) are in one section, those buying wattle bark in another. (The inevitable retail shops and coffee shops are also situated separately.)

"This organized marketing in the Central Province has made an excellent start in 1936, and promises to be of the greatest value for the native producer. At present it covers wattle bark, maize, beans and potatoes in all except the Kitui District, though proper application in the Kiambu District is yet to come. The inclusion of other products is now under consideration. The number of fixed market centres and trading centres is such that in most cases no native has to walk more than five miles to a market, and the average walking distance is approximately three miles. The service has been highly gratifying to the natives, for now their produce can be taken to a competitive market within a few miles of their own homes, and they are no longer the prey of the itinerant buyers. Fair market value has become an established principle in the sale of this produce through creating these several foci of produce collection and competitive buying."

Before the introduction of inspection services no native-grown maize was exported beyond African ports as, owing to its unsound or irregular quality, no large buyer would purchase it. Now it is of the same value as European-grown maize.

3. The following table gives the value of native exports from Kenya for the last six years:—

	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Cotton	7,468	8,589	25,591	28,477	76,929	149,788
Maize					10,500	20,500
Potatoes	13,632	15,384	10,600	9,170	44,578	48,748
Wattle Bark	72,697	78,310	46,000	51,658	35,328	43,604
.. Extract	4,005	4,754	13,368	10,401	141,530	121,483
Hides	58,627	86,000	130,090	166,500	20,494	38,847
Skins	37,269	14,168	20,494	20,000		
	£ 198,525	208,703	246,821	301,296	357,101	471,546

#### Nyanza Province

4. Trade flourished throughout the Reserves, prices paid for produce were good, and the native growers earned more than ever before. Prices at Kisumu were rising at the end of the year.

5. The Provincial Commissioner writes:—

"A census made by the District Commissioner, South Kavirondo, showed 502 separators, 340 bicycles, 70 sewing machines, and 1,459 ploughs, nearly all owned by natives of his district. While his district led in the matter of separators, the other two Kuvir districts would easily beat him in bicycles and sewing machines, and probably pass him in ploughs."

He estimates that, taking many factors into consideration, the value of the principal articles sold to natives during the year was:—

Clothes—	£
Textile	169,000
Hats, caps, boots, shoes, belts, etc.	15,000
Soap, etc.	15,000
Cigarettes	24,000
Food (tea, sugar, tinned food, etc.)	24,000
Ploughs	7,000
Hand Mills	600
Separators	1,500
Bicycles	9,000
Bicycle tyres and parts	2,000
Fishing Nets	13,000
Sewing Machines	1,000
Jambes, hand cultivators, etc.	16,000
	£ 284,000
Live Stock imported (balances over exports)	20,000
	£ 304,000

It would appear that the natives of the Province have earned by their produce or labour about £612,000 during the year, have paid £244,000 in taxes, rates, fines, etc., and have had a margin of about £368,000 to spend as they liked.

6. Six new trading centres were established in Kavirondo, and a considerable number of new plots were taken up in existing trading centres.

7. It is estimated that 20,000 tons of maize and 2,000 tons both of simsim and groundnuts were harvested, while the output of hides amounted to approximately 60,000 frasilas and ghee to 36,000 tins in the three Kavirondo districts.

The 1936-37 season cotton crop is expected to amount to 16,000 bales, an increase of 4,000 bales over that of the previous season.

8. The Fisheries Patrol was started in 1933 with the object of reviving the fishing industry, which was on the verge of ruin.

It was not anticipated that the revenue derived would more than cover the cost of the industry, but the figures for the past four years have been:—

	Revenue	Ex- penditure
	£	£
1933 .. .. .	460	557
1934 .. .. .	1,122	801
1935 .. .. .	1,659	680
1936 (ordinary) ..	1,740	770
	£ 4,981	2,588

On the 3rd September the Diesel motor launch *Nguvu* was put into commission—the old motor launch, the *Joan*, was sold for £185—and the efficiency of the patrol will be greatly increased.

During the year 1,679 tons of fish were caught by native-owned craft and 1,423 tons by Indian-owned craft.

The Fisheries Inspection Department has, since its inception, been in charge of Mr. R. Day, whose health has now broken down. The Provincial Commissioner writes:—

"He carried out his duties to the admiration of all concerned. The present flourishing condition of the fishing industry is a permanent testimony to the value of his work.

which he performed always with the utmost devotion, great single-mindedness, fairness to the natives, and unremitting energy."

### Central Province

9. The Provincial Commissioner writes:—

"There was a welcome revival in native trade throughout the Province during the year, and reports from the districts bear witness to the increasing prosperity and happier atmosphere that has resulted therefrom.

"In some districts it is apparent that much of the trade formerly in the hands of Indian traders has passed into African hands. There are a large number of African traders, who now act as the middlemen between the producer and the large buying firms, and are ready to exploit the ignorant peasant if opportunity allows. The great saving factor has been the improvement of prices resulting from the entry of firms like the Kenya Farmers' Association, Messrs. Gibson and Co., and Messrs. Prer P. Vichand and Co., into the produce market.

"On the whole, the trade of the Province has improved from Indian to African hands is a development to be welcomed, because though in itself it does not ensure the well-being of the interests of the producer, it at any rate keeps a certain amount of money circulating amongst the African people. That Africans are daily acquiring greater skill in the organization of their own trade is undeniable; and though with a few exceptions individual efforts at co-operation have so far failed, the mere fact that attempts have been made is encouraging for the future."

10. The District Commissioner, Kiambu, suggests that produce exported from the Reserve probably reached record figures; the District Commissioner, Fort Hall, says that the traders in his district considered that there was more money in circulation among the natives than there has been since the year 1931, and the District Commissioner, Embu, writes:—

"A great fillip to trade has been afforded by the Kenya Farmers' Association, Messrs. Gibson and Co., and Messrs. Premchand Raichand and Co. in competition with local Indian tradesmen. By August prices improved rapidly, and the period of depression seemed to be lifting."

"The application of the provisions of the Native Marketing Ordinance and the Improvement of Native Marketing Rules have concentrated trade into approved market

centres. The inspection of produce has brought big companies into the district for the export trade, and there is now a healthy competition in place of the stagnant local trade of the past."

Another interesting development is the entry of the Meru District into the export market. Natives there produced substantial crops of cotton, maize and beans which obtained remunerative prices.

11. In the Kamba areas conditions were equally prosperous, and as the year advanced there was an improvement in almost all commodity prices. The exports from Kitui District improved 100 per cent over the previous year.

#### *Rift Valley Province*

12. No improvement in trade activity during the year is reported from the Nandi or Elgeyo Districts. Further efforts will be made to open more markets in the Reserves, especially on the boundaries.

13. Stock trade was booming in the Baringo District, and stock as well as hides and skins commanded good prices. The District Commissioner writes:—

"The hide trade could be increased considerably if someone could only persuade the Suk that the eating of a beast, hide and all, had no particular effect on their manhood."

There are signs that the Kamasia are realizing the value of bees-wax, or at any rate of raw honeycomb, but there is passive resistance to the industry among the Wandorobo which it is hoped to overcome.

14. Trade revived considerably among the Samburu who, through the opening up of the stock trade and from hides and ghee sales, have amassed a considerable amount of cash.

Itinerant trade, carried on by Somalis has been stopped, and native markets, with market masters in charge were started at Maralal, Wamba and Barragoi.

#### *Coast Province*

15. Trade conditions showed a great improvement with rising prices, and the improvement in the price of copra was of value to the Coast as a whole.

In Kilifi District climatic conditions had unfortunately a deleterious effect on the cotton crop, but the trade in copra, cashew nuts and bees-wax showed improvement.

16. The Kenya Fish Provision Supply Co. have erected at Malindi an up-to-date ice plant. The company exported 52,664 lb. of fish in seven months. This has assisted the local fishermen, who now have an unfailing market for any amount of fish they have sufficient energy to catch. The price offered them for their fish has risen considerably.

17. Export and import figures for Lamu showed improvement, and the advance in the price of commodities was most marked during the closing months of the year.

The hostilities in Abyssinia had a temporary beneficial effect for part of the year, but money restrictions since imposed have made trading impracticable, and merchants have on several occasions been obliged to bring back grain and goods which they had sent to Italian Somaliland for disposal.

18. The Development Officer has devoted a lot of his time to the marketing of copra in Mombasa. A grading and packing station has been established at Wundanyi. By co-operation with the local traders expenses in transport and agents will be cut down, and the produce will be handled in Mombasa by one dealer, and that also one Teita stall only will be maintained in Mombasa Market.

Some thirty vegetable growers desire to join the scheme, and two men are in training at Wundanyi with a view to managing the joint stall in the Mombasa Market.

#### *Masai District*

19. The Officer in Charge writes:—

"There has been a slight revival in trade, as owing to the better prices for stock, hides and maize the natives have been able to purchase more trade goods.

"Rents on all shop plots in the Masai Reserve have been reduced by the Local Native Councils from £12 to £3/12 per annum, and this has been appreciated by all the traders.

"In the Narok area, especially, trade suffers a great handicap from the lack of good communications; the depreciation of lorries is appalling, and the loss has to be

recovered from the natives, either by reduction of price of articles bought from them, or by increase of the price of those sold to them.

"During the year 2,083 frasilas of hides were exported through Kijabe. This is a considerable drop from the amount exported in 1935, but can largely be explained by the fact that 1936 has been a good year with little mortality."

Approximately 15,000 head of cattle were exported from the district for slaughter.

#### *Turkana District*

20. Trade was reported to be brisker than in previous years. Most of the trade is conducted by means of barter. The entry of new traders was regulated during the year, as many of those whose financial instability compelled their exit during the famine years are now endeavouring to return and share the profits of prosperity with their rivals who weathered the storm.

Exports during 1936 amounted to 13,430 sheep and goats, an increase of 3,352 over the previous year. 9,500 were purchased for rations, a decrease of over 10,000.

21. Trade in the West Suk District is small and limited to the export of hides, donkeys, sheep and goats. It is unlikely to improve until means of communication make it possible for the Suk to grow and export cash crops.

#### *Northern Frontier*

22. The prices of stock, especially of baggage camels, remained high once again, and it is estimated that some 18,946 head of cattle and some 151,927 head of sheep and goats were exported.

The Officer in Charge writes:—

"Towards the end of the year an awkward situation arose, mainly for the stock traders, because of the very large amount of lire which they were owed by the Italian Government. This was approximately 695,804 lire. There was a further difficulty in that the Italian authorities encouraged stock traders to bring stock to former Jubaland, then compelled the sellers to accept payment in Italian Post Office Savings. The amount of money owing by them in this way at the end of the year was 391,589 lire."

## CHAPTER VI

### EDUCATION

The total amount spent on African education was £70,154 as opposed to £74,097 in 1935.

There were reported to be 1,504 African schools open during the year, of which 51 were Government schools, 352 received a grant-in-aid, and 1,101 were unaided.

The pupils at these schools numbered 100,218, of whom 69,000 were males and 31,218 females. This figure is an increase of 4,000 over that of the previous year, and of the additional pupils 874 were girls. Of these pupils, 96.77 per cent were undergoing elementary education, 3.05 per cent primary education, and 0.18 per cent secondary education.

The number of pupils receiving education is only some 12½ per cent of African children of school age.

The intensity of the desire for the extension of education which permeates every section of all but the most primitive tribes is a noteworthy feature in the reserves; and Local Native Councils are anxious to contribute lavishly of their funds towards this purpose. The problem therefore is not how to stimulate but rather how to canalize and control enthusiasm so that the best and most profitable use is made of such institutions; and how to increase in the shortest space of time the number of trained and efficient teachers, so that the constantly rising number of pupils can receive the best available instruction.

Appreciable progress in such organization has been made, but the supply of trained teachers still falls short of the demand. The steps that have been taken towards meeting this need are detailed elsewhere under this head.

2. The Advisory Council on African Education held two meetings during the year, and discussed among other subjects—

- (i) Independent Schools and the proposed amendment to section 34 of the Education Ordinance;
- (ii) Reorganization of teacher training;
- (iii) Revised scales of salary for African teachers;
- (iv) Increased provision for facilities for secondary education;
- (v) Local Native Council contributions to educational expenditure;

- (vi) Higher education of girls;  
 (vii) Appointment of African members to the Advisory Council.

As a result of the Council's recommendations it was decided to appoint one representative from both Nyanza and the Central Provinces. This step has been keenly appreciated by the native communities.

As a result of (v), the broad principle has been accepted that Government funds should be used for primary and secondary education, while Local Native Council funds should be reserved mainly for elementary education. It was not, however, intended that the adoption of this principle should prevent central funds being used for elementary education—particularly in the poorer districts.

This policy had been approved by Provincial Commissioners at a meeting held earlier in the year, who also agreed that a fixed proportion of the Local Native Councils should be allocated to education.

3. District Education Boards functioned in the three Kavirondo districts, the three Kikuyu districts, and in the Machakos district, and were instituted during the year in the Teita and Embu districts, and, in the form of a school area committee, in the Nairobi Municipal area.

The following were the amounts of grants allocated through the Boards:

In North Kavirondo the total grant allocated amounted to £2,065, in Central Kavirondo £2,862, and in South Kavirondo £1,206, making a total of £6,133. Of this sum, the Local Native Councils contributed £4,185 and central revenue contributed £1,948.

The following grants were allocated through the Kikuyu Boards: Kiambu, £1,402; Fort Hall, £1,211; South Nyeri, £1,257.

In a full year the Teita Board will allocate grants to a total amount of £426.

From the reports of activities received it is clear that these Boards have been an outstanding success. Their chief function has been the allocation of central and Local Native Council grants for elementary education, but their deliberations have effectively covered a wide range of subjects.

The publication of a bulletin by the Fort Hall Education Board will be mentioned later.

4. At the end of the year 1934, Government was informed by the Secretary of State that the British Film Institute, the International Missionary Council and other interested bodies had under consideration the possibility of conducting an experiment in regard to the possibilities of the cinema as an educational instrument in East and Central Africa, and that an application was being addressed to the Carnegie Corporation of New York for a grant to enable the proposed experiment to be carried out.

A sum of money was voted, and the "Bantu Educational Kinema Experiment" came into being.

At the beginning of the year under review the Field and Educational Directors of the scheme made a tour of the Nyanza and Central Provinces, where special propaganda films with reference to improved methods of agriculture, animal husbandry, hygiene and general living were made and shown at many Government and Mission schools.

In the whole of the African tour, there were 100 centres, estimated at 4,000 and 5,000, were those in the South Kavirondo District, where many native reserves had congregated at the time of the Agricultural Exhibition.

It is interesting to note that greater enthusiasm for educational films was shown by Kenya natives than those in other parts of Africa which were visited.

At a meeting of the Governors' Conference held at Dar es Salaam in June it was recorded that the Conference regarded the experiment as valuable, and would be glad to see it continued, and would lend its support to an application to the Colonial Development Fund for financial assistance.

The Colonial Development Fund approved a grant of £1,500 for the experiment (estimated to cost £2,500), provided that the Governments of Kenya, Uganda and Tanganyika contributed the remaining £1,000. At the end of the year the Deputy Director of the Bantu Educational Film Experiment was in East Africa arranging for the making and production of further films.

5. In a Dispatch from the Secretary of State in the preceding year recent developments in methods of reception of Empire broadcasting services operated by the British Broadcasting Company were described, and the question of the

potentialities of broadcasting as an instrument both of education and pleasure among the natives of this Colony came under consideration.

As a result the subject was discussed at a meeting of the heads of departments concerned, and a memorandum was prepared recommending that experiments in broadcasting should be made and confined in the first instance to a single administrative district.

This memorandum was submitted to the Secretary of State with the request that it might be considered as an application for assistance from the Fund provided by the Carnegie Corporation of New York. In his reply the Secretary of State agreed that an experiment on the lines proposed would afford a valuable opportunity of observing the reactions of Africans to broadcasting, and has intimated that he has arranged that the scheme be included for consideration when the President of the Carnegie Corporation should visit the United Kingdom in the following year.

6. In the Central Province the Independent Schools movement, which has been mentioned elsewhere, gave some anxiety. Enthusiastic support is given to these schools by the Kikuyu, and it is unfortunate that the educational standard is so low that only three pupils were able to pass the requisite standard for entrance into the Government Primary School at Kagumo.

Government endeavours to help the Karinga Schools Association in the improvement of their schools, but unfortunately there is little wish to co-operate.

7. A European master was appointed to the staff of the Native Industrial Training Depot at Kabete, with the result that every apprentice now has the opportunity of continuing his studies as part of the school programme of work. It is the policy of the Education Department to raise the standard of the Depot gradually to that of a post-primary technical school, having a four years' course and an output each year of one hundred trained artisans.

In September, an investigation was made into the employment of ex-apprentices, and it was shown that, since the year 1929, 1,050 boys had completed their apprenticeship (501 as carpenters, 424 as masons, 72 as smiths, 38 as painters, and 15 as tailors). The boys had been drawn from all districts in the Nyanza and Central Provinces, and from the Teita, Kilifi, Digo, Elgeyo, Nandi and Masai Districts.

The percentage of ex-apprentices in employment was found to be high in all districts except Elgeyo, Nandi, Digo and Machakos.

It was estimated that 70 per cent of ex-apprentices were in employment, and in several instances they had started workshops of their own, one of which was reported to be taking £15 a month. Blacksmiths and painters appeared to be the most successful trades.

During the year the average roll of the Depot was 335, of whom 154 were carpenters, 85 masons, 49 smiths, 26 painters, and 14 tailors. The workshops had difficulty in dealing with the large number of orders received.

Depot gangs also worked at the Mathari Hospital, the Alliance High School, Pumwani School; the Church of Scotland Mission, Kikuyu, and the Veterinary Laboratories at Kabete, and at the Government Schools at Narok, Kapsabet and Kisii.

8. Secondary education is still limited to the Coast Arab School at Shimo-la-Tewa, the Alliance High School at Kikuyu, and the Catholic High School at Kabaa in the District. The last two take pupils for instruction in all schools except those on the Coast.

At the Alliance High School the standard of instruction improved considerably. The house system and the mixing of all tribes proved successful, and the Principal reported that, for the first time, he had house prefects who were really willing to accept responsibility and to exercise authority.

The average age of the boys, who numbered 120, was sixteen and a half.

Great keenness was displayed in house football matches; nine High School boys were chosen to represent the districts in the African Olympic Sports, and five were chosen to represent Kenya in the annual Athletic Contest against Uganda.

During the year there were eleven Scout patrols, and some of the Scouts worked for first class tests.

Of the sixty-four boys who left during the preceding year, eight obtained clerical employment; thirty-six, having completed the two years' junior secondary course, proceeded elsewhere for further vocational training; sixteen proceeded to Makerere College; eleven entered teacher training centres;

seven who had already had training as teachers found employment in that sphere, and the remainder were absorbed into the Railway School, the Medical Training Depot, and the Police Training Depot at Nairobi, and the Post Office.

9. There were fifty-six secondary pupils on the roll at the end of the year at the Kabaa School. The school equipment was improved by the purchase of an epidiascope and cinema projector, which were used extensively for both recreational and educational purposes.

Three pupils of the school obtained scholarships to Makerere College.

Football was popular, but the isolated position of the school makes competition with other schools difficult. Swimming has become a favourite pastime. The school won the Denham Shield for physical training during the year. In the teacher-training department, twenty-four boys completed their training and were posted to various schools of the mission.

10. There were fifty men and thirty-six wives in training at the Jeanes School, Kabete, during the year, of whom eight men were Roman Catholic adherents and the remainder Protestants.

The wife of the African health worker passed her midwifery certificate, and was taken on the staff to assist in the training of women.

Of the year's work the Director of Education reports:—

"During the year instructional visits were paid to the Post Office, Government Press, Watite Factory, Locomotive Repair Shop, Coryndon Museum, Meteorological and Wireless Station, and the Scott Laboratories. Careful preparation was made for these visits, so that the greatest benefit and understanding should be secured.

"At the annual speech day a practical exhibition of the women's work was given, and the results of the teachers' classes in school apparatus and handicrafts were open for inspection. A Parents' Day, combined with the Native Show, was also arranged, and some 1,000 natives attended. The Show was opened by the local Chief, who stressed the value of the school as a centre for village improvement and for the inculcation of sound principles in the young generation.

"During the year discussion took place on the question of providing special training for chiefs and possibly others, such as chiefs' clerks, in community improvement. Plans

were approved for experimenting on these lines in the following year.

"Practice in community work for Jeanes teachers was carried out in various ways. For example, they were responsible in pairs for the running of the fortnightly village recreation meetings; they formed the committee responsible with a European member of the staff for the native show on Parents' Day; they worked in groups on various small projects, such as a tree nursery, a fowl-house, evening games for children, and helping on the committee of the co-operative shop.

"The smallholding had a most successful year. The smallholder planted for a definite market, and in consequence his cultivation was most interesting to the teachers in training. Now that a more intensive type of farming has been followed the future of the smallholding is most promising. This was not encouraged earlier owing to the fear that the proximity of Nairobi markets would give an unnatural bias to such a model for other would-be smallholders. It has now been thought advisable to demonstrate how a near market can and should influence the type of produce grown.

"In the co-operative shop there were 70 shareholders. A profit of Sh. 386 was distributed, which would have been larger had not stocks shown a loss of Sh. 167. The co-operative bank progressed well, and enabled applicants to purchase one dozen bicycles, four ploughs, and several plots of land.

"In manual training the plan was continued of giving special attention to the repair of broken or damaged articles such as doors, locks, windows, cement floors, and furniture.

"The women's welfare centre was used more than ever before. Attendances at the ante-natal clinic amounted to eight weeks on the average. A happy and successful year was reported in the women's classes.

"The fortnightly village meetings, held for the recreation and instruction of adults, usually contained at least one short play, planned and produced by the Jeanes teachers in training. At the end of the year the Nativity Play, based on portions of the Old Chester Cycle, was presented. A short series of plays was given on Speech Day, episodes being taken from the programmes of village meetings held during the year. Swahili outlines of short plays and episodes suitable for African village audiences continued to be collected.

"A number of teachers in training voluntarily joined the school Scout troop to learn the main principles of Scouting, with a view to starting troops or helping existing troops in African schools. During the year a Cub pack was started at the Practice School with the help of two teachers in training."

At the end of the year there were 85 Kenya Jeanes teachers at work, while four were working in Tanganyika Territory and eight in Uganda.

11. There were nineteen students holding Kenya Government bursaries at Makerere College, Uganda, during the year. Of these, three sat for the Cambridge School Certificate examination at the end of the year, and one gained credits in all six subjects offered and qualified for exemption from matriculation.

12. The results of teachers' examinations show considerable improvement over those of the previous year. During the year seventy Africans obtained the Elementary Teachers' Certificate, fifty the Lower Primary Teachers', and nine the Primary Teachers' Certificate. On this important subject the Director of Education writes:—

"These results show considerable improvement on the previous year, and there is evidence that most of the missions have realized the great importance of this branch of their educational activities. During the year discussions have taken place with the various missions, and arrangements have been made for the work to be undertaken in central institutions provided and staffed for the purpose of teacher training. Government has sanctioned a special grant of £3,758 for this purpose. Consequently plans have now been completed for the training of Lower Primary teachers for Protestant Missions at Maseno and Kahuhia, and for Catholic Missions at Yaji, Mathari and Kabaa. The Protestant Missions are supplementing their staff for this purpose by recruiting qualified teachers, while the Holy Ghost and Catholic Consolata Missions have selected certain Fathers to undergo the teacher-training course at the Institute of Education, London University. These Fathers will be returning to the Colony towards the end of 1937.

"Centres for the training of elementary teachers have also been decided upon for Protestant Missions at Butere, Tumutumu, Embu and Wusi; for the Catholic Missions at Asumbi and probably Kakamega. In the last two advantages

will be taken of the services of Sisters who have had special training as teachers.

"During the year sixteen Kenya youths have been taking the teachers' training course at Makerere in order to be qualified to fill staff vacancies in secondary schools and the higher classes in the primary schools. Makerere-trained teachers working in the schools have been well reported on. Some advance has this year been made in the training of girls as teachers, and it is gratifying to record that twelve girls have been successful in passing the Elementary Teachers' examination.

"For the purpose of training teachers for Government schools and to assist certain of the smaller missions who were unable to provide the necessary facilities, a class for training lower primary teachers has also been carried on at the Jeanes School, Kabeté."

13. In the Education Department estimates for the year an additional sum of £1,000 was voted for the education of girls, which enabled grants to be given to two new girls' schools in South Kavirondo and at Limuru, while grants were given also to existing schools.

Co-education has proved successful, and a large number of girls attended primary schools. The Director of Education writes:—

"The girls seem to be quite able to hold their own in class, and receive special tuition in domestic economy, needlework, etc., when the boys are occupied in agriculture and handwork. Where girls' schools are situated in proximity to hospitals, arrangements are made for their training in the rudiments of hospital work and midwifery. Special training in the latter subject is provided at the Pumwani Maternity Centre, Nairobi, where the management have recently reorganized the institution in order to provide additional accommodation for probationers. During the year Local Native Councils have provided maternity centres in several districts."

14. Progress was made in the Boy Scout movement among Africans, and an event of the year was the formation of the first native Girl Guide company, which was started under the auspices of the Church of Scotland Mission at Mombasa, and consists of two patrols.

A Scout Bulletin in English and Swahili was published, and the compilation was approved of a Swahili handbook of

First Steps in Scouting. Seven new Scout groups were registered during the year; and seventeen warrants were issued.

15. The training of Africans carried on by the various departments was commented on at some length in the report for the year 1935.

In the Training School of the Kenya and Uganda Railways and Harbours the modernization of the apparatus was effected, with great benefit to the apprentices. Sixteen African signallers and forty-one African learners were admitted to the Transportation Section for training in telegraphy, train working, and guards' duties.

The Kenya Police Department and the Posts and Telegraphs Department continued the excellent work they are doing for the further training and education of Africans.

Under the Medical Department the system of recruitment to the Medical Training Depot was altered, and twelve hospitals were chosen whose medical officers were requested to select suitable candidates for medical training and keep them for a year as hospital dressers before sending them to the Medical Training Depot. The advantages of this system are that the different tribes and districts of the Colony will be represented at the Depot and the learners will have a general knowledge of hospital routine and procedure before entering the Training Depot.

Twenty-one new learners were admitted to the Depot, mainly from the Nyanza and Central Provinces. Diffidence and shyness were found to be problems to combat in the training of African women.

Agricultural training is carried out at Bukura in the Nyanza Province, Scott Laboratories near Nairobi, and to a lesser degree at the Kibarani Experimental Station on the Coast.

At Bukura the course, which lasts three years, includes both practical and theoretical training, and is designed to teach students how to run a small peasant holding in the reserves. Attention is given to soil fertility, prevention of soil erosion, food and cash crops, animal and poultry management, grading and marketing of produce, etc.

Of the pupils who had completed the course, twelve were employed as agricultural instructors in their own districts, and two as teachers at the Government African Schools at Tambach and Kapsabet.

At the Scott Agricultural Laboratories School numerous inquiries have been received during the year for trained boys, and the supply has been inadequate to meet the demand. All satisfactory pupils after training obtain employment with Government departments, Local Native Councils, or on private estates.

Some difficulty has been experienced in the past in finding boys of sufficient education and personality to become students at these schools. The position is improving, and the Director of Agriculture writes:—

"It should be noted, however, that the standard of education of the boys being recruited now is considerably higher than it was a few years ago; also, boys of a much better class are now being sent out from these Agricultural Schools. They are much more efficient, and are able to carry greater responsibility when they commence their work in the reserves or on private estates."

Five African veterinary training centres, at Maseno, Machakos, Baraton, Sangalo, and Ngong, are in operation during the year. Pupils from various parts were in training, and ex-pupils found employment in Government, Local Native Council service or on farms.

16. By the retirement in September of Mr. W. C. Dougall, African education lost one who, through many years he devoted to its cause, influenced for good the large number of natives with whom he came in contact.

From the years 1925 to 1931 he was Principal of the Jeanes School, Kabete, and from 1932 he was Educational Adviser to Protestant Missions in East Africa. The Director of Education writes:—

"His wide experience of African schools, his modern training as an educationist, and his high conception of his mission made his contribution to the development of African education both vital and realistic."

17. The Director of Education writes in his Annual Report:—

"Most cordial relations have been maintained between the Education Department and the Missionary Societies throughout the year, and there has been real co-operation and progress towards the common aim—the educational and social advance of the African population. The District Education Boards have afforded a common meeting ground

for missionaries and officers of the administrative and technical departments, and have made a definite contribution to a better mutual understanding of problems and difficulties."

#### Nyanza Province

18. District Education Boards are established in the three Kavirondo Districts. The membership of the Boards is fairly similar, and the Central Kavirondo Board consists of the District Commissioner or a deputy nominated by him as chairman, the Inspector of Schools, Nyanza, Archdeacon Owen of the Church Missionary Society, and the Rev. Father Rowlands of the Mill Hill Catholic Mission, two other missionaries, six natives (of whom one is in Orders and two are Chiefs), and the Medical Officer of Health.

19. Two board meetings were held during the year in North Kavirondo, three in Central Kavirondo, and two in South Kavirondo. The chief function of the boards was the allocation of central and Local Native Council grants for elementary education under the headings of salaries, buildings, equipment, and Jeanes teachers. The boards also award scholarships to secondary schools.

20. The plots of all sector schools in receipt of Government grants have now been set apart under the Native Lands Trust Ordinance.

In all cases the Boards agreed with the principle involved. The South Kavirondo Board recommended that these plots should not only be set apart but leased under a recognized authority. The North Kavirondo Local Native Council, however, objected to the leasing of plots in the names of Europeans. It seemed that this difficulty might be overcome by giving authority to the respective native church councils which are established bodies recognized by most missions, but unfortunately no such native authority is recognized by the Roman Catholic Mission. At the end of the year the subject was still under discussion.

21. The boards discussed the scheme already referred to whereby Local Native Council grants for educational purposes should be devoted to elementary education, and agreed, after making certain reservations, to the alteration of policy involved.

The scheme will at once be put into partial effect in South Kavirondo by the withdrawal of the local contribution

to the Government School, Kisii, thereby releasing a similar sum which had been granted from central funds towards elementary education in that district.

22. The sub-committee of the North Kavirondo Board arranged a most successful teachers' refresher course at the Government School, Kakamega, in the April vacation. It was attended by fifty-seven teachers, all ex-primary school boys, and many of whom hold the Lower Primary Teachers' Certificate. They received courses of instruction from European teachers and lectures on special subjects were given by Government officials and others.

23. Of the elementary schools in his Province the Provincial Commissioner writes:—

"In addition to many hundreds of sub-elementary schools where only the elements of the 'three Rs' are taught, there are 122 selected elementary schools, known as sector schools, in the three Kavirondo districts. There are 42 sector schools in North Kavirondo, 52 in Central Kavirondo, and 28 in South Kavirondo. In Kericho there are 43 elementary or sub-elementary schools, of which all but about seven are sub-elementary.

"There has been a slow but satisfactory improvement in efficiency, but many of the teachers are still unqualified, and most have nothing better than the Elementary Teachers' Certificate. It is hoped within a reasonable time that every sector school will have at least one Lower Primary teacher in charge, but the employment of this grade of teacher, who is on a recognized scale beginning at Sh. 35 per month, will necessitate a considerable increase in expenditure.

"A most gratifying response has been made by missions to the enforcement of school fees, especially in Church Missionary Society schools. In Central Kavirondo sums varying from a few cents up to Sh. 6 a year are paid."

24. There are three primary Government African schools in the Province at Kakamega and Kisii in the North and South Kavirondo Districts and at Kabanga in the Kericho District.

The school at Kakamega had 151 pupils on the roll, and at the end of the year 330 boys presented themselves for 35 vacancies. Of the 47 boys boys who left, it is believed that 39 were already in paid employment.

In the April vacation the pupils took some 1,400 young-gum trees from the Agricultural Officer's tree nursery to plant at their own homes, and, with the same idea in view, an orange and lemon tree nursery was started.

Another innovation was the keeping of poultry, and the pupils in charge of this work will take young cockerels home to improve their own stock.

A school shop was started in order to give certain boys practical experience in buying and selling at a small profit, keeping a cash book and a stock ledger. Occasional losses were incurred when the boys in charge forgot to raise the selling price per pound to meet a rise in the cost price per bag.

Fees of Sh. 40 are charged, and payment is being rigidly enforced. About half the recurrent costs of the school are still paid by the Local Native Council.

25. The Kisii School leads the way in the Boy Scout movement in Africa: schools in the Province. There are now six patrols, and 32 boys passed the tenderfoot tests. The Provincial Commissioner reports that the discipline of the school is excellent. A division of pupils between the Luo and Kisii tribes, of which there were sixty of each, was maintained, and it was thought that the Scout movement had been an important factor in maintaining the harmony which existed between the two tribes.

Six Scouts were sent to the Uganda Jamboree, and six went to Eldoret on the occasion of the visit of the Chief Scout, Lord Baden Powell.

Great keenness was shown in the inter-house matches and sports.

Owing to the fact that the more backward boys were weeded out of the school, the educational standard showed improvement.

26. At Kabianga there were 93 pupils on the roll at the end of the year. The District Commissioner writes:—

"Sewing, carpentry, and clay moulding are taught, and agriculture and animal husbandry are important features of the curriculum, the object being gradually to institute a native holding with a dairy, milking-shed and calf-shed, etc., all built from inexpensive materials.

"Good progress has been made in football, athletics, and physical training, and other activities of the school

include dramatic entertainment, singing, scouting, wattle-planting, hide-drying, a co-operative shop, and a school magazine."

The Principal considered that the improved discipline of the school could largely be ascribed to the personality and character of the head prefect.

#### Missions

27. There were 192 boys, of whom about three-quarters are Luo and the rest Bantu, on the roll of the Church Missionary Society School at Maseno. The Provincial Commissioner writes:—

"The staff consisted of three European teachers, assisted by two ladies and by a large, well-qualified African staff. The school follows the prescribed primary school syllabus, and also trains a few indentured carpenters, builders and teachers. The workshops are well equipped and the work is well carried out. Good progress is apparent in agriculture.

"In literary work the school is a high standard, a larger number of passes being the Primary School examination than in any other in the Colony.

"There is a post-primary course, and the school is recognized as an approved institution for the training of lower primary teachers."

An elementary school of over 200 pupils has been established for practice in teaching, with an African principal who has full responsibility for discipline, classwork organization, boarding, and the keeping of school accounts, and affords an encouraging example of what an elementary school may become under adequate supervision.

There can be no doubt as to the efficiency of the instruction given at this school. The example, however, of some of the ex-pupils, who have shown a tendency to indulge in political agitation, suggests that, at any rate in the past, the need for discipline and submission to authority have not been sufficiently inculcated.

28. St. Mary's School, under the Mill Hill Mission at Yala, is recognized as the Catholic centre for training lower primary teachers in the Province, and during the year an excellent "practising" school was built.

There were 164 pupils on the roll. The Principal and European staff are trained teaching Brothers from Canada.

The manual section of the primary school course comprises rural carpentry, basket-making, fretwork and agriculture. Most useful instruction was given in animal husbandry. Cows, pigs, rabbits, hens, and ducks were all kept and cared for by groups of boys, and records were made regarding the housing, breeding and feeding of these animals. The school's bugle, drum and fife band was in much demand at public functions and shows. A Scout troop of two patrols was formed.

29. *Friends' African School, Kaimosi.*—More attention will be given in the future to the general primary course at this school, which has for many years concentrated on the training of carpenters and builders. There were 57 apprentices in the technical school and 94 boys in the primary.

These three mission schools receive from Government or from the Local Native Councils sufficient grants to meet, if not the whole, the greater part of the recurrent costs incurred. Grants-in-aid of varying amounts are given to other mission schools.

On other aspects of missionary work the Provincial Commissioner writes:—

*"The Mill Hill Catholic Mission.*—The appointment of the Rev. Father N. Stam to the bishopric, in succession to the late Monseigneur Brandsma, was acclaimed on all sides. He has worked magnificently among the Kavirondo, and in the least healthy parts of the reserve, and rejoices to see his labours rewarded.

"The number of missionaries is kept up to strength, the total number of Europeans being close on a hundred. Their converts are disciplined, and are kept well in hand. Schools are visited with the utmost regularity. Stone and brick buildings, many of them of imposing proportions, are now the rule.

"The Rev. Father Rowlands, in charge at Kibuye, has done most valuable work as a member of the Central Education Board and the Central Kavirondo Local Board. His opinion on any native question always commands great respect."

31. *The Church Missionary Society.*—Mrs. Owen is doing most valuable work for women's education, and has organized

women's councils at all Church Missionary Society centres. Her instruction is eminently practical, and includes child welfare and village hygiene.

32. There is as yet, except for the teachers' training classes at Yala and Maseno, no secondary education in this Province. Scholarships are given by the Local Native Councils to enable boys to proceed to the Alliance High School and Makerere. The Provincial Commissioner writes:—

"Whereas the Province was but poorly represented at the Alliance High School a few years ago, it is significant that about 50 per cent of the pupils there now come from Nyanza."

The extension of facilities for secondary education to the Province is under consideration.

33. There is an increasing number of girl pupils at mission primary schools, and 90 attended the Catholic Mission School in Kisumu.

The South Kavirondo Local Native Council continued to show their previous interest in the education of women.

Among the more backward Kipsigis people there are 40 girl boarders at the Africa Inland Mission Central School at Litein, where they cultivate 15 acres of land and are taught agricultural methods in addition to the special courses arranged for them.

34. The District Commissioner, Kericho, writes:—

"A certain lack of sympathy between some of the missions and the people arises from the fact that the latter believe that the action of the missions in admitting girls and women (particularly runaway wives) to their boarding schools leads to prostitution.

"It has already been remarked that the marriage system of the Kipsigis is itself calculated to encourage prostitution, since the girl's wishes in the choice of a mate are given scant consideration; her lover is frequently not in a position to make the prompt and total payment of bride-price that custom demands, and she is married to a wealthier man she does not want. However strong the legal bond in such a marriage, the moral bond is slight. If the mission action leads the Kipsigis to realize this weakness in their own system it will have served a useful purpose."

Central Province

35. District Education Boards were in operation in Kiambu, Fort Hall, South Nyeri, and Machakos Districts and the Provincial Commissioner reports that they have been of the greatest value.

The most important matters under consideration were:—

- Allocation of grants to elementary schools;
- Award of bursaries to secondary schools;
- Scales of salaries in aided schools;
- Scales of fees at aided schools;
- Practical hygiene and practical agriculture in elementary schools;
- Refresher courses for Jeanes and other teachers;
- Kikuyu Independent Schools;
- Setting aside of plots of aided elementary schools;
- Publication of Bulletin;
- Supervision of aided schools;
- Common entrance examination to primary schools;
- Education of adults;
- Rules governing applications for new schools;
- Rules governing the allocation of grants-in-aid.

As a result of the deliberations of these boards all the three Kikuyu districts have accepted a uniform scale of fees for the aided elementary schools. Certain missions have shown some reluctance in enforcing this scale, but its purpose and value are now realized, and there is good reason to hope that it will gradually become effective in all schools. Provision is, of course, made for poor pupils who cannot afford to pay the full fee.

36. The South Nyeri Board was responsible at the end of the year for the preparation of a report on the allocation of grants to elementary schools, while the Fort Hall Board issued to schools the first number of a bulletin, designed to give in simple language information with regard to the organization of schools, their curricula and the teaching of the various subjects, together with advice on matters of practical hygiene in school and home, and practical agriculture.

This experiment will, it is believed, be one of great value, and its sphere will be extended.

The Inspector of Schools writes that—

"Perhaps the most notable feature of the boards has been the genuine desire of almost all the members to cooperate and to view the problem of developing efficient

schools as a matter vital to the whole district and not as concerning their own schools alone."

37. There are now three Government Primary Schools in the Province—at Pumwani, at Kagumo (Nyeri), and at Machakos.

The Government African School—the building of which has been mentioned in previous reports—at Pumwani, the native location of Nairobi, was opened on the 3rd February, and has made wonderful progress. The number of pupils has risen from 60 to 169 during the year, and eleven tribes are represented among them. Sports were held, organized entirely by the native teachers, and a school Scout troop and Cub pack were started. The Provincial Commissioner records that—

"The school is already having an excellent effect in educating many of the young Africans in Nairobi, who tended to live precariously on their wits in its streets and environs."

Handicraft instruction included car, leather and basket work, and the making of light rope. The boys were encouraged to bring and make things for themselves, and their utensils and furniture for repair.

38. At Kagumo the school roll numbers 155, and the pupils were drawn from the districts of Kiambu, Fort Hall, South Nyeri and Embu. A common entrance examination was introduced, which helped to raise the standard of admission, and 50 candidates were selected out of 230 applicants.

The Inspector of Schools writes:—

"This school has had a most successful year. The unpopularity of the school, noted in last year's report, is steadily diminishing, as the pupils and their parents are coming to realize that the school farm is, and will increasingly become, a source of profit to all who have three years' training on it."

During the year two distinct courses, (A) and (B), were introduced within the primary school syllabus.

Boys chosen for group (A), the smaller one, were those who by reason of age and ability appeared to be the most suitable candidates for admission to secondary schools and to those post-primary courses which necessitate the attainment of a relatively high standard of general education. Pupils in group (B) spent an increased amount of time in the workshop and on

the farm, where they were given an intensive course in agriculture, including the necessary elements of animal husbandry. They were also taught how to make and keep in repair simple farm implements: It is interesting to know that of the 44 pupils who were selected for group (B) only one was withdrawn from the school.

Under the leadership of one of the African teachers, a Scout troop was formed, and the use of an acre of school land was given them to cultivate crops to raise Scout funds and to build a hut for meetings. At the Agricultural Show a first prize was won for agricultural implements made in the manual training classes, while among the articles produced in the school workshop was a beehive of new design and a donkey cultivator.

Of the boys who left at the end of the preceding year 33 proceeded to the Native Industrial Training Depot, seven to the Alliance High School, and eight to agricultural schools.

39. There was a total of 208 pupils at the Machakos School, with 78 new admissions from the elementary schools in the Kamba districts. The number who left totalled 59, and of these four went to the Alliance High School, three became teachers, one as teacher-in-charge to the Medical Department, 32 to the Native Industrial Training Depot, 15 as signallers to the Kenya Airways, one to the Locomotive Training School, and 10 were discharged.

40. The District Commissioner writes:—

"The system of Government and Local Native Council out-schools in the Machakos and Kitui districts, under the direction and supervision of the Headmaster, Government African School, Machakos, has functioned well during the year. There are twelve Government and thirteen Local Native Council out-schools in Machakos, and seven Government and Local Native Council out-schools in Kitui district.

"In the Machakos district, where Government and Local Native Council out-schools have been in existence for a considerable time, the number of pupils in sub-standard one is 1,037 out of a total of 1,483, or 60 per cent. In the case of the Kitui schools the number is 651 out of a total of 773, or 84 per cent. This is due to the fact that education in this district is of a more recent growth. The growth, however, of pupils within the last few years is an eloquent index of the growing enthusiasm of this tribe for greater facilities."

The demand for a primary school of their own still continues. While sufficient accommodation is available at the Machakos School Government is not prepared for the present to undertake the maintenance of such a school.

41. There are seven mission societies operating in the Province, which run 21 primary, 174 elementary (of which the majority are aided), and some 200 unaided sub-elementary schools. The societies are:—

- The Church of Scotland Mission,
- The Church Missionary Society,
- Consolata Catholic Mission,
- African Inland Mission,
- Gospel Missionary Society,
- Catholic Mission of the Holy Ghost Fathers,
- Methodist Mission.

The Church of Scotland Mission has three primary schools at Kikuyu, Tumutumu, and Chogoria, which are attached a large number of elementary schools.

Generally speaking, it has been a year of the three centres, the most notable features being increase in efficiency in the primary school at Kikuyu, very considerable improvement in the organization and teaching in the aided elementary schools attached to Tumutumu, and the development of a primary day school, with organized home gardens, at Chogoria.

Except at a few centres, the work of the Church Missionary Society in the Fort Hall and Kiambu districts has been disappointing, and the great obstacle to success has been the lack of adequate European staff. The result has been that the work of supervision has been left to African teachers, with a consequent loss both of discipline and efficiency. Progress in the elementary schools was also hampered by the presence of large numbers of adults in the higher classes.

The most urgent problem arose from the presence within the mission of a large body of independent opinion, affected by and in sympathy with the Independent Schools' movement. Fortunately the mission authorities have realized the danger involved, and have now taken steps to initiate a general reorganization of their educational work in this district.

The Consolata Catholic Mission has by far the largest European staff of any mission in the Province, but owing to the low standard of many of the pupils at the time of their admission, and the language difficulties, the results of the primary school examination at Nyeri were very disappointing, while the fact that the teaching of the lower classes of the elementary schools is left to poorly qualified African teachers militates against progress.

The Africa Inland Mission has made progress in aided elementary schools in the Fort Hall District, and is doing useful work for the education of girls.

The pupils of the Catholic Mission of the Holy Ghost Fathers have been most successful in primary and junior secondary school examinations, and three ex-pupils proceeded to Makerere College, Uganda.

42. During the year the question of the Independent Schools received considerable attention. It was realized by the Provincial Commissioner that the absence of control over these schools, which had increased to some fifty in number, was dangerous to the cause of African education, apart from the possible political consequences.

A further complication was the fact that the movement was identified with the establishment of an Independent Church under the ægis of Archbishop Alexander, a coloured minister from South Africa, and head of the African Orthodox Church.

Very few, if any, of the schools had been established with the approval or consent of the Local Native Councils and Local Boards concerned, while in all cases they were directly infringing the regulations of the Education Department in regard to the teaching of English below Standard IV.

It might have been possible to overlook this irregularity if the instruction given had been even moderately efficient. Frequent visits by the Inspector of Schools, however, revealed that teaching was so inefficient that the vast majority of cases as to be definitely harmful.

It was therefore realized that the position must get worse instead of better unless a strong attempt was made to bring the schools, and the Committee of the Independent Schools Association which managed them, under efficient sympathetic control. A meeting was therefore arranged at the Jeanes School on the 11th August, which was attended by the Director of

Education, the Chief Native Commissioner, the Provincial Commissioner, and the District Commissioners of all the districts where these schools had been established, together with representatives of the Independent Schools Association.

The following decisions were reached:—

"The Local Native Councils should be invited to pass resolutions in favour of refusing all applications for new independent schools in any district until such time as the existing schools in the district had been passed as efficient by the Education Department.

"That Government should provide additional school inspection in the Kikuyu districts. There was some difference of opinion as to whether any additional inspector appointed should inspect the independent schools only or all schools in one or more districts. On the whole, opinion favoured the latter course.

"That the independent schools should be told that it was expected that they should cease to employ teachers away from the mission schools, and that they should send men to be trained as teachers at the mission schools, or at the Jeanes School, if teacher-training was to be done here.

"It was recommended that the Government grants to independent schools in Local Native Councils for 1937 should not be disallowed, but that no grant should be paid to a school unless it had been passed as efficient by the Education Department. It was considered that any grants paid might well take the form of the salaries of certificated teachers.

"There was a lengthy discussion as to whether men ordained to the Independent Church should be approved as registrars of marriages. No agreement was reached, and the Provincial Commissioner considered that it was unnecessary to take a decision on this matter at the meeting.

"The representatives of the independent schools met the Director in the afternoon at the Education Office, when the above decisions were communicated to them. They reiterated their intention of complying with Government's requirements, and thanked the Director for having arranged the meeting."

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pendent schools, like its opposite number, arose from the circumcison controversy, and numbers about seven schools in the Kiambu District.

Towards the end of the year an order was given that one school at a place called Mukui, which was opened in defiance of the refusal of the Local Native Council to sanction it, should be closed.

There can be no doubt that the independent schools movement has reached a stage at which any attempt to suppress or ignore it would be politically harmful. During the year an attempt has been made to harness the enthusiasm which inspired it to the educational needs of the tribe. Much work still remains to be done, but progress has been made in the establishment of control (without friction or disturbance, which it is hoped to consolidate during 1937).

43. As in Nyanza Province, the year has seen considerable progress and expansion in the education of girls.

The Church of Scotland Mission have well-established schools at Kikuyu and Tumutumu, and are developing a school at Chogoria.

The Girls' School at Tumutumu must be singled out as the most efficient in the Province, and probably one of the best in the Colony. The policy of training teachers of domestic science has been successfully developed, and during the year it was possible to establish classes in this subject at some of the aided elementary schools.

The Consolata Catholic Mission has a large girls' school at Nyeri, including a class for the training of teachers in general subjects. A number of certificated female teachers are already working at other stations of the mission.

The Catholic Mission of the Holy Ghost Fathers is steadily expanding its work amongst girls. A new girls' school was opened at Limuru towards the end of the year, and it is hoped to develop this eventually as a girls' secondary school.

Other missionary bodies are carrying out this most important work in many parts of the Province.

The Provincial Commissioner writes:—

"There has been a recurring demand from Africans, especially in Kiambu, for the provision of facilities for the secondary education of girls. There are in fact very few girls at present who have successfully completed the primary

course, but there will probably be a considerable increase within the next few years. The plans of the Catholic Mission have already been mentioned, and the question of providing similar facilities at the Alliance High School for girls from the Protestant Missions is now under consideration."

44. The increasing urge for the provision of facilities for the secondary education of girls is instanced by a letter written by an African woman to the Kikuyu newspaper, *Muthithu*, a translation of which is appended below:—

"I would like to say this, that when God created man he saw that it was not good that he should live alone, and said that he must have a woman to help him . . . and so God made a woman from Adam's rib.

"On this account do not object and say, 'What is the use of education for women.' Foolish people do not like girls with intelligence; they say, 'If I marry an educated girl she will bring much trouble to me over the reading of books, and moreover if I wish to marry a second-wife she will persecute me. Better to marry a stupid woman who does not know how to spoil my life.'

"Men, however, who are in front rank find it a great hardship if they cannot have an educated wife to live with, because if you marry a woman without education you are likely to deteriorate in the things that matter. Further, a good educated woman will help in the traditional domestic duties. She desires knowledge on the following matters:—

- (1) The cleaning of villages and property.
- (2) Looking after children.
- (3) The best methods of sewing clothes.
- (4) Industry in all things, including writing.
- (5) Knowledge of the best methods of cultivation and cooking.
- (6) Attention to her husband and children.

"All these things cannot be taught girls in elementary schools; they require schools like those in which young men are taught (i.e. secondary schools)."

#### *Rift Valley Province*

45. Of education among the Nandi the Provincial Commissioner writes:—

"This Reserve is well equipped with schools, but owing to the independent nature of the Nandi children, and the

apathy of their parents, there has been a deplorable falling off in attendances at the out-schools. The children prefer to run away to neighbouring estates, where they can make money by coffee-picking and other light tasks, and their parents either have no control over them or, if they have, are unwilling to exercise it where education is concerned."

The Government African School at Kapsabet is the centre of education. There are also six out-schools in the Reserve, under native teachers, and it is from these out-schools that pupils pass on to the central school in Kapsabet.

In order to combat the apathy to the educational facilities provided, the Principal of the Government African School will attend *barazas* with the District Commissioner and visit the out-schools regularly. It is hoped that this will have the effect of considerably increasing the number of pupils.

The school offers an ideal terrain for experiments in anti-soil erosion methods, owing to the hilly nature of the site, and during the year three large new terraces were made. Experiments were also carried out in green manuring and with compost pits.

46. At the Tambach School in the Elgeyo Reserve a change-over was made in the curriculum from a technical to a literary and agricultural bias.

The numbers in school dropped considerably towards the latter part of the year owing to the circumcision ceremonies, which take four months.

Much of the school work is taken up in the sub-standards. Efforts are being made to increase the mission activities in elementary education, so that new entrants to the Tambach School will have already obtained a certain amount of education.

Shortage of qualified teachers is seriously holding up the out-school work.

The African Inland Mission at Kapsowar is making steady strides in its educational work.

It is feared that the stand taken by the mission on the subject of male circumcision and marriage ceremonies is likely to antagonize the elders, as happened in the early days of the mission's work among the Nandi.

This mission is completely responsible for all educational work in the Baringo District, and has an average attendance of 45 at a co-educational boarding school at Kabartonjo.

#### Coast Province

47. At Mombasa the Arab Coast Secondary School at Shimo-la-Tewa did valuable work, and there were 92 boys on the roll at the end of the year. Plans were made for introducing a science course into the school curriculum.

It is very satisfactory to be able to record that not a single boy who finished his course at this school is out of employment. Though some few have proceeded up-country, a small batch of the most recent departures have been appointed to the office of the Chief Accountant, Kenya and Uganda Railways and Harbours, and the majority found employment in Mombasa Government offices and commercial houses.

48. During the year 26 girls were admitted to the Arab Primary School at Mombasa, which in the amnadan community shows a great change of outlook. Education of women. The school roll increased to 111. At the end of the year accommodation became a problem. Teaching of carpentry was introduced into the three.

49. The Buxton School and the Catholic Mission at Macupa continued the education in Mombasa of a large number of African boys and girls, and at Macupa there is a flourishing night school with nearly 150 adults.

50. Seventy-five pupils attended the Sir Ali bin Salim Arab School at Malindi, of whom six were Giriamā. More emphasis was laid upon practical and agricultural instruction.

The Director of Education reports:—

"A school committee of local Arabs was formed to foster interest in the school.

"There still remains a good deal of apathy to education and to progress among the inhabitants of Malindi, and an invitation to send some of their daughters to school has, so far, met with no response from the parents."

51. The Church Missionary Society has a large elementary school at Kaloleni, and an industrial school where carpentry and sewing are taught, besides numerous out-schools throughout the Kilifi District.

The Roman Catholic and Methodist Mission Societies also have numerous sub-elementary schools which are increasing in number. There is also a Local Native Council school of about 20 pupils near Mariakani.

52. In the Digo District the Waa School was handed over to the Holy Ghost Fathers at the end of the previous year, after the District Commissioner had persuaded the local inhabitants to agree. Unfortunately, owing to the action of the Father then in charge, which alienated the Digo Moriamedans in the vicinity of the school, at the end of the year the Local Native Council had refused to grant a lease to the mission.

Various bush schools have been maintained throughout the year, and Msambweni had, under the control of an able cher, a regular attendance of eighty pupils.

53. The Neukirchen Lutheran Mission provide the only educational facilities among the backward peoples of the Tana River District. German currency restrictions greatly handicapped the mission's activities, but endeavoured to improve the qualifications of the teachers in the various bush schools were made.

54. The District Commissioner, Teita, reports:—

"African education received a long-needed fillip by the establishment of a District Education Board, which held three meetings, and which, while yet in its infancy, is valuable in two ways: firstly, it affords an opportunity for representatives of the Church Missionary Society, Roman Catholic Mission and Africans to understand each other's points of view, and, secondly, its deliberations and recommendations form a very useful guide to the Local Native Council when expenditure upon educational grants-in-aid is under discussion."

The native authorities, while complaining of lack of educational facilities offered by the Church Missionary Society, have not helped in supporting school discipline and enforcing regular attendance. At Mbale, the Society has given effective help in the anti-soil erosion campaign.

There has been some activity on the estates towards provision of better education for the labourers, and the manager of the Taveta (Sisal) Estate has built a house for the Roman Catholic Fathers of Bura for their use when visiting the estate.

### Masai District

55. During the year consideration was given to the enforcement of some form of compulsory education for the Masai *morar* in order to deviate their energy to productive paths and away from their raiding and stock-thieving propensities, for which some 200 are undergoing sentences of imprisonment.

The method by which this can be enforced and the general details of the educational scheme were still the subject of discussion at the end of the year, the main problem being how to provide a sufficient number of trained teachers to meet the requirements.

56. At the Loitokitok and Narok Government Primary Schools there were 125 and 80 pupils on the rolls. Owing to the absence of bush schools and the youth of the pupils, the greater number of the pupils are as yet in elementary standards.

The attitude of the Masai towards education has entirely changed, and they now welcome the establishment of bush schools, and have gone so far as to send representatives to the District, that they will agree to girls attending school. This change has been brought about by the successful management of the Loitokitok School, and to a lesser extent of the Narok School.

A bush school was opened in the Narok District in August, and it is hoped to open one in each of the divisions of the Masai District.

57. A form of education which has proved most acceptable and valuable to the *morar* has been the recruit course at the Police Depot, Nairobi. Over fifty *morar* have been or are being trained there. The reports on their progress, and the finished results, have been most encouraging. It is a form of training which appeals to a Masai, and instills into him a sense of discipline and personal pride, and is of great value on his return to the reserve.

### Turkana District

58. The school founded by Chief Abong at Kaputir has not proved the success that was anticipated, due to the poor standard of teaching available. As a result of an inspection made by the Headmaster of the Government African School, Kapenguria, the Education Department has now decided to grant the school a grant-in-aid.

The pupils' enthusiasm for the school is unbounded, and they are well endowed with the ability to absorb whatever education is offered to them.

Fair crops have been reaped from the garden with which the school curriculum is connected, and the seed obtained has been stored for distribution.

59. The following notes on the progress of the school at Kapenguria, of which Mr. Chaundy remained Principal throughout the year, are taken from the Director of Education's Report:—

"Steady progress has been made in school work, agriculture and games, both at the school and in the reserve. At the beginning of the year eighteen new boys were admitted, of whom eight came from the Bible Churchmen's Missionary Society School near Kapenguria.

"Elementary carpentry incidental to the agricultural training was introduced, and an African instructor appointed.

"Of the fifteen boys who left the school at the end of the year, four proceeded to further training, three to employment, and the others to cultivate their own plots in the reserve.

"As great keenness as ever was shown by the boys in the agricultural work, and in the evenings many preferred to work in their gardens than to play football. Bees-wax was prepared from raw materials brought in by the local Suk. Classroom teaching in agriculture was run in conjunction with the practical work, special attention being paid to the preservation of forests, the evils of soil erosion, and ways of preventing it, seed selection, and the preparation of crops for market. The school again supplied the Kenya Police in Turkana with 250 lb. of fresh vegetables every month.

"At the Kenya Agricultural Show, held in June, this school carried off first prizes for native industries, agriculture and for maize.

"Four ex-pupils of the school started smallholdings of their own near Kapenguria. The District Commissioner supplied oxen, and the school lent them a plough. The boys were able to plant up ten acres, and were rewarded with good crops. Owing to the success of this initial effort, three more boys started a similar smallholding at the end of the year. An innovation was the introduction of cattle work under the agricultural syllabus. A herd of twelve beasts was

transferred from the Jeanes School. A cattle shed was built of local timber, and the boys were taught clean milking and the proper care of cattle generally.

"Tribal games were a feature of the daily physical training period. These games are all strenuous, and are accompanied by singing."

"At the moment this school is one of the few signs of progress among the Suk, and it is hoped that when an increasing number of boys leave and return to the reserve, and demonstrate the knowledge they have acquired, a greater measure of advancement may be seen among this backward people.

#### Northern Frontier District

60. Owing to the paucity of the inhabitants and their nomadic habits, education is perforce of a limited character.

*Bible Churchmen's School at Marsabit.*—The daily average attendance at the Mission Station School is twenty-six, and at the Boma School ten. The increase in numbers at the latter school was due to the arrangement that Rendille levies should attend for two and a half hours in order to learn the rudiments of Swahili before re-joining the Police patrol which was guarding the lake area.

Elsewhere, education consists only of the teaching of the Koran in some Somali villages.

## CHAPTER VII

### MEDICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH

The Director of Medical Services records:—

"In almost every district medical officers report that there is some record of increasing interest having been taken by the Local Native Council and by the people of his district in public health affairs. In some cases funds have been provided, in others resolutions bearing on the public health have been passed, and in almost all cases there has been discussion, and not infrequently discussion which has been well informed.

"In these Councils the need for better health is realized in a fashion which cannot be regarded otherwise than as evidence of the evolution of what has been called elsewhere a 'public health conscience,' and such an evolution is the

first and essential step towards the solution of a problem which is very clearly insoluble without great economic advance on the part of the peasantry as a whole."

2. Reports generally indicate marked progress in the improvement of the health of the people.

In many areas the consumption of meat is increasing to a degree which may be having an effect on the general standard of nutrition, and in the case of two districts the medical officers note that, on the whole, the nutrition of the people was good. No unusually high incidence of any of the more formidable epidemic diseases was recorded, save in one area, where a sharp outbreak of plague occurred. Smallpox, except for one imported case, was absent from the Colony throughout the year, and cerebro-spinal meningitis, though present in most districts throughout the year, and the cause of considerable anxiety, never assumed epidemic proportions. No unusual incidence of respiratory or bowel infections was recorded.

On the other hand, the medical officers of certain districts have noted with concern an apparently general increase in the incidence of gonorrhoea.

3. The Director of Medical Services writes:—

"There is much evidence to suggest that in recent years there has been a great change in the outlook of many thousands of Africans, more particularly in the highlands and in the lake areas of the Colony, and that this change is continuing. There is a will to progress to adopt new methods, and there is a will that the women should progress and that the children should be better cared for. Very certainly over large areas there is a will to work in order to achieve these ends. Whether these things are the result of improved nutrition and improving health, it is impossible to say. But these changes would at least seem to indicate very clearly that the health of the people might well be worse; they certainly hold out great hope for improvement in the future, and, if they are as great as many of us think, they should afford an unrivalled opportunity for the development and betterment of the people as a whole."

There is little doubt that this "will to progress" which is stressed by the Director of Medical Services is due to the inter-departmental teamwork of education and development that was done during the year. The inter-connexion between health, improved methods of agriculture and education is one

of the lessons which have been taught and is now bearing fruit.

4. Maternity and child welfare is carried out in the Colony by four main agencies as follows:—

- (a) The Government Medical Department.
- (b) The Missionary Societies.
- (c) The Lady Grigg Welfare League.
- (d) The Municipal Council of Nairobi.

There has been wonderful progress in this branch of medical work among African women and children, and at the present time it is difficult to find accommodation for all the African women who are only too anxious to come into hospital for their confinements.

It is remarkable how, with the provision of female staff, the confidence of the African woman has been obtained, and the confidence of the African husband and of the members of the Local Native Councils.

During the year 2,835 cases were treated, as against 2,277 during the previous year.

5. Up to the present no arrangements have been made for the systematic training of African women in practical nursing at a centre organized for the purpose because, until very recently, the number of women with an adequate elementary education has been too small to justify the establishment of such a training centre.

The supply of girls who have received some elementary education is, however, increasing, and that many such girls are willing to work in hospitals is evidenced by the fact that there are now 139 African girls employed in Government hospitals, of whom no less than 87 are reported to be able to write Swahili.

It is hoped that it may be possible to provide at a not too distant date systematic training for African women.

6. The total number of non-European patients treated at all Government hospitals and out-dispensaries, whether in townships or native reserves, during the year is shown in the table below.

Of the figures given, those for the town hospitals and dispensaries include a certain number of Asiatics and Arabs, those for the native reserves hospitals include a few Asiatics

and Arabs, while those for the out-dispensaries refer almost exclusively to African natives.

IN AND OUT PATIENTS TREATED AT GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS, DISPENSARIES AND OUT-DISPENSARIES IN 1936

Hospitals in Townships	In-patients	Out-patients
Native Hospital, Nairobi	6,425	3,020
Muthari Mental Hospital, Nairobi	254	..
Infectious Diseases Hospital, Nairobi	1,631	..
Prisons, Nairobi	1,691	7,257
General Dispensary, Nairobi	1,230	46,680
Loce Dispensary, Nairobi	64	18,946
Police Dispensary, Nairobi	..	2,244
Native Hospital, Mombasa	2,821	781,107
Infectious Diseases Hospital, Mombasa	610	1,151
Child Welfare Centre, Mombasa	..	21,624
Native Hospital, Kisumu	3,636	29,670
Native Hospital, Nakuru	217	978
Native Hospital, Eldoret	2,659	9,383
Native Hospital, Eldoret	1,514	4,031
Railway Dispensary, Eldoret	1,053	9,456
Native Hospital, Kitale	701	4,786
	24,768	178,148

Hospitals in Native Reserves	In-patients	Out-patients	Out Dispensaries
Kakamega	1,661	10,037	75,023
Central Kavirondo District	..	..	66,901
Kisumu	..	..	37,426
Kisii	1,479	11,970	57,900
Kericho	1,139	5,000	30,182
Kilambu	2,009	14,087	22,644
Fort Hall	2,304	13,660	31,569
Meru	1,324	21,080	46,412
Muriranjaa-Fort Hall	653	9,656	..
Nyeri	931	26,750	..
Kenya	1,406	13,602	49,407
Maschakos	2,060	10,611	88,973
Kitui	1,361	19,018	18,704
Kabarnet	308	3,819	10,301
Tambach	164	6,325	..
Kapsabet	142	4,764	11,060
Burmuruli	664	3,806	..
Msambweni-Digo	..	2,985	7,642
Kilifi	1,361	4,825	27,158
Malindi	221	3,671	7,972
Waua (Teita)	822	6,554	23,080
Lamu	198	10,446	13,200
Narok	447	5,812	12,225
Kapenguria	295	4,211	..
Lodwar	163	3,690	..
Lokitaung	148	3,072	..
Wajir	312	5,117	..
Mandera	87	1,864	..
Moyale	313	8,800	..
	22,461	244,722	618,737

7. The number of hospital beds maintained by the missionary societies receiving grants from Government, the number of patients treated in these institutions, and the amounts of the grants given are shown in the following table:

Mission and Place	No. of bed	In-patients	Out-patients	Out-dispensary patients	Confinements	Amount of Grants
Church of Scotland Mission:						
Kikuyu	90	1,500	17,472	Nil	223	450
Chogoria	59	772	11,606	11,000 (app.)	10	240
Tumu Tumu	98	1,063	10,384	39,911	440	1,050
Church Missionary Society:						
Kaloneni	84	777	39,484	..	0	940
Maseno	67	1,851	9,710	25,947	80	420
Seventh Day Adventists: Kendu	42	934	28,563	3,113	..	400
Methodist Missionary Society:						
Meru	20	555	10,253	..	..	..
Neukirchen Mission Society: Ngao	18	94	1,330	968	24	70
Total	478	8,636	137,802	80,951	1,009	3,700

At all the above-mentioned hospitals a qualified medical practitioner and one or more European sisters are employed.

Nyanza Province

8. In the North Kavirondo District the Local Native Council voted £300 towards the erection of a maternity ward at the Kakamega Government Hospital.

The ward was opened in November, and has already proved its usefulness.

The maternity ward recently erected at the Kisii Hospital became increasingly popular, and 282 confinements took place during the year, and many mothers now attend the child welfare days for ante-natal treatment and advice. A maternity home exists at Nyahera in the Central Kavirondo District, and a home is being constructed at Siyaya, East Alego, in that district.

There are forty-seven Government dispensaries in the Reserves, built in most cases from Local Native Council funds, and during the year Councils contributed £3,281 towards medical services.

9. After prolonged negotiation and a thorough survey of the gulf shore, a start was made on the anti-malarial scheme financed by the Colonial Development Fund, out of which a sum of £18,000 has been assigned. Tenders for the rebuilding of the Nubian village on a new site beyond Kaloleini native location were invited, and were still under consideration at the end of the year.

Two bad seepage areas have been dealt with successfully by a series of drains and wells. The wells are provided with hand pumps, and so serve as convenient sources of reasonably pure water for household consumption by natives.

Dr. Alwen Evans, of the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, spent a considerable time in Kisumu and its environs studying the local anopheline mosquitoes and their habits.

The system of sullage and storm-water drains in Station Road was completed during the year.

10. Efforts were made in the Central Kavirondo District towards the clearing of watering places and the reopening of land for cultivation along the lake shore.

The work undertaken by Government as a means of fly extermination is immensely appreciated by the natives of the Central Kavirondo District, who are so keen on the work themselves that the Provincial Commissioner hopes that in a few years fly will be eradicated from the lake shore from Sio to Kisumu.

Watering places are being cleared and the land reopened for cultivation.

Eradication of fly is also proceeding in South Kavirondo. In Kanyiadoto the fly-infested area is being gradually contracted, and about six square miles of rice-land were thrown open to cultivation during the year.

The Local Native Council supplied funds for the labour required for bush clearing.

#### Central Province

11. The Provincial Commissioner reports:

"The main problem at all the hospitals in the Province has not been to attract African patients to the hospitals but to prevent these institutions being unduly overcrowded."

12. Much valuable work was done in ante-natal clinics and the maternity branches of the various hospitals, notably Kiambu, Keruguya, and Machakos.

A welcome change is occurring, and now an increasing number of normal labour cases present themselves at hospital. At Kiambu Hospital they reached 88 per cent out of a total of 240 confinements. In May a new maternity building, which includes ten beds, was opened. The medical officer writes that it is not only women who have been educated at mission schools who now come to hospital for their confinements, approximately a quarter of all cases belong to the backward class, of whom many still wear skins.

12. Pneumonia, helminthiasis, malaria, plague, tuberculosis, cerebro-spinal meningitis, and venereal disease were complaints most in evidence in the reserves during the year.

In Keruguya Hospital the infestation of tapeworm occurs in men to about three times the extent of the same disease in women, and the medical officer assigns this as follows—

(a) The men eat more meat.

(b) When a man buys meat at a market he heats it up over a fire and eats it on the spot, while a woman takes it home and cooks it properly.

13. Measures to eliminate plague infestation were taken in a large measure in the Kikuyu Reserves.

In the Kiambu District, where the number of cases were few, grain stores were raised to a height of three feet from the ground, bush clearing for thirty feet around the villages took place and the cleared area was planted with Kikuyu grass. The medical officer writes:—

"Throughout the campaign there has been no active opposition on the part of any section of the community. The Kikuyu have a wholesome dread of plague, and are sufficiently intelligent to see that these measures are designed to protect their own interests."

In the Fort Hall Reserve every village has been cleaned, and in both this and South Nyeri District the Local Native Council passed a resolution to enforce this cleaning. In the former district over 60,000 anti-plague inoculations were given to natives, and a campaign to induce them to provide rat-traps, in order to prevent rats from entering and breeding in their grain stores, was prosecuted with marked success.

14. An extensive latrine campaign has been prosecuted in the Province, and steady progress is being made, especially in the Embu District.

In the Kiambu, Fort Hall, Embu and Machakos Reserves the teaching of Africans how to build improved houses, from temporary or permanent materials, was continued without remission, and with appreciable success, under the guidance of the sanitary inspectors.

Vast numbers of compost pits were also dug for turning rubbish into manure, but have not everywhere been used; and here progress is held up in some cases by the opposition of the *githaka* owner on the one hand to the improvement of land by his tenant, lest the latter should assert a claim to possess it through having improved its value, and the fear of the tenant, on the other, lest, after having improved the land of the *githaka* owner, he should be evicted by the latter. This land tenure problem is, however, one to which attention is being given, and it is hoped that a solution will be reached.

15. A new clinic was erected near the municipal housing in the native area of Nairobi towards the close of the year, at a cost of £950. An enormous number of cases are treated at the clinics, and the Municipal Native Affairs Officer pays tribute to the wonderful work done by the lady doctor and health visitors in attendance.

#### *Rift Valley Province*

16. The natives of this Province are not so appreciative of medical care and public health measures as in the progressive Nyanza and Central Provinces, nor is it possible to provide the same facilities.

17. No outbreak of any epidemic occurred during the year in the Nandi District.

A start was made on brick-making for the new hospital which is to be built at Kapsabet out of the Local Native Council funds, and 11,000 bricks had been made for this purpose. In the reserve itself there are three dispensaries.

18. In the Elgeyo-Marakwet District the Kapsowar Hospital of the Africa Inland Mission has become increasingly popular with the people. The District Commissioner writes:—

"On the whole the health of the tribe has been good. A disease which, although never diagnosed, is supposed to have been cerebro-spinal meningitis passed down the valley

from Metkei, taking a toll of about ten persons from each location. There have been no more cases since September. There are a large number of ulcer cases which, if treated early, would never develop into the horrible sores that eventually cause the loss of a limb. There was a considerable number of deaths from pneumonia in Marakwet area. Fever seems rare, also typhoid and dysentery."

19. In the Baringo District increased use was made of such medical facilities as are available. The number of female in-patients at the Native Hospital was 118, as compared with 57 during the previous year.

In Laikipia a small native hospital and dispensary was completed at Rumuruti. It was always full, and served a most useful purpose. There has been no medical officer in the district during the year, a compounder being in charge of the Rumuruti Hospital.

Amongst the Samburu medical facilities practically did not exist until the end of the year, when the local department equipped a three-bed ward and dispensary. The Local Native Council also included in the estimate a sum of £50 towards the work of the above.

#### *Coast Province*

20. The health of Mombasa compared very favourably with that of previous years. There were no outbreaks of major infectious diseases. Malaria, contracted within the municipal area, was low in incidence due to control measures adopted in previous years. The incidence of tuberculosis remains a problem, and it is feared that it is on the increase.

21. The appeal made to the Colonial Development Fund in 1935 for malaria survey resulted in the allocation of a sum of £6,000, the cost to be borne as to one-half by the Fund, one-quarter by Government, and one-quarter by the Municipal Board. The survey has progressed satisfactorily, and a large amount of valuable and interesting data has accumulated.

22. The amount of sanitary work achieved has been satisfactory. Improvement in native housing conditions continues.

The hygienic production and marketing of native milk has received still further attention.

23. The sub-assistant surgeon in charge of medical work in Lamu District has done much to gain the confidence of the people, who have shown less reluctance to attend the hospital

when requiring medical-aid, and during the year the numbers increased considerably. The most prevalent complaints were ascaris, rheumatism and ulcers.

24. There is a medical officer at Kilifi, where there is a thirty-bed hospital, but, as he has no sub-assistant surgeon or nursing sister, he is not often able to visit the reserve. Luckily there have been no epidemics.

The dispensaries at Ganzu, Chonyi, Mariakani and Kakoneni functioned satisfactorily in charge of dressers.

A health worker and a sanitary teacher have been employed in Kaloleni Location in giving instruction on refuse pits, latrines and hygiene, but native customs are unfavourable to such progress.

The great obstacle to the advancement of the Digo is the extent of the hookworm infection. The task of eradicating this disease is so herculean that a considerable number of years must pass before any noticeable improvement can be expected.

Many of the latrines already constructed have collapsed or fallen into disuse. It was decided to select each year a certain area in which the construction of latrines of a permanent type by all householders would be enforced, and apply the Village Cleaning Rules passed by the Local Native Council in the year 1935. During the year, Msambweni Location was selected, and, commencing in July, some 600 latrines were dug, cement tops placed on them, and a properly built hut erected over them.

The work was completed in October. In spite of the fact that a considerable number of the pits had to be dug through coral rock, surprisingly little opposition, active or passive, was encountered, and it was necessary only in five cases to resort to prosecutions, which were dealt with by the Gwirani Native Tribunal at Gazi.

The anti-hookworm campaign was originally started in the district by Dr. Philip, and though there may now be little visible result of his enthusiasm, the District Commissioner writes:—

"I am convinced that his devoted work succeeded in thoroughly familiarizing the Digo with the idea of proper sanitation, thus providing the essential foundation upon which his successors could build.

"The importance and extent of this achievement will be apparent to anyone who knows the deep apathy which is the chief characteristic of the Digo, and it is certain that when the final history of the anti-hookworm campaign comes to be written no single individual's contribution will stand higher than that of Dr. Philip."

Housing continued to have the attention of the native health workers. Only a few new houses were built, but a reasonably healthy type of hut is now generally adopted by the Digo. It is regretted, however, that the interior cleanliness is not up to the standard of the exterior design.

The hospital at Msambweni was full throughout the year.

26. In the Teita District the Railway Authorities opened a hospital at Voi under the charge of an Asiatic sub-assistant surgeon. Although this arrangement was made, of course, with a view to the treatment primarily of railway employees, the hospital has been of much assistance to the Administration and neighbouring estates, in view of the complete isolation of the Government hospital at Wesu.

Five cases of plague occurred in Chawia. On pected huts were burnt; considerable bush-clearing taken in the vicinity, and 25,000 persons were These prompt measures were effective.

Health conditions on the sisal estates have been excellent, except for Kedai, which was again unfortunate in having a considerable outbreak of dysentery. Tuberculosis appears still to be prevalent in the reserve.

#### *Masai District*

27. In the Masai Reserve there is one small native hospital in charge of a sub-assistant surgeon at Narok, dispensaries in charge of native dressers at Kajiado and Loitokitok, and a native dresser who travels, giving treatment, in the Kajiado District.

The Officer in Charge writes:—

"The spread of venereal disease amongst the Masai is indeed extremely alarming, and the decrease in population and the degeneracy in physique are mainly due to this cause."

The sub-assistant surgeon has done much to convince the Masai of the efficiency of treatment for the disease and to overcome their prejudice against it.

Mr. Whitehouse, the headmaster of the Government School at Loitokitok, found time, amongst his multifarious duties, to treat an ever-increasing number of sick Masai with even very serious ailments such as pneumonia and lion mauls, with the most astonishing success, and is wishful to take courses of instruction in the treatment of venereal disease and in smallpox vaccination, in order to tour his area and give treatment during the school holidays.

#### *Turkana District*

28. Of health conditions in Turkana, the District Commissioner writes:—

"The year saw the completion of two new hospitals—a stone building at Lokitaung and a brick edifice at Lodwar. There is now ample accommodation for all in-patients. In addition, there is a dispensary at Kapufi.

"The old hospital at Lodwar has been converted into a venereal diseases ward—a disease which is all too prevalent at both Lodwar and Lokitaung. Apart from this localized scourge, disease is uncommon among the Turkana, whose mode of life renders them one of the healthiest tribes in the Colony.

"Malaria is rare among the tribesmen, but chest and lung troubles occur not infrequently during the colder months.

"The health of the staff has been indifferent. At one period all three clerks were confined to quarters with cerebral malaria, and contemporaneously the only District Officer at Lodwar was also suffering from a less severe attack.

"At the beginning of the year it was found necessary to evacuate Mr. Simmonds, District Officer, to Nairobi, by aeroplane, to recover from an attack of tick typhus.

"A most important factor in the maintenance of health has been the weekly supply of green vegetables by Mr. Chaundy from his *shamba* at Kapenguria, a gratuitous effort for which he deserves the greatest credit."

29. In the West Suk District an increasing number of natives are coming into hospital at Kapenguria for treatment. A new hospital, built of brick, was ready for occupation in May. Malaria, lumbago, bronchitis, and conjunctivitis formed the bulk of the cases treated.

#### *Northern Frontier District*

30. A reorganization scheme came into operation in September whereby the Garissa and Marsabit districts came under the Medical Officer stationed at Wajir. Isiolo remained under the Medical Officer, Meru, and it was again evident that it is the most unhealthy station in the Northern Frontier.

The most prevalent diseases during the year were malaria, conjunctivitis, respiratory infections and otitis, taniasis and amebic dysentery, scabies, gonorrhoea and syphilis, tuberculosis, rheumatism, and lumbago.

#### CHAPTER VIII FORESTS

The forests already reserved as forests within Native Reserves are managed by the Forest Department.

The financing of the management is carried on the Department's budget, and should there be a surplus of revenue over expenditure during the year the excess goes to the Local Native Council concerned.

2. There are forests within Native Reserves which have not been brought under the control of the Department, and any proposals to do so generally produce opposition on the part of the Local Native Councils concerned. It is, however, hoped that propaganda and education will eventually remove this objection.

3. In certain areas it is encouraging to report that natives showed signs of a better appreciation of the value of their forests. Progress was made in the preservation of the valuable forests in the West Suk District; in the Coast Province certain Local Native Councils took steps to prevent forest destruction, and the Masai agreed to the reservation of an area of about 100,000 acres west of the Mara.

#### *Nyanza Province*

4. Forest revenue in the Province showed an increase of 25 per cent over the figure for the previous year.

The sale of pit props to mines proved disappointing, but during the first half of the year they absorbed a considerable quantity of construction timber. In the Central Kavirondo District timber trees were issued to the total of 852,051 from the nurseries at Maseno, Malanga, Uyoma, and Sagam.

5. In the South Tiriki area of this district two thousand acres of wattle were planted; while in the Kisii highlands a campaign was started which resulted in the planting of 4,000 acres, and it is intended to continue this campaign during the next three years.

6. Efforts at reforestation in the Luo country of the South Kavirondo District by individual effort have not had much success, and it has been resolved to try what a programme of community planting in the treeless plains of Kanyanwa, Kabuoch, and Kanyada will do. If this is successful it is hoped that individuals will learn from it the value of planting for themselves.

The Local Native Council made £483 from sale of trees from their plantations and from forest royalties.

7. An increased area of wattle was also planted in the Kericho District. The limited area suitable for the crop, the scattered population and the absence of a bark factory make it unlikely that it will ever develop into a cash-crop for the Kipsigis, but the need for regular firewood and timber supply in the district is acute.

#### Central Province

8. The District Commissioner, Kiambu, writes:—

"Disputes between natives of the district and the Forest Department have been remarkably few considering that Forest Reserves constitute about half the boundaries of the district.

"There are no indigenous forests in the district, but plantations of wattle and gum trees increase in the reserve each year."

9. In the Embu District the conservancy of Njukini Forest has been the subject of discussion by the Local Native Council, and action has been taken by the right-holders to prosecute illegal sawmillers who without permission were found to be practising a roaring trade there.

10. In the Machakos District reforestation is closely connected with the anti-erosion campaign. Planting continued in forest areas, and sixty acres were planted during the year, but unfortunately the campaign for the planting of trees on a wide scale by individual natives failed through the inadequacy of the rains.

The Forester, as in previous years, gave valuable assistance to the Administration by supervising Local Native Council plantations and nurseries in the district.

11. Afforestation of steep hillsides by the systematic planting by each individual of his own holding under orders and supervision has been accepted as a principle, but, if this method fails, it is agreed that steps must be taken to acquire the land for afforestation by the Forest Department.

The District Commissioner writes:—

"It is at least encouraging to note results that are beginning to appear from systematic planting of wattle on steep slopes in Matungulu, Kangundo and Kilungu under the directions of the Agricultural Officer. If similar results can gradually be produced with other kinds of trees the method of afforestation by individual effort need not be despaired of."

#### Rift Valley Province

12. The Nandi Forest Reserves, which had been proclaimed in the previous year, were finally proclaimed as Forest Reserves in October. There has been no development of forests, and the management consists in keeping the boundaries and in general protection. In December the Nandi Native Reserve Forest Rules, protecting the forest, were applied.

13. The District Commissioner, Elgeyo, writes:—

"Relations between the Forest Department and the Elgeyo have been excellent owing to the helpfulness and tact of the Assistant Conservator and the Forester at Kaptagat.

"In April the Chepchora grazing area was handed over to the Elgeyo and the Rokocho area evacuated and handed over to the Forest Department. This deal was known officially as the Eldoret water supply exchange, as it protected the headwaters of the Eldoret River.

"The Metkei natives agreed to the demarcation of certain woods and forest areas."

In the Elgeyo Forest the Algal Sawmills worked steadily with a slightly smaller output than the previous year. A surplus of £675 was paid to the Local Native Council. The Conservator of Forests reports:—

"The *Podocarpus gracilior* of this forest is of an exceptionally fine quality, and is one of the sources from

which timber for export will be drawn. The number of Kikuyu cultivators was increased from 20 to 40 so that planting might be speeded up."

14. In the Samburu country the Leroghi Forest area was gazetted a Forest Reserve at the beginning of the year, and no stock has been allowed in it. The boundaries have been cleared and the natives have been helpful in turning out and stopping the fires. It is of interest to note that the Samburu who live on Mount Nyiro are most strict in their protection of the forests on that mountain and also exercise grazing control.

#### *Coast Province*

15. The Provincial Commissioner writes:—

"To the casual observer the Coast is well wooded, but on closer inspection it is seen that the real forest areas are not extensive. What is common is scrub and bush, much of which has resulted from past cultivation. With the increasing attention paid to native agriculture and the introduction of cotton cultivation, it is obvious that larger areas will be brought under cultivation, and the necessity for the preservation of all forest areas for climatic and economic reasons is imperative.

"With this end in view, steps have been taken in Digo with the approval of the Local Native Council to create small Native Forest Reserves at Mrima, Jombo, Kiruku, Malenji and Gonja.

"Encouraging instances have occurred of native interest in the preservation of trees. On their own initiative the Digo Local Native Council elders decided to prohibit the burning of charcoal for sale, as it was rapidly leading to denudation of the areas near Mombasa. Likewise, the Giriama Local Native Council have forbidden cutting in Mariakani Location and controlled cutting in Katoleni and Gotani Locations."

16. At Lamu, grading has greatly improved the quality of boriti poles, and has been the chief means of regaining the export trade to Arabia and the Persian Gulf. Royalty on these poles again showed an increase, and amounted to £929, while the total royalties collected in the district were £1,174.

17. In the Tana River District further clearing of forest in the Kau-Ozi area on the Tana River by Pokomo-rice cultivators was prohibited, and trees have been planted on the banks of the river and the canals to prevent valuable land being washed into the Tana River.

18. A considerable amount of wattle planting was carried out in certain areas of the Teita District.

#### *Masai District*

19. The Narok Local Native Council have agreed to hand over an area of approximately 115 square miles to the west of the Mara River to the Conservator of Forests as a Native Reserve Forest.

20. The Masai are at present averse to handing over any other areas on the Mau to the Forest Department, but are prepared to have a survey made and take advice from the Forest Department, provided that the areas are controlled by the Local Native Council.

The Kajiado Local Native Council passed rules for the preservation, demarcation and control of other forest areas in the neighbourhood of the Ngong Township. They awaited the enactment of the new Native Authority Code.

The Council also agreed to preserve an area at Loitokitok and to apply identical rules when the district had agreed to the extent of such an area.

21. The Magadi Soda Company's fuel concession area, which is 113 square miles in extent, has proved a great revenue producing factor, and 9,805 tons of fuel were obtained during the year without any apparent detriment to the land or assets of the Masai.

#### *Turkana District*

22. An experiment made last year in planting trees on the shores of Lake Rudolf, whose natural habitat is near high water mark on the Coast, proved a failure, probably due to the extent of the saline properties of the water.

The Officer in Charge remarks on the presence of some magnificent specimens of acaëa, particularly on the banks of the Turkwell River.

23. The District Commissioner, West Suk, writes:—

"The main and indeed essential function of the Suk forests lies in the conservation of the local water supplies. The hills of Suk are for the most part well watered, and it is certain that if the deforestation of the streams continues the result will be the desiccation of large areas of the district. The Suk are inveterate grass burners, and are quite

indifferent to the results of fires when they start. They burn and destroy valuable forest when breaking new land, which they do annually under their present shifting methods of cultivation, and they burn the higher grasslands not only to get the early grass but also to kill off cattle pests. During the months of December and January fires can be seen every night in all parts of the district, and the most stringent discouragement of this practice in the past by Administrative Officers does not appear to have had any effect. It is extremely hard to distinguish legitimate from wanton burning and to bring offenders to book.

"Forest preservation as an essential to their well-being is impressed on the Suk at every *baraza*, and during the year certain progress has been made."

24. As a result of a *safari* made in January by the District Commissioner and the Assistant Conservator of Forests, a resolution was put to the Local Native Council and finally passed in August.

The Council by the resolution agreed to set aside certain areas as definite Native Forest Reserve and to make it illegal to burn within those areas or to fell timber.

It was a distinct achievement to persuade the Suk to pass the resolution referred to, as hitherto they had shown complete indifference to the welfare of their forests, and possessed themselves to be completely competent to look after them.

## CHAPTER IX AGRICULTURE

It is the opinion of the Director of Agriculture that, despite unfavourable weather conditions experienced throughout most of the Native Reserves during the latter half of the year, 1936 can be regarded as a year in which the progress of native agriculture was most satisfactory.

2. Under the direction of Agricultural Officers, measures for the prevention of soil erosion were extensively pursued, work for the improvement and increased production of the more important food and cash crops was consolidated, while the development of marketing and inspection services had a far-reaching effect on the quality of the produce offered for sale and on the growing of more remunerative types of both food and cash crops.

3. At the end of the previous year, Mr. S. Milligan, an expert on cotton growing, visited all the cotton-growing areas of the Colony, and early in the year his inspection note was received by Government. He expressed the opinion that the development of cotton production in the Colony had to some extent outrun knowledge of the subject, and he recommended that three Agricultural Officers should be released from routine duties to carry on further investigational work. In accordance with this advice, one officer proceeded to the Empire Cotton Growing Corporation's central station at Barberton in South Africa for nine months to study cotton selection, experimental methods, and final examination technique.

During the year various samples of cotton were sent to the Imperial Institute for examination. Encouraging reports on the quality of cotton grown in Kenya were received, and in conjunction with variety trials helped the Agricultural Department to determine the types of cotton to be grown in the various areas.

4. Three ginneries were erected during the year, at Sagana in the Central Province, and at Ndere Province, and the cotton industry has again shown satisfactory progress. There are now twelve ginneries operating in the Colony. The following table shows the increase in cotton production during the last seven years:—

YEAR	Nyanza Province	Coast Province	Central Province	Total Production
	<i>Bales</i>	<i>Bales</i>	<i>Bales</i>	<i>Bales</i>
1930-1931	740	43		783
1931-1932	1,267	487		1,754
1932-1933	3,219	1,067		4,286
1934-1934	5,600	1,059		6,740
1934-1935	7,200	1,567		8,773
1935-1936	11,830	3,730	223	15,783
1936-1937	17,840	2,840	1,360	22,040

The total production from the 1936-planted crop represents a revenue of about £180,000.

5. The acreage under wattle increased in the higher areas of the Central Province, while 9,000 acres were planted in the Nyanza Province.

The crop is most valuable for timber and fuel requirements and also as a soil rejuvenator, and, as a means of

economically utilizing steep slopes, serves as a most useful measure for counteracting soil erosion.

The following figures show the increase in bark exportation from the Central Province:—

	1931	1933	1934	1936
Dry Bark	Tons 9,600	Tons 10,500	Tons 12,900	Tons 11,979
Green Bark (for extract)			3,780	8,309

6. The subject of soil erosion has received the constant attention of all field staff, and active propaganda and instruction, accompanied by demonstrations relating to soil control, have been given to natives in all districts. Reclamation projects have been undertaken in the Central and Nyanza Provinces, and the work in the Baringo Reserve continued.

7. Considerable attention has been devoted during the year to famine prevention and the increased growing of drought-resistant food crops. It is estimated that in the Kitui District of the Central Province 26,000 acres of cassava were planted during the year, and its popularity as a staple food is rapidly increasing in native areas.

The suspicious and conservative taste of the native militates against the rapid adoption of new food crops; but the difficulty is being overcome, and many are now realizing the place that the growing of such crops should occupy in the scheme of development, and the danger of famine occurring in the more important native areas is becoming negligible.

8. Early in the year the Carnegie Corporation made a grant for the appointment of a Marketing Officer for native produce. The officer travelled extensively in the Reserves during the year, where he occupied himself with the—

- (a) Survey of inspection services, establishing of fresh centres, obtaining data for revision of the Native Produce and Inspection Rules;
- (b) Bringing into operation rules enacted under the Marketing of Native Produce Ordinance; assisting in the organization and bringing into operation of the markets at the fixed centres.

9. The introduction of compulsory central inspection in the Nyanza and Central Provinces has done much to improve the quality of native produce.

At the inspection centres all specified produce of inferior quality is rejected and the native is given an opportunity of sorting the produce and offering the sound portion for a second inspection. The educative effect is great. It teaches the native to sort the produce at his own home before bringing it to the inspection centre and the necessity of planting the best available seed.

10. The application of the Marketing of Native Produce Ordinance to the Central Province has proved most successful and will be of great value to the native producer. It now applies to the export of wattle bark, maize, beans, and potatoes, and the inclusion of other products is now under consideration.

A great deal of work has been done by Administrative and Agricultural Officers to prepare the way for the introduction of the Ordinance in the Nyanza Province, but so far its application has awaited the result of the marketing system in the Central Province.

11. During the year investigations were made to securing further overseas markets for native crops. The value of native exports from the Colony during the year amounted to £471,546.

#### Nyanza Province

12. The year was one of steady progress and increased development.

13. There were 157 native agricultural instructors and grain inspectors working in the Province during the year. The senior instructors are gaining knowledge of the problems to a marked degree, and are gradually relieving European Agricultural Officers of many routine responsibilities, and are a great help in initiating new instructors in field methods. Of these instructors one hundred were paid from Government funds and fifty-seven by Local Native Councils.

14. The acreage of the cotton crop was considerably extended, and, though the price obtained was unsatisfactory, the amount paid to the growers was approximately £76,544, an increase of £21,544 over the previous year.

The 1936-37 crop should yield fully £144,500 to the growers.

During the year a new ginnery of the latest design was opened at Ndere, in Alego, Central Kavirondo, which, writes

the District Commissioner, is a monument to agricultural progress and gives the native and everybody concerned a feeling of achievement. There are now six ginneries in the Province.

15. The groundnut crop made some progress in certain suitable locations of North Kavirondo. While from Uyoma, in Central Kavirondo, 500 tons were harvested, and in South Kavirondo there was a record harvest of 2,121 tons of excellent quality nuts, as against 782 tons in the previous year. It was estimated that growers received about £23,331 for the crop. Prices at Kisumu averaged Sh. 3/25 a frasila.

16. The simsim crop improved in quality, and the 1936-37 crop showed a very large increase in acreage.

Inspection services have done much to improve the quality of maize, and allowed dealers for the first time to get into the export market beyond East Africa and the African coast. A large proportion was graded K2 and K3. Some 60,000 bags were exported outside the Colony. The price improved from Sh. 3 early in the year to Sh. 8 at the end of the year.

Local demand for maize has been good, due to mining activities and general improvement in trade. The crop in the South Lumbwa Reserve was much reduced owing to heavy rains and the low prices which prevailed during the previous season.

18. There was a continued increase in the acreage under rice in North Kavirondo; 450 acres were planted in the valley of the Nzoia River, while elsewhere successful trial plantings were made and development proceeded.

The marketing of this crop in North Kavirondo has been a real difficulty, and natives have been obliged to hull most of it in their village hand mortars. By the end of the year a Kisumu firm had ordered a very large hulling plant which should do much to encourage expansion.

In Central Kavirondo the crop proved very successful in the lower lake areas, and 2,000 bags were sold from Nyakach alone. Extensive plantings were made in September.

19. Plantings of Arabica coffee were extended to a total of 50 acres in the Kisil highlands of South Kavirondo, and a further twelve acres were prepared for planting.

Robusta coffee seed was sown in certain areas for the first time, but, except in one location of the South Kavirondo District, where 200 people have prepared land ready for planting, natives show little enthusiasm for coffee-growing.

20. The tobacco crop of the previous year was sold in February at Butere in North Kavirondo, and amounted to 14,00 lb. Most of the leaf was classed as mixed grade, and realized 20 cents a lb. During the year nine central nurseries were established, and seedlings were issued to 750 growers, who planted 80 acres in the long rains. Unsuitable weather conditions prevailed, and the crop was inferior in quality to that of the previous year. Buying started in December, and 19,222 lb. were sold at an average price of 21 cents per lb., from which the growers realized £201.

21. Satisfactory food crops were grown in most areas, despite somewhat unfavourable weather conditions. From South Kavirondo 1,000 tons of wimbi were exported at a value of £3,600, and towards the end of the year the price improved considerably at Kisumu and Sh. 8 a bag realized.

22. There was a steady increase in production of fruit tables—cabbages, carrots, onions, and tomatoes—in rural areas near townships and mining areas, where there is a ready market, and whereas in the past few growers cultivated vegetables themselves, a considerable amount is now grown for home use.

23. The three Local Native Council seed farms at Kakamega, Maseno and Kisi, where 130 acres were under cultivation, proved valuable in the production and bulking of improved strains and varieties of seed for issue to natives. They are also used for demonstration purposes and for a certain amount of selection and investigational work. Similar work is done at the Bukura Agricultural School and Farm in the North Kavirondo District, where 160 acres are under cultivation. Here there were 38 apprentices in residence throughout the year, 20 of whom completed their three years' training.

Fifteen small trial and observation plots were sited in the cotton areas. Information was sought in regard to the best planting seasons, density of planting, interplanting of pulses between the rows of cotton, and with a view to testing the new Uganda variety against the type now grown.

24. The new challenge for increased output and more money has caused the native cultivators to purchase increasing numbers of ploughs. It is a conservative estimate that over

the District Commissioner, is a monument to agricultural progress and gives the native and everybody concerned a feeling of achievement. There are now six-ginneries in the Province.

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24. The new challenge for increased output and more money has caused the native cultivators to purchase increasing numbers of ploughs. It is a conservative estimate that over

3,000 ploughs were sold in Kisumu, one firm selling 1,282. This enormous increase is causing anxiety where soil erosion is liable to take place, and contour ploughing is being strongly recommended.

25. Much time was spent by all agricultural officers and instructors on the important work of soil conservation. Certain locations need particular attention owing to the occurrence of frequent drought periods, dense human or stock populations, careless methods of cultivation and denudation of trees causing wind erosion.

To combat this danger a meeting between all Administrative and Agricultural Officers was held, and a very carefully prepared memorandum was drawn up giving clear instructions for greater concentration and methods to be adopted. These embrace—

- (1) Procedure for improved land tenure;
- (2) Reclamation schemes;
- (3) Windbreaks;
- (4) Dams—increase of;
- (5) Road drainage;
- (6) Controlled grazing;
- (7) Stall feeding of cattle;
- (8) Treatment of abandoned arable land;
- (9) Ploughing methods;
- (10) Road-side *shambas*;
- (11) Manure and compost;
- (12) *Shamba* boundary furrows;
- (13) Sloping fields to have banks, stone terraces, line contour hedges, etc.;
- (14) Control of stock population;
- (15) Control of grass burning.

Certain demonstrations were made during the year on a large scale, and a large number of natives were induced to take various precautions in their own fields, and in many cases the value of these precautions is already being appreciated.

26. In spite of the need for greater development in the direction of mixed farming and smallholdings, it has been found that progress can only be slow until natives acquire more knowledge of a better land tenure system. The original smallholding at Bukura School has continued with success, and others are being developed at Kakamega, Maseno and Kisii.

27. During the past years, work in connexion with famine prevention has been of supreme importance, with the result that the position in regard to food crops has been consolidated and, in comparison with the situation a few years ago, the danger of famine is now negligible.

The work has been carried out along two main lines—

- (a) The introduction, selection, trial and bulking for issue of improved drought-resistant food crops;
- (b) The extension of the growing of existing native drought-resistant crops.

During the past year the development in the cultivation of rice on the lake shore papyrus swamps in parts of Central and North Kavirondo, and the rapidly expanding drought-resistant cotton crop, which has proved its value as a cash crop, have both helped to improve the position.

28. Early in the year the system of central inspection of produce was extended to all parts of the three Kavirondo districts. In South Kavirondo, where produce travels on a few easily controlled routes, the system operated without difficulty, but in Central and North Kavirondo, where roads leave the districts and large local consumption exists, evasion of inspection was possible.

During the year rules under the Crop Produce and Live Stock Ordinance were revised to enforce central inspection of all scheduled produce, and this has resulted in a greatly improved quality, particularly of maize and simsim, being offered for sale.

#### Central Province

29. Of the year's work the Provincial Commissioner writes:—

"The application of the Marketing of Native Produce Ordinance to the Province proved of general value to the natives. Reports from the districts testify to its efficacy in concentrating the buying and selling of produce in markets, and in improving the price for the native producer. Since its application, 171 markets have been gazetted, and over 1,000 licences issued to traders. The Produce Inspection Rules under the Crop Production and Live Stock Ordinance, which were introduced in the early part of the year, ensured improvement in quality of maize, while 32,858 bags of legumes, 5,436 bags of potatoes, and 20,288 tons of wattle bark were inspected.

"Inspection and the resultant improvement of quality enabled the Kenya Farmers' Association to enter the market as competitors in the purchase of maize and legumes, and ensured a spectacular increase in the price for these commodities. Most of the maize offered at Karatina in the South Nyeri District was graded as K2 or K3.

"During the year the acreage under drought-resistant crops, i.e. cotton, cassava, legumes, millet, muratha maize, and sorghum, in the famine areas was increased from 14,093 acres in 1935 to an estimated 54,450 acres.

"One of the most encouraging features of the agricultural position in the reserves is the increase of confidence on the part of Africans in the assistance and instruction lavishly put at their disposal by Agricultural Officers and their African assistants; the increased readiness to adopt improved agricultural methods, and the friendly co-operation which has replaced the former attitude of suspicious conservatism.

"Attacks upon this conservatism have been made by constant demonstrations in the field, by the issue of improved seed, by escorted visits to seed farms and by lectures of Agricultural Officers at central schools and of native instructors at village schools. In fact, no channel of instruction and propaganda has been left unexplored in order to ensure that the lesson is brought home to every section of the community which has to live by cultivation of the soil."

30. There is a staff of 135 native agricultural instructors and 38 inspectors working in the Province. Sixty-five instructors are employed by the Agricultural Department and 70 by Local Native Councils.

31. There thirteen Local Native Council seed farms at altitudes varying from 3,600 feet to 6,800 feet above sea-level, with 300 acres under cultivation.

These seed farms serve as centres for the agricultural work of the districts, providing scope for experimental work and for demonstrations, in addition to fulfilling their main function as sources of supply of superior acclimatized seed.

As native agriculture has progressed, so it has been found possible to make use of the more advanced farmers for the bulking of new and better varieties of seed. The seed so produced is bought in by the Local Native Council for bulk issues.

The number of individual natives interested in the use of improved methods of agriculture has greatly increased, and much of the instructors' time is occupied in demonstrating to these daily visitors.

In addition, field days are held, when parties of headmen, elders, school teachers and pupils are given demonstrations on anti-soil erosion measures, mixed farming methods, dairying, compost-making, beekeeping, seed selection, the proper cultivation of crops of local importance, and the use of implements.

32. Wherever possible the system of mixed farming is advocated, and, at the same time, records are kept of milk production of cows for the selection of higher-yielding animals.

The extension of the mixed farming system, in order to maintain soil fertility, is regarded as of the utmost importance, as one of the main anxieties connected with the agricultural situation is that the increase of intensive cultivation, coupled with the expanding population, has increased the danger of soil erosion generally throughout the reserves.

In every reserve measures were taken during the year to recondition eroded hillsides in selected areas for demonstration purposes, because measures on a more comprehensive scale were financially impracticable; and concurrently steps nurseries of Napier grass were instituted in Meru, Nyeri, Fort Hall and Kiambu for the planting of Napier grass along the contours of cultivated hillsides, and cuttings were freely issued to the people.

The compost-pit campaign is bearing fruit, and 74,549 are reported to be in existence in the reserves. The difficulties arising from the relationship of right-holder and tenant in the Kikuyu land system militate against manuring operations, and will continue until safeguards for both classes, acceptable to the people, have been devised and enacted.

33. In the Ragati Valley of the Embu District an investigation was undertaken by a representative of the British American Tobacco Co. into the growing of flue-cured tobacco, and a flue-curing barn was erected by the Company. Thirty natives planted one-quarter of an acre each in October and November, and at the end of the year the crop was promising. It is hoped that experiments will be extended to the Kitui District. The prospects of rice growing in the Meru District, of coffee in the Embu and Meru Districts, and of cotton in all three districts have brought hopes of hitherto undreamt of economic prosperity and agricultural expansion for the poorest districts of the Province.

34. The compulsory central inspection of wattle bark was continued during the year, and functioned satisfactorily in maintaining the standard required by exporters. The price of Kenya bark varies between parity with Natal bark and Sh. 2/50 per ton less. Before inspection was instituted in the previous year, the difference in price was as much as Sh. 30 per ton.

The production of wattle bark from native reserves in the Province this year was 11,979 tons of dry and 8,309 tons of green bark. The value to the native was approximately £48,000.

The planting of wattle on the hills in the Machakos District may be the means of reforesting these hillsides, and will help in obviating the evils of erosion and desiccation that confront that district. 130 tons of bark from Kilungu and Iveti were sold by natives during the year.

35. The Marketing of Native Produce Ordinance was applied to the Province, with the exception of the Kitui District, in June, and the satisfactory results therefrom have been the subject of comment elsewhere. The system is simple and appeals to the native, who gets a reasonable price for his produce; the legitimate trader gets a larger turnover and is protected against outside buying, and the large export buyer knows exactly where to go to obtain his necessary bulk consignments.

36. The Local Native Councils of South Nyeri, Fort Hall, Embu, Kiambu, have erected godowns at Railway Stations, and have appointed agents to buy and dispose of produce.

The Kenya Farmers' Association took over these agencies in May, and this has proved of great value to the natives in maintaining steady prices.

37. Measures to prevent famine have been pursued in the lower-lying areas of the Province, and have met with the most striking progress in the Kitui District. Here, in the year 1933, when an Agricultural Officer was first stationed in the district, even the most primitive implements were practically unknown.

Now the majority of the people have hoes, and this alone has made the difference of a fair yield being obtained where before no yield was possible. Campaigns for the planting of cassava were inaugurated eighteen months ago, when large quantities of cassava sets were imported for issue. In Kitui

District 80 per cent of the natives in the higher areas have already got at least one-third of an acre of cassava planted, while in the lower half of the district 30 per cent have planted one-third of an acre plots.

38. Individual natives who have given the cotton crop the required cultivation have had yields of up to 600 lb. per acre, and have received a very good cash return. The crop has been of incalculable benefit to the Kitui District.

The total production of cotton from the Province in the 1935-36 season was 1,240 bales, and, considering that this is the first season cotton has been grown, the result is encouraging.

A new ginnery was opened at Sagana in the Embu District in June, and the prices offered were 12 cents and 6 cents for the first and second quality respectively.

39. Most of the natives who are planting coffee in the Embu and Meru Districts have taken a keen interest in the crop, and nearly all *shambas* are boxed, terraced and mulched. Dr. Irvine, of the Church of Scotland Mission at Chogoria, has been of great assistance in the inspection of this crop. The total area under Arabica coffee is 47 acres.

In November of the previous year a Robusta coffee nursery was started in the Meru District, and at the end of the year 2,000 vigorous seedlings were available for early planting.

40. Kitui District is the main beeswax-producing area of the Province, and 23 tons were exported during the year. The drought of the previous year appears to have reduced the number of swarms, and thus curtailed production.

41. Agricultural education receives a good deal of attention at meetings of the District Education Boards, and each board now employs native agricultural instructors, whose duty it is to visit all schools and to lecture and advise in agricultural subjects and on the lay-out of school gardens.

42. Agricultural committees, composed of the more advanced native farmers from each district, have been in operation for a number of years. These committees have been found of great value in the dissemination of knowledge, and each member is expected to run his holding as a demonstration to his neighbours. Agricultural matters for consideration by Local Native Councils are first of all discussed and thrashed out by these committees.

In the Fort Hall District, at a meeting of the four divisional committees held in September, the Agricultural Officer lectured on a number of important subjects, including soil erosion and the operation of the Marketing of Native Produce Ordinance.

43. The financial help given by Local Native Councils in the Province to agricultural work is invaluable, and the sum of £3,374 was allocated from Council funds.

44. In the Machakos District the problem of soil erosion and the drastic methods necessary to tackle it present a very serious problem.

To ensure a more vigorous prosecution of the campaign and to formulate a long-range policy of reconditioning, a committee was appointed at the end of the previous year, which was strengthened by the inclusion of two unofficial members. The committee met three times during the year, a policy was formed, and a detailed three-year programme of reconditioning was evolved and approved.

The District Commissioner, who is now chairman of the committee, writes:—

"In furtherance of this policy and programme some 25,000 acres have been de-stocked, 200 acres have been stagger-trenched, over 100 acres were planted with tree seed at stake in Kiteta, and 3,000 cedars were planted in Momandu, 400 acres of Napier grass were planted in *shambas* of about one-quarter to one-half an acre each in Muputi, Kalama and Kilungu, large numbers of sisal bulbs were issued for the eventual fencing of private land holdings, a start was made with Napier grass contouring in Iveti, and bullocks and gear were purchased for dam making and preparations made for a start on the first new dam at Momandu.

"But alas for men's propositions. The good Providence omitted to send the rain on which so many of these enterprises depended, and, as a result, most of the planting remains to be done again. But at least a start has been made, and it has been shown that no inherent obstacle or opposition exists to the application at least of reconditioning methods to the holdings of private individuals. This willingness to co-operate does at least show that the native population, if still somewhat apathetic, appreciates its danger to some small extent. Another crumb of comfort is to be derived from the readiness, almost eagerness, of the

population to fence their holdings, and the improvement noticeable in the holdings so fenced.

"Unfortunately this willingness does not extend to communal enterprises, which have not yielded the best results in consequence, and still less does it extend to any proposals for reforestation by the Forest Department, the only body which is thought capable of producing much in the way of results. Opposition to such proposals is adamant, and the best that has been achieved is an undertaking to plant the upper hillsides, each man on his own holding, and a very grudging acquiescence, if acquiescence it was, in the suggestion that if they fail to produce results the Government might take it over."

The chief problem encountered in the control of erosion on grazing lands has been the difficulty in finding a suitable tribal unit to work on for the rotation of grazing. Attempts are now being made to make each landowner demarcate his holding with sisal boundaries, and should any holding show signs of erosion the owner will be held responsible for continuing reconditioning measures. This will eliminate the communal land, which owing to the constant use for all and sundry becomes rapidly eroded. It is realized a series of problems may result, notably the emergence of a landless class of natives.

The deliberations of the Reconditioning Committee have been directed towards the problem of the Yatta Plateau. The figure of 15,000 head of cattle was accepted as the maximum which the Yatta grazing is capable of maintaining without deterioration, while a rough count made by the Veterinary Officer revealed that there were some 49,000 head grazing.

Action to deal with this problem so far taken comprises the division of the plateau into roughly two equal halves to provide for seasonal alternation of grazing, the total prohibition of goats on the plateau, and the framing of rules for the reduction of stock.

The District Commissioner writes:—

"One circumstance offers a ray of hope. The meat factory so devoutly hoped for and so long in coming is now taking definite though not yet concrete form in Liebig's Extract Factory to be erected at Athi River. This factory may provide in years to come the solution of the problem of disposing of the natural increase of native herds; but it is optimistic to suppose that it can go very far towards disposing of the large numbers that must be de-stocked in order

to reduce the cattle population to the number that can safely be carried by the reserve."

#### Rift Valley Province

45. Good rains fell throughout the Province, but varied in their intensity; at Kapsabet in the Nandi District 69.44 in. was registered, while at Maralal in the Samburu area a fall of 34.63 in. only was recorded.

In the Nandi District the rain was excessive, retarding the planting of *shambas* and maturing of crops.

46. In the Elgeyo-Marakwet District the inherent idleness of the people and the depredations of pig, baboon and the like retard the agricultural development which the natural fertility of the country offers. For years large seed issues have been given out, banana cuttings, muhogo, sweet potatoes, etc., but despite these efforts the Elgeyo and Marakwet have gone back to *wimbi* and *mtama*. There is a certain amount of maize grown, which is the only new crop that has been persisted with.

There was a food shortage in two locations, but it has been made clear to the people that only in exceptional circumstances will famine relief be available. It was felt that such relief would only encourage further idleness, and, by work outside the reserves, sufficient money could be made wherewith to buy food.

47. In the Baringo District a scheme is on foot to obtain sufficient water from the Perkerra River to irrigate about 3,000 acres of land occupied by the Njemps, but it would appear that the scheme may be too costly to justify the expenditure involved.

The Reconditioning Officer has worked hard during the year, mostly in Southern Kamasia. More land has been put under grass, dams are in course of construction, and every effort is being made to combat soil erosion.

Shortage of funds has been a severe handicap, but the Local Native Council has now voted a special rate of Sh. 1 per adult male, which will be of great assistance in carrying on the work. In the reconditioned area stock control is closely supervised.

48. In Samburu, agriculture is practically non-existent, as the tribe is pastoral and only a few are interested in cultivation.

At Wamba, however, the District Commissioner has started a settlement of some 300 Wandorobo who were brought in from the various mountain ranges of the district, where they had been living in a state of semi-starvation and out of touch with the Administration. They all received a small ration of *posho* to start with, and were induced to cultivate *shambas*, though they had no idea how to begin. Rains have been good and crops successful, so it is hoped that they will remain and prosper at Wamba, and that nothing will happen to cause them to retreat once more to the mountain tops.

#### Coast Province

49. During the year the agricultural staff consisted of a provincial officer, two agricultural officers stationed at Kwale and Kilifi, one officer in charge of the Kibarani Experimental Station, one Asiatic agricultural assistant, and fifty-three native agricultural instructors.

50. Although the total rain fall recorded at most stations was somewhat above the average, precipitation throughout the year was badly distributed, and was unfavourable to agricultural success.

The long-rains food crops grew fairly well, and areas average harvests were obtained, so that the food supply was secure, but owing to the failure of the short rains at the end of the year it is anticipated that the position in some districts will not be satisfactory until the long-rains harvest matures in 1937.

51. On cotton production, the Provincial Commissioner writes:—

"Cotton is now the most important export crop. The following figures indicate the rapid progress made over the last few years:—

Year	Acres	Yield
		lb.
1931-32	1,370	927,866
1932-33	3,750	1,420,320
1933-34	6,000	1,440,210
1934-35	8,600	2,184,312
1935-36	16,000	4,824,435
1936-37	23,500	4,000,000*

\*Estimated

"This year there has again been a large increase in acreage in Kilifi, Malindi and Digo Districts, chiefly in the hinterland country. Cotton was planted in the Duruma area for the first time.

"The yield, however, was disappointing. Although growth was good until September, adverse conditions prevailed during the last four months. Drought and disease, leaf shedding, premature boll bursting and shedding decimated the crop.

In Lamu and Tana River Districts progress has been most encouraging. The acreage was doubled, and on the whole the crop grew well, and had not dry conditions been experienced in November and December the total crop would have been double that of last season. The rapid advance in these districts has led to the establishment of a small machinery of eight gins at Lamu.

"In Taveta the acreage was nearly doubled. Owing to adequate rain, no irrigation was necessary, and an excellent crop was obtained. The *shumbas* were all measured up in an effort to get really reliable information as to the possibilities of the crop in this fertile area. The result was remarkable:—

Year	Acreage	Yield	Yield per Acre
1934	20 (estimated)	11,225	561.25
1935	100 "	64,058	640.58
1936	189 (measured)	215,749	1,141.05

"An attempt to introduce cotton in Teita proved a failure. Although some of the people asked for seed they were either too lazy to plant it, or planted it too late, or again too lazy to cultivate and to pick it."

52. The development of cotton-growing in the Taveta area was again under the supervision of the Agricultural Officer, Moshi, and the result has been most gratifying.

53. The value of the cashew nut as a subsidiary export crop is becoming more and more appreciated. Propaganda encouraging the increased planting of this crop continued, and numbers of young trees are to be seen about the reserves. The trees carried an excellent crop, and it is anticipated that 245 tons will be sold for export, as compared with 98 tons in the previous year.

This increase is due mainly to the fact that growers realize the value of the crop and harvest it, whereas in former years a large proportion was allowed to fall and rot on the ground.

54. Work is now in progress on a scheme for consolidating the development in rice growing made during recent years in the Kau-Ozi area of the Tana River District. The erosion of the soft alluvial soil, caused by the tidal effect of the river, is being overcome by the building of dams and sluices across the water channels; and suitable trees are being planted along the river banks and large gulleys, to prevent scouring.

Frequent overflowing of the river occurred during the beginning of the long-rains season, and only a medium crop was harvested in the Kau-Ozi area. The short-rains crop, however, has grown excellently, and a very good harvest is being secured. It is expected that this harvest will be in the vicinity of 10,000 bags (150 lb. each).

The irrigated rice in the Vanga area of Digo produced an excellent crop, but over the Province generally the crop from the uncontrolled swamps caused by excess water is poorer than in the past years.

55. Coco-nut palms yielded well. Prices for them rose rapidly during the last three months of the year, and followed a good trade. In both raw nuts and copra, in Mombasa and at the local soap and oil mills.

56. There is only one Local Native Council seed farm in the Province, which is at Kwale in the Digo Reserve. Twenty-one acres were under cultivation during the year and will be increased in order to bring the farm under a definite rotation and produce greater supplies of the more drought-resisting types of food crops, which are urgently needed in many parts of the district.

57. The Coast Experimental Station at Kibarani continued to be the seed bulking centre for the Kilifi District and Lamu and the Tana River Districts, which have no Local Native Councils. Valuable experimental work was carried out at the station during the year, and the bulking of drought-resisting types of maize, sorghums, millets and beans for issue to natives continued.

At this centre native apprentices are being engaged and are being given a practical course in field work.

58. With the exception of the Teita Hills, and a few areas along the Coast strip, soil erosion caused by rain water is not so serious as it is in other parts of the Province, but in order to arrest any sheet erosion which may be taking place the adoption of soil erosion measures has been urged on even slightly sloping land.

In November, the Teita Local Native Council approved the issue of comprehensive orders making soil control measures compulsory.

At Wundanyi Estate terracing took place and the planting of wash stops, which were followed here and there in the reserve. The missions in the district have co-operated in the campaign, and their help will be most valuable in the fight against the evil.

59. An experiment worthy of record was made in the Digo District, where the Agricultural Officer instituted at convenient centres a number of agricultural councils, which consist of the *lalo* elders and a small number of other elders of standing. These have proved a success, and the elders seem to take an interest, and offer their opinions freely. These Councils should prove a valuable means of educating native opinion, and at the same time will enable Government officers to acquaint themselves with native ideas on agriculture, which not infrequently have a sound basis derived from years of practical experience.

60. The Coast Advisory Committee of the Board of Agriculture met three times during the year, and discussed among other subjects rice growing on the Tana River and the improvement in quality of fruit grown in the Province.

#### *Masai District*

61. There is a limited area in the District suitable for agricultural activity, but the Masai appear to be taking greater interest, and some, with the help of paid Kikuyu, are beginning to cultivate. Fourteen thousand bags of maize were sold during the year to the traders at Narok.

The pupils at Loltokitok School have 30 acres under crops, and the produce resulted in £76 being credited to the Local Native Council and a considerable saving on expenditure for the upkeep of the school.

A good maize crop was grown at Narok School, but as the gardens have to be irrigated considerable work is entailed.

#### *Turkana District*

62. Rain was abundant in the district, and 14.67 inches fell at Lodwar, an amount which is double last year's record fall, while nearly 22 inches was recorded at Lokitaung. The Turkwell River flowed at Lodwar from March to October.

The early rains in February and March took the Turkana by surprise, and as a result the mtama near Lodwar and the crops at Kaputir were only moderately successful. To insure against a recurrence of this risk, they have asked the District Commissioner to give due notice of the breaking of the rains in 1937!

63. The District Commissioner writes:—

"Chief Lokimak's experiments in the Oropoi were attended with success, and there is little doubt that this valley, with its regular water supply from the rains on the Uganda escarpment, provides the most suitable field for agricultural enterprise.

"Of the possibilities and potentialities of the remaining areas of Turkana it is impossible to be sanguine, the climate is too unsuitable, years of drought predominate.

64. Dates planted on the banks of the Turkwell have proved only partially successful.

65. In the West Suk District the year's work is described thus by the District Commissioner:—

"There are eight demonstration plots in the reserve, four above 5,000 feet, and four in the plains. In these plots the following crops, among others, have been successfully grown: Maize (flat white in the highlands and yellow in the lowlands), groundnuts, simsim, cotton, English potatoes, onions, cabbages, cauliflowers, several varieties of beans (including Rose Coco, Canadian Wonder, Madagascar, and Tepary), cassava, pawpaws, bananas, pineapples, tomatoes, njahi-green gram, pigeon-pea, and root crops such as dasheen and tannias.

"The plots are all in excellent condition, and the soil in them is showing great improvement on that of the surrounding country.

"These plots are invaluable, not only in demonstrating to the Suk the possibilities of proper methods of agriculture, but also as seed distributing centres.

"The Suk, whose only crops a few years ago were wimbi and mtama, are now growing maize, sweet potatoes, groundnuts, cassava, and bananas.

"The credit for this progress must be given almost entirely to Mr. Chaundy, whose patience and indefatigable efforts have achieved so much. The Suk are not an easy people to instruct, as they will raise objection after objection to any innovation, and will refuse to plant a crop on all kinds of strange grounds; maize, we are informed, makes women so fat that they cannot bear children, and will also make cows go dry—especially if the Suk are feeling particularly obstructive.

"It is hoped that the agricultural policy, started and so well carried on by Mr. Chaundy, will be rigorously pursued in the years to come, as the Suk have no future except through agriculture.

"The year has been an excellent one for crops.

"On three of the plains plots (altitude, 3,000 feet) cotton was planted, and samples have been sent to the Imperial Institute. Their report is awaited."

#### *Northern Frontier District*

66. From Garissa District it is reported that agriculture again suffered a severe setback when the Tana flood in March destroyed about 50 per cent of the maize, 75 per cent of the rice, and washed away a large number of bananas which had been planted too close to the river.

As the Tana subsided, new land which had not been flooded for several years was available for cultivation, and good crops were reaped later in the year. The chief crops grown were maize, rice and bananas, but there was a considerable amount of sugar cane between Kasho and Moju which did not appear to suffer from the floods.

Foxtail millet has proved very popular, and fair crops of butter beans and groundnuts were obtained below Garissa.

The natives are undoubtedly coming to realize the value of quick maturing varieties of rice, and the experimental plot at Garissa has been continued.

67. Every effort was made to interest the river population in the commercial value of bees-wax, but there remained a strong tribal prejudice against collecting it, and traders were unwilling to give a fair price unless a considerable quantity was produced for sale.

The District Commissioner, Moyale, writes:—

"Long-rain crops were good and prices good. Drought-resistant seeds of red maize and certain millets and beans

were tried, as well as wheat. The wheat was attacked by something in the nature of cutworm, and did not do well. The red maize was successful, and certainly ripened in a shorter time than local varieties."

## CHAPTER X

### LIVE STOCK

A conference on Co-ordination of Veterinary Research was held at Kabete in January, and was attended by delegates from Tanganyika Territory, Uganda, Sudan, and the Belgian Congo.

2. The Meat and Live Stock Inquiry Committee, appointed towards the end of the previous year to investigate the possibility of organizing a meat export trade, continued its deliberations, and, as an outcome, Government completed negotiations during the year with Messrs. Liebig's Extract of Meat Company for the erection and operation of a factory in Kenya. It was agreed to lease to the Company an area of land near the Railway, within easy reach of Nairobi, and the Company consented to grant a lease for a period of ten years of 10,000 acres in close proximity.

3. The factory will be situated at Athi River, halfway between Nairobi and Machakos, and it is anticipated that it will absorb from 30,000 to 45,000 head of cattle per annum. This number will account for only a small proportion of native surplus-cattle, but it is hoped that the existence of the factory will prove some inducement to the Machakos Kamba to rid themselves of unprofitable stock.

4. The five veterinary training centres at Ngong, Machakos, Maseno, Sangalo, and Baraton continued their work of instruction and demonstration, and were attended by some 150 pupils during the year.

5. Much of the time of the veterinary staff in native reserves was occupied in disease control, and while the position caused some anxiety, no serious outbreak of stock disease occurred.

6. Progress in the native dairy industry was satisfactory, and at the end of the year there were 772 dairies operating in the reserves, and the production of ghee approximated 10,000 cwt.

7. Continuous propaganda resulted in the export of an increased number of shade-dried hides. A decrease in the total volume of hides exported is attributable mainly to decreased mortality from drought conditions in the native reserves, but, owing to the rise in value and the increased export of skins, the total value of hides and skins exported from the Colony amounted to £191,421, as compared with £179,387 in the previous year.

The Hides and Skins Rules, 1931, have now been applied to the Kavirondo, Kamba and Masai Districts, the Samburu area, and the Embu District of the Central Province. These Rules, which in certain districts have been supplemented by Local Native Council resolutions, are of great benefit to the industry generally.

During the year an amendment rule was passed which makes an offence for any trader to buy or sell any hide which, through incomplete drying, is in a condition unfit for storage or shipment.

8. Instructions in flaying and the preparation of hides for marketing form an important part of the instruction given at veterinary training centres, as many ex-pupils are placed in charge of hide-drying sheds.

At the end of the year there were some 360 shade-drying sheds operating throughout the native reserves.

The price of shade-dried goatskins advanced from Sh. 16 to Sh. 36 a score at the end of the year, which has been a stimulus to better methods of drying.

9. It will be noticed in the following pages that the value of cattle varied considerably in the reserves. The price in Nyanza Province was as high as Sh. 110, while in Samburu, where the cattle are of good quality, the average price obtained for a bullock was Sh. 24.

#### Nyanza Province

10. Rinderpest was effectively controlled in Central and North Kavirondo during the year, though, in the latter area, there exists a large number of susceptible stock which constitute a potential danger. In South Kavirondo little impression was made, and mortality was heavy.

One positive case of rabies occurred in Kakamega Township, pleuro-pneumonia persisted in the Lumbwa Reserve, cases of trypanosomiasis were reported from five locations of

the South Kavirondo District, and this disease is spreading in the north-western location of Central Kavirondo. Foot-and-mouth disease also occurred in all the Kavirondo districts.

11. A decrease occurred in the number of hides exported, but this was off-set by the increase in value obtained.

Over-keen competition between exporting firms towards the latter part of the year provided an incentive and opportunity for the sale of badly prepared and incompletely dried hides, and it was necessary to keep a close watch on the producers. The standard of preparation, particularly in Central Kavirondo, showed a marked improvement owing to the application of a Local Native Council resolution requiring that only trained and certificated hide cleaners should be allowed to work in the Local Native Council hide *bandas*. The erection of permanent hide *bandas* of uniform type continued throughout the Province, and a large number of grass-roofed sheds were erected in the cotton area.

The following is the amount in value and cwt. of hides and skins exported from the Kavirondo Districts:—

HIDES			
District of Origin	Shade-Dried Hides	Sun-Dried Hides	Value
	Cwt.	Cwt.	£
North Kavirondo	5,700	640	18,980
Central Kavirondo	6,610	120	21,700
South Kavirondo	3,800	40	13,610
			Total £ 54,276

SKINS—PIECES			
District of Origin	Shade-Dried Skins	Sun-Dried Skins	Value
	Cwt.	Cwt.	£
North Kavirondo	466	35,034	1,736
Central Kavirondo	6,725	90,623	4,710
South Kavirondo	3,988	84,947	4,417
			Total £ 10,863

TOTAL HIDES AND SKINS VALUE: £64,859

Hides and skins of the value of £333 were exported from the South Lumbwa Reserve.

12. Owing to the very high internal prices prevailing, export of stock showed a considerable decrease, and was valued at £9,000 only, while imports by natives from outside the Province were probably about £30,000 in value.

From 80,000 to 100,000 cattle are slaughtered for meat in the Kavirondo Districts each year, consumption in the main cotton area alone being nearly 1,000 head a week during January and February.

The Kavirondo Reserves provide a ready market for slaughter cattle in good condition, and prices ranging from Sh. 70 to Sh. 110 are readily obtainable.

13. In the North Kavirondo District an outstanding feature was the falling off in output of the dairy industry during the year. In the early part of the year 200,000 lb. of milk were sold per month. In July it had dropped to 60,000 lb., and recovered to 106,000 lb. at the end of the year. The District Commissioner attributes this mainly to the following:—

- (a) Natives obtain sufficient cash for their needs by agricultural methods;
- (b) The comparatively small amount of money received each month by a daily effort contrasts unfavourably in their minds with the greater amount received over a short period when crops are reaped and sold;
- (c) Natives who were supplying milk found that the high level sale reached until early in the year deprived them of sufficient milk for their needs.

A rise in the price paid for dairy produce occurred at the end of the year in the district.

The average price obtained for ghee in August was Sh. 21/27 per frasila, whilst in October, November and December it rose to Sh. 29/62, Sh. 30/74, and Sh. 31 per frasila respectively.

14. The other Kavirondo districts showed a great increase of output in the dairy industry. In Central Kavirondo the total value of ghee produced reached the record figure of £7,285, as compared with £4,990 in the previous year.

In South Kavirondo the value increased from £14,264 in 1935 to the high figure of £23,121.

This figure represents rather more than one-fifth of the total value of exports from the district, and is drawn entirely

from the Luo locations, which are generally classed as agricultural.

#### Central Province

15. Particular attention was given to the provision of facilities for the shade-drying of hides, large numbers of *bandas* being erected in Meru, Kitui, and Embu. The volume of shade-dried hides increased considerably.

16. The purchase of Romney Marsh rams by Kikuyu in the Fort Hall District continued, and paddocking in the higher locations was carried out to a larger extent with excellent results.

A large number of sheep and goats from the Kamba and other reserves were introduced into the Kikuyu districts during the year.

17. In the Machakos District the progress in the shade-drying of hides and skins and the increase in trade value resulting therefrom is perhaps the most notable achievement of recent years. The following figures of the number produced in the last three years speak for themselves:

	1934	1935	1936
Hides	9,275	13,616	27,160
Skins	4,280	8,914	24,090

Prices have varied in Machakos from 40 cents per lb. in January to 57 cents in December. Those paid in the reserve are naturally less in proportion.

Four new sheds have been erected by the Local Native Council during the year, and also one Indian-owned shed, and two on European farms. Two others were put up on the Yatta Plains as the first step towards checking the movement of sun-dried hides from the Machakos Reserve to Kitui.

18. During the year 121,530 lb. of milk were purchased at the field dairies in the district, and 109 tins of ghee produced were sold locally, the price rising from Sh. 21 a tin in January to Sh. 32/50 a tin in December.

19. Forty-two rams, mainly of Black-headed Persian crossed with native sheep, were issued to the Kamba during the year, and the issues of pure-bred fowls and eggs continued.

The District Commissioner, Kitui, writes that export cattle found a ready market for slaughter in Mombasa, and prices obtained have ruled as high as Sh. 60 for a good ox.

20. A new and improved type of hide-drying shed was erected in Kitui, and in July the use of all hide *bandas* save one was handed over to private individuals, whereby better results are obtained, as the drier cannot rely on a salary for a living. During the year 5,704 hides were prepared in the Local Native Council sheds.

#### *Rift Valley Province*

21. The Nandi Reserve was in quarantine for rinderpest only throughout the year.

Two outbreaks occurred, and were dealt with by the Instructor in Stock stationed at the Veterinary Training Centre at Eldoret by the double-inoculation method. Towards the end of the year foot-and-mouth disease broke out in the southern locations in Aldai, and at the end of the year it was still confined to the same area.

Three field dairies were built with Local Native Council funds, and have on the whole been fairly successful.

22. In the Baringo Reserve outbreaks of rinderpest were numerous, and, owing to the fact that the natives were unwilling to bring in their stock for double inoculation, the losses were considerable.

During November an outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease occurred which completely stopped the export of all stock from the reserve.

Two field dairies were opened towards the end of the year, but so far, owing to foot-and-mouth disease, the dry weather, and better markets for available milk, have not proved a success.

23. In the Elgeyo Reserve the stock trade has been good during the year, and natives have availed themselves of high prices offered and have sold freely. Many of them sell stock in the auction at Eldoret, and thereby obtain a premium of some Sh. 20 above the reserve prices. Owing to the excellent salt-licks in the area, the meat from Elgeyo bullocks is exceedingly tender and sweet, and therefore in good demand by butchers.

24. The representative of a private syndicate has been touring the area, together with the Baringo Reserve, buying bees-wax and giving demonstrations in its preparation. His efforts have so far been unsuccessful, owing to the fact that the tribe as a whole takes little interest in the acquisition of money. A price of 40 cents a lb. was offered, and those owning numerous hives could pay most of their hut tax from bees-wax.

25. In the Samburu country the shade-dried hide industry is becoming popular and has advanced.

During the year 2,864 head of cattle were exported, mostly to Italian Somaliland.

The representatives of Messrs. Liebig's Ltd. visited the country and were much impressed with the quality of cattle that they saw, but owing to the fact that the Samburu have few needs it is not anticipated that they will willingly sell their surplus stock.

The average price obtained during the year for a bullock was Sh. 24.

#### *Coast Province*

26. The cattle in the Province are estimated to be worth 200,000, and sheep and goats another 200,000.

The native milk trade into Mombasa showed further improvement. The quantity brought in increased to 500 gallons a day, and the native receive about £3,870 from this source.

27. The four ghee dairies in Kilifi District produce what is said to be the best ghee in the country, and the market is unlimited. The price rose to over Sh. 30 per frasila at the end of the year; 215 frasilas were produced, for which the natives received over £216.

28. At the Mariakani Veterinary Centre in the district Local Native Council funds were voted to assist in the construction of a cattle dip as a means of eradicating East Coast fever, and the Council gave an area of one square mile for the importation of Boran bulls for the purpose of stock improvement.

29. Propaganda in shade-drying of hides and skins continued. Apart from hide *bandas*, 500 hide-drying frames have been constructed for use in individual cattle *bomas* in Kilifi and Digo, so that hides can be dried under trees.

30. Owing to persistent efforts on the part of the Veterinary Authorities and the Administration, the export of stock from Lamu to Zanzibar steadily increased. The figures are:—

	1934	1935	1936
Cattle	407	875	1,393
Sheep and Goats	2,301	3,986	7,058

#### Masai District

31. The veterinary staff of the district consisted of one Veterinary Officer, two Stock Inspectors, and one Stock Inspector stationed at the Ngong Veterinary Training Centre.

The Officer in Charge records:—

"All reports state that it has been an excellent year for M. stock. Plentiful rainfall fell in the early part of the year, and consequently the grazing was good and lasted throughout the year. Serious disease was not much in evidence, and the year has done much to help the Masai to make good the losses which occurred in the two preceding years."

32. A very marked and welcome change has taken place in the attitude of the Masai towards the help afforded by the veterinary staff. The Stock Inspector at Narok has succeeded in gaining their confidence, and in Kajiado District also great enthusiasm was shown for immunization of stock against pleuro-pneumonia and rinderpest.

In all, 70,694 head of cattle were vaccinated for pleuro-pneumonia and rinderpest.

A cause of anxiety was the fact that the tsetse-fly areas of the Narok District have spread to an alarming extent, and there is great danger of the whole of the Lemek Valley becoming infected.

33. The Narok District has now been completely equipped with shade-drying hide *bandas*, of which there are 42 in operation. These have mostly been erected with funds from the Local Native Council, but were completed by a grant from funds in the control of the Chief Veterinary Officer.

Six dairies have been in intermittent operation in the Narok area, and produced 90 frasilas of ghee. A dairy at the native divisional centre established at Ngong was in operation

in December, and sold its milk in Nairobi or to the Veterinary Training Centre.

34. The Stock Instructor at Ngong has devised a scheme for an improved method of handling and keeping stock in dairying centres which is most suitable to Masai conditions. The cows are properly and regularly milked, and the calves also get consistent and regular feeding from their mothers. He has also supervised the building and management of the native centre at Ngong, which holds out hopes of being a great success, and the natives who keep their stock at the centre are so pleased that others are now erecting two further centres on their own in the vicinity of Ngong.

35. During the year grassland surveys were made in both Narok and Kajiado Districts, and a comprehensive stock policy for the Masai was drawn up.

Approximately 16,000 head of cattle were exported during the year to the following destinations:—

To Nairobi Abattoir	3,859
To Kikuyu Reserves	326
To Italian Territory	504
To Mombasa	2,379
To South Kavirondo	6,000
Total	16,006

#### Turkana District

36. In Turkana a notable increase in herds is to be recorded, and the tribal stock appears to be returning to its pre-famine numbers—a poorly conditioned cow or camel being a rare sight.

Heavy mortality among goats occurred, and the attempt to improve the breed by the creation of a herd of female goats proved a failure as they appeared peculiarly susceptible to disease.

37. The District Commissioner, West Suk, reports:—

"My predecessor pointed out the necessity for an accurate stock census being made before any measures for de-stocking are undertaken. This still remains the first most important step to be undertaken."

"During the year the district has been in quarantine for rinderpest, and therefore no cattle have been exported."

A certain number of cattle have been sold at Keringet for slaughter there, and the meat transported to the Somali butchers at Kitale.

"There is also reason to believe that a number of Suk have taken their cattle across the Suam into Uganda."

In the opinion of the District Commissioner the Suk would not, without compulsion, de-stock to any appreciable extent.

#### *Northern Frontier District*

38. The Officer in Charge reports that there was no pronounced outbreak of stock disease during the year, and the only notable feature was the definite diagnosis of rabies, at Moyale.

There was an outbreak of pleuro-pneumonia amongst some of the Ken Somali cattle in the Kipsing area, and a case of East Coast fever among the Il Mwezi Dorobo cattle which were at the Isiolo Veterinary Quarantine Station for inoculation and dipping before proceeding to the Mukogodo area.

Some 65,929 sheep and goats were moved from the sheep-breeding areas of Wajir and Marsabit via Isiolo to the Kikuyu markets, and some 1,424 head of cattle and 8,745 sheep and goats from the Garissa District to Lamu.

These figures show a very appreciable increase over those of previous years.

The District Commissioner, Garissa, writes:—

"The improvement in the price of ghee has encouraged Somalis to take a greater interest in ghee-making, and a considerable amount was produced in the villages. Headman Hilolo, who now has a small dairy, produced a hundred and twenty tins of ghee, and showed a substantial profit."

### CHAPTER XI TRIBAL POLICE

Good reports were received of the work of the Tribal Police Force in the Reserves and on the Frontier during the year.

2. Full advantage has been taken, whenever possible, of the arrangement by which members of the Force can come down for a period of training at the Police Depot in Nairobi.

In consequence, such men as could be spared for this training have made considerable progress, and returned to their reserves with their usefulness enhanced. Owing, however, to the exacting calls upon them, it is often difficult to find the necessary time for this valuable course.

3. The Turkana and Northern Frontier Units have done excellent work in helping to keep the peace on the border, and in Turkana the nucleus of a mobile camel corps was started.

#### *Nyanza Province*

4. The strength of the unit is as follows: North Kavirondo, 33; Central Kavirondo, 36; South Kavirondo, 30; Kericho, 30; total, 129.

From both Central and South Kavirondo it is reported that the Tribal Police have performed some very useful investigational work during the year.

The men are generally scattered throughout the Reserves. There is therefore little opportunity for them to receive training, and consequently all districts report that they are so smart on parade as one could wish.

#### *Central Province*

5. The District Commissioner, Kiambu, writes:—

"The Tribal Police have put up excellent performances at ceremonial parades during the year; discipline has been good and their work satisfactory throughout the year.

"Tribal Police and the native authorities have helped the police on innumerable occasions, and the police have assisted in the investigation of difficult reserve cases whenever they have been asked to do so."

6. The Kamba, who have a natural flair for police work, are perhaps the smartest of the Tribal Police units, but all deserve credit for discipline and efficiency in the performance of their duties.

A new Tribal Police unit of six men was instituted for the Mukogodo area of the North Nyeri District.

Detachments from the various units have been sent from time to time to the Police Depot in Nairobi, and without exception reports on their progress have been good.

7. The establishment consists of the following: Kiambu, 36; Fort Hall, 34; South Nyeri, 26; Meru, 45; Embu, 35; Machakos, 40; Kitui, 40; North Nyeri, 6; total, 262.

*Coast Province*

8. The establishment consists of: Mombasa, 6; Lamu, 11; Kipini, 15; Malindi, 20; Kilifi, 25; Kwale, 24; Voi, 12; total, 103.

9. In the Giriama Force in Kilifi District (and the sub-district of Malindi) as many literate men as possible are now being recruited, and it is pleasing to be able to record a vast improvement in the unit.

Throughout the Province it has been found difficult to give the men sufficient drill and training, as they are constantly on safari.

*Rift Valley Province*

10. The force has shown some improvement in their work in the Province. The strength of the Nandi unit was 26 throughout the year. The posting of one tribal policeman to each headman in the reserve for a month continued, and this system of helping headmen to police their reserves has worked satisfactorily.

The District Commissioner, Elgeyo-Marakwet, reports that eight of the force can read and write, and have been most useful in helping to collect tax. They favour individual uniforms, made up of what they buy in the dukas and beg off the police.

*Masai District*

11. The strength of the force in the Narok District numbers twenty armed men, ten unarmed, and fourteen posted with chiefs, and in Kajiado District fifteen armed, eight unarmed, and eighteen posted with chiefs.

The Officer in Charge reports that both the Narok and Kajiado units have done excellent work, the former in apprehending stock raiders returning from Tanganyika, and the latter on patrol duty on the Ukamba border.

The Narok unit has greatly benefited by its members attending Police Depot courses in Nairobi, and three members entered the Kenya Police.

*Turkana District*

12. The District Commissioner, Turkana, reports of his Tribal Police:—

"Both the Lodwar and Lokitaung sections of this unit have performed their duties admirably throughout the year. Physically, they are a magnificent body of picked men, but,

in comparison with their opposite numbers in certain other tribes, their standard of intelligence perhaps suffers. Nevertheless, they are ideally equipped for the tasks they are expected to perform, often necessitating considerable feats of endurance in this inhospitable region."

13. An experiment was made in the training of riding camels to form the nucleus of a mobile camel corps, and it would appear that the venture is likely to be successful. The Turkana, as a tribe, have a rooted aversion to the use of animals for personal transport, but once this is overcome, it is probable that the experiment will induce other members of the tribe to make use of their stock. Several elders have evinced interest in the training of the animals, and have made pertinent inquiries as to its inherent possibilities.

14. The Frontier Scouts number 24, and are based on Lokitaung. Their duties consist almost entirely of the regulation of grazing. This entails the constant patrolling of the border, and observation of the movements of the tribes on either side. Strict control of the Turkana makes collision with other tribes practically impossible, and the avoidance of difficulties since the inauguration of this force has proved worth.

The District Commissioner writes of them:—

"Great satisfaction was caused by the increase of their pay to Sh. 7 per month during 1936. Even this is a small remuneration for the tasks they are expected to perform, as they work in an undisciplined area, and in certain circumstances carry their lives in their hands. They are armed with rifles, and receive instruction in musketry, a necessary precaution on a frontier where the tribesmen are usually armed.

"They have shown themselves reliable throughout the year, and have demonstrated their ability to keep the peace in all emergencies."

15. In the West Suk District it is intended to increase the strength of the unit, which now only numbers fifteen.

*Northern Frontier District*

16. The Tribal Police, who numbered 97, have rendered invaluable assistance both to King's African Rifles posts and patrols as well as to those of the Police. The Officer in Charge reports:—

"They spent practically the whole of their time on patrols, in charge of road work, and in collecting intelli-

gence, in taking instructions to headmen, and assisting them to see the instructions were carried out. They were naturally most helpful in tax collection, and generally kept the Administrative Officers in touch with the trend of local thought and affairs."

## CHAPTER XII

### CRIME

The Commissioner of Prisons reports that during the year 7,059 Africans were sentenced to imprisonment, as compared with 6,171 during the previous year.

2. The total number of Africans sentenced to detention was 23,759, an increase of approximately 10 per cent, and can be accounted by the greater number of sentences awarded for non-payment of hut and poll tax.

3. The following table sets out, in comparison with the previous year, the number of natives sentenced to imprisonment or detention, and shows at the same time the number of committals for offences under the various local Ordinances:

	1936		1935	
	Imprisonment	Detention	Imprisonment	Detention
Municipalities		1,513		1,303
Trespass		986		1,020
Townships		529		780
Hut and Poll Tax	1,582	11,728	175	8,791
Native Registration		1,565	135	1,683
Native Authority	466	1,500	46	1,328
Employment of Natives	148	457	206	405
Liquor	221	871	645	641
Abuse of Opiates	126	315	374	260
Native Passes		320		766
Resident Native Labourers		273		343
Outlying Districts		191		68
Various	738	1,366	775	1,758
<b>Total : Local Ordinances</b>	<b>3,413</b>	<b>21,697</b>	<b>2,356</b>	<b>10,152</b>
<b>Total : Penal Code</b>	<b>3,646</b>	<b>2,062</b>	<b>3,815</b>	<b>2,410</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>7,059</b>	<b>23,759</b>	<b>6,171</b>	<b>21,562</b>

4. The nationalities and tribes of the 7,059 Africans committed to undergo sentences of penal imprisonment in the year 1936, compared with 6,171 so committed in 1935, were as follows:

Nationalities and Tribes	1936	1935
<b>(1) UP-COUNTRY TRIBES</b>		
Kikuyu	1,588	1,213
Kivirondo Luo	861	873
Kivirondo Bantu	739	719
Akamba	699	677
Nandi	419	346
Lumbwa	287	296
Massai	141	237
Meru	431	222
Kisii	243	198
Elgeyo	40	92
Embu	73	70
Turkana	16	54
Suk	12	35
Kamasia	13	33
Nderobo	12	19
Various	107	397
	5,681	5,590
<b>(2) COAST TRIBES</b>		
Giriama	696	226
Swahili	87	168
Taita	45	28
Digo	143	13
Pokomo	4	3
Various	103	26
	1,078	404
<b>(3) NATIVES OF NEIGHBOURING TERRITORIES</b>		
Natives of Uganda	65	227
Natives of Tanganyika	140	140
Natives of Nyasaland	19	21
Nubians	28	25
Various	18	4
	300	417

5. The following comparative table indicates the position with regard to female and juvenile convicted prisoners:

	1936	1935	1934	1933
Female convicts	314	203	317	243
Juvenile convicts	230	229	316	268

6. It is satisfactory to record for the first time for many years a percentage decrease in the number of recidivists. The figures for the past few years are:—

## PREVIOUSLY CONVICTED

Year	Once	Twice	Thrice or More	Total	Percentage of Total Commitments
1936	770	353	636	1,759	24.5
1935	872	372	643	1,887	29.8
1934	1,084	407	647	2,138	24.4
1933	808	346	463	1,617	22.1
1932	712	305	411	1,428	20.2
1931	603	227	356	1,186	17.5
1930	617	182	287	1,086	16.0

As usual, the majority of recidivists were convicted in the towns.

7. In settled and urban areas the total number of cognizable offences recorded during the year was 4,609, an increase of 99 cases over the figure for the year 1935.

The Commissioner of Police writes in his Annual Report:—

"During the year under review, although there was an increase of crime of 2.2 per cent throughout the Colony as compared with the preceding year, yet an appreciable decrease over the figure for 1934 was shown. . . . Comparatively large increases are reflected in respect of Nairobi and Kiambu. Noticeable reductions are recorded at Kitale, Mombasa, Nakuru, Nyeri, and Thika.

"In the cases of Nairobi and Kiambu, the increases may be attributed to the presence in the contiguous native reserves of a large number of recidivists, while a considerable proportion of the offences recorded relate to thefts by servants and labourers from employers.

"The decrease in Mombasa is particularly satisfactory, whilst continued enforcement of appropriate enactments secured the removal of predatory unemployed tribesmen and vagrants from townships and rural areas throughout the Colony, and contributed to the not unsatisfactory results obtained."

8. A slight decrease in cases of housebreaking and burglary is recorded, and may in some degree be attributed to the measures continued during the year to secure the return of vagrants and unemployed natives to their reserves.

Recorded cases of stock theft numbered 340, an increase of 8 cases over the total for the previous year. A more rigid enforcement of disciplinary measures against offending tribes resulted in a decrease towards the end of the year of this crime in the neighbourhood of Eldoret, while the continuance, in conjunction with the Masai tribal authorities, of frequent police patrols on the Masai Reserve boundary resulted in the continued reduction of this type of offence in the Machakos area.

9. The Commissioner of Police reports that 574 juveniles were prosecuted for infringements of the law, of which 230 were convicted for theft or infringement of township regulations.

10. Cases under the Penal Code and under local Ordinances dealt with in Native Reserves during the year totalled 18,554, an increase of 1,660 cases over the total for the year 1935.

## CHAPTER XIII

## PRISONS

The established prisons in the Colony during the year are as follows:—

- 3 First Class Prisons at Nairobi, Mombasa and Kisumu.
- 5 Second Class Prisons at Nakuru, Kitale, Nyeri, Kakamega, and Marsabit.
- 20 Third Class Prisons at Kiambu, Fort Hall, Embu, Meru, Thika, Machakos, Kitui, Kericho, Kisii, Eldoret, Kapsabet, Naivasha, Rumuruti, Kwale, Kilifi, Lamu, Malindi, Voi, Narok, and Kapenguria.

Kakamega was declared a Second Class Prison, and Eldoret (which had been previously a Second Class Prison) a Third Class Prison on the 12th June.

2. During the preceding year a steady decline had taken place in the daily average prison population. The low figure of 2,590 which had been reached during the last quarter was maintained for the first half of the year under review. It then started to rise gradually, and in the last quarter of the year rose suddenly to over 3,300.

The Commissioner of Prisons suggests that this may be accounted for partially by the increased number of hut and

poll tax defaulters committed to prisons instead of to detention camps. The detention camp population was, however, the highest on record.

3. The policy of concentrating all but very short term convicts in Class I and II Prisons, staffed by officers of the Department, has been pursued, and to further this policy a "van body" was designed and built in the Nairobi Prison carpenters' shop and attached to a locally purchased motor lorry chassis, and was used for the transport of prisoners.

4. In June, the difficult problem of providing hard labour for the prison population of the Coast was solved by the need of the Public Works Department for labour on the fixed defences at Mombasa. A party of 200 convicts was employed daily until the end of the year in excavating and breaking coral and making coral concrete blocks. Prisoners were brought into Mombasa from Kwale, Kilifi, and Malindi Prisons, and the Executive Engineer, Mombasa, reported that the convicts were doing excellent work.

In July, an arrangement was made between the Railway Administration and the Prisons Department whereby the fixed convict population of the Kenya and Uganda Railways and Harbours Quarry Camp outside Nairobi was increased from 250 to 350. The prisoners are employed in quarrying, concrete mixing, and ballast breaking, and this experiment has been most successful in providing real hard labour for a large number of prisoners and also in preventing overcrowding in Nairobi Prison.

5. The total quantity of foodstuffs grown on prison farms again increased in value, and amounted to £1,461. Kitale Prison was able to send 40,000 lb. of maize for the consumption of prisoners in Nairobi and Nakuru.

6. The reorganization of prison industries at Nairobi, undertaken in the previous year, proved an unqualified success, and it is pleasing to record that for the first time the revenue therefrom exceeded £10,000, towards which the tailoring industry contributed £8,972. Some 100,000 garments were made during the year. In carpentry, blacksmithing and the sisal products industries a daily average of 158 convicts was employed, and there is a growing demand for the first-class quality of rope now produced. At Mombasa, mats and other articles manufactured from coir and sisal are made, and at Kisumu, murrum blocks, Kavirondo mats and baskets, and sisal string.

A certain amount of building work—both construction and repairs—was also undertaken at various prisons throughout the year.

7. The Commissioner of Prisons reports the following interesting experiment:—

"At the end of the year a scheme was introduced into the three First Class Prisons for the promotion of certain good-conduct convicts with outstanding qualifications to 'Convict Trusties'. Trusties, who must be personally selected by Superintendents, wear a special convict uniform, live apart from the other convicts in a mess of their own, and obtain certain small privileges and earn ten cents a day. They are used in a supervisory capacity, either with or without warder staff, and, it is hoped, will be the means of reducing the number of warders required for supervision, especially inside prisons. Their earnings are credited to them, and on release will be administered for their benefit by the Discharged Prisoners' Aid Committee. During the first three months of its trial the scheme has worked very well indeed."

8. The formation of the Discharged Prisoners' Aid Committee mentioned in the preceding paragraph was an event of the year. The chairman is the officer acting as Assistant Commissioner of Prisons, and the Municipal Native Affairs Officer, the Principal Labour Officer, the Senior Superintendent of Prisons, and an officer of the Salvation Army are members. The Commissioner of Prisons writes:—

"The object of this Committee is to interview, shortly before discharge, every prisoner in Nairobi Prison who wishes to remain in Nairobi after release, with a view to assisting him to find employment and helping him generally to settle down to live a normal life after his discharge from prison. . . . It was soon evident that a large proportion of the prisoners who wished to remain in Nairobi after release would be likely merely to swell the ranks of the unemployed, and should not be permitted to remain, but would be much better off in every way if they were returned to their own districts. In these cases they are sent, upon discharge, to the District Commissioner of their particular districts, with a request that he shall interest himself in their welfare and endeavour to obtain employment for them. In this way many natives who would have run a grave risk of returning to crime if they had remained in

Nairobi have been prevented from encountering the temptations connected with the superior standard of living to be found in the capital."

9. The Salvation Army has undertaken most beneficial work among the convicts in Nairobi Prison and in the after-care of prisoners, and the Nairobi Municipality have co-operated with them in giving daily labour to all ex-convicts sent by them, which frequently develops into permanent employment.

It is hoped to institute similar Discharged Prisoners' Aid Committees in Mombasa and Kisumu, and the Commissioner of Prisons expresses the hope that "the Salvation Army will extend their work in those prisons as they have done in Nairobi. Their wholehearted service and willing co-operation is very much appreciated."

#### *Detention Camps*

10. During the year under review there were fifty-two Detention Camps in operation, an increase of six over the previous year, resulting from the gazettement of camps at Mariakani, Maragoli, Malindi-Kilifi Road, Embu-Kitui Link Road, Kitui-Zombe Road, Pungu, Port Victoria, and Mangepa-Chakama Road, and the closing of camps in Southern Kamasia and the Embu-Kitui Link Road.

11. There was a large increase of sentences of detention, the total for the year being 23,759, as against 21,562 in the previous year, an increase of 10 per cent. The daily average number of persons in detention was 2,428, as against 1,779 in 1935. At the beginning of the year the number was 2,735; it had fallen to 1,780 in April, but it rose to 3,189 at the end of the year.

The general health of inmates of Detention Camps appears to have been good, but there were 58 deaths, of which 35 were due to pneumonia.

During the year, with a daily average population of 2,428 less an average of 68 sick, and reckoning 300 working days at 30 cents a day, the value of detainees' labour amounted to £10,620.

12. With a view to increasing the deterrent effect of detention, and at the same time making the detainee labour more efficient and more productive, a scheme of reorganization of the African staff of some of the large Detention Camps was introduced and effected in nine camps during the year.

In these camps, prison warden N.C.O.s were substituted for the existing overseers, or in a few cases the overseers were enlisted in the Prison Service, and the supervisory staff was increased in number. The seconded Prison staff wears a different uniform from that worn in prisons, and is unarmed.

The scheme has proved a success, and it will be extended to further camps.

#### *Approved Schools*

13. The total committals to the schools during the year were 39, the average age of the boys committed was 13.7, and the daily average of inmates was 95.24.

With the exception of two small parties working on farm and school repair work, and quarrying and stone dressing, all the inmates of the school were employed in agricultural work.

During the past year crops of maize, beans and sweet potatoes were planted and harvested. Thirty tons of maize were harvested, of the approximate value of £60. The bean crop amounted to five and a half tons, of the approximate value of £20, and the crop of sweet potatoes to twenty tons.

All planting was in the nature of an experiment, and in the light of experience gained a programme of manuring and planting has been drawn up which should ensure the maximum value being obtained from the land.

14. The Commissioner of Prisons reports:—

"The administration of the combined Class II and Class III Approved Schools at Kabete has progressed satisfactorily. The application of Borstal principles to African juvenile offenders shows promise of good results. Already, parties of boys can be seen daily about the farm working without any staff supervision; other parties march to and from church under their own leaders only, and selected boys are constantly used as messengers far beyond the boundaries of the school—yet only a few have abused their increased liberty and evaded their extra responsibilities.

"It is impossible to train men for freedom in a condition of captivity. This is the fundamental principle on which the Kenya Approved Schools are conducted.

"In September the purchase by Government of fifty acres of land at Dagoretti, with some excellent buildings,

from the Church of Scotland Mission was completed. The site was gazetted as a Class II Approved School on 31st October, and it is hoped to occupy it as such early in 1937, after certain necessary work on the buildings has been done. The school at Kabete will then become a Class III School, and the two institutions will be run separately, but always in the closest liaison.

## CHAPTER XIV

### PUBLIC WORKS

Owing to financial stringency, it was again necessary to curtail expenditure on road construction and on the construction and maintenance of buildings.

In Nyanza and Central Provinces, Local Native Councils are to be commended on their generous contribution to this work.

2. It was recorded in last year's Report that a grant of £99,000 had been received from the Colonial Development Fund. Of this sum £64,000 was to be devoted to road construction in mining areas, and £35,000 for such work in the tea-growing areas of Nyanza Province. Preliminary surveys and some constructional work took place during the year.

3. In August an application was made to the Colonial Development Fund for the sum of £42,000 for the provision, improvement and investigation of water supplies in the Native Reserves. A scheme was prepared for the development of supplies in agricultural areas which by reason of their inadequate resources were sparsely inhabited, for the improvement of supplies in populous areas and in the Masai Reserve, and for a survey of the northern waterless areas. At the end of the year it was known that the grant had been sanctioned.

#### *Nyanza Province*

4. From Local Native Council funds the sum of £4,404 was spent in the Province on construction and maintenance of buildings, while the sum of £6,026 was spent from general revenue. Among items to which Local Native Council funds were devoted were the building of a rest-house at Kisii for Local Native Council members, the construction of seven dispensaries, three maternity wards, and several hide *bandas*, while the sum of £900 was devoted to school buildings.

5. For the construction and maintenance of roads and bridges the following sums were spent in the Province during the year:—

	£
Colonial Development Fund	30,138
General Revenue	16,405
Local Native Councils	6,130

6. There was a plentiful supply of labour available for work on the new Kisumu-Kakamega road. After much consideration it was proposed to abandon the proposed new realignment, and to adopt the existing alignment, with various short alignments, which reduce the distance from 38 to 32 miles. As the road carries about 600 tons of stores and produce daily, this will result in a considerable saving in the cost of transport.

7. In the North Kavirondo District Local Native Council funds were used for the construction of solid timber bridges throughout the cotton area, low level bridges over the Nzoia River and the Sio River, a drift over the Malakisi River, a footbridge over the Imicha River, near Bukura.

8. From the Central Kavirondo District it is noted that the condition of roads showed a great improvement during the year. For Native Reserve roads the Local Native Council contributed £1,400, while £565 came from Government funds.

9. In the South Kavirondo District construction of bricks continued, and 400,000 bricks were burnt during the year.

#### *Central Province*

10. Certain important work was effected in the Province during the year under review.

In most of the Kikuyu Reserves the keenness of the natives for new roads is noteworthy, and, as the District Commissioner, South Nyeri, remarks, the difficulty is not to persuade them to make roads, but to prevent them from doing so on their own initiative, often on completely unsuitable alignments.

11. In the Kiambu District the Local Native Council contributed the sum of £1,215 towards roads and other public works, and among other works undertaken by the Council was the construction of a maternity block at the hospital, the construction of 1½ miles of new road, and the repairing of 7½ miles of old roads, and the construction of two bridges.

During the same period the Public Works Department contributed £322 for work in the district.

In Fort Hall District a large permanent bridge over the Northern Mathioya River was completed by the Local Native Council.

12. In the Kamba areas the most important work was the completion of the new Athi River bridge connecting the Machakos Reserve with the Yatta Plateau and Kitui District, which has reduced the distance between Machakos and Kitui to 70 miles. This bridge is very valuable administratively, and will later be of economic value.

In the Kitui District the new Kitui-Zombe road was completed, and, when the bridge over the Thua River is erected, will bring Zombe within 30 miles of Kitui, as opposed to 100 miles by the old alignment. The road is of vital importance for the extension of the cotton industry.

The grading work was done by the District Commissioner and District Officers, and is described by the Executive Engineer as "a definite engineering triumph for the Administration."

13. A twenty-six mile stretch of road was completed, leaving the Thika-Kitui road at mile 56, to connect with the projected bridge over the Tana River and ultimately with Embu District.

This road is necessary for administrative and economic reasons. It will greatly reduce the distance from Provincial headquarters at Nyeri and Kitui, and will serve as a communication between Kitui District and its natural granary in time of famine. Material for the construction of the bridge is awaited from England.

#### *Rift Valley Province*

14. In the Nandi District, despite the heavy rain experienced during the year, communications have on the whole been good.

15. A considerable amount of road work was carried out in the Elgeyo District. Of this the most important was the completion of the Tambach-Kabarnet road, which entailed not only difficult and heavy work but also the construction of a bridge over the Kerio River, at Chebloch. In addition, a road, 76 miles long, was constructed down the Kerio Valley.

No important constructional work was undertaken during the year.

#### *Coast Province*

16. Little work of importance was done during the year.

About two miles were hard-surfaced on the Likoni-Ramisi road, which had the effect of making communications between Kwale and Mombasa proof against all weathers other than exceptional and continuous rain.

17. In Kilifi District a Detention Camp was opened on the Kilifi-Malindi road, which is gradually being widened and re-formed. Detainees did useful work on roads from Malindi to Garsen and Golbanti.

Repairs were carried out to the sea wall at Malindi, and as, in October, high tides threatened the Customs House and its road of access, a further sea wall is being constructed on the north side.

18. During the year considerable repairs have been made to Government property at Lamu, which have vastly improved the appearance of the town.

Lines were built for the Tribal Police, and the sea front, extending from the Liwali Seif Mosque, has been faced with cement for 250 yards. The Kenya and Uganda Railways and Harbours installed a new automatic acetone light at Sheella, new navigation marks in cement, and fresh buoys.

19. Among other work undertaken at Kipini was the building by the station carpenter of a new lighthouse, in which the Port Authorities have installed a new lantern. This is now a registered light, and coastal dhow captains have expressed great satisfaction at its erection.

20. In the Teta District, though the rainfall was heavier than at any time since the year 1930, and the maintenance of the reserve roads always a matter of some trouble, at no time was any road in the reserves impassable, and the only difficulties experienced by travellers arose from the Voi River being in spate at the main road drift.

#### *Masai District*

21. There are insufficient funds available to make roads in a condition to survive the rains, and the Officer in Charge reports that the state of the majority of the so-called roads in the Masai Reserve beggars description.

22. A good deal of time and attention was paid to the main Kenya-Tanganyika road, and in October a Nairobi-Johannesburg motor race was held, of which the first 126 miles were in this territory.

23. The ten-mile stretch of road from Narok to Rotian has been realigned, and is now almost an all-weather road. The Officer in Charge testifies to the useful work done by the road foreman, who is learning the Masai language, and, while demanding a full day's work from the Masai, has succeeded in maintaining excellent relations with the tribe.

24. Among constructional work completed during the year was the building, from Local Native Council funds, of a divisional animal husbandry centre near the Ngong Township, consisting of a large milking shed, calf shed, dairy, store, hide banda, cattle boma and various other buildings.

25. In regard to water supplies, the six bore-holes in the Kajiado District have frequently given trouble, and the Local Native Council incurred very heavy expenses in their maintenance and repair. They are now, however, working quite satisfactorily, and were a godsend in the dry weather experienced at the end of the year.

Three small earth reservoirs with catchment drains were made by the District Commissioner, Kajiado, on the Kajiado-Loitokitok road, and served more as a demonstration to the Masai of how to help themselves to supplement their meagre supplies, but they have been quite successful in retaining water for a considerable time after rain.

26. The making of the Narok stadium has already been mentioned. It is similar in dimensions to the Nairobi stadium, and entailed an enormous amount of earth shifting and levelling. The work was largely done by Masai with dam scoops and ploughs, and served to give them a most useful training which it is hoped they will emulate in their own reserve, both in cultivation and the making of dams.

#### *Turkana District*

27. The District Commissioner, Turkana, reports:—

"At no period of the year, in spite of the very heavy rains, were any of the roads or tracks in the district entirely impassable. The main road from Kitale to Lokitaung, being of strategic importance, is maintained by the Public Works Department, and portions of it are very fast indeed. In

consequence of the continued rainfall and the small sum of money available for district roads, no repairs were undertaken until the last two months of the year, when the rains had definitely ceased.

"The military roads were maintained in excellent condition by the King's African Rifles, who also wisely awaited the end of the rains before instituting a repair programme."

28. The progressive building policy inaugurated last year was successfully advanced during the year. A constant supply of burnt bricks of good quality was maintained throughout the year, and provided cheap material for the many buildings erected, chief among which was a new officer's house, built to the pattern of the new stone house completed last year.

The new hospitals at Lodwar and Lokitaung were finished during the year, while another important piece of constructional work achieved at Lodwar was the building of a new office for the District Commissioner and clerical staff.

The supply of fuel for firing brick kilns gave an anxiety, since all the nearer supplies have been exhausted, the year's programme, and the cost of fuel brought from distance would raise the price of bricks to an excessive figure.

At Kapenguria, in the West Suk District, a brick ward was completed at the hospital early in the year.

#### *Northern Frontier District*

27. The great increase in traffic between Lamu and Isiolo and Moyale caused very heavy wear on the main roads, for which the Diesel lorries were mainly responsible. Rains at unexpected times also caused considerable havoc on the Lamu road, notably a sudden fall of over five inches in the Jjara area.

Throughout the district 176 miles of new tracks were cut.

At Garissa, brick-making was started with a view to erecting permanent buildings, and 50,000 bricks had been burnt by the end of the year.

At Wajir a prison and two houses for dressers were built, and at Moyale the hospital was completed.

Another important work was the construction of landing grounds, and by the end of the year twenty had been completed and approved by the Royal Air Force.

## CHAPTER XV

## LEGISLATION AFFECTING NATIVES

The following amendments were made to existing Ordinances:—

*I—The Special Districts Administration (Amendment) Ordinance, 1936*

The Principal Ordinance enacted in 1934 as an experimental measure for two years, and applied to the area of the Northern Frontier, had had beneficial results of a striking nature.

Sanction was obtained for the retention of the Ordinance for a further period of two years, and, in the light of experience of its operation, minor alterations are made by this amending legislation.

A more accurate definition of "tribesman" is introduced, the application of the passport requirements is limited to tribesmen, and the wording of section 22, which relates to penalties, is varied.

*II—The Native Liquor (Amendment) Ordinance, 1936*

By this legislation three minor amendments were made to the Native Liquor Ordinance, 1930.

In Native Reserves, where the District Commissioner is the Licensing Authority, the holding of meetings of the Licensing Board ceases to be mandatory.

Section 7, sub-section (3), of the Ordinance is amended so as to empower the District Commissioner or the Licensing Board to refuse the issue of a free licence to applicants who it appears are tapping trees for palm wine in excess of the quantity which can be consumed by the owner of the trees, his household or dependents.

The Ordinance contemplated wholesalers taking out licences for their employees—the tappers—and then selling the palm wine to the licensed retailers.

The fee for a wholesale licence had been fixed at Sh. 90 and for a tapper's licence at Sh. 20, and it was considered that few individuals in the Native Reserves were in a position to take out a wholesale licence, while a great many people own a few trees and normally augment their income by tapping some and selling the produce.

For this reason an additional sub-section is added to section 7 giving to the District Commissioner discretion to grant to the holder of a tapping licence permission to sell palm wine to the holder of a wholesale or retail licence.

The amendments to section 7 will apply only to the Coast Province, as palm trees do not grow in any other area of the Colony.

*III—The Education (Amendment) Ordinance, 1936*

This Ordinance amends section 34 of the Principal Ordinance enacted in the year 1931.

The rapid increase in number of the independent African schools, especially in the Kikuyu areas, rendered it imperative to provide for their more effective supervision, and the amendment gives to the Director of Education power, after consulting the District Education Board or the Advisory Council on African Education, to close schools which are not properly conducted or are not following a curriculum approved by an Inspector of Schools.

*IV—The Juveniles (Amendment) Ordinance, 1936*

The Chief Inspector of Approved Schools had represented to Government that the disciplinary measures which it was permissible to inflict under the Juveniles Ordinance had proved insufficient to deal with incorrigible inmates of Approved Schools, and, further, that such inmates exercised a harmful influence on other juveniles committed to these schools.

The amending Ordinance empowers the Governor to commute the whole or part of the unexpired portion of the detention in an Approved School to which a juvenile may be committed to a sentence of imprisonment should an inmate of such school be reported to be incorrigible.

The transfer would only take place to the juvenile section of the Nairobi Prison, and it was believed that the threat of such a transfer would act as a deterrent to unruly and truculent inmates of Approved Schools.

This amending Ordinance is in conformity with legislation operative in the United Kingdom.

*V—The Registration of Domestic Servants (Amendment) Ordinance, 1936*

This amending Ordinance makes the giving of a written character permissive instead of mandatory on the pocket

registers issued under the Registration of Domestic Servants Ordinance, 1928.

It further makes it an offence for a person whose registration has been cancelled to seek or accept employment in a registration district unless and until his pocket register has been re-issued to him.

Opportunity was also taken to amend the Principal Ordinance in certain minor respects.

*VI—The Branding of Stock (Amendment) Ordinance, 1936*

It had been established that natives in certain Reserves were branding their cattle with Government gazetted brands.

The main object of the amending Ordinance was to provide a penalty for dealing with persons who illegally use brands registered by the veterinary authorities.

Opportunity was also taken to make provision empowering a magistrate to order forfeiture of any animal in respect of which such an offence had been committed.

*VII—The Marketing of Native Produce (Amendment) Ordinance, 1936*

Under the Principal Ordinance enacted in the preceding year, a licence to purchase any specified native produce in a declared area could only be granted to the holder of a trading licence issued under the Licensing Ordinance, 1934.

A trader who had no place of business or who dealt exclusively in domestic produce, not for sale direct to the consumer, was not required to take out a trading licence under the Licensing Ordinance, and was consequently debarred from obtaining a licence to purchase specified native produce.

Section 4 (1) (a) of the Principal Ordinance is amended by enabling a licence to be granted to any person, whether he holds a trading licence or not.

*VIII—The Kenya Cotton (Amendment) Ordinance, 1936*

The Kenya Cotton Ordinance, by virtue of which the Governor in Council was empowered to control the cotton industry, was enacted in the year 1923.

During recent years the cotton industry has developed rapidly, and the development continues, and the amending legislation confers a greater measure of control and enhances

the scope of the rule-making powers, which include the power to fix the minimum price payable to natives for unginned cotton.

*IX—Native Hut and Poll Tax (Amendment) Ordinance, 1936*

This Ordinance amends the Native Hut and Poll Tax Ordinance, 1934.

By section 2 of the Ordinance effect is given to the recommendation of the Financial Commissioner, Sir Alan Pim, that the age at which natives should be required to pay hut and poll tax should be raised from 16 to 18 years.

Amendments to sections 4 and 6 of the Principal Ordinance were made at the suggestion of the Secretary of State.

It was considered that section 4 was ambiguous in the case of a native who had more huts than wives, and the amending section clarifies the position and makes it clear that the obligation to pay is in respect of every hut used dwelling or in respect of all wives should they exceed the number the huts occupied.

By the amendment to section 6 the Court is empowered in proceedings for the recovery of tax, to remit the whole or any portion of the tax due for any specified period if the defaulter proves that he is without sufficient means to pay.

*X—Northern Frontier Province Poll Tax (Amendment) Ordinance, 1936*

This amending Ordinance is designed to give effect, as is the amendment to section 2 of the preceding Ordinance, to the recommendation contained in the Report of the Financial Commissioner, Sir Alan Pim, that the age at which a native becomes liable for payment of tax should be raised from 16 to 18 years.

*XI—The Fugitive Offenders (Pursuit) Ordinance, 1936*

By this Ordinance the Police of the adjoining territories of Uganda and Tanganyika Territory are enabled, when in hot pursuit of an offender, to cross the frontier and arrest him within certain areas to be defined by the Governor in Council.

The Governments of Uganda and Tanganyika Territory agreed to introduce similar legislation.

It is anticipated that the power given by this Ordinance will prove particularly useful in dealing with cattle thefts near the Kenya-Tanganyika border.

## CHAPTER XVI

## MINING AND LAND ADMINISTRATION

*Mining*

During the year mining caused little disturbance in the Kavirondo Reserves. The attitude of the natives continued to be extremely good, and there is no doubt that they benefit by mining activities.

2. The return to agricultural prosperity has, among other reasons, caused a decline in prospecting, and the number of claims decreased from 18,101 at the end of 1935 to 9,735 at the end of the year under review.

3. Scheduled rates of compensation for disturbance have been laid down in each Kavirondo District in the event of the claimholders or the natives failing to agree and lodging an appeal with the Provincial Commissioner.

4. Two mining leases for large areas were approved during the year. The Rosterman Gold Mining Company applied for a lease of 137.25 acres. The commuted rent for a period of 21 years was assessed at £.54-17-50, and was duly paid. Compensation has been distributed in the following manner: Seven-tenths to individual natives, one-fifth to the location affected, and one-tenth to the Local Native Council for the North Kavirondo District as a whole.

The Kenya Gold Mining Syndicate, applied for a lease of 94 acres, the commuted rent for which was assessed at £141 for 21 years.

The North Kavirondo Local Native Council allocated £50 of the money earmarked for roads to the Kimingini Gold Mining Company, to enable that Company to maintain the road to their fuel concession. In view of the amount of royalty on timber and fuel which the Local Native Council derives from the Company this was deemed to be a just concession.

5. The Commissioner of Mines records that natives are shaping well in the industry. Some have become skilled drill boys, while others occupy posts of responsibility in the workshops and engine rooms. The native labour appears contented and healthy and all mine managers speak well of the progress that has been made.

The total average number of natives employed in mining activities throughout the year was 11,109, and the total wages paid to natives amounted to £69,797.

An incident which illustrates the good relations which exist is reported by the Commissioner in the following terms:—

"A young European and a native were engaged in firing eight charges on a face in the 307 ft. level. One charge exploded prematurely, extinguishing the lights, and stunning both workers. The European, who was only temporarily unconscious, managed in the dark to find the native and, though himself seriously hurt, contrived to get him on his shoulders to a place of safety.

"The native was a far bigger man than his rescuer, and the charges were still going off during the work of rescue."

*Land Administration*

6. The execution of certain recommendations of the Kenya Land Commission Report in the Kikuyu and Kamba areas of the Central Province occupied the attention of the Administration.

7. The more important of these in the Machakos District was the completion of the survey and exclusion from Native Reserves of a hundred square miles of grazing reserve in the Simba area. Natives living south of the Railway have been returned to the Chale block of the Kikumbulu location.

8. In the Kikuyu areas it became necessary to alter the Commission's recommendations in the Aberdares-Bathi River area, and the consequent delay caused certain people living in Tigoni Township to fall under the influence of subversive political propaganda by the Kikuyu Central Association; and to go back on their agreement to move from Tigoni and accept other land in compensation. Tigoni is an island of land surrounded by the Limuru farms, which for many years has been earmarked for alienation to Europeans.

The remainder of the natives have, however, agreed to the move. They have accepted compensation and been allotted their new holdings. There are indications that the passive resisters are beginning to feel that they have been ill-advised. It has been made quite clear to them that they will have to move from Tigoni next year, whether they accept compensation or not, and in the meantime efforts are being directed to making them realize that they themselves and their descendants will be the losers if they do not adopt a more reasonable attitude.

9. As has been previously reported, a District Officer was posted to Kiambu District in April for the purpose of carrying out, under the direction of the District Commissioner, an inquiry into the matter of natives still living on European farms as of right.

This investigation showed that there are between 4,000 and 5,000 who claim to be residing on farms as of right, instead of 200 to 300 as believed by the Land Commission. The difficulties in the way of their removal and allotment of alternative land are therefore greater even than was anticipated.

Certain land in forest areas near Kikuyu will be available for settlement, but it is doubtful if it will accommodate this number.

In the South Nyeri District certain forest areas which are to be included in Native Reserves are ready for occupation, and in the Fort. District negotiations for the acquisition from Messrs. Samar Ltd. of 700 acres of land; to be added to the Reserve, were completed.

10. In the Nyanza Province the exchanges and adjustment arising out of the Commission's recommendation in the Kericho District received much attention.

The Central Lands Trust Board, at their meeting in March, considered alternative proposals to the original recommendations. These comprised the exclusion from the Reserve of 640 acres for the purpose of Chemagel Township, the adding to the Reserve of 640 acres of alienated land, as well as some 1,200 acres from the European area at Chepalungu.

It has required much tact and patience on the part of the District Commissioner to reconcile both Europeans and Kipsigis to acceptance of this scheme. Both sides have, on the whole, shown an accommodating spirit, and by the end of the year their views, though not completely reconciled, were certainly less divergent.

11. The Central Lands Trust Board held two meetings during the year, and among the more important subjects under discussion were:—

- (i) The development of townships in Native Reserves;
- (ii) The assessment of rent of land leased from the Reserves;
- (iii) The application by the East African Power and Lighting Co., Ltd., for 1,400 acres of land in the Fort Hall and Embu Districts for the purpose of the

extension of the Maragua-Tana hydro-electric scheme, and the addition to the Reserves of certain farms, and the amount of monetary compensation to be paid;

- (iv) The lease of 10,000 acres in the Masai Reserve, to Liebig's (Rhodesia) Ltd.;
- (v) The exclusion of an area of 117 acres and the addition to the Kiambu Reserve of an equivalent area in connexion with the Nairobi Municipality Water Supply.

## CHAPTER XVII

### NATIVES IN NON-NATIVE AREAS

Relations between employer and employed remained at a high level throughout the year.

The number of natives in employment has been estimated only during the last few years, but in the month of October a special labour return was called for, and showed that 182,858 natives were then in employment, compared with 161,192 in November, 1930, when a similar return was made. The estimated figures of employment since 1932, the year of greatest economic depression, have been:—

1932	...	132,000
1933	...	141,000
1934	...	145,000
1935	...	150,000

2. In the Nyanza and Central Provinces, where increased native production has been most impressive, natives are finding in many cases that it is more profitable to work their own land than seek work in the settled areas. Luckily, other tribes, i.e. Meru and Kitui Kamba, are coming out in increasing numbers.

3. It is hoped that increased development and educational facilities in less advanced areas, better food supply and consequent improved physique, and the appreciation of the use of money as something but to pay tax, will bring into the labour market some of the more backward tribes. The Kamba have shown that they are able to do work, e.g. on sisal, hitherto only achieved by Kavirondo tribes, and the Masai have shown signs of an increased inclination for manual labour.

4. Towards the end of the year a dispatch was received from the Secretary of State sanctioning the publication of a draft Resident Labourers Bill. This Bill closely resembled

the Bill contained in the Report of the Committee on the Working of the Resident-Native Labourers Ordinance, 1925.

#### Nyanza Province

5. The Provincial Commissioner reports that occupation of unalienated Crown land and of vacant farms by unauthorized natives has been a constant source of trouble to the Administration and the Police. A great deal of the court work of Kericho District was caused by the illicit grazing of stock on such land, where, moreover, stock thefts from neighbouring districts are frequently initiated.

It is hoped that the bringing into effect of the recommendation of the Kenya Land Commission that the area known as Chepalungu be added to the South Lumbwa Native Reserve will improve the situation.

6. The squatter problem remains one of great importance. A recent census, writes the Provincial Commissioner, reveals that there are no more than 33,700 head of cattle and 49,200 sheep and goats, the native owned, being pastured in the Kisumu-Londiani District alone, and there are probably as many on farms in the Kericho District.

If the necessity arose of moving squatters wholesale, the absorbing into the Reserves of this vast quantity of stock (and its owners) would be difficult to accomplish.

7. The Provincial Commissioner computes that the following amounts were earned by natives working in his Province:—

	£
Wages earned on:—	
Mines .. .. .	85,000
Tea Estates .. .. .	70,000
Sugar Estates .. .. .	15,000
Sisal, Coffee, Maize, Cattle and mixed estates.	35,000
Work for the Kenya and Uganda Railways and K.U.R. contractors .. .. .	15,000
Work for P.W.D. and P.W.D. Contractors (including Road Boards) .. .. .	24,500
Work for other Government Departments .. .. .	24,000
Work for Local Native Councils (including fees paid to Elders) .. .. .	22,000
Work for the fishing industry .. .. .	1,500
By ginnyery and other factory work .. .. .	2,000
Domestic and Shop Assistants, etc.	0,000
	<b>£303,000</b>

This figure represents an increase of approximately £20,000 over the previous year. The Labour Officer estimated that some £176,000 was earned by natives of Nyanza Province working in other areas of the Colony.

8. The District Commissioner, Central Kavirondo, writes:—

"The activities of the natives engaged in planting up rice *shambas* in the swamps on the north side of the Kibos-Kibigori road have been the subject of comment by the local farmers, who allege that increased production in the Reserves is causing a shortage of labour on their farms. They express the fear that if production in the Reserves continues to increase as rapidly as at present the time is not far off when they will either have to raise the wages of labour to a level which is not economic, having regard to the price of primary products, or else close down altogether for want of labour."

The higher wages paid in the mining areas ensure that the companies are supplied with all the labour they require.

9. To a considerable extent Asiatic artisans are being replaced by Africans in the marine workshops. The apprenticeship system of the Kenya and Uganda Railways and Harbours Administration is most valuable in providing trained labourers who readily obtain work at the mines and with other local employers.

At the end of the year the Miwani Sugar Company found it necessary to raise all wages by Sh. 1 per month, and give increased rations.

10. In the Kericho District, Kipsigis are being employed to an increasing extent on the tea estates, though the labour is still mostly Kisi and Luo.

11. The establishment of native markets in the settled areas at Lumbwa, Koru and Londiani has given considerable satisfaction to natives of all tribes resident in those localities. All these markets are held on Sunday mornings, and are supervised, as regards the maintenance of order, by the local Police. Another market will shortly be established at Songhor, on the site of the old Police Post.

#### Central Province

12. Generally in the settled areas the relations between the employers and their native labourers have been good throughout the Province.

13. The District Commissioner, Thika, who has taken a particular interest in labour matters, reports as follows:—

"It is again a pleasure to record the good relations between natives and their employers in the district. Comparatively few complaints come into court, and the great majority of complaints by natives are of refusal to grant discharge.

"The question of leave, 'french' or otherwise, has been much to the fore during the year. The Kikuyu and, to a lesser degree, the Kamba have little appreciation of the fact that they are expected to work steadily for a month at least and to complete their month within 42 days. Farmers are partly to blame for this, for many of them give in to this pernicious system and take no action. Their excuse is that if they apply for the legal remedy it is a nuisance to them or that their farms will be boycotted. They have been taken to task for this and many are now genuinely making an effort to tighten up discipline.

"Labour inspection reports reveal, on the whole, satisfactory conditions of employment. One prosecution only has been instituted for bad housing. The sanitation on many farms still leaves much to be desired, but is improving.

"Labour was plentiful until about the beginning of November, when various factors contributed to a shortage which, by the end of the year, had become embarrassing.

"Three considerable strikes occurred on large sisal estates. In one it was attributable to the usual cause—an unpopular headman. In the second, to an unwise allocation of tasks; a suggestion for reorganization was accepted, and there has been no trouble since. In the third and most serious, to incompetence on the part of two subordinates, combined with a general lack of efficient control; the subordinates were dismissed by the management, and a better system was inaugurated.

"The provisions of the Squatters Ordinance have been better observed than formerly, and there has been an increase in the number of attestations. On the majority of farms notice has been given by employers to remove goats, and generally the notice has had the desired effect. Thika is still, however, a busy goat market, and large numbers come in weekly from the Ukamba Reserves and are purchased by Kikuyu of the Fort Hall and Kiambu Districts.

"Some difficulty still exists in the disposal of civil disputes between natives resident in this district and those of the Reserves. Where it is possible, litigants are referred to the appropriate Native Tribunal; but, although processes of Native Tribunals have usually been served and executed upon residents of this district, there can be little doubt that this practice has no sanction in law, and in cases where the plaintiff belongs to a remote district it has been considered advisable to have action delayed or for the case to be dealt with in some other way."

14. As a result of the inevitable delay in implementing the recommendations of the Land Commission in the Nairobi District, a situation of considerable tension has arisen between native right-holders and European landholders, complicated in many cases by the fact that the land is on freehold title. It is the opinion of the District Commissioner that, with few exceptions, European settlers have maintained an attitude of tolerance which, in the circumstances, is really remarkable.

15. The Nubian ex-*askaris* settlement at Kibera has been much in the limelight during the year, not only as a source of supply to the natives of Nairobi of the extremely poor Nubian gin, but because the Royal Nairobi Golf Club now wishes to utilize a portion of the land they have leased from Government, which, unfortunately, contains some dozens of these families.

The Golf Club had to have recourse to the Courts to enforce their rights, and the case was decided in their favour. An appeal has been lodged, but has not been heard. (This dispute has since been amicably settled.)

16. In the Kiambu District good rains on the farms resulted in a big coffee crop and unusually large demands for pickers and general labourers. While it was necessary for most farmers to employ some natives from other districts, the Kiambu Kikuyu fulfilled the major proportion of the abnormal demands.

This Reserve is ideally situated in regard to markets for its produce, and, as production increases and the prices of primary products improve, more and more natives find trading, etc., and the development of their own holdings more profitable than working on the farms for a comparatively small wage.

So far, however, the increase in the number who work for themselves in some capacity or other has been more or

less balanced by the increase in natives from the more backward reserves who now seek work on the coffee farms.

17. The Kamba generally do not care to work on farms, but in the main the occupations they prefer are either skilled employment, mechanical or otherwise, or, to a vastly greater extent, any duties which involve wearing a uniform.

The District Commissioner, Kitui, however, reports that during the year more Kamba went out to work (a fact which was evidenced by the number of taxes paid outside the Reserve), and particularly in the lower altitude areas, such as Mombasa, which they seem to prefer. A number of labourers went to work in the Thika District.

Three hundred Meru were recruited by Messrs. Sukari Limited, and were the subject of a satisfactory report by the manager. Towards the latter part of the year the Nakuru Municipal Board also commenced recruiting Meru labourers.

18. The position arising from unauthorized residence by natives, mostly immigrants from Kitui District, on the big estates and Scottish Mission land at Kibwezi and Masongalani caused some anxiety. In October all permitted residents were signed on under the Resident Native Labourers Ordinance, and subsequently combined drives, which achieved good results, were undertaken by *safaris* from Kitui and Machakos, with a view to taking action against unauthorized squatters and collecting tax which might otherwise have been lost.

#### Rift Valley Province

19. The Provincial Commissioner writes:—

"Conditions on the whole have been good, and farmers are beginning to realize that the old low scale of wages will no longer prevail. Those farmers who persist in regarding Sh. 5 as the maximum wage for a farm labourer are practically the only ones who are consistently short."

20. In the Naandi District the ban which had been imposed on the Kapchepkendi clan, preventing them from obtaining squatter contracts, was removed by the Provincial Commissioner in August, and they were allowed to be attested as squatters provided they had completed six months' work as casual labourers.

The District Commissioner reports:—

"There are several unoccupied European farms in the district, and stock thieves and other criminals are liable to make these areas their headquarters.

"They are free from the supervision of either tribal authority or of an employer, and are liable to become a menace to neighbouring farms. A number of these natives were removed from Kibabet and Kamochoywa Estates towards the end of the year, and as a result a number of stolen stock were recovered, but constant supervision is required to prevent bad characters from drifting back to these areas."

The biggest employers of labour in the district are the East African Coffee Plantations at Savani, who employ some 700 natives for the greater part of the year.

21. Passes are required by all members of the Elgeyo tribe who go out of the Reserve to work. The tribe were in bad odour in the settled area in the early part of the year, owing to stock thefts and petty thieving, but this epidemic died down later on.

Unfortunately, labour is required in the settled area from November to March, which is the time when the tribe should be preparing their own *shambas*.

The District Commissioner writes:—

"The Marakwet labour will only go out in gangs. They are very independent, and if anything goes wrong they just pack up and go home. Some employers have the knack of handling them, and are never short of labour."

22. The District Commissioner, Nakuru, reports:—

In a good year the salient features have been:—

- (a) The continued good relations between masters and servants.
- (b) The shortage of labour at the beginning of the year.
- (c) The general rise in the wages.
- (d) The great decrease in the number of prosecutions for withholding wages.
- (e) The marked drop in the total sums claimed by natives, i.e. from £1,972 in 1935 to £567 in 1936."

The Native Canteen in Nakuru continued to prove its value in maintaining order among the native residents, and profits amounting to £900 have been credited to the Natives Trust Fund.

Every effort has been made to keep the Lumbwa in the district under strict control by a tightening up of their Pass Rules, as it was found that if these are relaxed in any way there is a corresponding tendency towards indiscipline.

23. In the Uasin Gishu District, farmers are tending to increase the number of squatters on their land, as a safeguard against scarcity of labour in the future or demand for higher wages.

#### *Coast Province*

24. In the Digo District some 1,200 to 1,400 natives, principally from Nyanza Province, were employed on non-native estates.

25. Plenty of employment was obtainable at Lamu owing to prosperous conditions, and skilled workmen, such as masons and carpenters, were able to earn Sh. 2/50 a day.

26. The Giri is conscious of few needs. Once his tax money is procured, all thoughts of work are abhorrent, and, with the Digo and the Teita, they prefer to drift away to Mombasa in search of casual labour in preference to regular employment near their own homes. Consequently there has been a shortage of labour in the Kili District.

#### *Masai District*

27. The eviction of squatters in the Nakuru-Naivasha area led to a number of Kikuyu families migrating into the Masai Reserve and a consequent appeal for their eviction by the Local Native Councils.

On the whole, the Masai have shown a far greater readiness to work than in the past.

At Ngong hardly a day passes without applications by Masai for work, but in practically every case it is for work in the King's African Rifles, Police, Prisons, or Tribal Police.

As is usual, a large number of Masai have left the district to engage in herding work in the Naivasha and Gilgil farm areas and on an estate at Naro Moru in the Central Province.

Steps are being taken to ensure that the Masai should be recruited and replace the alien native in his own district for such work as he will undertake.

#### *Turkana District*

28. The District Commissioner, West Suk, writes:—

"The Suk seek work only when necessity compels, and abandon work when that necessity, usually the need of money with which to pay tax, has been fulfilled. Wages are

admittedly small, but it remains to be seen whether a larger wage, which better conditions in the settled areas should now make possible, will tempt more people from the Reserve."

There has been a bigger demand for Suk labour in the Trans Nzoia District than the Reserve has been able to meet.

29. The Turkana are unable to endure the cold of the upland climate, so few, if any, seek work in the settled areas.

The unprecedented prosperity of the year under review caused a serious deficiency in the labour supply, and it was difficult to obtain recruit for road gangs and other undertakings outside the environs of Lodwar, where, as usual, the attractions of "city life" drew all necessary labour to headquarters where employment was available on brick and building gangs.

#### *Northern Frontier District*

30. The meagre labour supply was taxed to its uttermost by the extra work undertaken in landing ground construction and on roads during the year.

From Moyale it is reported that very high wages on the Italian side and an increase in the cost of living, due to Italian food requirements, tended to make labour scarce and dear.

Turkana labourers were imported from Maralal to cope with the shortage at Matsabit, and a large gang, composed of riverine people, was sent from Garissa to work at Wajir.

### CHAPTER XVIII NATIVES TRUST FUND

This fund was originally established at the end of the year 1921, under the Natives' Trust Fund Ordinance, which was passed in December of that year.

2. After the establishment of Local Native Councils, the Natives' Trust Fund Ordinance was amended early in 1925 to enable money in the fund which was standing to the credit of particular districts to be paid over to the Local Native Council funds of the areas concerned. Accordingly, there remains now in the fund only a small capital account and such moneys as cannot be conveniently allotted to any Local Native Council.

3. The following is a statement of the assets and liabilities of the fund at the 31st December, 1936:—

LIABILITIES		Sh.	cts.
General Capital Account		31,581	13
Pokomo Account		113	23
Famine Relief		6,353	00
North Pokomo Saka Account		1,060	59
Uasin Gishu Masai Account		13,848	98
Trans Nzou Native Tribunal Deposit		58	93
Abyssinian Compensation		100,744	01
Collective Fine (N.F.D.)		31,299	49
	Sh.	185,069	36
<b>ASSETS</b>			
Cash:		Sh.	cts.
On Deposit with Government of Kenya		59,840	35
On Deposit with Banks		109,781	00
On Deposit with Post Office Savings Bank		15,000	00
		184,621	35
Advance Account—Badges		438	01
	Sh.	186,359	36

4. The total amount received from the Abyssinian Government in 1929 as compensation in respect of raids carried out by Abyssinian subjects upon tribes in the Northern Frontier Province was £20,835/2/74, and of this sum £5,037/4/1 remains unspent at the end of the year.

#### CONCLUSION

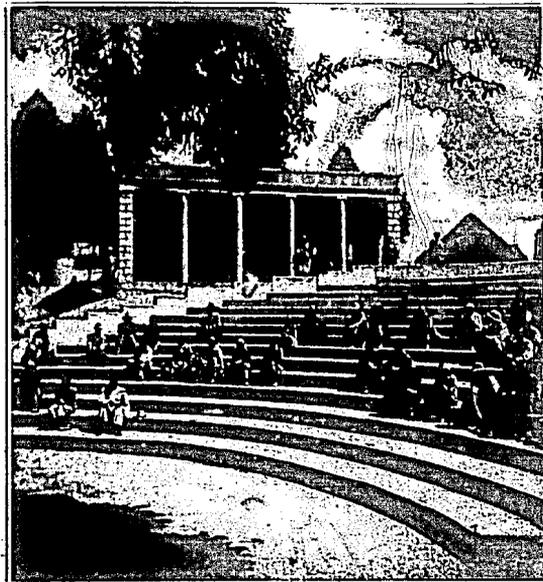
The general progress noted in the 1935 Report has been maintained, and looking at the Native Reserves from every point of view there has been improvement.

This follows the general prosperity in the Colony, as European and native efforts are complementary, and it has long been recognized that each depends on the other, and for that reason I do not fear the shortage of labour, owing to increased production in the Reserves, which has been hinted at in quoting District Officers in other parts of the report.

2. Before concluding, I should like to state that, though I have signed the report, I am largely indebted to Mr. La Fontaine, Provincial Commissioner of the Central Province, for its compilation during my enforced absence in England in May and June.

H. R. MONTGOMERY,  
Chief Native Commissioner.

7th July, 1937



Native Tribunal, Githunguri, Kiambu



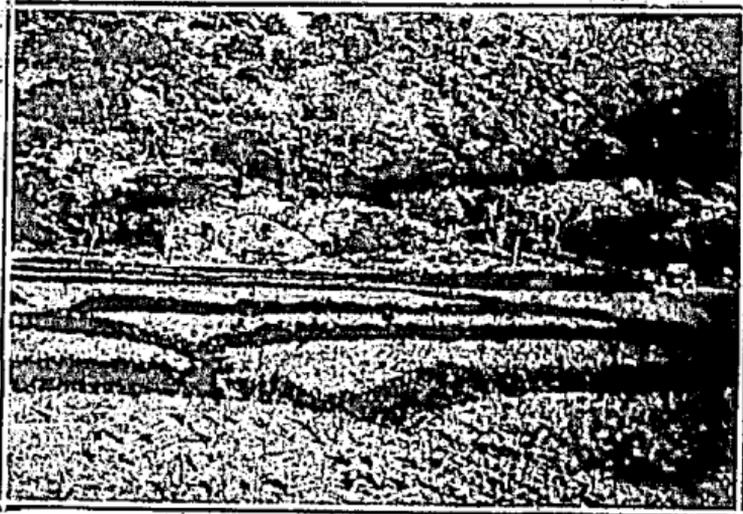
Protected Water Supply, Mbooni, Kitui



Improved Native Stone House, Kiambu Reserve



Cotton Buying, Kitui



Demonstration Plot in the West Suki District—showing methods of preventing soil erosion

APPENDIX A

CREDIT BALANCES AS AT 31st DECEMBER, 1936, IN THE LOCAL NATIVE COUNCIL FUNDS

PROVINCE	DISTRICT	AMOUNT		
		£	Sh.	cts.
CENTRAL	Kiambu	5,822	1	74
	Fort Hall	6,367	17	16
	South Nyeri	2,011	6	22
	Embu	2,387	13	76
	Meru	6,063	12	36
	Machakos	9,737	18	43
	Kitui	3,864	0	28
NYANZA	North Kavirondo	18,658	15	64
	Central Kavirondo	10,139	14	14
	South Kavirondo	7,612	12	90
	Kipsigis	2,418	7	32
RIFT VALLEY	Nandi	7,799	10	35
	Elgayo	3,844	9	97
	Baringo	1,584	00	35
COAST	Giriama	2,879	18	01
	Digo	2,018	10	"
	Teita	2,777	1	"
MASAI	Narok	2,589	1	"
	Kajiado	1,128	10	"
TURKANA	West Suk	661	08	7
	TOTAL	£ 101,265	17	17

Examined:  
A. C. HANDS,  
Colonial Auditor  
14th July, 1937

H. R. MONTGOMERY  
Chief Native Commissioner

APPENDIX B

NATIVE DEPOSITORS IN THE POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANK, 1936

OFFICE	Number of Accounts of African Depositors at 31st December, 1936
Nairobi	2,610
Mombasa	544
Kisumu	532
Nakuru	451
All other Savings Bank Offices in Kenya	3,740
TOTAL	7,886

**APPENDIX C**  
**COMPARISON OF NATIVE POPULATION AND TAXATION**  
**1935 AND 1936**

PROVINCE AND DISTRICT	Estimated Population		Collected Taxation	
	1935	1936	1935	1936
<b>NYANZA</b>			£	£
North Kavirondo	346,797	344,840	60,384	60,195
Central Kavirondo	383,067	384,997	61,180	60,180
South Kavirondo	306,400	325,867	57,413	57,803
Kerioho	74,114	72,338	15,693	16,747
Kisumu-Londjani	27,520	28,587	7,997	9,097
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,137,898</b>	<b>1,106,629</b>	<b>202,667</b>	<b>204,122</b>
<b>CENTRAL</b>				
Nairobi	46,600	36,000	7,886	9,096
Thika	27,441	28,588	8,302	10,343
Kimbu	104,336	141,488	20,430	19,345
Fort Hall	161,328	191,158	33,939	35,310
South Nyeri	117,383	122,094		
North Nyeri	9,577	14,977	26,675	26,886
Meru	202,416	201,771	21,347	22,381
Embu	140,387	167,625	31,061	28,842
Machakos	220,981	258,182	37,664	41,769
Kitui	154,559	129,385	9,639	24,035
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,193,958</b>	<b>1,301,168</b>	<b>196,933</b>	<b>218,807</b>
<b>RIFT VALLEY</b>				
Nakuru and Naivasha	39,198	45,317	9,445	10,616
Usin Gishu	18,764	21,077	4,102	5,007
Trans Nzoia	28,101	31,701	6,639	6,397
Laikipia-Samburu	25,230	29,955	4,381	5,380
Elgeyo-Marakwet	34,013	33,993	6,663	4,581
Nandi	43,711	39,753	8,134	8,602
Baringo	36,422	35,007	4,039	4,067
<b>Total</b>	<b>224,420</b>	<b>236,846</b>	<b>43,403</b>	<b>44,520</b>
<b>COAST</b>				
Mombasa	35,338	37,401	6,835	7,396
Kilifi	65,257	67,650	6,294	11,477
Malindi	34,491	36,089	5,915	6,166
Lamu	16,820	16,475	2,278	2,209
Tana River	15,867	16,427	2,278	2,209
Digo	53,217	53,800	5,621	2,213
Teita	47,335	46,064	6,666	8,861
<b>Total</b>	<b>267,925</b>	<b>273,408</b>	<b>39,956</b>	<b>46,923</b>
<b>MASAI</b>				
Kajiado	18,333	22,805	4,220	2,990
Narok	19,375	29,528	6,014	6,716
<b>Total</b>	<b>37,708</b>	<b>52,333</b>	<b>10,234</b>	<b>9,706</b>
<b>TURKANA</b>				
Turkana	57,631	57,601	2,985	1,480
West Suk	20,024	19,890	2,340	2,585
<b>Total</b>	<b>77,655</b>	<b>77,667</b>	<b>5,325</b>	<b>4,074</b>
<b>NORTHERN FRONTIER</b>				
All Districts	72,948	78,904	6,784	10,068
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,012,421</b>	<b>3,186,976</b>	<b>£502,302</b>	<b>*£537,219</b> 7,678
				<b>£544,897</b>

\*To this must be added the sum of £7,678 for Kodi Stamps sold but not yet redeemed.

**APPENDIX D**  
**COMPARATIVE TABLE OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE OF LOCAL NATIVE COUNCILS IN 1936**

PROVINCE AND COUNCIL	REVENUE		EXPENDITURE (Including Expenditure on Building)						Surplus Balance in hand at end of 1936		
	Rates	Land (Rents, Fees, etc.)	Other	Education	Medical	Agri. Vet. Forestry	Roads and Bridges	Water Supplies		Famine Relief	Other
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
<b>COAST</b>											
Digo	636 5	773 10	316 8	20 00	49 16	259 9	120 17	76 6		184 10	2,018 16 50
Teita	1,488 16	745 2	717 0	50 00	84 16	746 10	424 19	153 9		410 2	2,879 18 91
<b>NYANZA</b>											
N. Kavirondo	9,512 9	3,814 14	3,078 5	2,677 00	2,302 17	2,648 2	3,046 10			4,928 14	18,058 15 64
C. Kavirondo	7,877 19	766 16	3,457 5	2,344 7	1,335 16	3,023 2	1,398 9			3,055 11	19,139 15 00
S. Kavirondo	8,817 14	1,628 11	5,179 18	1,010 17	2,473 00	2,748 5	1,641 32			5,102 16	2,911 0 22
Kipsigis	886 1	307 10	138 4	497 10	132 8	202 13	12 4			3,273 3	2,416 7 32
<b>CENTRAL</b>											
Kimbu	3,349 2	335 2	1,748 00	774 00	987 16	623 15	585 9			2,008 6	5,822 1 74
Fort Hall	2,497 1	701 12	1,879 15	1,000 00	104 2	1,073 2	599 17			1,863 16	6,367 17 16
South Nyeri	1,691 16	286 8	1,926 2	847 5	311 8	638 13	99 12			1,103 5	2,911 0 22
Meru	1,019 00	900 2	900 2	541 10	229 17	878 16	250 00			1,316 9	2,387 13 76
Machakos	4,854 17	634 17	2,631 7	1,057 16	105 7	2,511 0	144 3			623 7	6,063 12 36
Kitui	2,377 5	614 3	1,820 6	280 14	212 14	251 0	99 19			1,671 18	9,757 18 43



APPENDIX D.—COMPARATIVE TABLE OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE OF LOCAL NATIVE COUNCILS IN 1930—(Contd.)

PROVINCE AND COUNCIL	REVENUE				EXPENDITURE (Including Expenditure on Building)							Surplus Balance in hand at end of 1930		
	Rates	Land (Rents, Fees, etc.)	Other	Education	Medical	Agr. Vot. Poverty	Bridges	Water Supplies	Fire and Relief	Other	£		s.	d.
River Valley	604 4	349 5	122 10	481 8	399 17	359 4	27 1	—	—	281 1	7,500	10	39	
Nandi	—	772 16	142 1	230 7	161 5	229 18	889 10	—	—	116 10	5,544	9	37	
Eldoret	624 13	186 18	11 15	33 00	94 16	135 5	101 00	56 00	—	49 14	1,984	00	36	
Masak	601 10	705 12	422 14	306 13	112 18	39 4	538 3	100 12	—	1,239 4	2,680	19	71	
Narok	538 1	1,266 5	185 7	710 00	133 17	160 14	49 10	204 10	—	364 17	1,128	10	28	
TURKANA	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
West Suk	120 33	—	68 13	39 17	—	36 13	—	—	—	59 14	601	8	57	
TOTAL	5,40,644 6	15,552 4	25,915 7	13,817 7	9,560 5	17,674 10	10,567 00	1,583 11	1,036 4	27,207 8	101,263	17	17	

(Figures expressed to the nearest shilling).

APPENDIX E  
SOUTH KAVIRONDO  
(Luo-Abauba and Kisii-Bakoria Councils established 19-7-26.) (South Kavirondo, L.N.C. established 23-8-35)

	REVENUE		EXPENDITURE	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Opening Balance on 1st January, 1930	5,708	4 51	—	—
Cash in Bank on Current Account	760	0 00	—	—
Cash in Post Office Savings Bank	95	6 74	—	—
By—				
And RATES				
Native Rate, 1934	81	12 00	—	—
Native Rate, 1935	1,407	10 00	—	—
Native Rate, 1936	737	12 00	—	—
Market Fees	2,582	0 70	—	—
Native Tribunal Fees	87	0 90	—	—
School Fees	—	—	—	—
RECEIPTS ON ACCOUNT OF UNDERTAKINGS OF A COMMERCIAL NATURE—				
Hire of lorry	145	17 40	—	—
Revenue from Forestry—				
Sale of Farm Produce	14	18 82	—	—
Sale of N.A.B. Tubes	35	18 74	—	—
Land Rents	1,002	16 20	—	—
Sale of Trees	433	17 58	—	—
Receipts from Mining Leases, Fees, etc.	48	18 60	—	—
Sale of Stores, etc.	3	18 60	—	—
Sale of Dairy Equipment	77	10 25	—	—
Interest on Fixed Deposit	19	1 25	—	—
TOTAL	20,750	18 54	20,750	18 54
				Carried forward
PERSONAL ENGAGEMENTS—				
Salary of Headquarters Staff	130	12 58	—	—
Honarium to Cashier	29	19 80	—	—
Commission to Rate Clerks	260	1 40	—	—
Wages of Market Clerks and Sweepers	360	5 87	—	—
Wages of Carriers, L.N.C. Houses	3	12 00	—	—
Wages of Lorry Driver and Boy	45	3 60	—	—
Wages of Camp Caretakers	84	1 00	—	—
Expenses of Location Clerks	35	17 77	—	—
Expenses of Native Tribunals	2,493	19 65	—	—
Acquisition—				
Wages of Produce Inspectors	124	14 64	—	—
Wages of Cotton Inspectors	182	10 00	—	—
Wages of Conservancy Boys	59	14 81	—	—
Wages of Sanitary Workers	222	6 12	—	—
Wages of Dispensary Workers and Water Boys	53	1 00	—	—
Wages of Bush Clearing Boys	1,901	2 84	—	—
OTHRN CHARGES—				
Local Transport and Travelling	35	3 60	—	—
Subsistence and Travelling Allowance	48	9 98	—	—
Deputations and Visits by L.N.C. Members	42	0 36	—	—
Fuel of Transport	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	6,168	18 67	6,168	18 67
				Carried forward

APPENDIX D.—COMPARATIVE TABLE OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE OF LOCAL NATIVE COUNCILS IN 1936.—(Contd.)

PROVINCE AND COUNCIL	REVENUE				EXPENDITURE (Including Expenditure on Building)								Surplus Balance in hand end of 1936					
	Rates	Land (Houses, Fees, etc.)	Other	Education	Medical	Agri. Vet. and Forestry	Roads and Bridges	Water Supplies	Famine Relief	Other	£	s.		d.				
<b>RIFT VALLEY</b>	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
Nandi	804	349	122	481	399	959	27	—	—	281	—	—	—	—	7,799	10	39	
Egoyo	772	15	142	230	7	229	18	—	—	116	—	—	—	—	3,644	9	97	
Baringo	624	13	186	33	90	135	6	56	00	49	14	—	—	—	1,684	00	35	
<b>MASAI</b>																		
Narok	601	705	452	306	13	391	4	106	12	1,239	4	—	—	—	2,589	19	71	
Kajiado	938	1,306	168	716	00	160	14	49	10	394	17	—	—	—	1,128	10	23	
<b>TURKANA</b>																		
West Suk	126	13	98	39	17	36	13	—	—	59	14	—	—	—	601	8	57	
<b>TOTAL</b>	40,544	6	26,915	13,817	7	17,674	10	10,567	00	1,683	11	1,036	4	27,207	8	101,268	17	17

(Figures expressed to the nearest shilling.)

APPENDIX E  
SOUTH KAVIROONDO  
(Luo-Absamba and Kisi-Bakoria Councils established 18-7-25; (South Kaviroondo L.N.C. established 23-8-35).

PROVINCE AND COUNCIL	REVENUE		EXPENDITURE		Surplus Balance in hand end of 1936		
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.			
Opening Balance on 1st January 1936—							
Cash in Bank on Current Account	5,700	4	51		130	12	58
Cash in Post Office Savings Bank	76	0	00		29	19	90
Cash on hand	95	6	74		266	1	40
<b>FEES AND RATES—</b>					380	6	87
Native Rate, 1934	31	12	00		3	42	00
Native Rate, 1935	1,407	10	00		45	3	66
Native Rate, 1936	7,378	12	00		84	1	00
Market Fees	920	0	70		2,493	19	66
Native Tribunal Fees	2,685	10	05		124	14	64
School Fees	87	0	00		162	10	00
<b>RECEIPTS OF ACCOUNTS OF UNDERTAKINGS OF A COMMERCIAL NATURE—</b>					69	14	81
Hire of Jony Property	145	17	60		222	8	12
Sale of Eggs and Produce	14	18	82		53	1	00
Sale of N.A.B. Tubes	35	18	74		1,061	2	34
Land Rents	1,022	15	20		35	3	50
Sale of Taxes	493	18	60		48	9	98
Receipts from Mining Leases, Fees, etc.	3	18	60		42	0	36
Sale of Stores, etc.	27	10	25		0,108	18	07
Sale of Dairy Equipment	7	10	25				
Interest on Fixed Deposit	19	1	25				
<b>Carried forward</b>	20,750	18	54				





greater demand for labour with higher wages and more attractive conditions of employment as a natural corollary.

### III—SUPPLY AND DEMAND

The supply of labour has on the whole been equal to the demand and although at the beginning of the year there was a definite shortage of labour in the Rift Valley Province, this quickly diminished in the Nakuru District, came to an end in the Trans Nzoia area in July, but persisted in Nandi and in the Songhor area of the Nyanza Province until the end of the year. In the Central and Coast Provinces no acute lack of labour manifested itself though at times the amount necessary to meet maximum requirements was somewhat difficult to obtain. An interesting feature has been the way in which the tribes of North, Central and South Kavirondo, especially the Luo, have met the incessant demand for their services. These natives are definitely the backbone of the supply of labour for heavy work throughout the Colony, i.e. work on sisal, sugar and tea estates, on the railway, on the mines and on fuel cutting and ballast breaking. There was good reason to think that the advent of mining activity and the extension of cotton growing in the Kavirondo Reserves would reflect adversely on the amount of labour available for other industries, and it is noteworthy that these fears have not been realized.

There is no doubt that before the slump set in many employers were definitely wasteful in their use of labour but during the depression they learnt to be more economical, and it is therefore a fair assumption that this lesson has been largely instrumental in averting a definite shortage of labour, in that the output of work per man unit is to-day, in many cases, materially higher than that ruling in the pre-depression period. It is evident that natives of the three Kavirondo Districts cannot go on indefinitely meeting the demand for their services as labourers in certain industries and far-seeing employers have therefore begun to look elsewhere for part of their labour supply. In most cases their efforts in this direction have already met with some measure of success, e.g. for many years the natives of Central, and to a lesser extent of North Kavirondo, have been looked upon as the only ones who could cut sisal successfully, in fact they had what virtually amounted to a monopoly of the supply of labour for this type of work. Certain employers have now experimented with other tribes on sisal cutting and in cases in which the necessary patience has been exercised results have been promising.

especially amongst the Kamba tribe. Most of the skilled work on coffee, such as pruning, was as usual undertaken by Kikuyu who formed the chief source of the labour supply for this produce. The Kipsigis, the Masai and the Nandi still have a marked dislike to work on agricultural estates and much prefer employment on stock farms where they do well. In the Coast Province there was an improvement in the number of Teita natives in employment but the Giriama and the Digo were as lethargic as ever.

Owing to the curtailment of staff in the Native Registration Section it is not possible to give the average monthly number of natives in employment during the year, but the figures in the Special Labour Return for October show that 182,858 natives were then in employment as compared with 161,192 in November, 1930, when a similar return was made. This is conclusive proof of the increased demand for labour and also denotes that the demand was well met, as the figure of 182,858 even allowing for the fact that it includes Resident Native Labourers at work at the time the return was made, a high one and compares favourably with the average monthly number of natives in employment, exclusive of Resident Native Labourers, during the last seven years, the estimated figures being:—

1929	...	...	...	160,000
1930	...	...	...	157,000
1931	...	...	...	141,000
1932	...	...	...	132,000
1933	...	...	...	141,000
1934	...	...	...	145,000
1935	...	...	...	150,000

### IV—PRIVATE EMPLOYERS

#### Coffee Farms

In the Central Province, which contains the principal coffee farms no troubles were experienced apart from the usual seasonal difficulty in filling maximum requirements for labour. A definite shortage of labour existed, however, throughout the year in the Songhor area of the Nyanza Province and the Nandi District of the Rift Valley Province; this was mainly due to the fact that these areas suffered particularly severely in the depression and were therefore unable to offer

attractive conditions of employment. Relations between employers and employees were good, no serious disputes occurred and the only complaints received from either party were of a minor nature.

#### *Cotton Ginning*

Consequent upon the extension of cotton growing in Native Reserves new ginneries have been built and existing ones enlarged, with a resultant increased demand for labour to work them.

In 1935 conditions in this industry were in a number of cases far from satisfactory, especially with regard to the employment of juveniles. Following upon inspections carried out by Labour Officers at the time instructions were issued to all unsatisfactory employers to improve conditions, and they were warned that failure to do so would be severely dealt with. This produced the desired result, and labour conditions in the ginneries inspected this year were found to be satisfactory.

#### *Cattle and Dairying*

It has been a prosperous year for both these industries and except for the usual complaints regarding neglect on the part of native herdsmen labour conditions have been most happy.

#### *Mines*

Wages in this industry were about the same as in 1935, that is, somewhat higher than those for other work in the Nyanza Province, but there was some falling off in the number of natives employed, except in No. 2 Area in Central Kavirondo. This was attributable to the failure of some of the bigger mines particularly in South Kavirondo, where Watende Mines practically closed down, to justify their early expectations and to the caution which has followed the natural optimism of the opening years of the industry. Greater stability has resulted and default in the payment of wages has become rare. On the more important mines there has been an increasing tendency to go over to housing labour in compounds as it was found that labour returning home each night could not be relied upon to attend work regularly. The popularity of the communal kitchen with a staff of cooks to issue a cooked ration for consumption immediately the natives come off shift was demonstrated at Macalder Mines in South Kavirondo, when Maragoli natives from North Kavirondo, where a number of such kitchens already existed, petitioned

for the installation of one, a request that was readily granted. Rosterman Gold Mines, Ltd., Kimingini Gold Mining Company, Ltd., Kavirondo Gold Mines, Ltd., Bellamira Development and Mining Company, Ltd., and Macalder Mines, Ltd., all have compound managers and the organization and condition of their camps is good.

Medically mining labour is well cared for; several mines have ambulances and the services of private doctors, dispensaries are better stocked than most Government reserve dispensaries, and labour where necessary receives injections against the commoner severe diseases.

#### *Maize*

The year was quiet with no outstanding features, beyond the fact that the Kamasia tribe continued to come out to work in the Nakuru District of the Rift Valley Province and provided a useful supplement to the normal labour supply.

#### *Pyrethrum*

The acreage under this crop increased considerably and gave suitable employment for juveniles and women, who have proved adept at picking the flowers. No labour difficulties were encountered during the year.

#### *Sisal*

The price of this commodity remained firm throughout the year. As a result a number of estates that had gone out of production during the depression re-opened, others that had remained in production planted up new areas and reclaimed old ones, and a number of entirely new estates were started. There was therefore a strong demand for labour and it is satisfactory to be able to record that on the whole this was met. Better wages and improved conditions of employment prevailed, except that in a number of instances, accommodation and sanitation were not good; this is dealt with later in this report under the heading of Housing.

#### *Sugar*

As in 1935 the Victoria Nyanza Sugar Company was the largest employer of labour in this industry, Sukari, Ltd., the Rami Sugar Company on the Coast and the Muhoroni Sugar Company in Nyanza are the only other three estates of any size. Conditions in all four were satisfactory, health was good and the labour supply adequate. In addition to the above

there are a number of small European and Indian owned plantations. Concerning the latter the Labour Officer, Kisumu, writes:—

"Indian farms commonly offer smaller wages than neighbouring concerns. That they obtain labour at all is therefore probably due to smaller tasks, laxer discipline and a personal relationship to the employee which is often missing in enterprises on a large scale. In this sense they are good employers but nevertheless a number of complaints were made against them, chiefly with regard to non-payment of wages. Economically these farms are dangerously near the border line and delays in payment are to be expected. If wages rise, in 1937 it is anticipated that the position will become still more difficult."

#### *Tea*

In the Kericho District these estates employed approximately 12,500 r. es. of these half were adults and half juveniles; the latter being chiefly employed on plucking, work very suited to them and at which they earn good wages. The biggest estates are model employers and their employees are well cared for in every respect.

#### *Other Industries*

The Magadi Soda Company at Magadi maintained its high reputation as employers and was as popular as ever with natives.

The Fundisha Salt Works at Gongoni, on the Coast, gave no trouble and the improvement in conditions that took place when the management changed hands last year has been maintained.

Two sawmills got behind in payment of wages but these were duly adjusted, apart from this conditions in this industry were satisfactory.

Wheat growers rely very largely on machinery for producing their crop, their demand for labour is therefore not large and was easily met.

#### *Lake Nyanza Fishing Industry*

The native captain of an Indian-owned dhow engaged in the fishing industry at Asembo Bay, died on the 19th of December. Although his death was due to his own carelessness and not to any default on the part of the employer all the native fishermen immediately went on strike for increased

wages, on the grounds that their work was dangerous. At the time wages were Sh. 6 for sailors and Sh. 15 for dhow captains plus a share of the catch, so that in all sailors earned from Sh. 15 to Sh. 20 per month and dhow captains from Sh. 25 to Sh. 40 per month. These wages were in excess of those demanded in the Kisumu strike, referred to in the 1935 report, but the strikers insisted on a cash wage of Sh. 12 for sailors and Sh. 20 for dhow captains plus the usual percentage of the catch. The Indian owners did not call in anyone to arbitrate in the dispute but after four days granted the strikers demands. This was probably due to the fact that the strike occurred when the season was at its height; the owners were therefore faced with a heavy direct financial loss in that they would miss the glut of fish, and in addition would have to bear a further indirect loss as fishing nets, which are expensive, rot within ten days when not in use. There appears to have been no real justification for the strike as the original wages, according to existing standards, were reasonable, being higher than those of underground miners, whose work is very little less skilled or arduous. Probably the main cause of the trouble was growing realization amongst the natives of Kavirondo increasing prosperity in their own reserves and the increasing demand for their services as labourers is giving them a bargaining power that they have hitherto lacked; in fact there is little doubt that they were fully conscious that they possessed a very strong weapon in the "strike". Whilst it is only fair that wages should be adjusted to conform to increased prosperity and it cannot be expected that these adjustments will be effected without difficulties, it is regrettable that in this case adequately paid employees struck successfully for higher wages.

#### V—GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS

##### *Kenya and Uganda Railways and Harbours*

Labour working on the Main and Branch Lines were inspected. Conditions in every respect were excellent. Labour on the railway is treated with consideration and well cared for; in the Marine Section it may be called upon to turn out at all hours, but the absence of complaints and the eagerness of natives to take up this form of employment demonstrate that it is justly and ably managed.

In Kenya, the Kenya and Uganda Railways and Harbours employed a monthly average of 14,350 natives, of these approximately 2,000 were skilled or semi-skilled workers. The

rates of wages for these were from Sh. 50 to Sh. 80 per month and for ordinary labour Sh. 16 to Sh. 25 per month including the cost of rations.

#### *Railway Contractors*

These gave no trouble at all, they were inspected regularly and any requests made to effect improvements or remedy defects were at once complied with. A number of contracts were on a large scale and the following report by the Labour Officer, Kisumu, on one such contract is typical of the general conditions that prevailed:—

"The Company concerned had a contract for the supply of 1,750,000 cubic feet of ballast and 750,000 tons of murrum. Its ballast camp was established near Kisumu and was well laid out and cared for. Complaints were rare and usually groundless. The same company also had a fuel contract with the Kenya and Uganda Railways and Harbours at Londiani. The wages paid were Sh. 12 per ticket; rations were good and the health of the labour employed was generally satisfactory."

#### *Public Works Department*

In all this Department employed an average of 5,100 natives monthly, of these 275 came under the category of skilled labour and earned from Sh. 22 to Sh. 50 per month, other labour was paid at an average rate of Sh. 10 per month. A considerable programme of road construction and improvement was opened up in the Nyanza Province. New mining roads and bridges were made in South Kavirondo, the Kisumu-Kakamega and the Lumbwa-Kericho roads were re-aligned and the latter was macadamized. These last two undertakings required a large amount of labour; no difficulty was experienced in obtaining it for the Kisumu-Kakamega road but the Lumbwa-Kericho road was a more difficult problem, probably due to the unpopularity of the climate in that district. In September the position was that out of 1,000 natives required it had only been possible to obtain 400, and the Director of Public Works considered that it might be necessary to endeavour to obtain the other labour from outside the Nyanza Province. From information in possession of the Labour Section it was known at the time that natives of the South Kavirondo District were coming out to work better than those of the Central and North Kavirondo districts and, the Director of Public Works was therefore advised to recruit labour in South Kavirondo; this was done with the result that the labour shortage was met and the supply maintained from this source.

Conditions of employment as regards ordinary maintenance gangs were satisfactory, but on the Lumbwa-Kericho road certain difficulties were encountered in providing satisfactory camps for the large number of labourers employed there, this was mainly due to the sudden influx of labour as the result of the success of the recruiting campaign referred to above. Regular inspections were carried out in this area and with the assistance of the Medical Officer, Kericho, who was responsible for the medical and sanitary arrangements for the labour employed, satisfactory conditions were eventually established. Rations were good and recruited labour entered into a contract for six months and received two blankets free. The health of the labour employed was good.

#### *Public Works Department Contractors*

The Public Works Department was not so happy in its choice of contractors as the Kenya and Uganda Railways and Harbours, and two of them caused considerable concern to the Labour Section, especially with regard to the payment of wages; in both cases however they were eventually recovered in full. The Labour Officer, Kisumu, reports on one of these contractors as follows:—

"A firm was given a contract for the supply of ballast for the Lumbwa-Kericho road: It engaged some 200 natives on six months contracts and showed full intention of complying with the spirit and terms of these agreements but found that the figure it had tendered for the contract was so low as to leave small margin for profit. There was, therefore, a neglect to fulfil essential obligations; payment of wages became in arrears and housing suffered neglect; and once again the acceptance of an obviously uneconomically low tender by a Government Department recoiled on the heads of the labour. The wages were however eventually paid up and the houses repaired, but the firm was relieved of its contract before it had expired."

#### *District Councils*

Labour employed by District Councils worked chiefly on roads. Conditions were generally satisfactory; camps good and apart from a number of desertions in the Nakuru District of the Rift Valley Province, no trouble was experienced during the year.

#### **VI—SKILLED AND SEMI-SKILLED LABOUR**

The Kenya and Uganda Railways and Harbours provide excellent training for skilled and semi-skilled labour in their workshops. Young natives are apprenticed for five years and

are taught various technical trades and those that acquire proficiency are offered work in the Railway. The terms of employment are excellent and include the following:—

- (1) Annual increments of pay on fixed scales of pay attached to the different grades, promotion on merit from lower grades to higher grades.
- (2) Liberal and balanced food ration.
- (3) Overtime which may be taken either in money or time off.
- (4) Eighteen days leave per annum and sick leave on full pay.
- (5) Contribution to a provident fund by all labour earning over Sh. 90 per month. This amounts to one month's salary per year the Railway Administration adding a like amount, the whole being increased by interest and bonuses.
- (6) Gratuities on retirement.
- (7) Compensation in case of injury or death.
- (8) Free housing.

The system is well organized and gives very satisfactory results.

The Marine Workshops at Kisumu train and employ a miscellany of artisans. Approximately half the natives schooled there, who belong mainly to Kenya, go into employment as artisans in the lake services in Kenya, Uganda, and Tanganyika Territory. Preference is given to the sons of present employees of the Kenya and Uganda Railways and Harbours as apprentices. These are chiefly Luo, who have attained a fair standard of education and they continue to attend night school during their apprenticeship. The younger children of railway employees also attend this school and are regarded as a useful source of future apprentices. It is possible in the Marine Workshops and on the Lake steamers to rise to responsible positions carrying a wage of Sh. 120 per month or even more.

Skilled employment undertaken by natives in the Workshops includes that of clerks, timekeepers, storemen, fitters, turners, boiler-makers, painters, moulders, hammersmen, cranesmen, riveters, blacksmiths, carpenters and tarpaulin tailors; and in ships that of sailors, quartermasters, draughtsmen attached to Hydrographic surveyors, tugmasters, stokers, engineers and stewards.

Natives of intelligence and experience are to an increasing extent replacing Indian artisans in the workshops and Africans are now in charge of tugs, navigating both the Kavirondo Gulf and Lake Victoria Nyanza.

The Post Office also have an apprenticeship system under which natives are trained for work in the engineering section of the Telegraph Department. The pupils, who are all Akamba, are specially selected and the course is a comprehensive one. It is hoped eventually to find employment for approximately 140 such apprentices in the Department, and it is expected that they will be able to rise to positions carrying a salary of Sh. 270 per month. In addition the Postal Department provides employment for native telegraph and telephone operators, who are trained by them.

The Native Industrial Training Depot at Kabete continues to form the chief source of supply of trained carpenters and blacksmiths. The demand for these and for masons, painters, etc., is Colony wide; but with the exception of Nairobi it is probably greatest in the Nyanza Province, where the mines have offered considerable opportunities for employment to skilled and semi-skilled labour.

The Medical Department have done good work in training of native dressers, a number of whom have followed work on the larger estates throughout the Colony. Kenya natives also rendered valuable service as dressers attached to the Royal Red Cross in Abyssinia during the recent hostilities there.

The various factories throughout the Colony provide a good deal of work of a skilled or semi-skilled nature and it is at times amazing to see the rapidity with which the natives learn these particular jobs. The Shell and Texaco Companies' tin making factories at Mombasa provide a very good illustration of this, certain of the machines which are highly technical and do very delicate work being operated entirely by natives.

The Omnibus Companies in Mombasa and Nairobi employ native drivers, who are all very good at their job and well versed in the law of the road. The same cannot always be said of native car and lorry drivers, who are inclined to be reckless, though there are of course exceptions.

Stevedoring at Kilindini is done solely by natives under European supervision. Their aptitude at this is astounding and boats are loaded and unloaded with the greatest despatch, a particularly noteworthy feature being the skill with which the native drivers operate the big cranes.

The most popular form of skilled work is still that of a clerk but the usual applicants for this type of employment are not very well qualified, a special feature being their lack of ability to type. Generally speaking good native clerks are the exception rather than the rule.

The employment of native women in the Coffee Curing Works at Kilindini, referred to in the 1931 Report, has proved most successful; they have become adepts at hand-picking the coffee beans and during the season 360 of them are employed daily. Their employers have accomplished a noteworthy feat in successfully imposing a ban of silence whilst work is actually in progress. Then, not a sound is heard, but during the short breaks, which are allowed at reasonable intervals, a veritable babel of tongues is let loose.

The Reserves, as the standard of living in them improves, afford considerable employment to carpenters, tailors and rough artisans. In V'vondo for instance, ten or twenty native tailors will be seen at almost any market busily sewing dresses on rickety sewing machines. These are worn by local native women and there are perhaps some 300,000 of them dressed in these native made clothes.

#### VII—MACHINERY SAFEGUARDS

##### *Factories and Compensation*

Generally speaking the conditions in factories were satisfactory. The best factories are those on the Tea Estates, which are models of cleanliness and all machinery is well guarded, but it must be remembered that this industry is essentially a clean one and has money behind it. Sisal provides the majority of factories in the Colony. Conditions in most of these are reasonable but in some of them there is room for improvement in the safeguarding of the machinery in the brushing sheds, and with few exceptions little is done to deal with the elimination of the dust nuisance in this side of the industry. Admittedly this is not an easy problem but it should receive more attention than it does, as it is definitely unpleasant and can but be injurious to the health of the employees working in the sheds; in spite of this however work there is popular. In a number of the smaller factories belt guards were conspicuous by their absence. Usually however the suggestions of Labour Officers made with a view to making factory conditions safer met with prompt compliance. No accidents were reported in sugar factories during the year. One of these however, a small one, is of a very obsolete type and can be considered

lucky to have had no casualties. The method of the lubrication of moving machinery in this factory was indeed primitive, it being done by hand with oil cans by native employees, who very often had to take up most precarious positions, in which one slip would have had disastrous results. In the absence of a Factory Act, under which probably the whole concern would be condemned, nothing could be done to remedy existing conditions beyond stressing the necessity for the greatest care in all operations. In some sawmills machinery safeguards were found to be inadequate but were improved on request. Conditions in other factories, such as coffee curing works, tin factories, oil mills, etc., gave no cause for criticism except in one or two minor instances. Machinery safeguards in the mills on the mines and underground were looked after by the Mining Department. A comparatively small number of accidents, few of which were fatal, occurred during the year. In most cases ex gratia payments were willingly made by employers, the total sum collected and distributed by this section being £165.

#### VIII—RESIDENT NATIVE LABOUR

Very few complaints were made concerning resident native labour, the policy adopted in many districts of limiting the number of stock they have been allowed to keep on farms having proved beneficial.

#### IX—JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS

One hundred and twenty-three criminal proceedings were instituted. Schedule A gives the details of the cases. A satisfactory feature was that the number of prosecutions for non-payment of wages decreased by 50 per cent. Proceedings in 62 out of the 68 cases taken under the Native Registration Ordinance were instituted by the Labour Officer, Kisumu, and were mainly due to an attempt to prevent the substitution of fit natives for unfit ones at the medical examination of labour entering into long contracts of service. This is achieved by fit natives being given the registration certificates of natives considered unlikely to pass the doctor, going before the doctor, and after being passed as fit handing back the registration certificates to their rightful owners. The only way to stop this most undesirable practice is to make it unpopular. All natives found in illegal possession of a certificate under such circumstances were therefore prosecuted, and there is little doubt that this course of action has helped in checking this practice of substitution.

## X—RECOVERY OF WAGES

The table below gives the legitimate claims made and the recoveries effected during the last five years:—

YEAR	Claimed	Recovered	Outstanding
	£	£	£
1932	5,065	3,760	1,306
1933	2,753	2,337	416
1934	4,188	2,081	2,107
1935	4,299	2,821	1,478
1936	2,905	1,504	1,311

Of the outstandings for this year, £118, owed by a European who was prosecuted, and in default of payment is now undergoing eight months' imprisonment, must be written off as a total loss, and the recovery of £225 due by a limited liability mining company, of which the chief shareholder was killed in an aeroplane crash, and of £103 owed by a farmer since 1927, must be regarded as doubtful. The prospects of payment in due course of the remaining balance of £865 of the outstandings are favourable.

## XI—GOVERNMENT LABOUR REST CAMPS

The camps at Kendu Bay, Yala, Muiuias, and Sagana remained closed throughout the year. Owing to the improvement in means of communication, the closing of the first three has involved no hardship to natives going out to or returning from work. In view of the increased number of natives from the Embu and Meru Districts coming out to work it may, however, be advisable to reopen Sagana in the near future; and also to establish other camps, not necessarily of a permanent nature, on the labour routes used by tribes from these districts, and in addition on the routes used by the Mutende tribe in South Kavirondo. The rest camps at Kisumu and Nairobi were better patronized than in 1935. The relative figures were as under:—

YEAR	Kisumu	Nairobi
1935	9,684	4,902
1936	18,118	6,406

Both these camps were chiefly used by labour from the Kavirondo Districts in transit to and from their places of employment, and the increase shown is interesting, in that it gives some indication as to how natives from these districts met the enhanced demand for their labour.

## XII—DESERTIONS

Apart from the professional deserter, i.e. the native who agrees to enter ill-o employment either for the purpose of getting an immediate cash advance which he has no intention of ever repaying, or with the object of getting free transport at the expense of the employer to some place to which he wishes to go for reasons of his own, cases of desertion do not usually occur without some good reason, generally unsatisfactory conditions of employment; the main ones being tasks that are too big and a lack of understanding and interest in their native employees by employers. It is therefore satisfactory to be able to record that the number of complaints received about desertions were not so numerous as in 1935. This reflects an all-round improvement in conditions of employment. Desertions were most prevalent in the Songhor area, where terms of employment were poor. This centre has always been a difficult one, and in order to decrease the number of prosecutions for desertions or absence without leave a system of warning notices, issued to offenders, was instituted by the Labour Officer in Kisumu in 1934. Time has shown this to be effective, and it has undoubtedly saved many a prosecution; and a considerable amount of employers' and Government's time in legal proceedings; in fact, the system as a whole has worked to the advantage of all parties.

## XIII—STRIKES

Apart from the strike in the fishing industry at Asembo Bay, referred to earlier in this report, only one other serious one took place; this happened in October. It occurred on a large sugar estate near Nairobi, and 800 natives were involved. A thorough inquiry was held by a Labour Officer, and it was discovered that the trouble was due to ill-feeling between two European employees of the Company, one of whom was strongly suspected of having incited the native employees to strike, with a view to causing the dismissal of the other European employee. This finding was communicated to the directors of the Company at a special board meeting, and as a result the two European employees were dismissed immediately. All the natives returned to work the next day, and gave no further trouble during the rest of the year. There are, however, signs that the more sophisticated natives are beginning to realize that they possess a powerful weapon in the strike. In the past the native has usually shown disapproval of real or imaginary grievances concerning conditions of his employment in two ways, viz. desertion or "ca" canny" methods in his work. The fact that he will eventually adopt

more direct methods must be faced, and there is little doubt that the day of organized labour unions amongst natives is not so very far distant. Provided, however, that such unions confine their activities solely to labour matters, and are reasonable in their attitude, the results should be beneficial to all parties, as in due course the native employees would have delegates, authorized to represent their interests, who should prove easier to deal with than masses of natives, among whom there is nobody capable or desirous of discussing grievances in a reasonable and considered manner.

#### XIV—WAGES

There was a decided tendency for wages to rise, the average prevailing rates for a thirty-day ticket being from Sh. 6 to Sh. 12 for casual labour, Sh. 8 to Sh. 12 for indentured labour, and Sh. 4 to Sh. 7 for resident native labourers. On actual figures the rise in comparison with 1935 is not very apparent, but it is noted that more engagements were entered into at the nigger average rate than at the lower. It must also be borne in mind that the rates given above are mean ones, and that in many spheres of employment it was possible to earn higher wages; for instance, a first-class sisal cutter could make from Sh. 14 to Sh. 18 per ticket. Except in the case of resident native labourers, free rations were issued in addition to the wages. The value of these varied considerably, but were highest in the mines. The under-mentioned analysis of labour costs, calculated in cents per shift-boy unit at a large mine in South Kavirondo, are of interest:—

##### Care and Incidentals—

	Cts.	Cts.
Medical attention ..	02	
Sanitation ..	02	
Camp maintenance ..	03	
Recruiting ..	06	
Feeding ..	20	
		33

##### Wages

43

i.e., of the total labour cost, 57 per cent is wages and 43 per cent care and incidentals.

#### XV—HEALTH

Apart from a few cases of plague and a number of cases of cerebro-spinal meningitis, health has been good. The majority of the latter cases occurred on the tea estates, and at one period gave cause for serious concern, especially in the case of two of the major estates. Every step possible to deal with the disease was taken, such as the strict regulation of

the number of inmates per room, the provision of fire-places in each room to prevent overcrowding for the sake of obtaining warmth, and the rigid isolation of contacts. These measures met with a certain degree of success, but the problem is a difficult one, as it has not yet been established whether the disease is contracted on the estates or from contacts in the reserves. Another feature to be taken into consideration in viewing the incidence of this disease on the tea plantations is that a hundred per cent report of the cases occurring thereon is made, whereas a doubtful fifty per cent report is obtained of cases in the reserves. No serious epidemics took place, and there is little doubt that the number of dressers employed by employers has gone a long way to maintaining better health conditions amongst native employees.

#### XVI—HOUSING AND SANITATION

Housing on the sisal estates in the Coast Province was good, and there were no complaints concerning sanitation. Unfortunately, these satisfactory conditions did not exist on the rest of the sisal estates in the Colony, with the possible exception of one in the Trans Nzoia District. In the Thika District conditions were particularly bad, no care at all being taken in the lay-out of camps, the building of huts or the installation of latrines; in fact, the latter were practically non-existent. For years this section has endeavoured to get conditions improved by means of propaganda, and it is disappointing to find that these efforts have produced such poor results. On the subject of native housing, the Labour Officer, Nakuru, comments that it leaves much to be desired throughout the Rift Valley Province. He states that the large employers erect mud-and-wattle huts of bad design, and then forget about them, whilst the usual practice on farms is to give a native a few days to construct his own hut, the result being a poor thing of the worst type. Generally speaking, these remarks are applicable to all such housing throughout the Colony. To turn to the more pleasing side of the picture, the two biggest tea companies at Kericho have excellent housing; one of the other two larger companies has the construction of permanent lines, incorporating all the latest improvements, well in hand, and the other one has promised to embark on a similar programme next year. Housing on the majority of the mines was satisfactory, and in the case of the larger employers was definitely good. As the result of pressure by this Section, the housing of the Victoria Nyanza Sugar Co. at Miwani improved, but it is to be regretted that they have not yet seen their way to erect permanent lines. On Ramisi

Sugar Estate at the Coast it was good, and on Sukari Limited adequate. Sanitation on the last named was, however, poor. This company has, however, undertaken to build stone labour lines and install latrines; in fact, the work is already begun. Housing and sanitation at the Magadi Soda Company has maintained its usual high standard, and the quarters provided by the Kenya and Uganda Railways and Harbours for its labour set an example to all employers. Contractors, who naturally are only able to build camps of a temporary nature, gave no cause for complaint; their huts were well constructed and reasonable care and attention were given to camp sanitation.

#### XVII—RECRUITING

Nyanza Province is the main source of recruited labour, and the economic revival has been reflected in the increase of recruiting. The sisal industry especially has been eager to re-establish its connexion with labour in the Kavirondo Districts. Recruited labour is generally engaged on long-term contracts and the number of natives so engaged was some 20 per cent. higher than in 1935. This is the first annual increase for some years, but the total figures are well below those for 1930-1933, and as it is generally accepted that the habit of contracting employees in this way is passing as labour becomes more assiduous and diligent in going out to work, the increase during the year can definitely be said to be due to an intensified demand for labour. In the Province there are a number of Indian recruiters and one European concern, the Nyanza Labour Agency, with its headquarters at Kisumu and a branch at Kisii; actually this firm acts more as forwarding agents for employers than as recruiters proper. No instance of the abuse of conditions attached to recruiters' permits was discovered.

In addition to labour obtained by licensed recruiters and forwarding agents, much collection of labour is done by native employees sent by employers to fetch their friends, for a *per capita* remuneration, or to obtain labour by testimony to the good conditions of employment obtaining on the estates from whence they come. The absence of regulation of such recruiting and difficulty of supervision makes it liable to abuse. This was particularly seen in the instance of the recruiting of a batch of juveniles for work on a down-country sisal estate. These were collected by a native and transported to Nairobi without their parents' knowledge. Several were immature, and since medical inspection in such recruiting is not required by law none had been seen by a medical officer.

Fortunately, they were intercepted at Nairobi by the Principal Labour Officer and repatriated. The employers were warned, and the native authorities circularized to prevent a recurrence of such events.

The large tea estates at Kericho have labour camps in the South Kavirondo Reserve for the use of labour going to and from work, and recruit on their own behalf.

A number of applications were received from employers in Tanganyika to recruit Kenya labour for work there. The policy of this Government was to refuse such applications, in view of the fact that sufficient employment was available in the Colony at reasonable rates of wages and it was considered undesirable to encourage labour to emigrate to other territories. Permission was, however, granted to certain special classes of natives, such as sweepers and lorry-drivers, to go to work on foreign contracts of service, covered by the usual guarantee regarding repatriation, etc., on a gold mine in Tanganyika, and in a few other instances to personal servants accompanying tourists and hunting parties, and to one or two batches of native seamen to work ships down to Tanganyika ports.

Some complaints were received that South Kavirondo natives were being recruited for service in Tanganyika without this Government's permission. This was a difficult matter to control, as the inter-territorial boundary cuts the tribes in half, and it is as natural for a Kenya Mutende to go to Tanganyika as for the Tanganyika Mutende to come to work in Kenya, as he frequently does.

#### XVIII—SOCIAL WELFARE OF NATIVE EMPLOYEES

Apart from the care of native servants as required by law, a number of the more enlightened employers provide facilities for education, a subject that is very popular amongst certain tribes, and take a real interest in the well-being of the families of their employees, who have accompanied them to their places of employment. They also spend a good deal of time in listening to and advising on the personal troubles of their employees. There is no doubt that the policy of personal contact with labour pays a hundredfold; employers who take the trouble to devote time to this side of the labour problem will rarely, if ever, be short of labour even when it is scarce. A most popular form of amusement amongst natives is football; it is a game which they have taken to naturally, and numbers of them show considerable aptitude for it. Numerous estates provide football fields, and the necessary equipment

Sugar Estate at the Coast it was good, and on Sukari Limited adequate. Sanitation on the last named was, however, poor. This company has, however, undertaken to build stone labour lines and install latrines; in fact, the work is already begun. Housing and sanitation at the Magadi Soda Company has maintained its usual high standard, and the quarters provided by the Kenya and Uganda Railways and Harbours for its labour set an example to all employers. Contractors, who naturally are only able to build camps of a temporary nature, gave no cause for complaint; their huts were well constructed and reasonable care and attention were given to camp sanitation.

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to play the game. The tea estates run a junior and senior shield competition amongst themselves, rivalry is keen, and at some of the matches there are crowds of over 2,000 spectators.

#### XIX—LABOUR ORDERED OUT UNDER THE COMPULSORY LABOUR REGULATION ORDINANCE

Details of labour ordered out during the last three years are given in Appendix B.

#### XX—CONCLUSION

The appreciable improvement in all industries resulted in a marked increase in the demand for labour, with a consequent revival in recruiting activities.

Terms of employment naturally became better, and, generally speaking, the increased demand for labour was met. The tribes of the three Kavirondo Districts came out to work well, no shortage of kikuyu labour was reported, and there was an improvement in the number of natives from the Embu District and of Akamba in employment. The latter tribe proved a useful addition to the supply of labour required for sisal. There was a falling-off in the amount of labour employed by the mines in Kavirondo, but this was off-set by the number of extra-employees required by the Public Works Department in this area for road work. The health of all labour was generally good, and in some cases definite improvements in housing conditions were effected, though there is still room for a great deal of improvement on numerous estates. Cases of non-payment of wages decreased by 50 per cent, and relations between employers and their native employees were good throughout the year.

A word of appreciation is due to Mr. Colchester for the very able manner in which he carried out the duties of Labour Officer, Kisumu, during the period September-December, when he was seconded from the Administration; to Mr. Prem Singh, the headquarters clerk; and to all the African clerks in the Labour Section. I also wish to express my thanks to the officers of the Administration, the Medical Department, the Legal Department, the Registration Section, and the Police, for the valuable assistance that they rendered during the year.

H. A. NISBET,  
Acting Principal Labour Officer.

Nairobi,  
17th April, 1937.

#### APPENDIX A ANALYSIS OF PROSECUTIONS, 1936

OFFENCE	Con- victed	Ac- quitted	With- drawn	Ab- sconded	Total
Withholding Wages :					
European .. .. .	17	..	2	..	46
Indian .. .. .	18	..	6	1	
African .. .. .	2	..	..	..	
Improper Housing :					
Indian .. .. .	4	1	..	..	5
Failure to supply medi- cal treatment :					
Indian .. .. .	1	..	..	..	1
Failure to repatriate :					
Indian .. .. .	1	..	..	..	1
Offences by labourers:					
African .. .. .	2	..	..	..	2
Registration offences :					
European .. .. .	2	..	..	..	68
Indian .. .. .	2	1	1	..	
African .. .. .	60	..	2	..	
TOTAL { European .. .. .	19	..	2	..	123
Indian .. .. .	26	2	7	1	
African .. .. .	64	..	2	..	

**APPENDIX B**  
**LABOUR ORDERED OUT UNDER THE COMPULSORY**  
**LABOUR (REGULATION) ORDINANCE**

PROVINCE AND DISTRICT	1934		1935		1936	
	Men	Men-days	Men	Men-days	Men	Men-days
<b>NYANZA</b>						
C. Kavirondo ..	802	883	903	1,034	359	443
<b>RIFT VALLEY</b>						
Baringo ..	28	146	—	—	—	—
Nandi ..	52	152	—	—	—	—
<b>CENTRAL</b>						
Machakos ..	680	763	788	1,264	475	559
Kitui ..	1,290	1,859	934	1,286	715	1,843
<b>COAST</b>						
Digo ..	376	1,944	197	610	209	778
Kilifi ..	105	180	217	497	203	355
Malindi ..	189	508	300	489	666	1,471
Teita ..	6	6	273	307	164	168
West Suk ..	—	—	13	—	—	—
<b>TOTAL</b> ..	<b>3,534</b>	<b>5,950</b>	<b>3,814</b>	<b>5,578</b>	<b>2,701</b>	<b>5,020</b>
Average number of days worked by each man called out ..		1.68		1.40		2.01

The number of men ordered out shows a considerable decrease as compared with 1935, but the average number of days worked by each man called out was 2.01, as compared with 1.46 in the preceding year. This was due to an increased number of Administrative *safaris* in the Kitui and Malindi Districts, in which portage is still essential in maintaining communications with the more remote parts of the areas.

**NATIVE REGISTRATION AND STATISTICAL**  
**SECTIONS ANNUAL REPORT, 1936**

**PART I**

The composition of the Section during 1936 was as follows:—

- A—The Native Registration—Records Section.
- B—The Native Registration—Finger Print Section.
- C—The Registration of Domestic Servants Section.
- D—The Registration of Birth, Marriages and Deaths Section.
- E—The Migration and Statistical Section.

**PERSONNEL**

The total personnel numbered 104, distributed as follows:

SECTION	Europeans	Asians	Africans including Supernumeraries	Total
Native Registration—Records, Headquarters	3	8	30	50
Native Registration—Finger Print Section	—	14	—	14
Statistical Section	—	2	—	2
Registration of Domestic Servants Section	1	4	4	9
Registration of Births, Marriages and Deaths	—	2	—	2
Native Registration at Out-stations	—	—	27	27
<b>TOTAL</b> ..	<b>4</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>104</b>

*European Staff*

Mr. A. E. T. Imbert was in charge of the Section throughout the year, and in addition to his duties as Chief Registrar of Natives and Officer in Charge, Central Finger Print Bureau, he also carried out the duties of Principal Registrar of Births and Deaths, Deputy Registrar of Marriages (Nairobi), Deputy Registrar of Domestic Servants, and Officer in Charge, Statistical Section.

Mr. G. Wedderburn carried out the duties of Assistant Registrar of Natives and Deputy Registrar of Domestic Servants throughout the year.

Mr. G. H. Booth was posted at Mombasa from the beginning of the year to 1st August, when he proceeded on overseas leave.

Miss G. W. Arnold was on duty throughout the year as Clerk in Charge of the Employers' Index.

#### Asian Staff

Messrs. R. G. Amin, S. H. Shamsi, Shamsud-Deen, and J. J. Mascarenhas returned from vacation leave, and Messrs. J. F. M. Lucas, Barkat Ali, S. K. Mitra, C. U. Patel, and M. C. Patel proceeded on leave. The remainder of the staff, both Asian and African, were on duty throughout the year, and carried out their duties with their customary efficiency and cheerfulness.

## PART II

### PROGRESS OF REGISTRATION

A total of 59,682 registrations was effected during the year, as compared with 63,791 in 1935. Of the former figure, 33,888 were permanent and 25,794 temporary registrations.

The distribution of these registrations is shown as hereunder:—

TABLE I  
NUMBER OF REGISTRATIONS EFFECTED IN VARIOUS  
DISTRICTS IN THE YEAR, 1936

PROVINCE AND DISTRICT	Number of Registrations		TOTAL
	Permanent	Temporary	
<b>COAST PROVINCE—</b>			
Digo .. .. .	149	131	280
Mombasa .. .. .	211	1,919	2,130
Kilifi .. .. .	87	47	134
Malindi .. .. .	312	6	318
Voi .. .. .	325	188	523
Total .. .. .	1,094	2,291	3,385
<b>CENTRAL PROVINCE—</b>			
Machakos .. .. .	1,298	47	1,345
Kitui .. .. .	1,378	17	1,395
Nairobi .. .. .	—	8,005	8,005
Kimbu .. .. .	1,846	1,478	3,324
Fort Hall .. .. .	1,241	97	1,338
Nyeri .. .. .	2,020	323	2,362
Embu .. .. .	943	18	961
Meru .. .. .	2,152	47	2,199
Total .. .. .	10,887	10,032	20,919
<b>RIFT VALLEY PROVINCE—</b>			
Naivasha .. .. .	—	982	982
Lalikipia .. .. .	—	379	379
Nakuru .. .. .	—	3,453	3,453
Baringo .. .. .	802	3	805
Nandi .. .. .	1,877	81	1,958
Elgeyo .. .. .	450	4	454
Marakwet .. .. .	176	—	176
Eldoret .. .. .	—	547	547
Kitale .. .. .	—	3,032	3,032
Total .. .. .	3,305	9,081	12,386
<b>NYANZA PROVINCE—</b>			
Central Kavirondo .. .. .	5,007	1,830	6,837
North Kavirondo .. .. .	4,100	511	4,611
South Kavirondo .. .. .	6,445	551	6,996
Kericho .. .. .	2,658	1,227	3,885
Total .. .. .	18,210	4,119	22,329
<b>TURKANA DISTRICT—</b>			
West Suk .. .. .	95	78	173
<b>MARSI DISTRICT—</b>			
Masai .. .. .	297	193	490
<b>GRAND TOTAL .. .. .</b>	<b>33,888</b>	<b>25,794</b>	<b>59,682</b>

The number of registrations effected year by year, from 1927 to date, is given in the following table:—

Year	Permanent Registrations	Temporary Registrations	Total
1927	41,032	26,875	67,907
1928	34,100	22,850	56,950
1929	32,988	19,535	52,523
1930	28,851	20,903	49,754
1931	25,876	12,981	38,857
1932	21,454	8,817	30,271
1933	2,008	8,206	30,214
1934	28,321	18,058	47,279
1935	37,100	26,601	63,701
1936	33,888	25,794	59,682

While the total number of registrations dropped 4,109 in 1936, the total for the year is well above past averages, viz. 59,682, as against 49,722.

The following table shows the increases and decreases in the various Provinces as compared with 1935:—

PROVINCE	1935	1936	Increase	Decrease
Coast .. .. .	6,343	3,385	—	2,958
Central .. .. .	20,713	20,910	206	—
Rift Valley .. .. .	11,785	12,388	601	—
Nyanza .. .. .	24,100	22,329	—	1,780
Turkana .. .. .	262	173	—	89
Masai .. .. .	579	490	—	89
<b>TOTAL .. .. .</b>	<b>63,791</b>	<b>59,682</b>	<b>807</b>	<b>4,109</b>

It will be noticed that the major decreases occurred in the Coast and Nyanza Provinces. This may be accounted for by the increased activity in registration work in these Provinces occasioned by the visit of the Chief Registrar of Natives to the Coast in August, 1935, and the registration staff from headquarters which was sent to Nyanza in July, 1935, where they remained until the end of the year. No such activity was found possible in 1936.

Since the promulgation of the Ordinance in 1919, 1,251,149 registrations have been effected. Of these, 828,031 were permanent and 423,118 temporary. This figure of 1,251,149 does not mean a corresponding number of individuals, as out of this 206,766 multiple registrations have to be taken into account. The actual number of natives registered is therefore 1,044,383.

A total of 45,763 have been reported dead up to the end of 1936, 2,240 being reported in that year. This leaves a total of 998,620 presumed to be alive, but as it is obvious that this figure is quite insupportable, a death-rate of 20 per 1,000 is assumed, which brings the probable number of registered natives alive at the end of 1936 down to 828,851. In the opinion of certain authorities, even this figure is too high, and in some quarters it is held that a death-rate of 35 per 1,000 would be nearer the correct figure.

#### RE-REGISTRATIONS

The number of re-registrations during the year amounted to 23,846, a decrease of 2,005 as compared with the previous year's figure of 25,851. Of these, 22,813 were lawful re-registrations and 1,033 were contra section 8 (7) of the Ordinance.

#### RENEWAL SYSTEM

The Native Registration (Amendment) Rules, 1936, were published on 21st July, and came into general practice throughout the Colony on 15th October.

These Rules provide for procedure whereby a native retains one number instead of receiving a different number each time he re-registers. The system was formerly in use from September, 1926, to February, 1934, when the great reductions in staff which took place at the end of 1933 precluded its continuation.

The extra work entailed necessitated the engagement of more staff. Five Asian learners and thirteen African clerks, were taken on, at an increased cost of about £375 over and above the sanctioned estimates for 1936.

The two following tables show an analysis of re-registrations effected during 1936, and an analysis of application for temporary renewal certificates by districts:—

## AN ANALYSIS OF RE-REGISTRATIONS

1st to 2nd	.. .. .	14,701
2nd „ 3rd	„ .. .	5,770
3rd „ 4th	„ .. .	2,057
4th „ 5th	„ .. .	780
5th „ 6th	„ .. .	308
6th „ 7th	„ .. .	113
7th „ 8th	„ .. .	53
8th „ 9th	„ .. .	24
9th „ 10th	„ .. .	16
10th „ 11th	„ .. .	5
11th „ 12th	„ .. .	5
12th „ 13th	„ .. .	2
13th „ 14th	„ .. .	5
14th „ 15th	„ .. .	1
15th „ 16th	„ .. .	—
16th „ 17th	„ .. .	3
17th „ 18th	„ .. .	3
Total	.. .. .	<u>23,846</u>

## AN ANALYSIS OF TEMPORARY RENEWAL CERTIFICATES ISSUED

Province and District	Number of Temporary Renewal Certificates
<b>COAST PROVINCE—</b>	
Digo .. .. .	12
Mombasa .. .. .	210
Kilifi .. .. .	11
Malindi .. .. .	19
Tana River .. .. .	—
Lamu .. .. .	—
Kipini .. .. .	—
Teita .. .. .	30
Total .. .. .	282
<b>CENTRAL PROVINCE:—</b>	
Machakos .. .. .	108
Kitui .. .. .	30
Nairobi .. .. .	1,274
Kiambu .. .. .	485
Fort Hall .. .. .	75
Nyeri .. .. .	288
Embu .. .. .	24
Meru .. .. .	60
Total .. .. .	2,366
<b>RIFT VALLEY PROVINCE:—</b>	
Naiyasha .. .. .	118
Lakipia .. .. .	53
Nakuru .. .. .	422
Baringo .. .. .	29
Nandi .. .. .	205
Usin Gishu .. .. .	166
Elgeyo-Marakwet .. .. .	32
Trans Nzoia .. .. .	406
Total .. .. .	1,431
<b>NYANZA PROVINCE:—</b>	
Central Kavirondo .. .. .	550
North Kavirondo .. .. .	458
South Kavirondo .. .. .	357
Kericho .. .. .	406
Total .. .. .	1,770
<b>TURKANA DISTRICT:—</b>	
West Suk .. .. .	10
<b>MASAI DISTRICT:—</b>	
Kajiado, Ngong, Narok .. .. .	72
<b>GRAND TOTAL .. .. .</b>	<b>5,931</b>

## SUBMISSION OF MONTHLY LABOUR RETURNS

A total of 99,895 labour returns was received during 1936, as compared with 89,781 in the previous year. Of the former figure, 93,830 were submitted by the public and 6,065 by Government Departments. The following shows the monthly average and the highest and lowest totals by districts:—

## AVERAGE NUMBER OF MONTHLY LABOUR RETURNS RECEIVED FOR THE YEAR 1936

PROVINCE AND DISTRICT	Highest	Lowest	Average
<b>COAST PROVINCE:—</b>			
Mombasa .. .. .	1,106	775	870
Kilifi .. .. .	87	9	30
Malindi .. .. .	38	3	15
Voi .. .. .	49	6	25
<b>CENTRAL PROVINCE:—</b>			
Machakos .. .. .	152	82	108
Kitui .. .. .	27	10	18
Nairobi .. .. .	4,187	2,493	3,075
Kiambu .. .. .	519	340	382
Thika .. .. .	412	243	287
Fort Hall .. .. .	101	51	98
Nyeri .. .. .	332	151	222
Embu .. .. .	22	4	8
Meru .. .. .	56	2	32
<b>RIFT VALLEY PROVINCE:—</b>			
Naivasha .. .. .	211	118	145
Rumuruti .. .. .	148	34	69
Nakuru .. .. .	906	433	587
Kabarnet .. .. .	23	3	8
Kapsabet .. .. .	41	17	27
Elgeyo-Marakwet ..	14	8	12
Eldoret .. .. .	814	378	474
Kitale .. .. .	594	296	371
<b>NYANZA PROVINCE:—</b>			
Central Kavirondo ..	836	457	540
North Kavirondo ..	279	69	166
South Kavirondo ..	206	51	97
Kericho .. .. .	217	70	141
<b>TURKANA DISTRICT:—</b>			
West Suk .. .. .			
<b>MASAI DISTRICT:—</b>			
Masai .. .. .	85	28	41
Totals .. .. .	11,462	6,143	7,819
Government Depts. . .	670	474	505
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b> .. .. .	<b>12,126</b>	<b>7,230</b>	<b>8,324</b>

"N.L." Returns totalled 35.40 per cent

The "highest" submissions in every case were for the month of October, 1936, when the Special Labour Return was called for. The response to this, while not quite according to expectation in point of numbers, far exceeded any totals

sent in previously. It is obvious that in order to keep up, or anywhere near, one hundred per cent of returns which should be submitted, frequent prosecutions and inspections are essential. Most of the defaulters are among householders and employers of personal servants, so far as Europeans are concerned, while among the other communities illiteracy is the main cause of non-submission.

In this respect, employers on the whole may be classed as under:—

(a) Conscientious;

(b) Indifferent;

(c) Ignorant.

Class (a) would include probably 80 per cent of the European and 30 per cent of the non-European employers; class (b) the remainder of the Europeans and about 25 per cent of the others, while class (c) would represent 45 per cent of the non-Europeans.

As was the case in the previous year, only limited action could be taken. The following is an analysis of prosecutions and their results:—

## PROSECUTIONS UNDER THE NATIVE REGISTRATION ORDINANCE INSTITUTED BY THE DEPARTMENT IN 1936, AGAINST EMPLOYERS

CLASS OF EMPLOYERS	Sections under which charged	Summonses issued	Pending	Heard	Convicted	Withdrawn or acquitted
<b>NAIROBI:—</b>						
Europeans	6-1	2	—	2	1	1
Asians	6-1	10	3	7	7	—
Europeans	0-1	153	31	122	98	24
Asians	0-1	117	21	90	82	14
Europeans	10	—	—	—	—	—
Asians	10	2	—	2	2	—
Europeans	13-1	—	—	—	—	—
Asians	13-1	6	—	6	5	1
Europeans	6-2, 8	—	—	—	—	—
Asians	6-2, 8	1	—	1	1	—
Europeans	13-2	—	—	—	—	—
Asians	13-2	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Total Nairobi Convictions</b>		<b>292</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>OTHER DISTRICTS:—</b>						
Europeans	0-1	8	—	8	8	—
Asians	0-1	20	1	19	19	—
<b>Total Other District convictions</b>		<b>28</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>—</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>		<b>320</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>264</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>40</b>

## LABOUR STATISTICS

It is still impossible to compile labour statistics, owing to lack of suitable staff for this purpose, and, in any case, so long as only a proportion of employers submit labour returns, the figures obtainable would be far from complete.

Owing to the hiatus which ensued between January, 1934, and March, 1936, in respect of the posting of labour returns, these are in arrear for about two months, a position which will be accentuated owing to the number of Special Labour Returns which have to be dealt with.

## CONTRACTED LABOUR

A total number of 10,092 natives entered into written contracts of labour during the year.

## PROSECUTIONS FOR OFFENCES UNDER THE NATIVE REGISTRATION ORDINANCE

ANALYSIS OF PROSECUTIONS, CONVICTIONS AND ACQUITTALS IN NATIVE REGISTRATION ORDINANCE CASES BROUGHT BEFORE THE COURTS DURING 1936 THROUGHOUT THE COLONY:

	Convicted	Cautioned	Acquitted	Discharged
Europeans	240	32	6	40
Asians	274	30	8	62
Natives	4,578	1,204	75	06
TOTAL	5,090	1,252	89	206

## HONORARY REGISTRATION OFFICERS

The following is an additional list of Honorary Registration Officers and their dates of appointment during the year:—

1. Mr. C. E. R. Franklin, Chemellil, North Songhor area, with effect from 7th February, 1936.
2. Mr. Ernest Ayre, Teita Concessions, Ltd., Mwatati area, in the Voi District, with effect from 1st May, 1936. Resigned on 3rd December, 1936.
3. Captain Charles Beresford Teunent, Chemellil, in the Songhor area, with effect from 1st December, 1936.

## THE NATIVE REGISTRATION (CASUAL LABOURERS) RULES, 1936.

The Nairobi Municipal Council reported the grant of 524 licences, as follows, to casual labourers and ricksha pullers:—

	Ricksha boys	Casual labourers	Total	Identified correct	Identified incorrect	Total
January	—	76	76	61	15	76
February	—	39	39	31	8	39
March	2	38	40	32	8	40
April	1	38	39	20	10	39
May	15	39	54	42	12	54
June	2	39	41	27	14	41
July	—	37	37	22	15	37
August	—	36	36	36	—	36
September	1	37	38	36	2	38
October	1	44	45	43	2	45
November	1	35	36	34	2	36
December	4	39	43	40	3	43
TOTAL	27	497	524	433	91	524

## NON-OBSERVANCE OF PROVISIONS OF NATIVE REGISTRATION ORDINANCE BY PUBLIC

It is difficult to arrive at any conclusion as to the reasons why there are so many contraventions of the Ordinance. It is not an unpopular measure, and it is safe to say that any attempt to discontinue it would meet with violent opposition from all sections of the community, including Africans.

It is not a complicated Ordinance, and it is simple in its application, yet year by year numerous evasions and offences are brought to light which, by their very nature, indicate a certain amount of contempt or deliberate attitude of indifference.

There does not appear to be any remedy save that of constant and intense supervision, which would necessitate a larger staff than is at present available, and which, by this very fact, is rendered inexpedient.

The remarks under this head in my Report for 1935 are still applicable, with the exception of the last paragraph thereof, as the Renewal System has since come into force.

## EMPLOYMENT BUREAU

This unofficial side of the Section's activities still continues to function, and scarcely a day passes without two or

three inquiries from employers. In conjunction with the Registration of Domestic Servants Section, some 800 natives and several Seychellois and native ayahs were found employment.

### PART III

#### FINGER PRINT SECTION

The personnel of this section was increased by the addition of five Asian learners during 1936. The experiment of engaging local Asian youths fresh from school for this work has proved a gratifying success. These youths show a remarkable aptitude for this class of work, and it should be a fixed policy to recruit on these lines. In addition to the learners, a formerly retrenched clerk was taken on in a more senior capacity.

#### *Finger Prints Received*

A total of 59,682 finger print slips and their corresponding "B" certificates was received during the year, bringing the number now filed in the Bureau to the huge sum of 1,251,149. This accumulation is the largest collection of non-criminal prints in the world, as it refers only to adult male natives. Other bureaux may have a larger total number of finger print slips, but these are divided according to race and sex.

#### *Re-registrations*

This onerous part of registration work has been carried out with customary efficiency. When it is remembered that every single registration effected has to be searched in the files in order to detect illegal re-registration, it will be realized that in addition to 23,846 re-registrations recorded, 35,836 negative searches had to be made.

#### *Posthumous Identifications*

There were 2,240 death reports received, of which only 338 were supported by finger prints taken after death. Of this latter figure, 206 were identified as registered natives, while 32 had no record on file.

#### *Identification of Domestic Servants*

The records of domestic servants are filed in the Criminal Bureau, where two Asians of this section conduct searches under the supervision of the Officer in Charge, Criminal Records, C.I.D., to whom I am indebted for his ever-ready assistance.

#### *Miscellaneous Identifications*

For various reasons, it was necessary to establish the identity of 15,156 natives. This necessitated the comparison of some 21,845 documents.

The following is an analysis of these transactions:—

Police	1,074
Prison	6,423
Administration	186
Medical Department	301
Chief Registrar of Natives	3,907
Registration Officers	1,647
Forest Department	13
King's African Rifles	5
Municipality	390
Labour Officers	3
Postal Department	288
Legal Department	1
Detention Camp	754
Ministry of Pensions	101
Registration of Domestic Servants	3
Reformatory	5

Total 15,156

In addition to the foregoing, 5,931 identifications, natives applying for temporary registration certificates were made, and 3,796 comparisons of thumb prints of natives obtaining duplicates of old and worn-out certificates.

#### *Certificates of Identity*

There were 1,315 certificates of identity issued under section 14 of the Ordinance. Of this number 1,009 were applied for by the Police, to establish the identity of accused or suspected persons, while the remaining 306 were required by other Government Departments for various reasons.

The Post Office Savings Bank Department continues to make very extensive use of thumb prints for the identification of depositors; as does the Ministry of Pensions Office. Some 283 Post Office depositors were checked up in this way during the year, and only in one case was there any query. This solitary case proved to be quite innocent, as the two parties concerned were brothers, and both appeared together, the wrong one placing his thumb print on the withdrawal form. There were 161 identifications made on behalf of the Ministry of Pensions.

There were, in all, 776 negative searches other than re-registrations. This type of search entails an exhaustive examination of the records, and although the figure appears small, it frequently happens that a man will spend a day over one

print in order to make quite sure that there is no record; in addition, there has to be a minute check by a senior clerk.

The total number of finger print documents dealt with during the year are analysed in the schedule hereunder:—

Initial Registrations .. .. .	35,836
Re-registrations .. .. .	2,840
Renewal Certificates .. .. .	5,931
Posthumous identifications .. .. .	300
Miscellaneous identifications .. .. .	15,166
Registration of Domestic Servants .. .. .	3,788
Negative searches .. .. .	776

Total .. 85,637

I append the usual tabulation of the year's work in this section.

#### EXPENDITURE AND REVENUE, NATIVE REGISTRATION AND FINGER PRINT SECTIONS

The total net cost of the two sections reported upon above, during 1936, amounted to £6,356, an increase of £289 as compared with the previous year's net cost. The amount budgeted for for these sections in 1936 was £8,012, and the gross expenditure totalled £8,611, reflecting an excess of £599 on estimates, due to local purchase of brass containers and the re-introduction of the renewal registratic system.

The revenue anticipated from native registration fees and sale of brass containers was shown in the 1936 Estimates as £1,800. The actual revenue collected on account of these services amounted to £2,255, an excess of £455 over estimated revenue.

The following is a summary of the expenditure and revenue of these sections for the year 1936:—

EXPENDITURE	Estimated Expenditure	Actual Expenditure	Increase
	£	£	£
Native Registration and Finger Print Sections—			
Personal Emoluments .. .. .	6,004	7,322	328
Other Charges .. .. .	1,018	1,289	271
TOTAL .. .. .	8,012	8,611	599

REVENUE	Estimated Revenue	Actual Revenue	Savings
	£	£	£
Native Registration Fees .. .. .	1,350	1,098	348
Sale of Brass Containers .. .. .	450	597	107
TOTAL .. .. .	1,800	2,255	455

#### CORRESPONDENCE

Inward communications received, other than routine forms, totalled 8,057 documents, in reply to which 3,130 letters were dispatched, in addition to the sundry routine forms usually sent out in answer to inquiries.

#### CONCLUSION

As an illustration of the value of civil identification by means of finger prints, the following may be of interest:

The finger prints of a condemned native, Prison No. 251/Q, Olual s/o Kengo, were submitted for identification. It was found that he had been registered three times, viz. KSU. 51290, KSU. 67239, and NBI. 4456316, and that the last certificate had been issued on 22nd October, 1931, while he was an inmate of the Mathari Mental Hospital.

This information was submitted to the Commissioner of Prisons, and resulted in the punishment being reduced to a life sentence.

In conclusion, I wish to record my gratitude to the various Honorary Registration Officers who have so willingly and ably assisted in carrying out registration work for the convenience of their neighbours, who would normally have to send their natives great distances to be registered.

I wish also to express my appreciation of the courteous co-operation of the officers with whom I came in contact during the course of my duties, with particular reference to the Acting Principal Labour Inspector and his staff and members of the Kenya Police and C.I.D.

As usual, all members of my staff, of whatever race or creed, carried out their duties with their usual loyalty and efficiency. This is a pleasing thing to be able to record in an office where many diverse duties and racial differences exist, and where some eighty persons are brought together in close and daily contact.

G. WEDDERBURN,

Acting Chief Registrar of Natives.

#### ADDENDUM

##### SPECIAL LABOUR RETURN

Some few months must elapse before the information submitted in the Special Labour Return for October, 1936, can be analysed in full. It will be made the subject of a special report.

An analysis of the preliminary count is attached, which reveals that the total number of registered natives in employment on 31st October, 1936, increased by 21,666 over the total for November, 1930—the occasion of the last Special Labour Return. Government, Railway and Municipal employees have decreased by 2,978, while those of the general public increased by 24,644.

NUMBER OF REGISTERED NATIVES IN EMPLOYMENT  
AS AT 31-10-30

AS DISCLOSED BY THE SPECIAL LABOUR RETURN

(The figures include squatters who worked during October, 1936)

Districts	Public	Government Railways and Municipalities	Grand Total
North Kavirondo	7,632	1,012	8,644
Central Kavirondo	5,435	1,250	6,685
South Kavirondo	2,342	902	3,244
Kisumu-Londiani	8,035	3,197	11,832
Kericho	9,020	443	9,472
Kyambu	14,061	1,242	15,903
Fort Hall	518	185	703
South Nyeri	576	570	1,146
North Nyeri	4,717	658	5,375
Meru	281	283	564
Embu	101	240	341
Machakos	4,410	190	5,606
Kitui	125	170	295
Nairobi (Municipality)	10,959	4,722	21,681
Nairobi (District)	69	856	924
Thika	10,461	452	10,903
Baringo	60	240	339
Nandi	1,754	170	1,933
Elgeyo-Marakwet	21	16	37
Lalipia	1,916	284	2,200
Nakuru (Municipality)	1,964	1,307	3,331
Nakuru (District)	10,880	1,509	21,398
Eldoret (Municipality)	1,947	611	2,458
Uasin Gishu (District)	8,521	780	9,310
Kitale (Municipality)	3,152	216	3,368
Kitale (Trans Nzoia District)	10,027	304	10,331
Mombasa (Municipality)	4,953	3,181	8,134
Mombasa (District)	142	138	278
Digo	647	429	776
Kilifi-Malindi	1,538	170	1,709
Taita-Voi	1,532	874	2,406
Rajlado	872	427	1,299
Narok	280	165	445
Lolgorien	483	—	483
Turkana	13	48	61
West Suk	44	91	135
Northern Frontier Provinces	57	146	203
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>154,608</b>	<b>28,160</b>	<b>182,868</b>
NOTE.—The corresponding figures for November 1930 Special Labour Return were	130,064	31,138	161,192

THE REGISTRATION OF DOMESTIC SERVANTS  
SECTION  
ANNUAL REPORT, 1936

PERSONNEL

Mr. G. H. Booth, Deputy Registrar of Domestic Servants, was away from the Colony on overseas leave from 1st of August, 1936, and had not returned at the end of the year.

No other leave movement, other than casual leave, has to be reported in respect of the remainder of the staff.

REGISTRATIONS EFFECTED

Applications for registration as domestic servants received during the year totalled 3,512, 3,474 of which had been dealt with by the Finger Print Section by the end of the year, the balance being the difference between applications received and those not yet classified. These applications were received from various districts, as follows:—

Nairobi	2,085
Thika	178
Kiambu	76
Nakuru	275
Eldoret	642
Kitale	376
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,512</b>

The total number of applications dealt with since the inception of the Ordinance to the 31st December, 1936, was 31,437, from which number 1,268 have been refused, as the applicants were considered "not suitable for domestic employment." This figure includes 974 who have had their pocket registers withdrawn on conviction.

408 applicants for registration have failed to claim their pocket registers since the application of the Ordinance, and 416 registrations have been cancelled on the death of the holders.

911 natives registered as domestic servants have handed in their pocket registers for various reasons.

The total number of books in circulation has now reached the considerable figure of 28,396, including 244 free issues made to domestic servants employed by various Government Departments.

In 120 cases the applicants, Asians and Seychellois, were not required to give finger prints, but have submitted photographs.

#### ALLEGED LOSS OF POCKET REGISTERS AND RE-REGISTRATIONS

Losses or accidental destruction of pocket registers have been claimed in 1,771 cases since the measure was first applied. In 1,431 cases, the reason given for the application did not appear to be borne out by facts, and renewals were granted on payment of Sh. 5.

During 1936, 397 applications for renewals were dealt with—384 at Sh. 5, 13 at Sh. 2.

#### INSPECTIONS AND PROSECUTIONS

During the year 70 prosecutions were entered by the Department—60 against employers and 10 against natives—resulting in 61 convictions and 9 withdrawals or acquittals. The prosecutions were made up as follows:—

Against Europeans .. .. .	30
"    Goans .. .. .	5
"    Seychellois .. .. .	1
"    Indians .. .. .	24
"    Natives .. .. .	10
Total .. .. .	70

Most of the cases instituted against natives were for altering the rates of wages or falsifying testimonials.

#### TESTIMONIALS

65,726 testimonials are now on record; their general reliability appears to be doubtful.

#### THE REGISTRATION OF DOMESTIC SERVANTS—(AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE

This amending Ordinance was promulgated on the 19th December, 1936; its principal effect is to repeal section 14 of the Principal Ordinance and to re-enact that section in a manner which makes the granting of a character permissive instead of mandatory as it was in the original section.

This departure from the previous practice was found to have become necessary owing to the difficulty in which employers found themselves on conclusion of their connexion with a bad servant.

They were unwilling or unable conscientiously to give a good character to that servant. The law compelled them to give a testimonial, and it was naturally implicit in the law that they should give a true testimonial. If they told the truth, they were apt to be involved in difficulties with my section; if they did not tell the truth, they felt they had not satisfactorily carried out their duties under the law and they had, in consequence, misled future employers as to the servant's true character.

Either way the position was unsatisfactory, and it led to the unreliability of the testimonials given.

A further section of this amending Ordinance is intended to rectify a technical flaw in the Principal Ordinance by making it an offence for a registered domestic servant whose book has been cancelled to seek to obtain employment as a domestic servant in areas where the Ordinance has been applied.

The remainder of the amendments are purely administrative.

#### EXPENDITURE AND REVENUE

The gross cost of the section for the year amounted to £1,564, made up as follows:—

	Sanctioned Estimates	Actual Expenditure	Savings
Personal Emoluments .. .. .	£ 1,255	£ 1,250	£ 5
Other Charges .. .. .	315	314	1
TOTAL .. £	1,570	1,564	6

As far as can be ascertained at this date, pending reconciliation of our accounts with the Treasury, the revenue collected for this service during 1936 amounted to £1,207. This reflects a working loss of £357 for the year, and a decrease of £59 on the previous year's income. This shortfall is due entirely to a reduction in the number of initial registrations effected, approximately 1,754, whereas the registration fees of Sh. 1<sup>00</sup> paid by means of stamps exceeded the previous year's by Sh. 2,802.

A. E. T. IMBERT,  
Chief Registrar of Natives.