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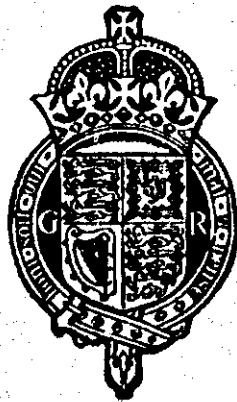
No. 1569

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND
ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF

NIGERIA, 1931

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PRINTED IN NIGERIA

LONDON

PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

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NIGERIA.

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CHAPTER I.

GEOGRAPHY, INCLUDING CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

1. The Colony and Protectorate of Nigeria is situated on the northern shore of the Gulf of Guinea. It is bounded on the west and north by French Territory and on the east by the former German Colony of the Cameroons. Great Britain has received a Mandate over a small portion of the Cameroons (31,150 square miles) which for purposes of administration has been placed under the Nigerian Government. As the remainder of the Cameroons is administered by the French also under a Mandate, for practical purposes all the Nigerian Frontiers march with the French.

2. The area of Nigeria, including the mandated area of the Cameroons, is approximately 373,078 square miles (the Southern Provinces and the Colony covering 91,139, and the Northern Provinces 281,939 square miles). With the exception of the Mandated Tanganyika Territory it is the largest British Dependency in Africa. Along the entire coast line runs a belt, from ten to sixty miles in width of mangrove swamp forest intersected by the branches of the Niger Delta and other rivers which are interconnected by innumerable creeks. The whole constitutes a continuous waterway from beyond the western boundary of Nigeria almost to the Cameroons. This region is succeeded by a belt from fifty to 100 miles wide of tropical rain forest and oil palm bush which covers the greater part of the central and eastern provinces of the South. Beyond this the vegetation passes from open woodland to grass savannah interspersed with scrubby fire resisting trees which covers the greater part of the Northern Provinces until desert conditions are reached in the extreme north. Nigeria possesses few mountains except along the Eastern Boundary, though the Bauchi plateau rises up to 6,000 feet above sea level. In addition to the Niger and Benue which during the rainy season are navigable as far as Jebba and Yola respectively, there are a number of important rivers of which the Cross River is the largest. Except for Lake Chad in the extreme north-east there are no lakes.

3. The West Coast of Africa first became known to Europe at the end of the fifteenth century through the discoveries of the Portuguese, and in the seventeenth and eighteenth the development of the slave trade with America made it the scene of great commercial activity. The endeavour of the British to suppress what

remained of this trade in the early part of the nineteenth century led, amongst other events, to the foundation of the Colony of Lagos in 1862.

4. The northern part of Nigeria although vaguely known to Arab geographers of the fourteenth century who were acquainted with the Negro kingdoms of the Western Sudan remained unknown to Europe until, at the latter end of the eighteenth century and the early part of the nineteenth, the explorations of Mungo Park, Clapperton, Richard Lander, Barth and others made known the true course of the Niger and the existence of the kingdoms in the interior. This led to attempts to open up trade which despite very heavy mortality in the earlier years resulted in the establishment of trading posts along the banks of the Niger and Benue by 1860. In 1879 the various British firms were amalgamated and in 1887 granted a Royal Charter and became known as the Royal Niger Company, Chartered and Limited.

5. In 1885 the Berlin conference had recognised the British claim to a protectorate over Nigeria, and that part of the country which was not included within the Lagos territories or the sphere of the Chartered Company was made into a separate administration under the Foreign Office and became known as the Oil Rivers Protectorate and later as the Niger Coast Protectorate.

6. By 1900 the Chartered Company had passed its period of usefulness and its Charter was revoked on 1st of January, 1900. The northern part of its territories became the Northern Nigeria Protectorate, the southern were combined with the Niger Coast Protectorate under the name of the Protectorate of Southern Nigeria, both being placed under the Colonial Office.

7. In 1906 the Colony of Lagos and its protected territories were combined with the Protectorate of Southern Nigeria and designated the Colony and Protectorate of Southern Nigeria with Lagos as the seat of Government, and on the 1st of January, 1914, the Northern and Southern Protectorates were amalgamated to form the present Colony and Protectorate of Nigeria.

CHAPTER II.

GOVERNMENT.

8. The main political divisions of Nigeria are the Colony of Nigeria, and two groups of Provinces, known as the Northern and Southern Provinces, which together form the Protectorate. The whole country is under the control of a Governor and Commander-in-Chief to whom the Lieutenant-Governors of the Northern and Southern Provinces and the Administrator of the Colony are responsible. The Governor is assisted by an Executive Council consisting of a few of the senior officials. By Order in Council dated the 21st of November, 1922, and entitled the Nigerian (Legislative Council) Order in Council, 1922, the former bodies known as the Nigerian Council and the (Colony) Legislative Council were abolished and a larger Legislative Council was substituted for them. This enlarged Legislative Council consists of:—The Governor, as President; thirty Official Members; three elected Unofficial Members representing the municipal area of

Lagos and one representing the municipal area of Calabar; and not more than fifteen nominated Unofficial Members. These fifteen are selected to include nominees of the Chambers of Commerce of Lagos, Port Harcourt, Calabar and Kano, of the local Chamber of Mines, and of the Banking and Shipping interests, together with members representing African interests in parts of the Colony and the Southern Provinces of the Protectorate which do not return elected representatives to the Legislative Council. This Council legislates only for the Colony and the Southern Provinces of the Protectorate and the Governor continues to legislate for the Northern Provinces of the Protectorate. The power of taxation in the Northern Provinces is left with the Governor and the scope of the Legislative Council in financial affairs is confined to the Colony and Southern Provinces, except that the sanction of the Council is required for all expenditure out of the funds and revenues of the Central Government which is incurred in the Northern Provinces. There is thus a measure of direct representation of the people by members selected by themselves to the Legislative Council.

9. The first elections for the unofficial members for Lagos and Calabar were held on the 20th of September, 1923, and aroused the keenest interest. The new Legislative Council was inaugurated by the Governor on the 31st of October, 1923.

10. The Protectorate (including the mandated territory of the Cameroons) is divided into twenty-two provinces, each under the immediate control of a Resident.

NATIVE ADMINISTRATION.

NORTHERN PROVINCES.

11. The whole of the natives in the Northern Provinces are administered under the system of "Indirect Rule" whereby the actual functions of Government are for the most part carried out through the Native Chiefs with the assistance and advice of the Administrative staff. Certain essential services are also undertaken by the Native Administrations under each of these chiefs and are maintained and paid for out of the revenue obtained from a share (from fifty to seventy *per cent.*) of the taxes collected by them, the whole of their Native Court receipts and various minor fees. The technical branches of these services are supervised by European experts seconded to and paid by the Native Administrations in the more advanced areas: elsewhere advice and assistance is given by officials of the Central Government Departments. In this way the Native Administrations maintain such services as medical, motor transport, education, engineering and forestry, and in larger Emirates even such as survey, printing and water and electricity supply. In matters concerning the maintenance of railways and trunk roads, Government Troops and Police, the close survey of the Minesfield, central hospitals, the various works in Townships and similar services, representatives of the Central Government Departments are in direct control.

12. The Emirs and Chiefs are responsible through the Administrative staff to Government for the peace and good order of their respective areas in so far as natives are concerned and to secure this they administer through a chain of District and Village Headmen, assisted by Native Courts, Police and

Prisons under their own control and paid for from their Treasuries. The Revenue of each of the latter, derived as mentioned above, is shown each year in formal Estimates in which also appear allocations of Expenditure for the year, drawn up with the advice of the Administrative staff and approved by the Governor but not subject to the control of the Legislative Council. In areas which are not sufficiently advanced, owing to the short period of their effective occupation and the backward nature of their inhabitants, it will be many years before the full degree of Native Administration, of which the general plan is outlined above, will result from the gradual development of the local indigenous forms of government but the eventual attainment of this result is the ideal constantly kept in view.

13. The latest sign of progress generally has been the convening of annual Councils at Kaduna at which the leading chiefs have met to debate matters of common interest and have heard and expressed views on statements by representatives of Government Departments and European non-officials regarding proposals and aims of their departments or interests.

14. Kaduna, Zaria, Kano, Jos and Lokoja, which have a mixed African population brought together by reasons of trade or employment, are not under any Native Administration but are administered as Townships, each under a Station Magistrate who is a Commissioner of the Supreme Court.

SOUTHERN PROVINCES.

15. The policy of Native Administration was first applied to the Abeokuta, Oyo, Ijebu and Ondo Provinces and to parts of Benin Province between the years 1919 and 1921. It was introduced into the Cameroons Province in 1921 but it was not of general application in the Southern Provinces until 1928. On this account and on account of the different origins and stages of development of the various tribes the constitution and operation of the Native Administrations are markedly dissimilar. It is possible, however, to divide them into two major groups, one of which comprises the Abeokuta, Oyo, Ijebu and Ondo Provinces inhabited by the various clans of the Yoruba tribe and parts of Benin Province, while the other covers the remaining areas of the Southern Provinces.

16. The first category contains comparatively well organised African states which had, up to the time of the introduction of Native Administration, maintained, to a large degree, their indigenous forms of organisation, and had been ruled through their chiefs, such as the Alafin of Oyo and the Oni of Ife. The Native Administrations are, therefore, constituted under the control of such chiefs or of confederations of chiefs who utilise their subordinate indigenous organisations in the administration of their respective areas. The autocratic powers of these chiefs are limited by the provision of a council and, in order to enlist the support of the literate classes these councils have, in certain cases, been strengthened by co-opting persons in virtue of their educational attainments rather than their traditional

prerogatives. These Native Administrations exercise a very considerable degree of control over the Native Treasuries and, although Government Ordinances continue to apply, responsibility for enforcing many provisions of the laws is, at the request of the chiefs and councils concerned, being assumed by the Native Authorities. Minor legislation is also carried out by these authorities under the Native Authority Ordinance by means of rules designed, for example, to control markets or to protect particular trades. Public Works of varying degrees of magnitude are undertaken and maintained under the control of these Administrations. Briefly, therefore, it may be said that gradually with increased experience, efficiency and confidence these Native Administrations are assuming part of the responsibility which has hitherto been borne entirely by Government.

17. In the second category are comprised tribes of varying degrees of development, none of which has reached the stage achieved by those of the first division.

18. The constitution of the Native Administrations of these areas has, with certain exceptions, not yet been finally determined and every effort is now being made to find satisfactory solutions to the many problems which arise in the attempt to evolve a system of Native Administration based on the indigenous organisations. The problem is rendered none the less difficult from the fact that all these people have already experienced a considerable period of direct European rule.

19. Attempts have been made to utilise in part the machinery of Native Courts already in existence, but these, being very largely alien institutions unsupported by native custom, have been found unsuitable as a foundation on which true Native Administrations can be built. Chieftainship in these areas may be said to be virtually non-existent and authority generally appears to have been vested in village and clan councils which consist variously of the heads of certain families, the members of certain age grades, the holders of certain titles, the priests of certain cults and men of outstanding personality. In some cases these councils are presided over by titular heads such as the descendant of the founder of the unit or the head of the senior age grade, while in others a man of exceptionally strong character is appointed to the post or dominates the assembly by sheer force of personality. Generally speaking he derives his authority from his council and seldom exercises any degree of autocratic power.

20. It is impossible at present to say what the ultimate constitution of these Native Administrations will be but, in the Warri Province, where investigations have been pursued further than elsewhere, it has been possible with the enthusiastic support of the people to embody the natural village, village area and clan councils in a new judicial and administrative system. These smaller units are being encouraged to federate with other units both for financial and administrative purposes, but meanwhile the political experience they are gaining will equip them for participation in the larger Native Administrations which may be expected to result from federation.

CHAPTER III.

POPULATION.

RACIAL DISTRIBUTION.

21. Physically the people of Nigeria belong in the south to the West Coast Negro type; in the north this is still the predominant element but in places has been mixed with Eurafriean (Hamitic) and in some places Nilotic Negro types, in varying degrees. Some groups of people, e.g., the Cattle Fulani are said to be predominantly Eurafriean with but little negro admixture.

22. It is more customary however to regard the inhabitants as a number of tribes each bound together by linguistic and cultural affinities. In the south the main tribes are the Yoruba, Ibo, Edo, Ibibio and Ijaw. In the North the largest single tribes are the Hausa, Beri-beri, Nupe, Munshi and Fulani; there are also a great many other smaller tribes and relics of tribes, some pagan but the majority Mahomedan. The latter generally employ the Hausa language which like Swahili in British East Africa is rapidly becoming the *lingua franca* of the Northern Provinces.

GENERAL.

23. The total estimated population of Nigeria in 1930, including Mandated Territory, is 20.7 millions, of whom 11.3 millions are in the Northern and 9.4 millions in the Southern Provinces⁽¹⁾. Of the total population 0.8 millions live in the Mandated Territory of the Cameroons.

24. The average density of population is fifty-five persons *per* square mile, varying from 19 *per* square mile in the Niger to 308 in the Onitsha Province. Details of population for each province are given in Table I attached.

25. Table II gives the percentage composition of the population by sex and adolescence, for the whole of Nigeria there being 1,113 adult females and 1,304 non-adults per 1,000 adult males.

26. The excess of adult females over adult males is much the same in the Northern as in the Southern Provinces, which is curious in view of their differing physiographic and economic conditions⁽²⁾.

(1) All figures of population, more particularly those of the Southern Provinces, are given with reservation as to accuracy.

(2) In India for example there is a marked excess of males in the dry or sub-humid conditions of the North, replaced by something approaching equality in the humid parts of Southern India.

27. The proportion of non-adults is consistently higher in the South than in the North, and if we exclude the Cameroons, the lowest percentage of non-adults in the South (Ondo 38.2) is greater than the greatest percentage in the North (Bornu 37.8).

28. This phenomenon, if the figures can be relied on, must be interpreted as a consequence of either higher rates of adult mortality in the Southern than in the Northern Territories or as evidence of the more rapid population growth in the Southern Provinces.

BIRTH AND DEATH RATES.

29. The Registration of vital statistics is extremely sparse, and the only knowledge approaching accuracy of longevity, and of birth and death-rates in Nigeria, is provided by Lagos Urban area and the data which will be obtained from the Medical and Intensive Censuses of 1931. A number of Emirates in the North make returns of births and deaths but in most cases their accuracy is doubtful.

Some figures of crude birth and death-rates are given as follows:—

	Birth-rate per 1,000 of population.	Death-rate per 1,000 of population.
Katsina Division (1928)	46	23
Zaria City (1928)	38	39
Cameroons (1931)	46-61	40-55
Lagos (1911)	33	27
„ (1921)	28	23
„ (1930)	26	15

30. In comparing the mortality in Lagos with that elsewhere in Nigeria it must be remembered that the proportion of strangers, and consequently of adults of central ages, is very large, the proportion of non-adults being only 674 *per* 1,000 adult males: a population of this type escapes a part of the heavy mortality due to infantile ages. A proper allowance for differences in age-composition of a population can be only made when the 1931 Intensive Census data have been analysed and a "standard" population calculated by which all death-rates can be adjusted.

LONGEVITY.

31. From the administrative point of view if the money spent in medical, sanitary and educational effort is well spent, the result should be reflected in the increased expectation of life.

This expectation has been found from the data of the 1931 Census of Lagos for Yoruba males with the following results:—

Age.	Mortality rate per 1,000 p.a.	'Complete' Expectation of life.
0	150	40.1 years.
20	7	39.4 „
40	14	25.6 „
60	32	13.4 „
80	152	4.4 „

The full life-table and the inferences to be drawn therefrom will be included in the Census Report for 1931 (Part I).

Exact details for longevity in other parts of Nigeria and for other tribes are at present wanting.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

32. Exact figures, except in Lagos, are rare. Some of the estimates obtained are as follows:—

Mamfe, Cameroons	...	...	...	290 per 0/00.
Keakas, Kembong Cameroons	..	...	...	297 „ „
Ekwes, Nsanakang, etc., Cameroons	...	...	...	340 „ „
Kateli, Kajinga and Kalumo	...	...	...	258 „ „
Arogbo (Ondo)	...	...	...	230 „ „

For Lagos there has been a drop in the infantile death-rate during the past years, as indicated in the figures below, in which the percentages of still-births is also shown:—

Year.	Infantile Mortality per 0/00 live births.	Still-births % on total births.
1921	285	5.6
1923	264	5.0
1926	238	4.1
1927	175	3.2
1930	129	3.6

The data obtained by Dr. Jones in the Northern and those of Dr. Turner for the Southern Provinces will be available later in their respective Medical Census Reports.

MIGRATION.

33. The number of persons in Nigeria born extra-territorially is not known. Judging from the Lagos figures (1931) about 5/6ths of the Native Foreigners (that is, Africans of Non-Nigerian parentage) and practically all Non-Natives are immigrants. In addition, however, there must be a large immigrant population near the Northern Provinces border, who may have been born in French Territory though from stock indigenous to Nigeria. Details will be available from the 1931 Northern Provinces Census.

34. The following are the data as to Non-Natives and Native Foreigners found in Nigeria in 1921. The total of 23,415 persons is little more than 1/10th of one *per cent.* of the population of Nigeria.

NON-NATIVES.

	British.	Other Europeans.	Syrians.	Others.	Total.
Northern Provinces	1,051	72	26	19	1,168
Southern ..	2,440	322	117	68	2,947
Total ...	3,491	274	143	87	4,115

NATIVE FOREIGNERS (1921).

	Gold Coast.	Sierra Leone.	French Cameroons.	Dahomey.	Arabs.	Liberia (Kru).	French Sudan.	Others.	Total.
Northern Provinces	761	656	...	...	227	...	717	281	2,631
Southern Provinces	2,462	2,461	5,198	2,748	...	2,635	...	1,165	16,669
Total ..	3,213	3,116	5,198	2,748	227	2,635	717	1,446	19,300

35. Some indication of the movement of persons to and from Nigeria is afforded by the following Table showing the passengers arriving and departing from Lagos by sea or river.

Year.	Non-Natives.		Natives and Native Foreigners.		
	Arriving.	Departing.	Arriving. (Deck and 3rd Class).	Departing. (3rd Class).	
1928	4,024	3,915	11,003	11,787	Mainly to Accra and Sierra Leone. Also some to Dakar, Fernando Po and Boma.
1929	4,508	3,095	10,687	11,247	
1930	4,721	3,435	10,434	9,863	
1931	3,322	3,750	7,503	6,916	

Of the natives and native foreigners arriving in and leaving Lagos about 2,500 each way would represent travellers by inland waterways, who for the most part would remain in the country.

36. The internal movement of the population is, however, very great, as is suggested, for example, by the large proportion of persons not born in the towns in which they are enumerated. Thus Lagos (1931) had 57.8 *per cent.* of foreign-born population while Kano out of a total population of 89,000 (1931) is reported to have a floating population of 13,670 or 15.4 *per cent.* To the latter figure a proportion of the so-called permanent population must be added to complete the number of immigrants.

TABLE I.
POPULATION OF NIGERIA, 1930.

	Adult Males.	Adult Females.	Children (under 15).	Total.	Area in Sq. Miles.	Density per Sq. Mile.
NIGERIA (Colony and Protectorate with Mandated Territory) ...	6,047,873	6,731,066	7,884,866	20,663,805	372,674	55
NORTHERN PROVINCES ...	3,484,725	3,894,559	3,902,371	11,282,155	281,778	40
Adama wa ...	216,001	244,579	192,113	652,693	35,001	19
Bauchi ...	305,094	357,119	348,573	1,010,786	25,977	39
Benue ...	246,896	289,661	349,969	926,526	28,082	33
Bornu ...	314,785	410,489	386,962	1,112,236	45,900	24
Ilorin ...	142,057	177,201	192,632	511,890	18,095	28
Kabba ...	131,052	158,932	174,992	464,976	10,577	44
Kano ...	780,348	828,349	843,239	2,451,936	17,602	139
Niger ...	155,555	169,242	131,886	456,683	25,349	18
Plateau ...	194,218	179,977	166,166	540,361	10,977	49
Sokoto ...	529,316	620,143	674,890	1,824,349	39,940	46
Zaria ...	429,403	458,867	441,449	1,329,719	24,278	55
SOUTHERN PROVINCES ...	2,563,148	2,836,507	3,981,995	9,381,650	90,896	103
Abeokuta ...	125,083	164,490	192,747	482,260	4,266	113
Benin ...	241,953	148,175	202,998	493,126	8,627	87
Calabar ...	281,841	280,300	417,048	979,189	6,331	155
Cameroons ...	118,118	128,601	127,877	374,596	16,581	23
Colony ...	97,597	95,179	132,101	324,877	1,381	235
Ijebu ...	60,603	87,079	158,186	305,868	2,456	125
Ogoja ...	182,270	206,118	320,111	708,499	7,529	94
Ondo ...	134,361	151,268	176,879	462,508	8,211	56
Onitsha ...	427,415	460,774	606,766	1,493,945	4,937	203
Owerri ...	573,329	594,102	838,353	1,975,784	10,374	190
Oyo ...	299,218	370,786	666,676	1,336,680	14,216	94
Warri ...	121,360	149,745	173,263	444,368	5,937	74

TABLE II.
PERCENTAGE ADULTS AND NON-ADULTS FOR THE POPULATION
OF NIGERIA, 1930.

	Adult Males %	Adult Females %	Children (under 15) %
NIGERIA (Colony and Protectorate with Mandated Territory)	29.3	32.6	38.2
NORTHERN PROVINCES	30.9	34.5	34.6
Adamawa	33.1	37.5	29.4
Bauchi	30.2	35.3	34.5
Benue	31.0	31.3	37.8
Bornu... ..	28.3	36.9	34.8
Ilorin	27.8	34.6	37.6
Kabba	28.2	34.2	37.6
Kano	31.8	33.8	34.4
Niger	34.1	37.1	28.9
Plateau	35.9	33.3	30.8
Sokoto	29.0	34.0	37.0
Zaria	32.3	34.5	33.2
SOUTHERN PROVINCES	27.3	30.2	42.4
Abeokuta	26.9	31.1	40.0
Benin	28.8	30.0	41.2
Calabar	28.8	28.6	42.6
Cameroons	31.5	34.3	34.1
Colony	30.0	29.3	40.7
Ijebu	19.8	28.5	51.7
Ogoja	25.7	29.1	45.2
Ondo	29.1	32.7	38.2
Onitsha	28.6	30.8	40.5
Owerri	29.0	30.1	40.9
Oyo	22.4	27.7	49.9
Warri	27.3	33.7	39.0

CHAPTER IV.

HEALTH.

MAIN DISEASES AND MORTALITY.

37. Epidemic and infectious diseases form the largest single disease group. Thus, of 446,000 patients who came under treatment at Government Institutions during 1930, 26.25 per cent. fell into this group, and an analysis of the diseases of the group treated was as follows:—

Yaws	34.11%
Malaria	26.38%
Syphilis	11.74%
Dysentery	3.99%
Gonorrhœa	3.04%
Smallpox	1.16%
Influenza	0.96%
Tuberculosis	0.95%
Plague	0.01%
Other Diseases	17.66%

Of the 2,425 deaths which occurred at Government Institutions during 1930 the causes of death were grouped as follows:—

Epidemic and Infectious Diseases ...	36.04%
Affections of Respiratory System ...	16.21%
Affections of Digestive System ...	11.22%
Affections of Nervous System ...	3.84%
Other Diseases ...	32.69%

38. No serious epidemics have occurred during 1931. Yellow fever has been occurring in mild epidemic form all through West Africa, mostly at stations far removed from the recognised endemic centres. In Nigeria two fatal cases occurred in Europeans in the Northern Provinces and five cases with three deaths in Europeans and nine non-fatal African cases were reported in the Southern Provinces. The work of the Yellow Fever Commission of the Rockefeller Foundation has shown by means of the protection test that the disease is widely spread amongst the African population.

39. Smallpox occurs in localised epidemics but is well controlled by vaccination of the population. Roughly 600,000 vaccinations are performed each year, mostly by a trained staff of African Vaccinators.

40. Plague incidence in Lagos has shown a steady decline and the disease seems to have disappeared from the mainland. The plague incidence in Lagos, since its appearance in 1924 has been as follows:—

Year.	Cases.
1924 ...	414
1925 ...	104
1926 ...	497
1927 ...	155
1928 ...	519
1929 ...	188
1930 ...	65
1931 ...	5

41. An epidemic of relapsing fever which entered the northern part of Nigeria from the French Sudan at the end of 1930 and beginning of 1931 was soon controlled by a campaign of treatment and institution of Serbian barrels for de-lousing in the towns and villages.

42. Malaria is still extremely prevalent and work upon infants and school children in Lagos and other towns indicates that practically 100 *per cent.* of African children are infected within the first year of life. Cases came under treatment in 1930 as follows:—

Europeans.	Cases.	Deaths.
Malaria ...	1,334	1
Blackwater fever ...	17	4
African and other non-Europeans.	Cases.	Deaths.
Malaria ...	29,430	41
Blackwater fever ...	6	2

43. Sleeping sickness occurs in endemic and epidemic forms in regions of the Northern Provinces and in the Southern part of the Cameroons Province. Some 6,000 cases came under treatment during 1931.

44. Venereal Diseases are wide spread. During the past three years an average of 37,000 cases of yaws, 14,000 cases of syphilis and 11,000 of gonorrhoea have received treatment each

year. Venereal Diseases Clinics are held at all African Hospitals and early treatment rooms are available at Military and Police Barracks. A clinic for seamen has been opened at Apapa for the port of Lagos during the year.

45. The population of Nigeria is largely agricultural and occupational diseases are practically non-existent. The sickness rate at labour camps such as those of the Tin Mines on the Bauchi Plateau, the Cocoa Plantations in the Cameroons and Camps upon Railway Constructions has not been high.

PROVISIONS FOR TREATMENT.

(a) Medical and Health Staff.

46. The staff of the Medical and Health Department consists of 136 European Medical Officers including Administrative, Specialist, Pathologist, and Research officers and eight African Medical Officers. There are sixty-one European Matrons and Nursing Sisters and 333 African nurses and midwives. The Health Service includes eighteen European Health Officers, thirty-four European and 123 African Sanitary Inspectors. In addition there is a comprehensive staff of Pharmacists, Dispensers and Laboratory Attendants.

47. Much attention is given to the training of African personnel. At Yaba, near Lagos, is situated a training School for dispensers consisting of Physics, Chemistry and Pharmaceutical laboratories and a hostel for students. The premedical work of the Medical Assistants who are being trained is also carried out in these laboratories and in a Biological Laboratory, while teaching of Anatomy, Physiology and Histology is given at laboratories at the African Hospital in Lagos. Dispensers receive three years training, Medical Assistants five years training. Examinations are controlled by a Board of Medical Examiners.

48. At Zaria a similar school of dispensers was opened in 1930 for Mohammedan lads from the Northern Provinces who have received three years higher education at the Katsina Training College.

49. At Lagos there is a well equipped training centre for Sanitary Inspectors. The course of study lasts for three years of which the final year consists of practical work under supervision. A training centre for lads in the Northern Provinces has also been established at Kuno.

(b) Hospitals and Dispensaries.

50. There are twelve European Hospitals providing a total of 137 beds. The work carried out may be gathered from figures for the past three years:—

	1928.	1929.	1930.
In-patients	1,553	1,470	1,412
Out-patients	8,629	8,181	7,917

51. There are fifty-two African Hospitals containing 2,630 beds. Some of these hospitals have been built by the Native Administrations. The largest African Hospital is at Lagos; this hospital has been entirely rebuilt upon modern lines and was re-opened in 1931. It contains 360 beds of which 200 are now in use. The new hospitals at Abeokuta, Akure and Zaria have

been opened during the year; new hospitals which are being built by the Native Administrations at Owerri, Okigwi and Sokoto are nearing completion. Extensions are being made to the hospitals at Bauchi and Katsina and new hospitals are being built at Wukari (near Ibi), Birnin Kebbi and Pankshin, the two last being small hospital bases to serve a dispensary system.

The work performed at African hospitals may be seen from the figures taken from the past three years' reports:—

	1928.	1929.	1930.
In-patients	29,173	32,068	37,517
Out-patients	354,191	391,008	399,260

52. A widely spread system of dispensaries which was commenced in 1930 has come into operation in 1931, forty-seven dispensaries having been opened in the Northern Provinces and eighty-three in the Southern Provinces. The Attendants who serve these were given one year's intensive training at twenty-six centres in the country in the use of a strictly standardised equipment of drugs and dressings, and the dispensaries are visited at regular intervals by the Medical staff.

53. There are fourteen different Missionary Societies in Nigeria who are carrying out some medical work. This mainly consists of dispensary treatment given by holders of Missionary Dispenser Permits, but there are also thirteen hospitals and seventeen fully qualified Missionary Doctors who do excellent work.

PREVENTIVE MEASURES.

54. Steady progress is being made in the improvement of Sanitary conditions in the larger African towns, working through the Native Administrations concerned. Pipe-borne water supplies are being put in, or preparatory investigations are being made, in many towns throughout the country. Surveys made by the Yellow Fever Commission of the Rockefeller Foundation show the immense importance of water supplies, the *Aedes* index being surprisingly high in some of the towns in the Northern Provinces where Mohammedan prejudice makes house inspection difficult to carry out. This is being overcome in certain Mohammedan towns by the employment of women Sanitary Inspectors.

55. *Research* has been curtailed to some extent owing to the financial depression but the Research Institute at Yaba, near Lagos provides good opportunity for bacteriological and pathological research and is also being adapted for the production of vaccine lymph upon a large scale. Research upon schistosomiasis has been commenced from assistance given by a grant from the Colonial Development Fund. Much valuable work has been carried out by the dietetics pathologist, and by the team of research workers upon tsetse flies and trypanosomiasis who work in a well-equipped laboratory at Gadau in the Northern Provinces.

56. Campaigns for treatment and prevention of sleeping sickness have been vigorously pursued, and some 6,000 cases of the disease have been treated during the year. Detailed surveys are being made in districts in which the disease is endemic, combined with examination of the whole population of the area. This work

is carried out by two teams, the survey team followed by the treatment team, both teams consisting of trained Africans working under European Medical supervision.

57. *Maternity and Child Welfare work* is receiving an increased amount of attention. There are two Government Maternity Hospitals, at Lagos and Abeokuta, where African Midwives receive training. The African hospitals throughout the country have women's wards where maternity cases are admitted. Maternity work forms an important part of the work of some of the Medical Missions, particularly at Ilesha and Ogbomosho and at Iyi-Enu (near Onitsha) where a fine new maternity hospital was opened in 1931 by the Church Missionary Society. The difficult task of reaching the "Kubli" (purdah) women in Mohammedan towns was commenced in 1930 when centres were opened at Kano and Katsina. The start was slow but encouraging progress has been made in both these places during 1931.

58. *Child Welfare work* is also increasing in extent. Two Welfare Centres are being maintained in the Lagos area and are well attended; a Lady Medical Officer, European Nursing Sister and a staff of African Health Visitors are engaged upon this work. Child Welfare work forms an increasing part of the duty of European Nursing Sisters at African Hospitals throughout the country and fifteen centres of this nature are functioning. During the year a marked increase in this work has occurred at Port Harcourt, Calabar, Enugu and Warri. The Child Welfare centre established by the Native Administration at Abeokuta continues to be most successful and a branch station has been opened at Ilaro.

59. *School Medical work* is carried out by Health Officer at Lagos and in the larger towns where an attempt is being made to examine completely each child at least three times during the school career.

60. *Treatment of Leprosy* is being developed upon the lines of the formation of farming settlements. At Itu in Calabar Province a Mission Society has established a Colony, with financial assistance from Government, where some 1,000 lepers are under treatment. A new colony, to accommodate 500 lepers, is being built in Benin Province from funds granted by the Colonial Development Fund and this will be maintained by the Native Administration. Several Colonies in the Northern Provinces are being maintained by Native Administrations.

61. *Health Education* of the population is essential if progress is to be made. Highly successful "Health Weeks" were held at Lagos, Kano and Port Harcourt during the year. These were well attended and much interest was shown in the cinema health films and in the demonstrations. An extension of this activity will be possible owing to a grant from the Colonial Development Fund towards the purchase of apparatus for the production of local health films. Health subjects formed an important item in the meeting of the Advisory Council of Residents and Emirs which was held at Kaduna during 1931 when discussion took place upon such subjects as inspection of compounds in Mohammedan towns, formation of maternity centres, training of Native Administration Sanitary Inspectors and methods of treatment and prevention of sleeping sickness.

CHAPTER V.

HOUSING.

62. In the Northern Provinces the most common form of native dwelling is a round hut of plain mud walls with a conical thatched roof; the style varies greatly according to the locality from the egg-shell walls of the Nupe huts to the thicker mud-work more common elsewhere. Few of these houses have verandahs though there is fair projection of the eaves. In the areas south of the Niger, where there has been Yoruba influence, there is to be found the typical rectangular Yoruba mud house with a thatched roof of grass, and usually a mud ceiling on timber. In the north are the flat-roofed houses, sometimes of two stories, with substantial mud walls and a dignified appearance. In the houses of the great there is a high standard of design, and pillars, arches and domes are brought into use, all made of reinforced mud. It is rare for the round houses to be two-storied, except among some of the pagan tribes. The nomad Fulani live in "bee hive" huts entirely made of grass put over a rough framework of guinea-corn stalks.

63. Whatever their nature the houses, except for the most temporary type, are formed into compounds, sometimes by building in the spaces between the huts, sometimes by a wall of mud or matting surrounding the huts. The entrance to the compound is through a separate hut which is not only a gateway but the centre of family life and the lodging of the stranger. The inhabitants of a compound are usually members of the same family or kindred; each adult man or woman has a separate hut, though in many places the people prefer communal sleeping. Children sleep with their parents. The houses are owned and built by the occupiers on land granted to them free by the community, except in towns where there are professional builders or where it is possible to rent lodgings in the houses of others. The ordinary round hut would cost between ten shillings and forty shillings to build and the flat-roofed Kano type of the simplest nature not less than £15.

64. Corn is stored in the compounds, as a rule in granaries and bins of mud, which often have most graceful shapes, but sometimes in store pits in the ground. There is little furniture beyond small wooded stools and mats and the ordinary native culinary equipment.

65. The sanitary condition leaves much to be desired but steps are being taken by constant instruction, and in the more advanced places by organised inspection, to secure attention to the ordinary sanitary usages, which have been codified and widely circulated in a series of simple "Observances". The Native Authority gives directions regarding the repair of houses in a dilapidated condition.

66. Labourers for the most part live in their own houses, except where they are working at a distance. Their employment is usually of a temporary nature and in the dry season and then they live in rough grass houses: where large bodies of labour come together—such as for railway work—their camps are adequately supervised by the Sanitary authorities. Labour lines are not now provided by the Government for its employees, but the mining Companies build and maintain labour camps of round mud houses for theirs.

67. The African Clerical staff live, in the larger stations, in permanent concrete houses which are rented to them by Government, and in the small stations in mud houses which are supplied rent free. The Government Police and Troops occupy "lines", built by Government, of mud houses or rows of single rooms under a common roof. The Government supplied free to the European staff houses which vary greatly in quality and designs.

68. There has been little attention to architecture until recently, when the architectural branch of the Public Works Department has been strengthened and an endeavour has been made to design in harmony with local conditions and native styles of building.

69. In the Southern as in the Northern Provinces the bulk of the population is agricultural and people live in houses of their own construction. In the West the typical style is the rectangular Yoruba house roofed with palm mats or grass according to the locality, more opulent owners indulging in roofs of corrugated iron. The tendency is to live together in large and crowded towns with outlying compounds and small villages on the farming land around, where the greater part of the poorer farming people live and work, only occasionally visiting the towns when they lodge in the houses of their wealthier relations. In the East houses are rectangular and roofed with palm mats but on the Northern borders these give way to round grass thatched huts. The tendency in these provinces is to live together in a number of small compounds grouped together into very large but scattered villages. Only occasionally does the density of the population compel people to live together in compact settlements so as to leave as much land for farming purposes as possible.

70. The character of the housing accommodation of the wage-earning population of the Southern Provinces varies very considerably in accordance with environment, but so much progress has been made during recent years that it may be said that generally the type of accommodation available is suitable and adequate for the workers. In the larger centres and in easily accessible places more and more houses of a European type are being built for the wage earners, either of cement with corrugated iron roofs, or in the absence of cement, of dried mud blocks. In the more remote places the local architecture is retained, but the old type native house is frequently improved by the addition of carpentered doors and windows. A large number of labourers however find accommodation in houses of purely native construction. Such housing, although perhaps inadequate in the eyes of the European, is entirely sufficient for the needs of the occupiers. Actual instances indeed can be recorded where well constructed houses of European design have been spurned by the labourers for whom they were built because they preferred the small hut of native construction.

71. The Public Health Ordinance, Chapter 56 of the Laws of Nigeria is applied to certain areas, mostly Townships, and this allows for inspection of sanitary conditions and for other ameliorative measures. Elsewhere if large numbers of labourers are employed, the area is declared a "Labour Health Area" under

Ordinance No. 1 of 1929, The Labour Ordinance. The Regulations which apply to such areas ensure adequate housing and sanitary conditions and allow for medical and administrative inspection.

72. In Lagos conditions are exceptional; it is at present in transition from a town on the native African to one on the European plan. The native unit was the compound of roughly quadrangular form, the huts round a central open space being the dwellings of the descendants of the head of the compound. In courses of time the local system of inheritance caused these compounds, often very large, to be split up into smaller units on a similar plan, the central open space being encroached upon in the process.

73. The rise of Lagos as a mercantile and administrative centre caused an influx of people from the interior. These, in accordance with their feudal ideas attached themselves to a local chief and in return for small services rendered and the increase of the chief's prestige, were given land inside the compounds on which they built their bamboo shacks.

In time it became evident that these dependent squatters would claim ownership of the land. As a safeguard against this, the original compound families imposed a rent, the huts erected by the immigrants being regarded as compound property. Thus the patriarchal feudal system was broken down and gave way to that of landlord and tenant. The landowners, finding the new method highly profitable, let the open spaces of their compounds to new immigrants until the compounds, once fairly sanitary, became slums of the most sordid type.

74. At the same time the repatriates from Brazil and elsewhere were settling on the island. These had long ceased to be compound dwellers and they, when they had acquired land, built detached houses more or less on the European model.

75. With the formation of a Municipal Board for Lagos (now the Lagos Town Council) and the introduction of building and sanitary bye-laws, further deterioration was checked, and as the bye-laws were extended and their enforcement made more effective, conditions began to improve. The principal regulations affecting congestion are those which insist upon buildings being totally detached and upon dwellings covering not more than fifty *per cent.* of the total area of the property.

76. Thus the tendency is now towards the abolition of the old compound and the construction of wholly detached houses and tenements of moderate size. The bye-laws however can operate only as the older houses are demolished, so that their effect is necessarily slow.

77. The Town Planning Scheme and the development of properly planned suburbs on the mainland should greatly expedite the work of slum clearance, but the clan tradition still survives as a rooted objection on the part of the African to setting up a new home away from his relatives. This parochial habit is a great obstacle to progress. It must also be recognised however that lack of cheap transport facilities has militated against settlement in the suburbs but this difficulty is now being overcome by private enterprise.

CHAPTER VI.

PRODUCTION.

MINING.

78. The mining industry, as far as tin is concerned, is practically concentrated on and round the central Plateau, in the Provinces of Plateau, Zaria, Kano, and Bauchi. Mining for gold and silver lead is on a smaller scale. There has been a great increase in recent years in the installation of mining machinery but in normal times over 30,000 labourers were in fairly constant employ. These labourers were for the most part on weekly wages and housed in camps maintained by the Companies. Their recruitment was entirely voluntary and informal inasmuch as no documentary agreements were entered into. There has never been any trouble over labour conditions.

79. The position of the tin industry is still one of anxiety owing to the accumulation of surplus stocks of the metal during previous years and the general depression in trade. The price of the metal which stood at £115 in January fluctuated until it reached the low price of £100 per ton in June and since that date it has slowly recovered until it reached £138 in December. This improvement, however, should be viewed in conjunction with the removal of the gold standard and the subsequent depreciation of the pound sterling.

80. A scheme based on Government control of production and export, in agreement with other tin producing countries, was introduced in March. The tin ore won during the year amounted to 9,600 tons approximately.

81. The revived interest in gold, reported last year, continues. Mining is still chiefly confined to the neighbourhood of Minna, but areas have also been applied for in Sokoto, Kano and Zaria Provinces. The output for the year is about 700 ounces.

82. The mining of silver lead in Adamawa Province has increased, the output of this ore amounted to 1,850 tons approximately.

83. Geological investigations have been continued in the Minna-Birnin Gwari belt and have resulted in the location of auriferous conglomerates and terraces along some of the rivers. It yet remains to be proved if their gold contents are sufficiently high to make them economical propositions.

84. During 1931 the activities of the Geological Survey Department have been directed mainly to the investigation of water supply problems and the carrying out of well sinking projects. Prior to this year well sinking operations were confined to Sokoto Province but they have now been extended to Bornu and Hadejia Emirates. In Sokoto Province attention has been centred on putting in wells along the main motor road to Zaria and in the areas adjacent to it, to providing a water supply for the town of Denge and to the development of the experimental well in Sokoto town. This well was 160 feet in depth and four feet in diameter but in order to test the possibility of obtaining a plentiful supply of water the diameter has been increased to nine feet six inches.

Pumping tests carried out over a period of some weeks have proved the yield of the new well to be 28,000 gallons per day. The total number of producing wells in this area now reaches seventy-five.

85. Engineers and Foremen were appointed to Bornu and Hadejia early in the year and very satisfactory progress has been made in these areas. The number of wells sunk to water in these Emirates are thirty and twenty-nine respectively. A very important result of work in the Nguru district of Bornu Emirate has been the recognition of a definite belt underlain by subartesian water into which a number of shafts have been sunk. An essential feature of the work of well sinking is the training of native staff and already some success has been achieved in that direction. A few headmen are now able to sink and line a well in good ground.

86. In the Southern Provinces good work has been done in the Nsukka Division of the Onitsha Province by well diggers who were brought from Kano in 1930. The wells are much appreciated by the people.

COLLIERY.

87. Mining is carried on at the Udi Coalfield situated at Enugu, 151 miles by rail from Port Harcourt. The mines, which are Government owned and worked by the Railway, are capable of producing 1,400 tons of coal per day. During 1931 the estimated output is placed at 275,000 tons. The coal may be classified as sub-bituminous, having a slaty cleavage. It ignites readily and burns with a bright steady flame. The chief consumers are the Railway, Marine Department, Tin Mines and the Gold Coast Government. Steamers calling at Port Harcourt are supplied, and facilities exist for placing cargo coal direct into vessels alongside the coal conveyor at the rate of 400 tons per hour.

AGRICULTURE.

88. In Nigeria proper, as opposed to the small portion of the Cameroons which is administered by the Nigerian Government under mandate, agriculture is entirely a peasant industry. Only of those few products that are mainly exported, is it possible to make a guess at the gross average annual production. Of those crops, the average annual export is of course known, and it is usually possible by some means to form some rough guess at the ratio between average annual export and average annual internal consumption. About other crops it is not possible to present any statistics whatever.

89. Although Nigeria lies entirely within the tropics, the climate of northern Nigeria would be more accurately described as sub-tropical than tropical; for there is a long dry season and considerable diurnal and seasonal variations in temperature. The climate of southern Nigeria approximates more to the typical tropical climate; for the rainy season there is long, and the relative humidity and the temperature are both rather uniform throughout the year.

90. In most countries with a climate like that of southern Nigeria, experience has shown that the crops which are more profitable to the farmer are not the staple food-stuffs, but rather those products which are exported from the tropics to the temperate

regions of the world; such as rubber, cocoa, tobacco, coffee, sugar, fruits and spices. Not infrequently, where the conditions of soil and climate favour the production of one or more of these crops, their cultivation is carried to such an extreme that the people have to rely on imported, or at least purchased, food. Southern Nigeria is thus somewhat exceptional among truly tropical countries, in that the production of food for local consumption still constitutes the most important part of the local agriculture; such local food crops are principally yams, cassava and maize.

91. This feature of the agriculture of southern Nigeria is in part correctly to be regarded as a primitive condition which time will modify. It is also in part a result of peasant farming, since the peasant is more inclined than a large landowner to prefer to grow food rather than to buy it, even though the latter might be the more theoretically profitable. There is also another factor which tends to limit the production of export crops by small holders in the tropics, especially when each holding is so very small as it is in Nigeria. This limitation arises from the fact that most of the tropical export products need rather elaborate treatment after harvesting or very highly organised marketing, such as it is difficult or impossible for peasants to provide.

92. In spite of these limitations, however, the farmer of southern Nigeria is exceedingly anxious to increase his output of such export commodities as he can produce; and his ability to compete in the world's markets has already been amply demonstrated. Especially does the native farmer favour permanent crops, which, once planted and successfully brought to maturity, will continue to yield a crop annually for many years; though the establishment of such plantations in Nigeria tends to be retarded by the fact that the ownership of the land is vested in the local community as a whole, and by the confusion which exists about the extent and the permanence of the rights which the individual has to the use of his share of the land owned by his community. That this is a temporary difficulty rather than a permanent obstacle to progress is shown by the history of cocoa planting in Nigeria; for although cocoa planting has progressed much more slowly than in the Gold Coast, where this difficulty does not arise, it has yet proceeded very steadily in most of the parts of Nigeria that are really well suited to this crop.

93. *Palm Oil.*—Palm oil and palm kernels, which constitute the most important exports from southern Nigeria, are both derived from the fruit of the oil palm. This is a tall palm, not unlike the coconut palm. It is often said to grow wild all over southern Nigeria, though actually many of the trees have been deliberately planted. But except in a few small plantations that have been established in very recent years, no weeding or attention is given to the trees. The fruits occur in large, very dense bunches at the top of the tree, and each bunch contains a very large number of separate fruits. Each fruit is somewhat like a hard, brightly coloured plum. The oil is extracted from the outer "pulp". Inside the pulp is a very hard shelled nut, within which again is the kernel. To climb a tall palm and harvest the fruit is distinctly hard work, but the extracting of the oil and kernels, though it takes a considerable time, involves little hard labour and is largely carried out by women. The quantity of oil exported annually is

commonly about 125,000 tons. Palm oil also forms a very important part of the diet of the people of southern Nigeria: and, moreover, with the improvement of means of transport that has taken place in recent years, a trade in palm oil from southern to northern Nigeria has sprung up and increases annually. It is not possible to obtain actual statistics either of the local consumption or of the internal trade; but it is possible in various indirect ways to form some estimate of their probable combined volume, and such considerations suggest that they probably amount to at least 100,000 tons per annum, making a gross production of at least 225,000 tons.

94. Of the palm oil exported to Europe and America the major part is used for soap-making. Various technical difficulties have hitherto prevented its use in Europe and America as an edible fat, although its high melting point would otherwise make it particularly valuable for this purpose. All the oil exported from Nigeria is examined by Government Inspectors, and its export is only permitted if it contains less than two *per cent.* of water or dirt.

95. The ordinary "wild" palm tree of Nigeria yields no fruit until it is some thirty feet in height and probably as many years old. But oil palms which are properly spaced in a plantation, and kept free from bushy undergrowth, will begin to bear at four years old, and reach full bearing at ten years. Thus for many years their fruit can be harvested from the ground or with a short ladder, so the process is much less laborious than harvesting from old trees. Moreover it has been shown in many experiments that the yield of plantation trees, whether reckoned per tree or per acre, is two or even three times as great as from wild trees, which have to compete with "bush". The Agricultural Department has for some years been demonstrating this fact to the native farmer, and the farmer has not been at all slow to appreciate it. As mentioned in a previous paragraph, the communal system of land ownership constitutes a considerable handicap to the enterprising farmer who wishes to establish a small plantation of palms. Yet numbers of small plantations have been established here and there about the country during the last four years, and there is no doubt that this is the beginning of a movement which will proceed with growing speed.

96. The native processes by which the oil is extracted, though ingenious, are comparatively inefficient, for only some fifty-five *per cent.* to sixty-five *per cent.* of the total oil in the fruit is recovered. Experiments by the Agricultural Department have shown that this efficiency can be considerably increased by the use of a simple mechanical press. Again, the native is not slow to appreciate the improvement when it is demonstrated to him. But the price of the press was originally about £25 when it was first introduced, and this high price prevented their being taken up, except by a few people. Gradually cheaper models have been evolved and have become correspondingly more attractive. A much cheaper model is now being placed on the market and will probably gradually be adopted. Through the establishment of small plantations by the farmers, and the gradual adoption of the press for extracting oil, it is hoped that there will be an increase in the production of oil in the future.

97. *Palm Kernels*.—After the palm oil has been extracted from the pulp of the fruit, the nuts are allowed to dry for a few weeks and are then cracked to obtain the kernels. This cracking is done almost entirely by women as a "spare time occupation". It is done by placing each nut separately on a stone and hitting it with another stone—a process which, when conducted by an expert, is by no means as slow as might be imagined. The kernels are separated from the broken shells as they are cracked and then only need a little further drying before they are ready for export. The kernels are hardly consumed locally at all so that the annual export, some 250,000 tons, represents practically the gross annual production. The Government inspection system prevents the export of kernels containing more than four *per cent.* of shell and dirt, or of kernels that are not adequately dried. On arrival in Europe, palm kernels, on being pressed, yield an oil similar to coconut oil or groundnut oil, which is used either in the manufacture of margarine, or of the refined oil used on the Continent for cooking. The cake which remains after the oil has been extracted is used for cattle food, for which it is very valuable. Unfortunately, this particular cake is much more popular among continental farmers than English farmers, so that more than half of the Nigerian kernels have gone to the Continent of Europe in recent years.

98. *Cocoa*.—The cocoa tree is not indigenous to West Africa, and as it is a comparatively delicate tree, it can only be grown in "plantations". Its cultivation is restricted to areas in which there is ample atmospheric humidity and where the soil is both good and deep. The simultaneous occurrence of all these conditions is by no means universal in southern Nigeria, but the greater portion of the four western provinces of Abeokuta, Oyo, Ono and Ijebu is suitable for cocoa plantations, and there are some portions of several other provinces which are suitable for this crop. A cocoa plantation needs to be thoroughly weeded and to receive a certain amount of cultivation during the first four or five years. Thereafter the cocoa crop entails the expenditure of remarkably little labour. In Nigeria even the labour of the first few years is reduced by growing food crops between the young trees, so that the return from the food crops largely compensates for the labour expended.

Nigerian farmers' methods of growing cocoa are open to criticism, in that plantations are often much too thick, nothing is done to replace what is taken from the soil, and little care is generally devoted to measures of plant sanitation to protect the trees from diseases. At present, however, the trees are remarkably free from diseases, except the "Black Pod disease". This disease does not damage the tree itself and at present the yield of cocoa per acre in Nigeria is very high as compared to other parts of the world. As in the case of oil palms, so also in that of cocoa, the communal land system has constituted a brake, rather than a bar, to planting, and new plantations are still slowly but steadily increasing in number. The figures given below show the amounts exported by seasons (October 1st to September 30th), which are rather more instructive than the annual trade figures. Cocoa is not consumed internally in Nigeria, so that the figures for export are roughly the same as those of gross annual production.

EXPORTS (IN TONS) BY SEASONS FROM NIGERIA AND THE CAMEROONS
UNDER BRITISH MANDATE.

	Average monthly price per ton (Lagos).			Nigeria tons.	Cameroons tons.
	£	s.	d.		
1922-23	23	12	11	32,600	2,000
1929-30 (Max. year).	29	16	3½	51,700	2,800
1930-31	18	11	7	48,700	2,900

99. *Groundnuts*.—The groundnut (or "peanut" or "monkey-nut") constitutes the great export crop of the extreme north of Nigeria, especially of the heavily populated provinces of Kano, and of the northern parts of the Zaria and Sokoto Provinces. It is a valuable and attractive crop on sandy soil; for unlike most crops it will yield on such land with little or no manure; another advantage is that it smothers weeds comparatively well and adds, rather than removes, fertility in the soil; lastly, in times of scarcity, it can be used as food instead of being sold for export. On heavy soils the work of harvesting groundnuts is sufficiently arduous to constitute a serious objection to the crop, especially as there is little interval between the ripening of the crop and the time when the soil becomes too hard for efficient harvesting to be possible at all. Another serious difficulty with this crop is that the value per ton in Europe is rather low, while the producing area is several hundred miles from the coast. Thus at times when all produce prices are low, there is very little left for the buyers and producers of groundnuts, after the cost of sea-freight and railway freight has been deducted; and in the last two seasons, the Railway has been forced to carry groundnuts at an unprofitable rate, since otherwise no price at all could have been paid to the producer. The figures given below show the amounts exported in recent seasons (the Calendar year is not very suitable for groundnut statistics).

GROUNDNUTS.

	Tons exported October 1st—September 30th.	Average buying price at Kano, October 1st—March 31st. Per ton.		
		£	s.	d.
1923-24	60,000	12	5	0
1929-30 (Max. year)	147,000	8	18	0
1930-31	145,000*	4	17	0

* October 1929 to end July 1931 only.

Groundnuts are consumed locally in Nigeria as well as exported. There is no means of estimating the local consumption directly, nor is there even any indirect means of forming any useful guess at its volume. It is probable that local consumption constitutes a comparatively small proportion of gross production, so that the amounts exported recently, at least in the years when the export has been high, have probably been not very much less than the total production.

100. *Cotton*.—Cotton is exported from the north of Nigeria, especially in the Zaria and Sokoto Provinces, and from the Oyo Province in the south. It is also grown on a much smaller scale, for local consumption only, in several other

provinces. The conditions in the two main producing areas are so different that it is necessary to discuss them separately. In northern Nigeria, while groundnuts are essentially the export crop on sandy soils, cotton is the crop of the heavy soils. The original native cotton of this district was quite unsuitable for export, but it was successfully replaced about the year 1916 by an American variety introduced from Uganda. The annual yield per acre is liable to considerable fluctuation according to the rainfall, although it depends more on a favourable distribution than upon the gross annual fall. The farmer also varies the amount of cotton which he plants each year, partly in accordance with the fluctuation of the price paid for cotton, but chiefly according to his previous crop of grain for food. If the grain crop of the previous season was a poor one, he naturally plants a larger area of grain and less cotton. Thus, although locusts do no damage to cotton, the damage that they did to food crops in 1929-30 caused a great reduction in the area of cotton planted in 1930-31, while the heavy food harvest of 1930-31 will probably cause more cotton to be planted again in 1931-32. The figures given below show the amounts of cotton exported to Europe from the Northern Provinces annually in recent years. In addition to these amounts, an unknown quantity of American cotton is consumed locally in the hand spinning and weaving industry, and there is also a considerable quantity that is exported by land northward across the Anglo-French boundary. It is impossible to form any estimate of these amounts though it is clear that they are liable to great fluctuation. So far as can be judged, the amount accounted for in these ways is insignificant, as compared to the amount exported to Europe, when the export price is high; but both the amount stored for internal consumption and that exported by land rise to a considerable figure, possibly equal to the volume of the export, in years when the price offered for purchase for export to Europe is very low.

AMERICAN COTTON EXPORTS BY SEASONS AND PRICES PAID TO GROWERS.

	Bales (400 lb. weight net.)	Price per pound of seed cotton.
1924-25	28,000	3d.
1925-26	37,000	2½d.
1929-30 (Max. year).	34,500	1.6d.-1.2d.
1930-31	14,000	0.8d.-0.5d.

101. Cotton must have been an important crop in the Provinces of Oyo and Ilorin long before there was any export to Europe, for in those provinces there had always been considerable hand-spinning, weaving and dyeing industries. The local demand is, however, limited. For although the hand-woven cloth has maintained its place in the consumers' favour because of its durability, it is dearer than imported cloth, so that the increasing wealth of the people in recent years has been spent rather on imported than on local cloth. Any increase in production of raw cotton therefore depends upon export to Europe; and from the beginning of the present century considerable effort has been steadily devoted by Government to the fostering of this export trade. The native cotton, which is indigenous to the district, is barely good enough to be acceptable to the European market;

so that in years when the price of cotton on the world's market is low, the price that can be paid locally for native cotton is so small that the farmer thinks it not worth growing. For many years repeated efforts were made to find a superior cotton which could be grown with success in spite of the many pests and diseases which are encouraged by the humid climate. These efforts led only to repeated failures until about the year 1926 when an improved cotton was bred by selection from a native variety, which was not only much superior to the ordinary native cotton in commercial quality, but also actually superior in its resistance to diseases. The figures given below show the amounts exported in recent years. The proportion of the crop which is sold or stored for local consumption varies greatly from year to year according to the price offered for export. It is impossible to form any accurate estimate of the average annual local consumption, but it is possibly about equal to the average annual export of some 8,000 to 10,000 bales.

COTTON EXPORTED FROM SOUTHERN NIGERIA BY SEASONS AND PRICES PAID TO GROWERS.

Season.	Total native cotton-bales.	Price per pound seed cotton.	Improved Ishan cotton-bales.	Price per pound seed cotton.
1927-28 ...	4,500	1½d.-2d.	68	2½d.-3d.
1928-29 ...	6,500	1½d.-1¾d.	900	2½d.-2¾d.
1929-30 ...	3,500	1½d.-¾d.	6,000	1½d.-¾d.
1930-31 ...	300	¾d.-¾d.	4,000	¾d.-¾d.

102. *The Kola Crop* is one of considerable local importance in West Africa. The nuts are borne on a tree, roughly comparable to a cocoa tree, and are chewed all over West Africa as a luxury. A few years ago the nuts consumed in Nigeria were all imported from the Gold Coast and Sierra Leone. Kola planting was, however, advocated and stimulated by the Agricultural Department in the south-western part of Nigeria some years ago, and now, so far as can be ascertained, the local production supplies more than half the Nigerian demand. Recently kola planting has extended to the central and eastern provinces of southern Nigeria and although the area planted there is as yet small, there is every reason to believe that it will eventually become very considerable; for this is one of the few crops that seems to thrive even on the very poor soil that covers the major part of those provinces.

103. The harvests of *food crops* in southern Nigeria are remarkably constant. Farmers naturally note that the crops in some years are better than in others; but the extent of the fluctuations is quite insignificant as compared to those which occur in most parts of the world. In northern Nigeria also the annual crops are generally reliable; but very occasionally a shortage of rain causes a complete failure of many fields.

104. Recently also, northern Nigeria has been subject to a plague of locusts. In 1930, the damage done by locusts was considerable, although an active campaign of destruction of the locust hoppers was organised by the Agricultural Department, assisted by many officers seconded from other departments. This campaign, conducted chiefly by driving the swarms into trenches

or pits, was not sufficiently effective to prevent an increase of the locusts; and the number in the country was undoubtedly greater at the beginning of the rains in 1931 than it had been at the corresponding time in 1930. In 1931, the campaign was carried out almost entirely by the method of poisoning the bands of locust hoppers by putting down "bait" treated with arsenic. The campaign was carried out by the administrative officers, except for the assistance of one Agricultural officer in each province. No less than 100 tons of arsenic were imported, and a large part of it was actually used in making thousands of tons of bait at some eighty to ninety centres. It is difficult to ascertain the total area of hoppers destroyed, but there is evidence that it amounted to at least some 40,000 acres, and may have been much more. The campaign was so successful that practically no damage whatever has been done to crops by locusts this year, and at the moment of writing (November, 1931) the number of locusts in the country seems, from all reports, to be very much less than it was a year ago or even two years ago. The season has been a favourable one for crops in northern Nigeria, and in consequence the price of food, about which much anxiety has been felt there during the last twelve months, is now at as low a figure as it has been for many years. It is only the low price obtained for the commodities which Nigeria exports that has prevented this year from being a very prosperous one for the Nigerian farmer, whether in northern or southern Nigeria.

105. *Export of fruit.*—An attempt is being made to foster the export trade in fruit. The Agricultural Department have given much assistance to the Agege Planters' Union and there is a distinct hope that the export of pine-apples, and at a later date other fruit, may be developed.

FORESTRY.

106. The European demand for mahogany and other high grade West African timbers which could last year be described as fair has fallen away to a very low point during the year. Of eighty-eight timber areas held under licence only nineteen were being worked in the latter part of the year and in some of these operations were almost at a standstill. The depreciation of sterling in the last two months of the year combined, with small stocks, to bring about an increase in value of these timbers and satisfactory prices were realised in Liverpool for logs on the spot. If these conditions continue export of timber may be expected to show an improvement in the new year.

107. A local timber, *cistanthera paparifera*, which according to tests made at the Forest Products Laboratory in England is the equal of hickory, is being subjected to practical test locally in tool handles.

108. In connection with the work of a Committee on Workshops and Foundries a survey of the timbers available in Nigeria as substitutes for the various classes of imported timbers has been carried out and recommendations made for the use of several in the workshops of the Public Works Department, Railway and Marine.

109. Specimens of Wurobagani (*urena lobata*) fibre from Sokoto sent to the Imperial Institute were reported as being the equal of "first mark" Calcutta jute, and a further supply was asked for for further examination by English firms interested.

110. Experimental afforestation of the difficult grass lands of the Plateau was begun and preparatory ploughing with English ploughs drawn by Nigerian cattle has enabled a promising beginning to be made; but further progress here also must await better times.

LIVESTOCK.

111. For some years past now the principal veterinary activities have been directed towards the control of cattle epizootics, and it has been found that the only practical method of control is by immunisation of healthy cattle on a large scale. For this purpose camps have been established at convenient centres in all the principal cattle raising provinces where work is continued throughout the whole year.

112. During 1931 over 290,000 cattle were immunised against rinderpest, 405,000 against blackquarter, 55,000 against pleuro-pneumonia and in addition approximately 36,000 doses were given to cattle for the curative treatment for trypanosomiasis. The effect of this work is shown in the noticeable decrease in the number of outbreaks of these diseases which have occurred during the year. Native cattle owners are appreciative of the practical advantages and economic benefits of this work and are anxious to avail themselves of the opportunities of having their cattle treated. The serum and vaccines used in these inoculations (to the amount of nearly one million doses in 1931) were manufactured at the Veterinary Laboratory at Vom.

112. The Animal Census for 1930 showed that the Northern Provinces contained over 3,000,000 cattle, 2,000,000 sheep, 5,150,000 goats, 200,000 horses, 550,000 donkeys, 2,500 camels and 49,000 swine.

The maintenance of large numbers of livestock is of importance to the life and economic well-being of the whole native population of the country. Over 150,000 cattle are slaughtered annually in the Northern Provinces for consumption locally and in addition some 175,000 head are either trekked or railed to the Southern Provinces for consumption there or for export to the Gold Coast. There is an annual tax on cattle at two shillings per head which brings in a revenue, shared with the Native Administrations, of about £300,000 per annum.

113. *Hides and Skins.*—Another important work which is engaging the time and attention of the field staff of the Veterinary Department is the improvement of the hides and skins intended for export.

114. It is now fully realised by all concerned that much economic loss is caused by the bad flaying and drying of hides and skins. A scheme has been brought into operation in Kano and some other provinces to improve the quality of these animal products. Already a marked improvement has been noticed in the trade reports received from exporting firms and the tanners in England and has been confirmed by the increased price now paid in Nigeria for Government marked hides and skins. As more staff becomes available the work will be extended to the other provinces.

FISHERIES.

115. Though there is no export trade in fish a considerable trade in dried fish exists between the fishing peoples on the coast and on the estuary of the Cross River and the densely populated regions in the interior of the Southern Provinces. The fish are impaled on sticks of varying length and smoke dried, and despite their higher price compete favourably in the local markets with "stockfish" imported from Europe.

CHAPTER VII.

COMMERCE.

116. The total value of trade of Nigeria (including specie) during the year was as follows:—

	£
Import	6,589,202
Export	10,609,347
Total	<u>£17,198,549</u>

a decrease of £10,675,803 on the trade of the previous year. The value of imports shows a decrease of £3,110,835 and that of exports a decrease of £4,564,968. The value of the transit trade (*i.e.*, goods passing through the inland waters and by rail through Nigeria to and from French Territory) was £189,217 as compared with £273,092 and a decrease of £82,875 on the previous year.

117. Commercial imports (*i.e.*, excluding specie and Government imports) were valued at £5,715,783 a decrease of over forty-eight *per cent.* compared with the previous year, while commercial exports at £8,728,475 showed a decrease of over thirty-five *per cent.* compared with the previous year.

118. The United Kingdom accounted for 56.6 *per cent.* of the total trade compared with 52.9 *per cent.* in the previous year showing an increase of 3.5 *per cent.*; imports at 1.4 *per cent.* showing an increase of 3.5 *per cent.*; and exports at forty-eight *per cent.* showing an increase of 6.4 *per cent.* The United States of America with 8.9 *per cent.* of the trade showed a decrease of 2.6 *per cent.*, and Germany with 15.8 *per cent.* a decrease of 3.1 *per cent.* With the exception of the Colonies in British West Africa there is no appreciable trade with any part of the British Empire.

119. The import trade with the various countries was mainly as follows:—

Cigarettes, Hundreds.	1930.	1931.	Increase+ Decrease—
United Kingdom	3,733,816	2,296,651	-1,437,165
Holland	8,827	2,222	- 6,605
Germany	2,391	3,574	+ 1,183
Other Countries	4,982	98,892	+ 93,910
Total	<u>3,754,016</u>	<u>2,401,339</u>	<u>-1,352,677</u>
Leaf Tobacco, Lbs.			
United Kingdom	1,307,208	651,874	- 655,424
U. S. America	4,105,430	1,696,110	-2,409,320
Other Countries	118,041	7,594	- 110,447
Total	<u>5,530,769</u>	<u>2,355,578</u>	<u>-3,175,191</u>

Gin, Imperial Gallons.	1930.	1931.	Increase+ Decrease—
United Kingdom	39,780	23,721	— 16,059
Holland	273,035	80,226	— 192,809
Germany	37,854	22,862	— 14,992
Other Countries	227	685	+ 458
Total	350,896	127,494	— 223,402
Salt, Cwts.			
United Kingdom	1,133,232	918,934	— 214,298
Germany	30,822	44,315	+ 13,493
Other Countries	4,536	5,908	+ 1,272
Total	1,168,590	969,057	— 199,533
Motor Spirits Imperial Gallons.			
United Kingdom	15,616	13,971	— 1,645
U. S. America	6,592,345	3,869,286	— 2,723,059
Germany	5,389	9,591	+ 4,202
Other Countries	41,255	43,622	+ 2,367
Total	6,654,605	3,936,470	— 2,718,135
Cotton Piece Goods, Value.			
	£	£	£
United Kingdom	2,642,333	1,335,158	— 1,307,175
Italy	94,512	48,079	— 46,433
Germany	148,874	55,718	— 93,156
Holland	58,647	46,834	— 11,813
France	24,639	27,486	+ 2,847
Other Countries	59,022	34,790	— 4,232
Total	£3,008,027	£1,548,065	— £1,459,962
Kola Nuts, Value.			
	£	£	£
Gold Coast	154,266	37,524	— 116,742
Sierra Leone	67,889	39,300	— 28,589
Other Countries	2,545	1,436	— 1,109
Total	£224,700	£78,260	— £146,440
Kerosene, Imperial Gallons.			
U. S. America	4,630,973	3,152,073	— 1,478,900
United Kingdom	10,690	12,997	+ 2,307
Other Countries	24,933	21,913	— 3,020
Total	4,666,596	3,186,983	— 1,479,613

120. The percentage of trade from various countries and also the percentage exported shows little tendency to alteration. It may be presumed therefore that no new markets have been opened up during the year and that the direction of trade is towards the same countries as in previous years.

121. Nigeria's list of exports is a very limited one and no difficulty should be experienced in placing before the various countries of the Empire such of the commodities as would be likely to find a market. In 1913, South Africa took £120,000 worth of palm kernels but since that date Nigeria's export direct to South Africa has been negligible. Canada also received direct shipments of cocoa (1924) and hides and skins (1927) but that trade did not develop.

122. The following comparative statement shows the general position with regard to trade for each of the last six years.

Commercial and Government.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.
Imports (exclusive of Specie) ...	12,761,129	14,437,994	15,765,238	13,219,165	12,616,949	6,358,393
Exports (exclusive of Specie) ...	16,681,310	15,674,440	17,075,165	17,756,944	15,028,624	8,736,541
Total ...	29,442,439	30,112,434	32,840,403	30,976,109	27,645,573	15,094,934
Imports of Specie ...	836,351	1,226,644	898,287	185,282	83,088	230,809
Exports of Specie ...	658,308	666,517	131,708	165,556	145,691	1,872,806
Total ...	1,494,659	1,893,161	1,030,055	350,838	228,779	2,103,615
Gross Total ...	30,937,098	32,005,595	33,870,458	31,326,947	27,874,352	17,198,549

1931. Parcels by parcels post not included.

123. The bulk of the export trade is also limited to a few main articles; returns showing the principle exports for the past four years are appended:—

Countries of destination.	1928.		1929.		1930.		1931.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Tons.	£	Tons.	£	Tons.	£	Tons.	£
United Kingdom	46,427	1,376,148	40,699	1,190,417	35,653	902,594	30,230	419,913
Germany	12,895	375,687	9,917	267,824	12,325	290,842	14,077	198,064
U. S. America	43,641	1,269,953	59,711	1,680,327	61,145	1,435,223	43,851	555,011
Holland	3,691	111,261	6,583	177,243	8,362	187,553	7,388	91,588
France	1,515	47,609	642	18,881	315	5,941	1,297	17,330
Italy	17,429	524,013	13,701	415,178	16,864	407,429	20,727	251,815
Other Countries	1,513	46,813	592	17,431	1,037	20,831	563	7,076
Total	127,111	3,751,484	131,845	3,767,301	135,801	3,250,413	118,133	1,540,797

PALM KERNELS.		
Quantity.	Value.	
Tons.	£	
United Kingdom	2,009,958	2,007,929
Germany	2,063,104	1,740,360
U. S. America	18,947	10,045
Holland	4,674	362,058
France	6,029	22,220
Italy	1,662	25,581
Denmark	5,123	91,205
Other Countries	1,301	5,452
Total	4,423,114	4,264,850

PALM KERNELS.		
Quantity.	Value.	
Tons.	£	
United Kingdom	113,481	2,007,929
Germany	108,149	1,740,360
U. S. America	506	10,045
Holland	21,185	362,058
France	1,303	22,220
Italy	1,411	25,581
Denmark	4,978	91,205
Other Countries	464	5,452
Total	251,477	4,264,850

GROUNDNUTS.

Countries of destination.	1928.		1929.		1930.		1931.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Tons.	£	Tons.	£	Tons.	£	Tons.	£
United Kingdom	3,650	62,717	11,542	178,606	24,465	382,981	17,756	158,846
Germany	36,286	642,488	44,629	705,980	71,185	1,025,887	51,170	460,908
Holland	9,860	178,479	24,212	423,979	9,355	149,139	10,460	106,731
U. S. America	...	...	...	...	...	2	751	7,847
France	51,535	931,924	62,734	1,083,807	38,364	594,572	73,082	710,750
Italy	870	16,909	1,403	22,482	1,240	22,055	4,240	35,919
Other Countries	960	15,997	2,859	50,859	1,762	21,122	2,281	29,687
Total	103,161	1,848,514	147,379	2,465,713	146,371	2,195,756	159,740	1,510,688

COCOA.

United Kingdom	12,619	636,030	19,916	619,903	11,921	368,013	11,952	251,697
Germany	8,800	395,771	10,787	433,529	16,903	603,552	14,097	289,459
U. S. America	15,174	775,289	19,057	783,194	8,294	289,454	6,574	128,687
Holland	11,493	570,556	19,498	434,292	14,379	470,329	19,242	410,738
France	374	18,291	178	7,925	...	...	93	1,819
Other Countries	703	24,748	800	27,893	834	25,052	838	15,479
Total	49,163	2,420,685	55,236	2,305,836	52,331	1,756,400	52,796	1,092,879

COTTON LINT.

Countries of destination.	1928.		1929.		1930.		1931.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Cwt.	£	Cwt.	£	Cwt.	£	Cwt.	£
United Kingdom ...	73,202	340,171	115,428	533,207	150,234	601,996	58,970	127,117
Germany ...	402	2,170	...	...	9,043	18,219	8,335	18,933
France ...	1,124	5,366	962	6,217	...	...	952	2,069
Other Countries ...	228	1,080	912	3,782	...	3,343	2,014	4,693
Total ...	74,956	348,787	117,302	543,266	160,166	623,558	70,301	152,812

TIN ORE.

Countries of destination.	1928.		1929.		1930.		1931.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Tons.	£	Tons.	£	Tons.	£	Tons.	£
United Kingdom ...	13,070	2,209,545	15,129	2,298,745	12,067	1,373,466	10,794	1,061,184

124. With regard to the above figures it may be noted that the quantity of groundnuts exported during the year was greater than in any previous year. Cotton lint shows a decrease of fifty-six per cent. on the 1930 exports. The other articles have remained more or less normal.

125. Local produce prices per ton are shown in the following table. A sharp rise was apparent about the end of September due to the financial position in England, but by the end of the year the tendency was towards a general drop in prices.

AVERAGE WHOLESALE EXPORT PRICE OF STAPLE PRODUCTS.

	For the year 1931.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.
LAGOS.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Palm Kernels per ton	6 6 5	7 0 0	6 16 5	7 11 2	6 13 0	5 7 10	5 2 10	5 19 1	4 19 7	5 1 0	6 6 9	7 10 4	7 9 0
Palm Oil (Hard) per ton	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Palm Oil (Soft) per ton	9 13 7	11 16 0	10 16 9	11 7 10	8 12 4	6 11 10	6 18 11	10 9 8	8 2 9	8 4 4	8 15 10	12 9 2	11 17 3
Cocoa (Old) per ton	17 0 11	18 2 6	17 0 0	16 10 0	15 17 8	...	...	...	...	13 14 0	17 1 11	19 13 4	18 8 1
Cocoa (New) per ton	17 10 11	18 12 6	17 10 0	17 0 0	16 7 8	...	...	...	...	14 4 0	17 11 11	20 3 4	18 18 1
KANO.													
Groundnuts per ton	5 3 8	4 5 0	4 10 0	5 15 0	4 0 0	4 15 0	4 15 0	6 0 0	5 0 0	5 0 0	6 10 0	5 19 0	5 15 0

126. The export of hides has appreciably increased during the year, while that of sheepskins has continued to decrease. Goatskins were exported in normal quantities. The following are detailed figures for the past four years:—

Countries of destination.	1928.		1929.		1930.		1931.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	lb.	£	lb.	£	lb.	£	lb.	£
United Kingdom	2,293,649	106,794	2,422,746	101,287	1,739,405	56,342	1,758,613	52,638
Germany	1,872,372	78,773	513,093	18,107	68,701	3,475	174,967	6,072
Holland	161,732	6,854	66,610	2,127	69,080	2,933	36,562	914
U. S. America	267,680	12,926	...	...	14,818	498	...	...
France	4,466,298	200,967	6,027,557	233,631	2,967,278	103,902	4,352,166	122,499
Other Countries	877,267	39,759	825,794	32,982	662,639	26,664	675,877	22,950
Total	9,939,007	446,073	9,855,800	388,134	5,521,921	192,814	6,998,185	205,073

SHEEPSKINS.	
Quantity.	Value.
lb.	£
United Kingdom	50,256
Germany	9,972
Holland	421
U. S. America	...
France	5,267
Other Countries	41
Total	65,957

GOATSKINS.	
Quantity.	Value.
lb.	£
United Kingdom	271,506
Germany	4,267
Holland	21
U. S. America	43,258
France	111,448
Other Countries	7,777
Total	438,277

127. *Shipping.*—Regular mail, passenger and cargo services were maintained throughout the year between the United Kingdom and Nigerian ports, and also between Continental and American ports and Nigeria. Messrs. Elder Dempster & Company, Limited, run the main mail and passenger service, but many other firms run regular services, amongst them being the America Barber West Africa Line, John Holt & Company (Liverpool), Limited, United Africa Company, Limited, Holland West Africa Line, Woermann Linie and allied Companies, Chargeurs Reunis, French Steamship Line, Fraissinet Fabre Line, Roma Societa di Navigazione Liberia Triestina. Messrs. Elder Dempster & Company reduced their thrice monthly mailboat sailings to once a fortnight, the vessels now proceed alternately to Port Harcourt and Calabar. The period of the journey from Lagos to England has been increased from fourteen to fifteen days. The number of vessels which entered and cleared at the various ports has decreased this year and foreign tonnage was in excess of British tonnage.

Year.	ENTERED.				Total.	
	British.		Foreign.		No.	Tonnage.
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.		
1927	394	960,354	351	740,426	745	1,700,780
1928	480	1,000,403	549	969,751	1,029	1,970,154
1929	518	1,036,726	556	981,965	1,074	2,018,691
1930	512	1,014,188	516	932,800	1,028	1,946,988
1931	417	812,867	453	881,884	870	1,694,751

Year.	CLEARED.				Total.	
	British.		Foreign.		No.	Tonnage.
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.		
1927	387	944,160	345	722,373	732	1,666,533
1928	478	975,696	532	926,000	1,010	1,901,696
1929	505	1,038,308	551	961,802	1,056	2,000,110
1930	504	1,006,703	516	930,470	1,020	1,937,173
1931	427	824,908	450	884,383	877	1,709,291

128. The number and tonnage of ships entering and clearing show a further decrease, but was only to be expected in view of the present world depression. The tonnage of cargo landed and

shipped shows a similar total drop on previous years though it is noticeable that the tonnage of cargo shipped by foreign vessels shows an increase on 1930.

Year.	TONNAGE OF CARGO.					
	INWARDS.			OUTWARDS.		
	British.	Foreign.	Total.	British.	Foreign.	Total.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
1927	445,791	106,225	552,016	441,033	222,405	663,438
1928	508,301	109,607	617,908	414,952	294,487	709,439
1929	409,640	118,242	527,882	439,404	304,375	743,779
1930	365,122	125,553	490,675	479,931	261,639	741,570
1931	250,727	74,215	324,942	397,645	272,612	670,257

CHAPTER VIII.

WAGES AND THE COST OF LIVING.

129. The vast bulk of the population do not work for wages, being cultivators farming their own ground, traders or craftsmen working for themselves and their own profit. Even the craftsmen, except in the larger cities, have their own farms which provide them with their main foodstuffs, the sums which they earn from their occupations being largely devoted to the purchase of utensils, cloths, a few additional foodstuffs which they cannot as a rule grow themselves, and to the payment of their taxes.

130. For these reasons it is difficult to make any exact calculations as to the cost of living of a husbandman, tradesman or craftsman, but it may be said that as far as those persons who do not have their own farms are concerned the cost of an adequate amount of food for one day for each person lies between 1½d. and 3d., according to the time of year and the locality. On the other hand an educated African living alone, in the same place would spend at least £36 per annum on living expenses. The cost of living for Europeans varies considerably from £250-500 a year for a single man.

131. With regard to paid labourers and other wage earning classes owing to the general trade depression wages have fallen and in some parts the fall is as much as from twenty-five *per cent.* to thirty *per cent.*, the average daily wage being now approximately 9d. This fall has, however, been set off to a large extent by a decrease in the prices of native foodstuffs, though there has been no corresponding decrease in the cost of imported articles of food and manufactured goods.

132. The staple articles of diet are yams, cassava, plantains, maize and palm oil with pepper, dried fish and occasional small quantities of meat, the diet of the clerical and artisan classes being considerably more varied and including articles of imported food. The majority of the wage-earning classes buy or provide their own food, the average cost per day being about 3d., while that of the

clerical and artisan classes may be as much as 1s. 3d. The following is a more detailed note on the conditions regarding labour in the town of Lagos.

133. Both wages and cost of living are higher in Lagos than anywhere else in Nigeria. Until lately the standard labourer's wages has been one shilling per day, but retrenchment and lack of work has made labour at 10d. per day available. The casual labourers, if unmarried or apart from their wives, usually live in communities, three or more of them sharing a living room at a cost to each of from two shillings and sixpence to four shillings per month. There is no such thing as lodgings in the English sense of the word. The landlord lets an empty room at about ten shillings per month and the number of his tenants does not concern him. They provide what little furniture they require and their own food which they either cook themselves or buy already prepared from street vendors. It is probable that 5d. per day is the minimum cost of food for a man in work.

134. Married labourers also live in single rooms at an average monthly rental of about ten shillings, but the whole cost falls on the one man. A married man with two children will pay about £1 per month for food, but in the majority of cases the wives are petty traders and their profits are almost sufficient to pay the family food-bill.

135. Artisans and skilled men generally are paid from three shillings to four shillings and sixpence per day. Their standard of living is considerably higher than that of the labourer who lives almost exclusively on farinaceous food.

136. The wages of clerks show the greatest variation, ranging from £3 per month for the beginner up to £400 per annum for those in the highest positions. A fair average is probably £6 per month. Such a man is usually married and lives in a three or four-roomed house with a rent of from £25 to £30 per annum. It will be seen that in comparison with income the rents are very high, absorbing about 33½ per cent. of wages.

137. It is impossible to give any useful figure for the cost of foodstuff in terms of the staple commodity (*Gari*, a cassava product) as food is not sold by weight, but by arbitrary measures or by number.

Food production and sale is not properly organised; farmers and fishermen do little more than send their surplus from their home requirements into market with the inevitable result that supplies and prices vary from day to day and from market to market.

138. Butchers are required by law to use scales, but their customers know nothing of weight, preferring to buy meat by the piece.

CHAPTER IX.

EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

139. The Education Services are now organised as a single department with two branches which deal with the Northern and the Southern Provinces respectively.

140. In February a bill to amend the Education (Colony and Southern Provinces) Ordinance, 1926, was passed by the Legislative Council. The object of the bill was to give greater elasticity to the educational system as regards the conduct of schools, the training and classification of teachers, and the allocation of grants. The Board of Education was enlarged to make provision for the appointment of European and African non-officials, and this larger board was empowered to delegate to committees some of its routine functions.

141. Similarly, an Education Ordinance having application to the Northern Provinces was enacted by the Governor in August. In this new Ordinance, which took the place of the Education (Northern Provinces) Ordinance, 1926, the development of education is contemplated on lines similar to those laid down for the Southern Provinces.

142. During the opening months of the year it became obvious that the financial blight was likely to be of long duration, and economies in staff and other services were effected. As the year proceeded and the financial position became steadily worse, it was necessary, in common with other departments, to make sacrifices by the retrenchment of European and African officials, by cutting down all items of expenditure, and by limiting strictly the amount of money payable in grants to non-Government institutions. The chief object striven for during this period of curtailment is the maintenance of the essential structure of the educational system, and the preservation of the ideals which have influenced the growth of that system.

143. There are two especially important ideals in educational policy in a young Colony. The first is to spread a sound education as widely as possible among the masses, in order to produce, in the course of time, a literate population, able to participate intelligently in the economic, social and political development of the country. The second ideal is to train up, as soon as may be, a body of men and women who can perform some of the tasks in Government work and private enterprise for which, at the first impact of Western civilisation, it is necessary to import Europeans. As regards the first ideal, a limit has, for the time being, been set by financial necessity to the expansion of education among the masses, and supervision of Elementary schools has been curtailed owing to the reduction of staff, which will involve a temporary fall in efficiency. During the last two years, however, Africans have been employed to a far greater extent than formerly in the work of supervision, and that fact will, to some extent, lessen the relaxation of control by European Superintendents. As regards the second ideal, while the number of schools or classes in schools which provided education of a type comparable to that of junior secondary schools in England is reduced, the output is still ample to provide for all possible demands for employees of this standard of education. Moreover, the plan of concentrating more advanced professional training in Higher Colleges has not been abandoned. Pending the construction of Higher Colleges, the first batch of higher college students will be accommodated in a section of King's College, Lagos, early in the new year. And so, when the financial prospects of the country are brighter, it is hoped that there will be a supply of young men coming out year by year to take their place in positions of importance and responsibility.

144. The following is a brief account of some of the important features of educational work during the year. In the Northern Provinces, both Elementary and Middle schools are progressing satisfactorily on an extended programme, and, while the number of schools of both classes has not increased, the standard of work is advancing.

145. For providing teachers for Elementary schools, the two training centres, recently established at Katsina and Bauchi, are in full swing, while the College at Katsina still provides adequate African staff for the Middle schools.

146. The two girls' schools at Katsina and Kano are becoming increasingly popular, and it may be assumed that girls' education in the Northern Provinces has come to stay.

147. In the Southern Provinces, Elementary Training Centres are established at Ibadan, Warri, Uyo in Calabar Province, and Buea in the Cameroons, and it is hoped shortly to open another somewhere in the Owerri Province. These centres provide teachers for Elementary schools throughout the language area in which they are established. These teachers will be drafted out to Native Administration schools and, in some cases, to Mission schools where the Missions are prepared to co-operate with the Government in the training of this type of teacher.

148. The Government Middle Boarding Schools (secondary standard) at Ibadan and Umuahia passed out their first lot of pupils from Class 6, and most of these are proceeding to the Higher College. King's College also is sending some students. This College had a successful year, all the students, eight in number, who sat for the Oxford School Certificate passed the examination, most of them with distinctions in one or more subjects.

149. A large number of girls sat for the Entrance Examination at Queen's College, and those who reached the required standard were admitted. Parents are now beginning to appreciate the advantages of post-primary education for girls, and there are many more applications for entry than formerly. The Domestic Science Centre, attached to the school, which caters for pupils from all over Lagos, had a successful year. Nine girls' schools sent pupils, and there were also some private students.

150. Missionary Societies, who have relied for school funds on Church subscriptions and voluntary donations, in addition to Government grants, when earned, have been badly hit by the financial depression. It is probable that a considerable number of schools will be closed or that some linking up of schools, which are adjacent to each other, will take place. In the meantime, the Missions are following the Government in endeavouring to preserve a high standard, at whatever cost, in a limited number of Elementary and post-elementary schools, although the general level of education in Mission schools throughout Nigeria is bound to be adversely affected by the measures of retrenchment and curtailment which it has been found necessary to adopt.

151. At the end of 1930, the number of Government and Native Administration Schools was 191, with an enrolment of approximately 15,500; schools under other ownership--assisted 280, with enrolment of 55,500,—unassisted 2,866 with enrolment of 128,000. The totals were therefore 3,137 schools with

enrolment of 199,000. In addition, Koran schools in the Northern Provinces, not supervised by the Education Department, numbered 33,426 with an enrolment of 183,000.

152. It is estimated that nine *per cent.* of the children of school age are at school: if Koran schools are included, the percentage is seventeen.

153. The people of Nigeria have not advanced to that stage of civilisation where it has become necessary for the state to make provision for its destitute members. The family or clan is still a very vital force and its members look after and support one another, in sickness, old age or any other misfortune. For the same reason no provision is required for orphans all such being considered as part of the family of either their mother or father according to whether the tribe is matrilineal or patrilineal and, in the latter case, whether or not the husband has paid the bride price.

154. In addition to the family there are other indigenous forms of association particularly in the heavily populated Provinces of the south-east, such as the "company" or "age grade," and "title" societies, which perform the functions of provident societies, saving clubs and the like, assisting their members to bury their relatives and providing members who have been disowned by their families with proper funerals. Many of these associations also assist members who find themselves in financial difficulties, advancing them money with which to pay their debts or court fines, and in some cases going as far as hiring Lawyers to defend them in Court proceedings.

155. In the case of young men who find their way to the larger cities in search of employment, if they can find there no relatives or fellow countrymen with whom they can reside, they attach themselves to a prominent citizen or local chief, dwelling in his compound and entering into a relationship with him similar to that of Patron and client.

156. The ancient forms of recreation of the people, wrestling, and playing which includes mumming, dancing, singing and drumming show no signs of losing their popular appeal. Indeed it has been found necessary in all large townships to regulate the latter form of amusement by the issue of drumming licences.

157. At the same time the African takes readily to English games which he learns at school and continues when he has left whenever possible. Association Football and Cricket are the most popular and most universally indulged in—while Tennis forms the chief athletic recreation of the literate class. Athletics are encouraged by the presentation of Shields which are competed for by the various schools in a given area.

158. Encouragement is given in the pursuit of more intellectual recreation by the formation in the various educational centres of Old boys' and Old girls' Societies amongst pupils who have left school. These have regular meetings, and give concerts and dramatic entertainments from time to time.

159. The Boy Scout and Girl Guide Movement is well represented, there being at the end of 1930, eighty-two Scout Troops, twelve Wolf Cub Packs and two Rover Crews and several companies of Girl Guides.

CHAPTER X.

COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

160. *General.*—A Communications Board which includes the Chief Secretary (Chairman), the two Lieutenant-Governors and the Heads of the Marine, Railway and Public Works Departments, and advises the Government on arterial communication by road, rail, water and air, ensures a proper co-ordination of development proposals of all classes of communications.

A Ports Advisory Committee, with a Sub-Committee at Port Harcourt, advises the Governor on all matters pertaining to shipping and navigation within the ports, its functions being purely advisory. The Committee consists of the Chief Secretary (Chairman), the Heads of the Departments of Marine, Lands, Customs, Railway, and Harbour Department, with four unofficial members representing commercial interests.

MARINE.

161. The work performed by the Marine Department has been explained in some detail in the 1930 report. During the current year the customary services (dredging, Marine surveying, Waterway clearance, Buoyage and Lighting of the coast, Mail and Transport services) have been maintained, but the continued financial depression entailed the closing down of reclamation work at Port Harcourt and Iddo, and of Waterway clearing at the Niger Rapids.

POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS.

162. *Mails.*—Owing to trade conditions the former thrice monthly service of Messrs. Elder Dempster & Company, Limited, has been restricted to once each fortnight. Mails are however also conveyed to Europe as opportunity occurs by the steamers of the Woerman Linie and Holland West African Line. The internal main mail routes are operated by means of railway, motor transport or marine services. Subsidiary branch services are maintained by motor, carrier or canoe transport to all the outlying Post Offices connected with the main mail routes.

163. *Telegraphs.*—The principal transmitting offices are Lagos, Kaduna and Enugu which are inter-connected providing alternate channels in case of either one of the main lines being interrupted.

There are 100 Post Offices opened for telegraph business. Further developments in quadruplex working on main lines have resulted in the abolition of Wheatstone telegraph machines which have been in use for many years.

164. *Wireless.*—Wireless communication is installed between Lagos and Badagry and Buea, and early in 1932, wireless equipment will be installed at Bamenda and Mamfe. The Lagos wireless station receives all Empire Broadcast news. Shortage of staff has prevented a continuation of the experiments in Broadcasting from Lagos.

165. *Telephones.*—There are twenty-four Telephone Exchange centres in operation, trunk telephone service being available between—

- (a) Lagos and neighbouring exchanges with Abeokuta and Ibadan.
- (b) Port Harcourt and Aba.
- (c) Jos and Bukuru.
- (d) Victoria, Buea and Tiko.

AIR.

166. On the 5th of October a seaplane arrived from England in an attempt by an English Company to establish commercial flying in Nigeria and West Africa generally. After a certain amount of exhibition flights, the seaplane made visits to Port Harcourt, Calabar and stations in the Niger Delta. Recently it has been refitted as a land machine and has flown to Accra on the Gold Coast, and in the new year contemplates flights into the hinterland of Nigeria as a land machine.

RAILWAYS.

167. The total length of Open Lines is 1,905 miles of single track. Including sidings the total mileage amounts to 2,170 miles.

Extensions to the Ebute Metta Workshops, estimated to cost approximately £232,000, are progressing rapidly.

Good progress has been made on the regrading and relaying of the main line between Minna and Kaduna Junction, approval for which was received in December, 1930, and it is anticipated that earthworks will be completed in March, 1932. Buildings will probably be completed in June 1932, and track laying two months later. Ballasting will continue until March, 1933.

168. The progress made with the construction of the Benue Bridge by the contractors, Messrs. Sir William Arrol & Company, Limited, is considered entirely satisfactory. All piers of the bridge have been founded, the masonry work nearly completed, eleven spans out of a total of thirteen have been erected or are nearing completion, and preparations are in hand for the erection of the remaining two spans.

169. The gross earnings of the Railway during the financial year ending 31st March, 1931 were £2,154,731 or £537,930 less than the previous year.

The gross working expenditure amounted to £1,313,209, thus producing net receipts of £841,522. This amount was insufficient to cover interest charges amounting to £980,648 and the balance of £139,126 was obtained from the general revenue of the Colony.

170. The total number of passengers carried was 3,662,879, a decrease of 188,181, compared with the previous year; the tonnage of goods and minerals (including live stock) transported amounted to 761,582 tons, a decrease of 168,026 tons.

171. The estimated revenue for the calendar year, 1931 is placed at £1,862,497 and the approximate expenditure including interest on capital and the cost of various departmental services is anticipated to amount to £2,196,177.

172. There are 214 stations open for traffic.

173. On 1st July, 1931, special reduced rates for cocoa, tin, petrol and kerosene were introduced and a large number of commodities were put into lower classes. Books of Mile Coupon

Tickets for first class passengers at 3d. per mile were also introduced.

174. On 1st October, 1931, special rates of eighty shillings per ton to Apapa and Port Harcourt wharves and sixty shillings per ton to Baro were introduced for ground nuts booked from all stations Zaria, N'guru, Jos, Kaura Namoda inclusive. On 16th November, 1931, a special rate was introduced for ginned cotton booked between stations Zaria, Challowa, Duchinwai, Funtua, Gusau to Baro. Special return wagon rates for import and export traffic between Iddo, Apapa, Apapa Wharf and Ilorin were introduced on the 21st December and cheap return third class tickets in the same area in order to compete with road transport.

175. On the 31st December there were 273 locomotives and 4,170 passenger and goods vehicles on the books. A twin dining and kitchen car was received during the year and put into service on the Boat express.

176. In addition to the Motor Transport service which is maintained in the Zaria and Sokoto Provinces, a service was opened up at Kano as an experiment, on the 12th July, 1931, on the following routes, viz.:—Kano-Katsina with the Yashing-Funtua branch to Zaria, and Kano-Wudil road. It was the intention that this service would operate only for a month but the results being satisfactory it is still continued.

ROADS AND BRIDGES.

177. Owing to financial stringency no new roads have been constructed during the year. The total length of roads maintained by the Public Works Department is 3,620 miles. Of this total 120 miles are tarred, 2,200 miles are gravelled, and 1,300 miles are earth roads. In addition 149 miles of township roads are maintained. In spite of reduced funds existing roads have been maintained in a generally efficient state.

178. The Mariga Bridge (12 spans of 40 feet each) on the Zungeru-Kontagora Road was completed during the year. At Emene on the Enugu-Abakaliki Road, the previously existing wooden superstructure has been replaced by a bridge with two thirty-five feet and one seventy-five foot steel spans. The Mainyu Bridge, eleven spans of thirty feet and one span of 100 feet on the Mamfe-Bamenda Road, and the Gurara Bridge eleven spans of thirty feet on the Minna-Abuja Road are nearing completion. The Mensah Bridge in Oboho has been replaced by a bridge of 100 feet clear span. Pokku Bridge on the Kontagora-Yelwa-Sokoto Road is under construction.

179. *Carter Bridge.*—The maintenance of the old Bridge was continued. The anxiety over the condition of the Bridge was relieved when it was closed in October on the opening of the new Bridge, to which traffic was diverted. The construction of the new Bridge continued rapidly and was finished in October. The opening ceremony was performed by His Excellency the Governor, and Lady Cameron on the 22nd of October. The tonnage of steelwork erected was 2,724, making the total in the work 8,756 tons. The cost was £341,954. The average personnel employed consisted of eleven Europeans and 475 Africans. The demolition of the old Bridge was started in October and still progresses.

NATIVE ADMINISTRATIONS.

180. There are two classes of roads in the Northern Provinces: the "all-season" road which, except for a few short lengths, has gravel surfaces and bridges capable of carrying two four ton axle loads; and the "dry-season" road which is for the most part a rough cross country track with earth surfaces and temporary drifts or causeways at river and stream crossings and which can only be used between December and May. The Public Works Department maintains 1,013 miles of all-season road and the Native Administrations 2,492 and 7,365 miles of all-season and dry-season roads respectively.

181. The general economic situation has affected the traffic on the roads to a very marked extent and there has been a heavy reduction in motor transport and an increase in the cheaper forms of transport by camel and donkey. In normal times on all the main roads there is a fair volume of passenger traffic by regular services owned and worked by private European and African firms and individuals.

182. During the last twelve months the Zaria Native Administration has completed the carriage-way of the Kaduna-Jos road, of which the bridges were constructed by Government. The Abinsi Native Administration has undertaken the construction of a road from Makurdi to a point on the Oturkpo-Katsina Ala road. The Katsina-Jibia road is being re-aligned and converted to "all season" by the Katsina Native Administration. Existing all season roads are being maintained in good order as are most of the dry season roads but shortage of funds has compelled economies in this direction. The dry season road from Nguru, the terminus of the western line of the railway, to Gashua-Geidam and Maiduguri has been improved to carry a Railway motor service. The Katsina Native Administration has been conducting experiments with tarred wheel-tracks on their roads.

183. Bridges have been completed on the Lokoja-Oshogbo and the Abuja-Minna roads. The Jakaradi Bridge on the Kano-Daura road has been completed and it is now intended to proceed with the Tomas Bridge to secure all season communication between Kano and Daura and Zinder.

184. A new type of steel pontoon Ferry capable of carrying five tons have been designed and several have been installed.

185. In the Southern Provinces approximately 1,808 miles of all season roads and 135 of dry season roads are maintained by the Native Administrations. In the Ilaro Division the road to Idiroko on the Dahomey frontier has been completed and this will enable the land route from Lagos to Porto Novo to be opened for public use in the near future.

CHAPTER XI.

BANKING, CURRENCY, WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

186. *Banking.*—The Bank of British West Africa, Limited, and Barclay's Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas) have respectively twenty-three and ten branches established at stations throughout Nigeria, and Barclay's Bank has also a branch at Victoria in the Cameroons territory under British mandate.

187. There is a Post Office Savings Bank with facilities at 52 Post Offices, and it is gratifying to notice that in spite of the hard time through which the country is passing, the total amount on deposit has increased by 6.4% and the number of depositors by 18.8%.

There are no Agricultural or Co-operative Banks.

188. *Currency*.—The following coins and currency notes are current in Nigeria:—

British gold, silver and bronze coins; West African silver coins, of denominations 2s., 1s., 6d. and 3d.; West African alloy coins of the same denominations, and nickel bronze pence, half-pence and tenth-pence pieces.

West African currency notes of denominations £5, 20s., 10s., 2s. and 1s. The £5, 2s. and 1s. notes are being withdrawn, and very few remain in circulation.

West African silver coin to the value of £136,307 was withdrawn from circulation during the financial year 1930-31 and £143,086 was shipped to the United Kingdom to be melted down.

189. Owing to Inter-Colonial movements in coin and currency notes it is not possible to give an approximate total of the amounts in circulation in Nigeria but the totals for West Africa are recorded, as follows:—

	30th June, 1929.	30th June, 1930.	30th June, 1931.
	£	£	£
West African Silver Coin	2,228,482	2,081,038	1,860,590
" " Alloy Coin	10,042,542	9,075,991	6,327,436
" " Nickel Bronze Coin	587,524	595,464	599,464
" " Currency Notes	753,588	759,370	668,964

190. *Weights and Measures*.—The weights and measures in common use are the same as the Imperial weights and measures of Great Britain.

CHAPTER XII.

PUBLIC WORKS.

191. *Public Works Department—General*.—The Department undertakes Government engineering building and construction work throughout the whole of Nigeria, other than works controlled by Railway and Harbour Departments, Lagos Town Council and certain Native Administrations. Completion of the large earlier programmes and drastic reduction of recent construction programmes have necessitated heavy retrenchment in the staff, which has been reduced to the minimum necessary for administration of the Department and for maintenance of services for roads, bridges, buildings and various electric light and water undertakings in important towns. The Department is also

responsible for maintenance of mechanical and electrical plant, and motor vehicles for departments other than the Railway, Marine and Harbour Works Departments.

192. Woodworking and mechanical workshops are maintained in Lagos, with branch workshops at the more important stations, equipped to meet the demands of construction and maintenance services.

193. The Director of Public Works, with headquarters in Lagos, controls works throughout the Colony and Protectorate exclusive of those carried out by Native Administrations.

194. The numerical strength of the Department at the close of the year was 243 which included eighty-nine engineers and eighty-three inspectors (from which forty-three secondment posts were filled). In addition forty-eight officers were engaged in electrical and water supply undertakings and complementary mechanical services, seventeen in accounting and storekeeping duties and the remainder in connection with architectural branch or special investigations and construction works. The numbers are being further reduced.

195. A number of Native Administrations carry out similar works to those of the Department, under a system whereby officers included in Public Works establishment are seconded for this purpose. The Department is consulted by and assists Native Administrations in regard to works in general.

196. The greater part of the work of the Department has been carried out under the direct supervision of engineers and inspectors, who employ to a large extent local contractors under petty contracts. It is the policy of Government to encourage works by contract whenever possible, and certain works, chiefly buildings, have been carried out by comprehensive contracts.

197. Importance is attached to training and development of Africans for supervisory duties and departmental courses of instruction have been established for training technical staff. A three-year course of training for technical assistants is now being given by the Education Department with special reference to the requirements of Public Works Department in regard to African Technical Staff.

198. It is estimated that the total expenditure of the Public Works Department for the year ending 31st March, 1932, inclusive of Loan works and re-imbusement works will be £735,270 as compared with an actual expenditure for these items for year ending 31st March, 1931, of £999,648.

Roads and bridge works carried out by the Department are reported upon in Chapter X.—Communications and Transport.

199. *Buildings.*—Among the principal buildings carried out or completed were the African Hospital, Lagos, African Hospital, Zaria, Tsetse Investigation works, Gadau, including water and electrical services and the General Hospital, Abeokuta. Work is in progress on the following:—Vaccine Laboratory, Yaba, and Lunatic Asylum, Calabar. New school buildings were completed at Oke Suna, Lagos.

200. *Waterworks.*—The water supply for Lagos and Enugu has been improved and investigations are being made with a view to improving the supplies at Calabar and Port Harcourt.

201. *Electrical.*—Considerable improvements to the electrical distribution system in Lagos have been carried out during the year

and increased street lighting provided along the principal streets. An extensive electrical installation has been completed for the new African Hospital comprising the usual services and in addition up-to-date equipment for cooking and water heating. The electrification of the Marine Department's workshop at Apapa was completed during the year. The Kaduna electrical undertaking has been in complete operation for the greater part of the year 1931; A twenty-four-hours service is given. Small electrical installations at Gadau, Samaru, Moor Plantation, Calabar and Onitsha have been installed and maintained by staff provided by the Department.

CHAPTER XIII.

JUSTICE AND POLICE.

202. For the purpose of the administration of justice three Courts are established in Nigeria, viz. :—

The Supreme Court.

The Provincial Court.

The Native Courts.

203. The jurisdiction exercised by the Supreme Court and the proceedings therein, are regulated by the Supreme Court Ordinance. Its territorial jurisdiction is limited to the Colony and those parts of the Protectorate to which the Governor may by order in council declare the jurisdiction shall extend. In addition to this jurisdiction the Chief Justice has power to transfer certain causes and matters from the Provincial Court to the Supreme Court. The personnel of the Court consists of a Chief Justice and such judges as are appointed from time to time. In addition the Governor has power to appoint commissioners who exercise limited jurisdiction. Criminal causes in the Supreme Court are generally tried on information signed by the Attorney-General, Solicitor-General or a Crown Counsel, but trials before commissioners are conducted summarily.

204. The Provincial Court is constituted under the Provincial Courts Ordinance. A separate Court is established in each Province. The Court consists of the Resident of the Province, who has full jurisdiction, and certain other officers, styled commissioners, who have limited jurisdiction. Trials in the Provincial Court are conducted summarily. Sentences exceeding six months imprisonment passed by a Provincial Court cannot be carried out until they have been confirmed by the Governor who has delegated his powers to the Chief Justice and in the Northern Provinces to the Lieutenant-Governor (except in sentences of death which are confirmed by the Chief Justice before being considered by the Governor in Council). Legal Practitioners are not allowed to appear in any cause or matter before a Provincial Court. The Court may, with the consent of the Chief Justice, transfer any cause or matter before it to the Supreme Court. In civil proceedings an appeal lies to the Supreme Court.

205. The Native Court Ordinance provides for the constitution of Native Courts. The Resident may by warrant, and subject to the approval of the Governor, establish Native Courts at such places within his province as he may decide. The jurisdiction to be exercised by such Courts is defined by the warrant establishing

them. The law administered by Native Courts is the native law and custom prevailing in the territory over which the tribunal has jurisdiction. The Courts are further authorised to administer the provisions of certain Ordinances. All native tribunals are subject to control by the Provincial Court which has power to suspend, reduce or modify any sentence, or to order a rehearing or transfer any cause or matter before a Native Court to the Provincial Court.

206. The whole of the Protectorate is covered by the jurisdiction of the Native Courts. The powers of these Courts vary according to the development of the place in which they are situated and the intellectual capacity of their members. There are thus four grades of Court whose powers vary from that of three months imprisonment to full powers including the death sentence, which is, however, subject to the confirmation of the Governor. The following table shows the number of civil and criminal cases tried in the Native Courts for the year 1930 (figures for 1931 are not yet available).

Province.	Population.	No. of Native Courts.	No. of Criminal Cases.	No. of Civil Cases including Adultery.
Adamawa	652,693	44	3,252	7,523
Bauchi	1,010,786	51	3,284	17,567
Benue	926,526	75	4,798	9,226
Bornu	1,112,236	39	1,817	5,958
Ilorin	511,890	36	1,450	5,087
Kabba	464,976	39	3,653	6,499
Kano	2,451,936	43	6,898	44,119
Niger	456,683	45	2,137	3,656
Plateau	540,361	53	4,016	7,236
Sokoto	1,824,349	59	3,702	12,554
Zaria	1,829,719	41	4,573	21,040
Total, Northern Provinces ...	11,282,155	525	39,610	140,465
Abeokuta	440,905	36	4,143	9,754
Benin	477,807	44	13,155	17,466
Calabar	974,436	44	9,548	48,315
Cameroons	379,050	40	4,242	9,867
Ijebu	306,810	22	2,972	3,712
Ogoja	673,915	29	6,548	8,175
Ondo	491,964	35	5,851	8,555
Onitsha	1,121,947	37	7,701	8,741
Owerri	1,797,976	48	19,473	33,328
Oyo	1,136,200	32	3,279	17,402
Warri	448,398	49	8,082	12,799
Total, Southern Provinces ...	8,248,908	416	84,894	178,114
Total, Northern and Southern Provinces	19,531,063	941	124,504	318,579

207. A statement is appended showing the number of offences brought before the Supreme and Provincial courts during the ten months from 1st January to 31st October, 1931:—

SUMMARY OF OFFENCES.

Description.	Northern Provinces.	Southern Provinces.	Colony.	Total.
Offences against the person	152	921	470	1,543
" " property	523	1,725	919	3,197
" " Currency	15	83	32	130
" " Public Order, Law and Morality	321	957	655	1,933
Miscellaneous Offences	1,373	4,420	2,624	8,417
Total	2,384	8,106	4,730	15,220

POLICE.

207. The Nigeria Police Force is divided into three Administrative Areas:—the Northern Area under the command of an Assistant Inspector-General with Headquarters at Kaduna, the Southern Area under the command of an Assistant Inspector-General with Headquarters at Enugu and the Colony under the command of a Commissioner of Police. These three officers are all directly responsible to the Inspector-General of Police whose Headquarters are in Lagos.

209. In response to the demand for economy to meet the present financial situation, it was found possible to reduce the strength of the Northern Provinces Police by fifty-five rank and file, but owing to disturbances which took place in the South-eastern Provinces during 1929 and 1930 and to the rapid growth of certain townships, it was considered necessary to increase the strength of the Police in the Southern Provinces. Provision was therefore made for the additional personnel and buildings required to establish two Reserve Depôts each consisting of three officers and 100 rank and file, a Training Depôt for 100 recruits at Enugu and an additional 102 rank and file to supplement the police detachments at Port Harcourt, Aba, Enugu and Udi. The total number of personnel required to give effect to these increases was fourteen European Officers and 426 other ranks. Owing to the urgent need for economy due to the present financial depression it was decided that the completion of the above scheme should be delayed. Consequently, the formation of only one of the two Reserve Depôts has been proceeded with, and the recruitment of 100 constables for the establishment of the Training Depôt has also been postponed.

210. A disturbing feature in the Crime Reports is the sudden outbreak in the provinces of Calabar, the Cameroons and Owerri of illicit distillation of spirits. This offence was practically unknown in Nigeria till about the middle of the year, since when the capture on several occasions of locally distilled spirits and native stills tends to show that the trade threatens to assume alarming proportions. Active measures are being taken to combat this vice and many convictions have already resulted.

211. The Preventive Services on the Eastern and Western Frontiers continue to perform satisfactory work in the prevention and detection of smuggling. The strength of the Eastern Preventive Force, however, had proved inadequate for the effective patrol of the long line of Frontier under its control and provision was made in the current estimates for an additional fifty rank and file for this purpose. These men have recently completed their training and are now posted to the Frontier stations for duty.

212. A case of murder by arsenical poisoning which occurred at Lagos is noteworthy as being probably the first of its kind in this country. A man named Marcellino George, a student at the Yaba School of Medicine, was found guilty at the Lagos Assizes in November of the murder of his father, by administering arsenic in his food. Six other members of his family also died about the same time from arsenical poisoning.

PRISONS.

213. There are two types of prisons in Nigeria:—

- (a) Native Administration Prisons.
- (b) Government Prisons.

NATIVE ADMINISTRATION PRISONS.

214. There is at least one Native Administration prison at each Native Administration Centre in the Northern Provinces, and such prisons are also maintained at the following stations in the Southern Provinces:—Abeokuta, Ijebu Ode, Oyo, Ibadan, Ilesha and Oshogbo. These prisons accommodate prisoners sentenced in the Native Courts; they are controlled by the Native Administration concerned under the supervision of Government Administrative Staff.

215. The daily average of persons detained in them is about 5,330 (4,800 Northern Provinces, 530 Southern Provinces). Their sizes differ greatly, from the Kano Central Prison with nearly a thousand inmates to others where the daily average is below ten. They are constantly inspected by medical and administrative officers and the utmost attention is paid to the conditions under which the prisoners live and work. In spite of this owing to the diseased and debilitated condition of the convicts on admission, the death rates in some localities of the Northern Provinces are high, the average rate in these Provinces being 36.68 per mille. In the Southern Provinces the health of the prisoners and discipline of the staff have proved entirely satisfactory.

GOVERNMENT PRISONS.

216. These are organised as two departments, one for the Northern and one for the Southern Provinces.

217. The Prisons Department in the former is under the control of the Inspector-General of Police, but has its own complement of European Superintendents and Assistant Superintendents, African Warders and Clerical Staff. Three prisons are maintained at Kaduna, Lokoja and Jos with accommodation for 260, 222 and 102 prisoners respectively. They serve to accommodate prisoners sentenced in the Supreme and Provincial Courts. The buildings are of permanent construction and contain separate accommodation for female prisoners, infirmaries and a

certain number of separate cells. The Iokoja Government Prison also includes a Government Lunatic Asylum. The health of the prisoners is good; there have been only four deaths for the eleven months ending 30th November, 1931, as compared with ten during 1930.

218. The Prison Department, Southern Provinces, is under the control of a Director of Prisons. Two types of prisons are maintained:—

- (a) Convict Prisons which accommodate all classes of prisoners including those with sentences of two years and over.
- (b) Provincial and Divisional Prisons which accommodate all classes of prisoners except convicts with sentences of two years and over.

Both types accommodate prisoners sentenced by the Supreme, Provincial and Native Courts.

219. At the close of the year there are forty-five prisons being maintained by Government in the Southern Provinces and Colony. Of this number five are Convict Prisons, eight Provincial Prisons, and thirty-two Divisional Prisons. The Convict Prisons are of "permanent" construction and are situated at Abeokuta, Calabar, Enugu, Lagos and Port Harcourt. The remainder are of semi-permanent or temporary construction and are situated at the various Provincial and Divisional headquarters in the Southern Provinces. Convict Prisons are in charge of Superintendent or Assistant Superintendent of the Prisons Department, Southern Provinces, the remainder are in charge of Members of the Administrative Staff acting as Superintendents and Assistant Superintendents.

220. The total Prison Population carried on the registers for the year 1930 was 40,184, made up as follows:—

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females</i>
Under Warrants of the Supreme Court	5,989	269
" " " " Provincial Court	6,529	523
" " " " Native Courts	23,283	3,591

(Figures for 1931 are not yet available). The daily average number of prisoners locked up for the same year was 7173.48.

221. The general health of the prisoners is good. The diet scale is ample and with the exception of those suffering from some disease on admission, there are few prisoners who do not put on weight while serving a sentence.

222. There is a Mark System in force in the Southern Provinces and Colony whereby prisoners serving a sentence of two years or more may earn by good work and conduct a maximum remission of one-fourth of their sentence.

223. With the exception of medical classification as to fitness for hard labour or otherwise no system of classification has been in force in the Southern Provinces and Colony. During 1931, however, the separate ward system, suggested by the Committee on Prison Administration, Colonial Office Conference 1930, has been introduced in the Convict Prisons. This form of separation, though not absolute, should go far toward preventing contamination as prisoners only come in contact with each other during working hours where they are under close supervision.

These Prisons have all a certain amount of single cell accommodation but the general accommodation is the association cell.

224. Instructions was continued in the following trades and the articles made by the convicts were up to the usual high standard:—

Tinsmithing.	Bricklaying.
Blacksmithing.	Printing.
Carpentry.	Basket making.
Tailoring.	Furniture making.
Boot and Shoe repairing.	Cloth weaving.
Brickmaking.	Mat making.

JUVENILE PRISONERS.

225. There is no special provision made for this class of prisoner and very few are committed to prison by the Native, Provincial or Supreme Courts. Juvenile offenders are either placed on probation or light corporal punishment is administered. They are even more rarely confined in the Native Administration or Divisional prisons.

226. Legislation for the treatment of Juvenile Offenders exists in the Native Children (Custody and Reformation) Ordinance, 1917, which is in process of revision and enlargement so that effect may be given to the Recommendations of the Colonial Office 1930 Conference Committee "Z." on Juvenile Offenders.

PAYMENT OF FINES.

227. Native and Provincial Courts always allow ample time for payment of fines. There is no provision for probation in the Native Courts except for juvenile offenders. The proportion of imprisonment to fines is shown in the following table for the year 1931:—

	Fined.	Imprisoned.	Total Pro-secutions.
Provincial Court, Northern Provinces ...	237	219	577
" " Southern " ...	4,315	2,449	9,977
Native Courts, Northern Provinces ...	(Figures not yet available)		49,500
" " Southern " ...	45,656	21,875	131,916

CHAPTER XIV.

LEGISLATION.

228. The following are the more important enactments during the year.

ORDINANCES.

229. The Education (Colony and Southern Provinces) (Amendment) Ordinance, 1931 (No. 7 of 1931) provides that the Board of Education for the Colony and Southern Provinces shall be more representative of missions and other educational agencies working in the Colony and Southern Provinces, and the Board is empowered to delegate some of its duties to committees. Provision is also made for the inspection of schools by officers of the Education Department and for the visiting of schools by members of the Board of Education and political officers.

230. The Tin (Production and Export Restriction) Ordinance, 1931 (No. 10 of 1931) and The Tin (Export from Nigeria) Ordinance, 1931 (No. 12 of 1931) gave effect to the terms of the Convention between various tin producing countries for the restriction of the production of tin.

231. The Education (Northern Provinces) Ordinance, 1931 (No. 11 of 1931) repealed the Mission Schools (Northern Provinces) Ordinance and the Education (Northern Provinces) Ordinance of 1926 and reproduced the provision of those Ordinances with certain amendments and modifications. It simplified the procedure with regard to the control of schools and ensured the adequate representations on the Board of Education for the Northern Provinces of mission and educational agencies.

232. The Public Health (Amendment) Ordinance, 1931 (No. 16 of 1931), amends section 45 of the Public Health Ordinance so as to permit the making of a rule prescribing the maximum number of persons that may occupy any given room or premises.

233. The Shipping and Navigation (Amendment) (No. 2) Ordinance, 1931 (No. 17 of 1931). The Ordinance enacts that provisions similar to those governing boats in the Colony under the Shipping and Navigation Ordinance shall apply to canoes in the Protectorate which carry passengers when towed by steam vessels.

234. The West African Currency Notes (Amendment) Ordinance, 1931 (No. 19 of 1931) made specific provision for the punishment of attempts to procure the forging of West African Currency Notes in Nigeria or elsewhere.

235. The Non-Natives Income Tax (Protectorate) Ordinance, 1931 (No. 21 of 1931). The Ordinance extends to the Protectorate income tax levied on non-natives at the rates imposed by the Income Tax (Colony) Ordinance, 1927.

236. The Income Tax (Colony) (Amendment) Ordinance, 1931 (No. 22 of 1931) brings the provisions of the Income Tax (Colony) Ordinance, 1927, into line with those of the Non-Natives Income Tax (Protectorate) Ordinance, 1931.

237. The Mohammodu (Detention) Ordinance, 1931 (No. 24 of 1931), empowers the Governor to arrest and detain during His Majesty's pleasure Mohammodu, the ex-Sarkin Musulmi, ex-Sultan of Sokoto.

SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION.

238. Regulations No. 5. of 1931 made under The Native Courts Ordinance give full jurisdiction to Native Courts in all matrimonial causes other than those arising from or connected with a Christian marriage.

239. Regulations No. 6 of 1931 made under The Education (Colony and Southern Provinces) Ordinance, 1926, prescribe the duties of managers of assisted schools, and make provision for the keeping of Records and the giving of Religious Instruction in such schools.

240. Regulations No. 22 of 1931 provide the free medical treatment by Government Medical Officers of mission education Supervisors, teachers at Government assisted schools and school children.

241. Order in Council No. 5 of 1931 made under the Census Ordinance directed that a census of the inhabitants of the Township of Lagos and the Northern Provinces should be taken.

242. Legislation for the protection of workers is principally contained in the following:—

(a) Regulations under the Minerals Ordinance with the object of securing the maximum degree of safety in mining; they stipulate the conditions under which mining operations may be carried out. The Ordinance enacts that all accidents involving loss of life or serious injury to any person shall be reported, and provision is made for the holding of an inquiry into the cause of the accident, and the award of compensation to the injured person, or, in case of death, to his dependents.

(b) The Labour Ordinance No. 1 of 1929 regulating the procedure with regard to the recruitment of labour and the formation and interpretation of contracts. Provision is made for the payment of compensation in the case of personal injury by accident arising out of and in the course of employment. The regulations made under the Ordinance ensure that employers make arrangements for the hospital accommodation and medical treatment of employees in case of sickness.

CHAPTER XV.

PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

243. The Revenue and Expenditure for the past five years, including that of the Nigerian Railway, were as follows:—

Year.	True Revenue.	True Expenditure.	Expenditure on Loan Works.
	£	£	£
1926-27 ...	7,734,429	7,584,692	1,016,162
1927-28 ...	8,728,451	9,147,530	959,777
1928-29 ...	8,429,308	9,395,749	1,429,022
1929-30 ...	8,703,165	8,947,707	794,862
1930-31 ...	7,847,554	8,555,022	863,403

244. The Revenue and Expenditure for the six months, April to September, 1931, excluding the net deficit of the Nigerian Railway amounted to £1,940,908 and £3,020,418 respectively. The expenditure actually charged to the 1927 and 1930 Loan Funds during the period were £8,455 and 355,480 respectively. From figures available it is estimated that revenue (revised) for the current financial year, 1931-32 will fall short of the estimated expenditure (revised) by £1,505,230 instead of £232,071 as anticipated when the 1931-32 Budget was framed. This largely increased deficit is due to the fall in Revenue, owing to continued general trade depression resulting in great reduction of Customs duties.

245. *Debt.*—The Public Debt at 30th September, 1931, amounted to £28,350,582 and the accumulated Sinking Funds amounted to £3,967,587. This sum includes the Supplementary Sinking Fund of £1,288,953 which is treated as an Appropriated Fund in the Balance Sheet of Nigeria. Full provision is made for

the amortisation of all loans by annual contributions to the Sinking Funds. Contributions to the Sinking Fund for the 1930 Loan will begin on 1st August, 1933, as stated in the Loan Prospectus.

246. All Nigerian Stocks rank as Trustee Securities and are quoted on the London Stock Exchange. They are as follows, showing the middle market price quoted on 30th November, 1931:—

1.	£4,045,593—	Southern Nigeria	3½%	Inscribed Stock	1930/55	quoted at 77½.
2.	£6,363,226—	Nigeria	6%	Inscribed Stock	1949/79	quoted at 103½.
3.	£3,200,390—	„	6%	Inscribed Stock	1936/46	quoted at 102½.
4.	£5,700,000—	„	4%	Inscribed Stock	1963	quoted at 82½.
5.	£4,250,000—	„	5%	Inscribed Stock	1947/57	quoted at 98½.
6.	£4,791,373—	„	5%	Inscribed Stock	1950/60	quoted at 98½.

247. The Annual Charges for the service of the Public Debt, on account of Interest and Sinking Fund amounted in the year 1930/31 to £1,833,136, of which the Railway contributed £821,981, interest only.

248. *Assets.*—The excess of Assets over Liabilities at 30th September, 1931, was £2,657,298. This is £1,079,510 less than the true Surplus at the beginning of the financial year 1931-32, of £3,736,808. This difference, £1,079,510, is the amount by which the Expenditure of Nigeria exceeded the Revenue (exclusive of the Railway) during the six months April to September, 1931. The net deficit of the Railway for the same period was £307,672.

249. The Balance Sheet of the Colony is published monthly in the *Nigeria Gazette*, and from the Balance Sheet at 30th September, 1931, it may be seen that the Surplus Assets of the Colony were approximately as follows:—

	£
Cash in hand and at Bank (All Sub-Treasuries), Imprests, and Remittances in transit	205,000
Investments	1,377,000
Stores	243,000
Advanced to Railway	780,000
Other Advances, less Miscellaneous Deposits	52,000
	£2,657,000

250. Other Assets, appropriated to specific services, and invested are:—

	£
Supplementary Sinking Fund	1,288,953
Railway Renewals Fund	423,062
Railway Provident Fund	295,519
Marine Renewals Fund	39,909
Reserve for Stamp Duty on Stock Transfers	90,324

Other Funds Invested include the unexpended balance of loan funds amounting to £1,944,941.

251. *Taxation.*—An income tax of one per cent, is levied the incomes of all non-natives throughout the Colony and Protectorate. A graduated income tax not exceeding one per cent.

is levied on the incomes of Africans resident in the Colony. The Natives of the Northern and Southern Provinces in the Protectorate pay direct taxes per adult male and also a cattle tax. These taxes are collected by the various Native Administrations throughout Nigeria and are then divided in varying proportions between Government and Native Administrations.

252. The Actual Revenue received by the Central Government from Direct Taxation in the financial year 1930-31 was:—

		£
General Tax, Northern Provinces	... ..	385,215
Cattle Tax, " "	... ..	95,941
General Tax, Southern Provinces	... ..	305,883
Cattle Tax, " "	... ..	853
Income Tax	... ..	22,658
		£810,450

253. *Customs Tariff (Summarised).*—The first schedule to the Customs Tariff Ordinance enumerates a list of articles under forty-five headings (exclusive of sub-divisions) on which import duties are imposed. The duties are mainly, fifteen *per cent. ad valorem* on articles such as provisions, woven goods, hardware, earthenware and glassware, cutlery, furniture, musical instruments, etc., and a specific rate on alcoholic liquor (beer and stout 2s. the imperial gallon, wines 6s. to 10s. the imperial gallon, gin 27s. 6d., other spirits 33s. 6d. and 35s.) firearms 12s. 6d. each and ammunition 2s. 6d. and 5s. per hundred rounds, cement 3d. the 100 lb., salt 2s. 6d. the 100 lb., soap 4s. the 100 lb., sugar 2s. the 100 lb., tobacco unmanufactured 2s. the lb., manufactured 4s. the lb., cigars 8s. the hundred, cigarettes 2s. the hundred, etc.

254. There is an export duty on cocoa (£1 3s. 4d. the ton) palm kernel oil (£2 the ton) palm kernels (18s. the ton) and palm oil (£1 4s. the ton).

255. Regulations made under the Minerals Ordinance provide for a royalty on tin ore exported which varies according to the price, on gold (4s. the ounce troy) and on other mineral ores an *ad valorem* rate varying from one to five *per centum*.

256. *Excise and Stamp Duties.*—No excise duties are levied in Nigeria. The Revenue derived from Licences and Stamp Duties, in the year 1930/31 was as follows:—

		£
Licences, Game	... ..	567
" Liquor	... ..	12,434
" Motor Vehicles	... ..	55,455
" Guns, etc.	... ..	2,050
" Miscellaneous	... ..	1,960
Stamp Duties	... ..	9,946
		£82,412

257. *Native Administrations.*—The various Native Administrations throughout Nigeria have their own Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure, deriving their revenue principally from a proportion of direct taxes, varying from fifty to seventy *per cent.* of the totals collected as mentioned in section 251. The totals of actual revenue and expenditure for 1930/31 of all the Native Administrations together were £1,666,143 and £1,734,751

respectively—a difference of £68,608. This excess of expenditure over revenue (£68,608) was accounted for from the Surplus Balances of the Native Administrations which at the beginning of the financial year, 1930-31, stood at £1,806,068 and at the end were accordingly reduced to £1,737,460. The estimated totals of revenue and expenditure of all the Native Administrations for 1931/32 are £1,731,247 and £1,780,161 respectively.

NORTHERN PROVINCES.

258. There are in the Northern Provinces fifty-eight Native Treasuries which deal with the funds of their Native Administrations. The principal source of their incomes is from taxation of which the Native Administration share, for the financial year 1930/31 was £737,325: the cattle tax produced £197,884 as the Native Administration share. The total Native Administration Revenue for that year was £1,069,693 and the Expenditure (which included disbursement on capital works financed from reserves) £1,133,249. The total of the Surplus at the end of March, 1931 was £1,346,379 of which £606,873 was invested in England.

259. The system of direct taxation is that of a "graduated income tax" which has taken the place of the various forms of taxation found operating in the country on its first occupation by the British. The assessment of this tax is undertaken by the Administrative Staff and is one of their most important duties. The area of the land ordinarily cultivated by a village is first ascertained and the average market value of the produce from it together with the amount and value of special irrigation crops is calculated. The village livestock is then counted and in consultation with the District and Village Headmen the assessing officer endeavours to arrive at an equitable assessment of the non-agricultural portion of the community, *i.e.*, the craftsmen and traders. When the total amount due from the agricultural and industrial groups of the village is decided, it is apportioned by the Village Head assisted by the Elders among the tax-paying adults, so that each man pays according to his income.

260. The tax is collected by the Village Headman, usually after harvest, and remitted to the District Headman who pays in the total to the central Native Treasury of the Emirate or other unit. Receipts are issued to the individual and the Village Headman is paid as salary a proportion of the tax collected by him. The incidence of the taxation varies very considerably with the conditions of different localities being in some areas less than 3s. and in others exceeding 15s. per adult tax-paying male.

SOUTHERN PROVINCES.

261. The assessment and collection of taxes in the Southern Provinces are carried out in accordance with the statutory provisions contained in the Native Revenue Ordinance, Chapter 74 of the Laws of Nigeria. There are three main forms of assessment of tax:—

- A.—Assessment of the average income of the adult male resulting in the imposition of a flat rate of tax.
- B.—A more detailed assessment of the incomes of classes of the community, *e.g.*, goldsmiths, and of individual members.
- C.—Assessment of a community in a lump sum.

262. The first form of assessment is common to almost every Native Administration area in the Southern Provinces. Inquiries are instituted into the average annual gross income of the peasant farmer, who is taken as the standard because he forms the bulk of the male adults of the Southern Provinces, and the rate of tax for the area is worked out on a basis of approximately $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the average annual gross income. For example, if the average income were estimated at £12, the tax would be 6s. per adult male, and this flat rate, though it may appear to be a poll tax, is in reality a rudimentary form of income tax, inasmuch as a very large proportion of the community have an almost identical income. The number of adult males in the area to be assessed is then ascertained, and the flat rate of tax and the total sum required are communicated to the Village Council, and made widely public.

263. As regards B, assessment is carried to a point which enables the average annual incomes of typical members of various trades and professions to be ascertained, and special rates of tax are fixed accordingly for them, either inclusive of or additional to the flat rate referred to above. A graduated scale of income tax is also introduced for the wealthier members of these communities, notably salaried employees whose incomes are readily ascertainable. In certain areas, such as the Ekiti Division of the Ondo Province, the system has been carried to its logical conclusion of a separate assessment of the income of each individual adult male in the community.

264. In the Ijebu and Abeokuta Provinces a tax is also imposed on women, but the combined rate of tax on adult males and females is much the same as that on adult males only in the neighbouring Provinces.

265. As regards C, in certain areas of the Cameroons Province the system known as "lump sum assessment" has been introduced with the consent of the people with great success. The total wealth and population of each taxable unit, whether quarter or village or group of villages, is ascertained and a sum approximating to $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the gross annual income of the unit is declared to be the amount of tax due from that unit. The Village Head and Elders are then informed of the amount of tax due and the approximate incidence per adult male, but full discretion is given to them to distribute the burden according to the capacity to pay, since they alone have an intimate knowledge of the relative degree of prosperity of each individual.

266. As regards the collection of tax the aim of the Native Revenue Ordinance is that this duty should be performed as far as possible by the native organisations. The tax therefore is paid by each individual through his family, quarter, and Village Heads, and in areas where there is a Head Chief or District Head, the tax for each village is handed over to him by the Village Heads, and paid by him into the Native Treasury in a lump sum. Where there is no District Head each Village Head pays the tax collected direct into the Native Treasury, and as a general rule tax payable by an individual is only accepted through the recognised channels.

267. *Rate and Yield of Native Administration Taxes in Southern Provinces.*—The flat rates vary from 1s. in the poorest districts to 10s. in the wealthiest areas, the average being about 5s. Rates of tax on specified trades vary from 7s. 6d. to 50s., while

fixed incomes are rated on a percentage basis. The total yield of tax in the Southern Provinces for the year 1930-31 was £678,788, including £1,788 from cattle tax. Of this total £303,794 accrued to Government, and £374,994 to the Native Administrations.

CHAPTER XVI.

MISCELLANEOUS.

ARRIVALS.

268. His Excellency the Governor Sir Donald Cameron arrived in Nigeria on the 17th of June, 1931.

269. The world wide trade depression has had its inevitable effects on the prosperity of the population of Nigeria. Prices for palm produce reached an extremely low level but, following on the depreciation of sterling, there has been a general, if slight, revival in trade in the latter months of the year.

270. The depression in trade necessitated a reduction in taxation rates in various provinces in the South.

271. At one time there was threat of a food shortage in some areas of the Northern Provinces following on the locust invasion of 1930 and the Native Administrations bought and placed on the market over 2,500 tons of corn. The position was worst in the areas of the Zaria and Niger Provinces where the pagan population has as its staple foodstuff certain grass-like seeds which are readily and completely devoured by the locusts. The importation of corn was sufficient to tide over the shortage until the new harvest which has been plentiful.

272. The sewerage scheme for Lagos has had to be postponed owing to the financial difficulties in which the country finds itself but much slum clearance work has been achieved and the Yaba Estate on the mainland is at last showing signs of development.

273. The German Cruiser *Emden* arrived at Lagos on the 12th of October leaving on the 19th of the same month. Her visit coincided with that of H.M.S. *Cardiff* with Vice-Admiral Tweedie the Commander in Chief Africa Station. The *Emden* is the first German Cruiser to visit Lagos since the visit of S.M.S. *Panther* in 1914.

274. The second Council of Northern Provinces Chiefs assembled at Kaduna in November and was formally opened by the Governor.

275. In the Northern Provinces the most important political incident of the year was the abdication of the Sultan of Sokoto, in January. It was believed that he had used his authority to procure miscarriages of justices, which were under investigation when he announced that he did not wish to continue to hold the position he had inherited. Apart from these charges, he had lost the support of his people and had incurred the odium of his fellow Emirs through practices not countenanced by the Mohammedan religion. His resignation was accepted. Shortly afterwards he retired to French Territory and finally reached Niamey where he resided for some time. In November he returned to Sokoto and was removed

to Kaduna under a deportation order. At the Council of Chiefs the strongest disapprobation of his conduct was expressed by the assembled Emirs.

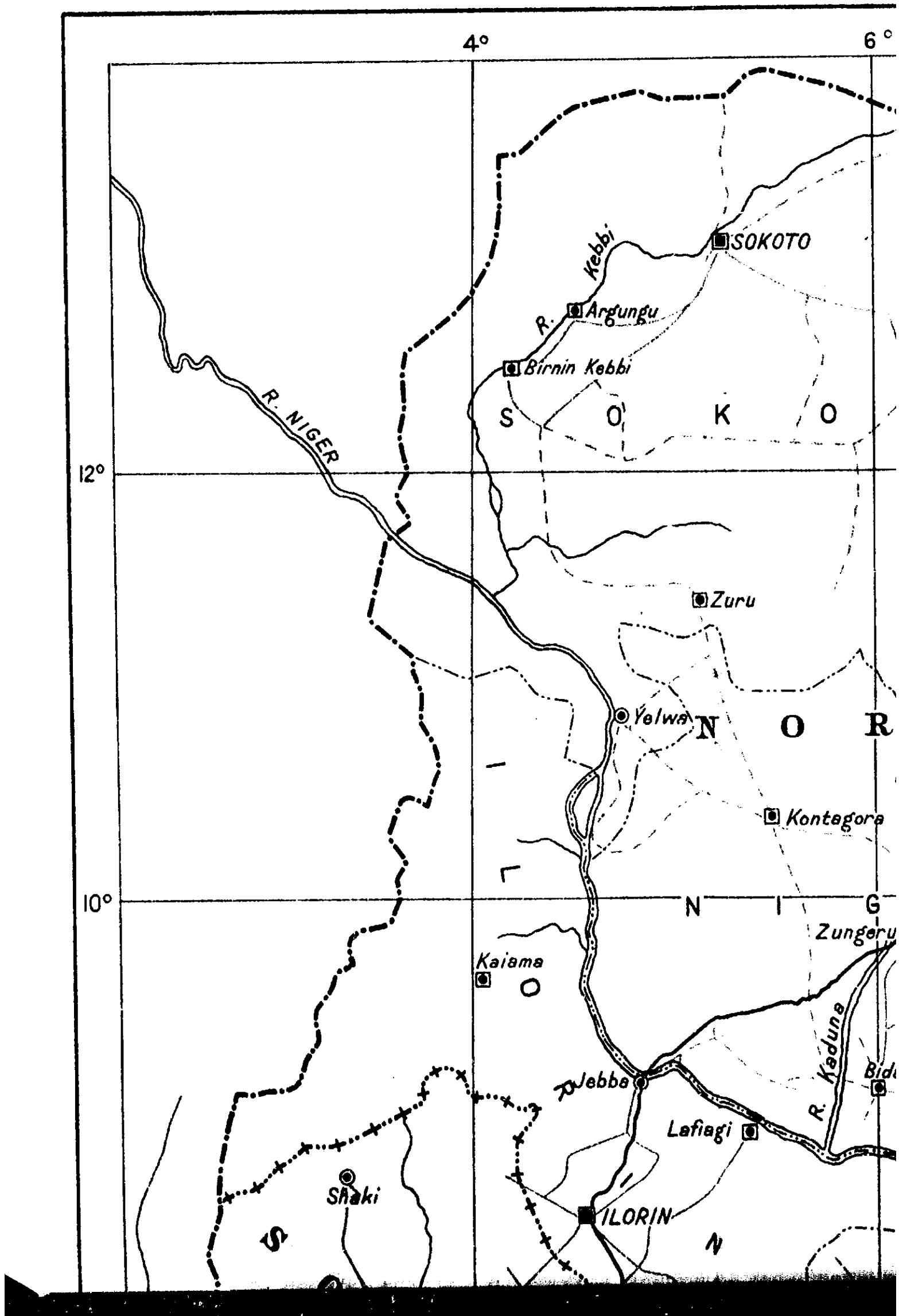
276. The failure of the Industrial and Commercial Bank, caused much distress in Ibadan and in the neighbouring district, while, through the dishonesty of the Secretary of the Ibadan Planters' Association, the farmers were cheated to the extent of £13,000. The Secretary was tried and sentenced to five years' imprisonment with hard labour on charges of embezzlement.

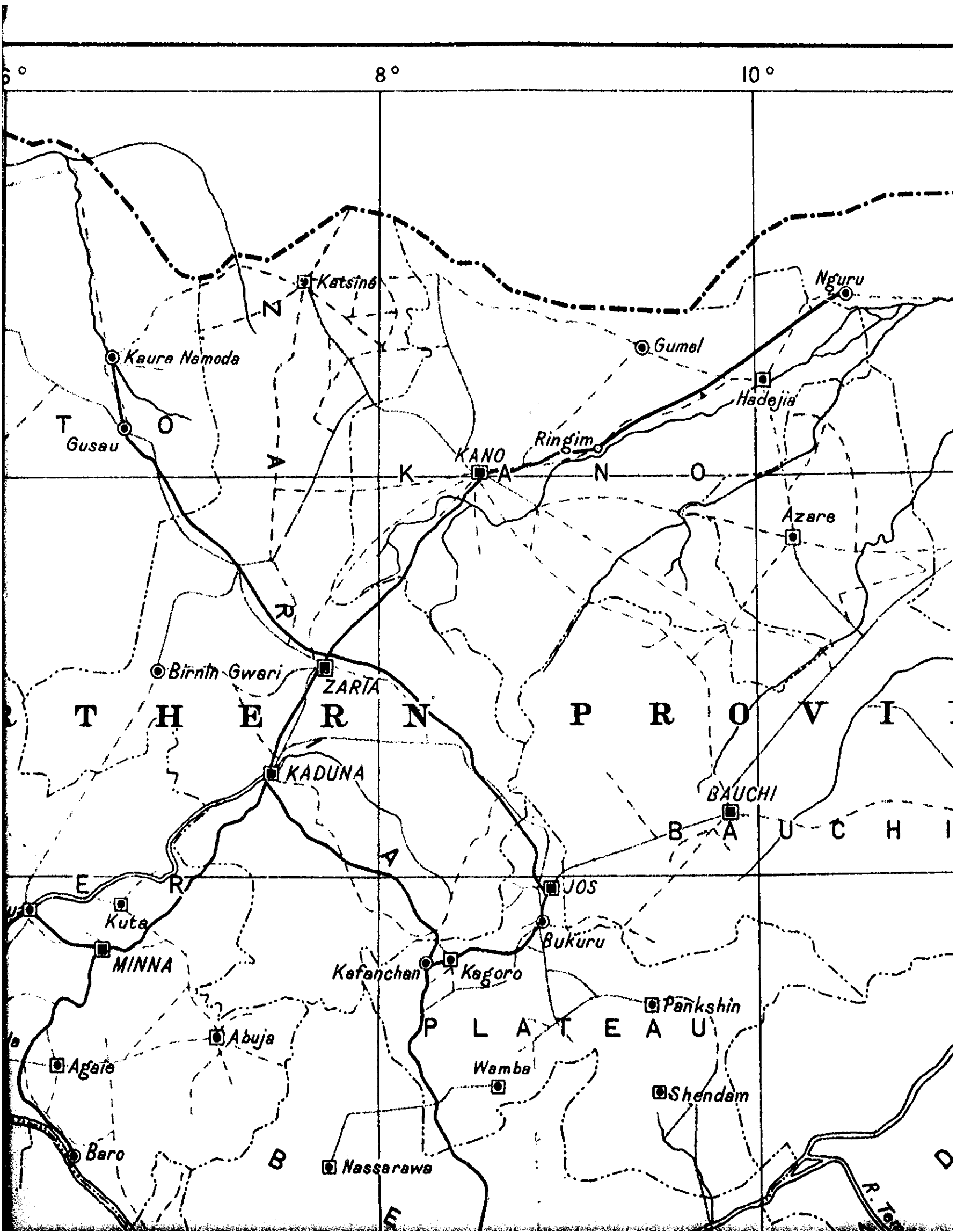
277. The reorganisation of Warri Province on tribal lines has continued throughout the year and approaches the end of the first stage, namely the institution of Native Administrations on a clan basis, leaving for 1932 the formation of larger groups and the re-arrangement of Divisional boundaries. The reorganisation is popular and the progress achieved is highly satisfactory.

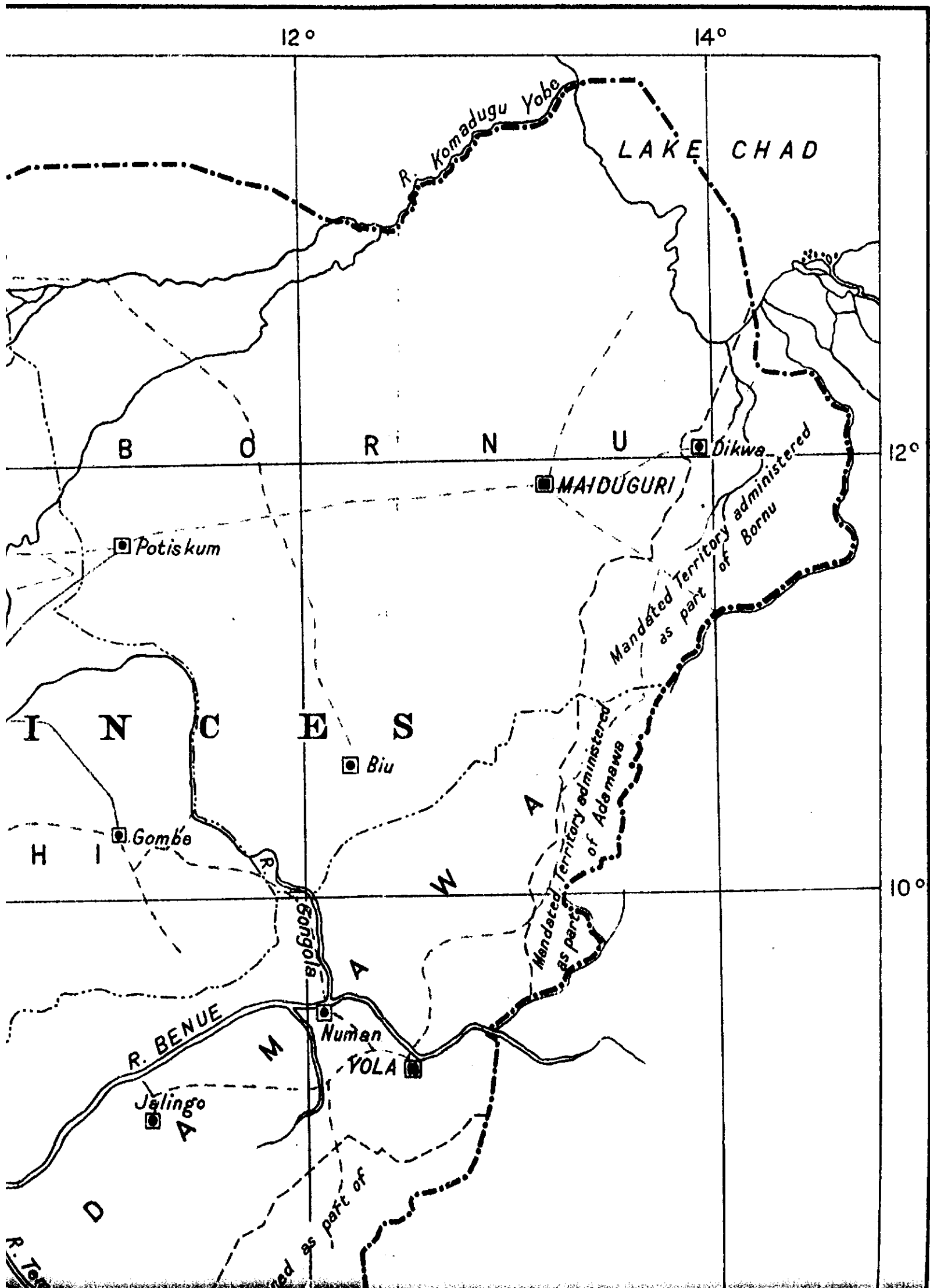
G. I. JONES,
Assistant Secretary.

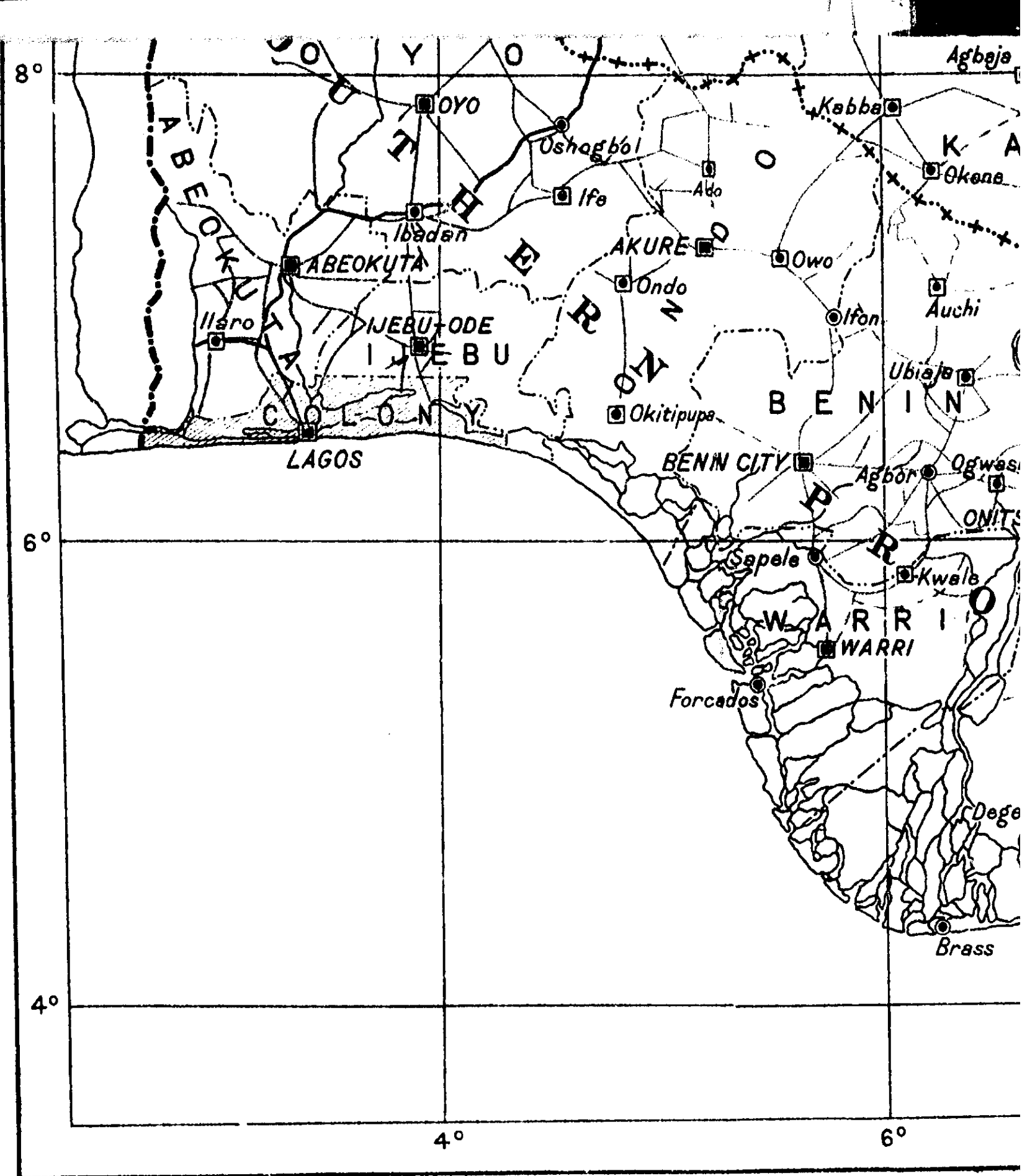
Chief Secretary's Office,
Lagos.

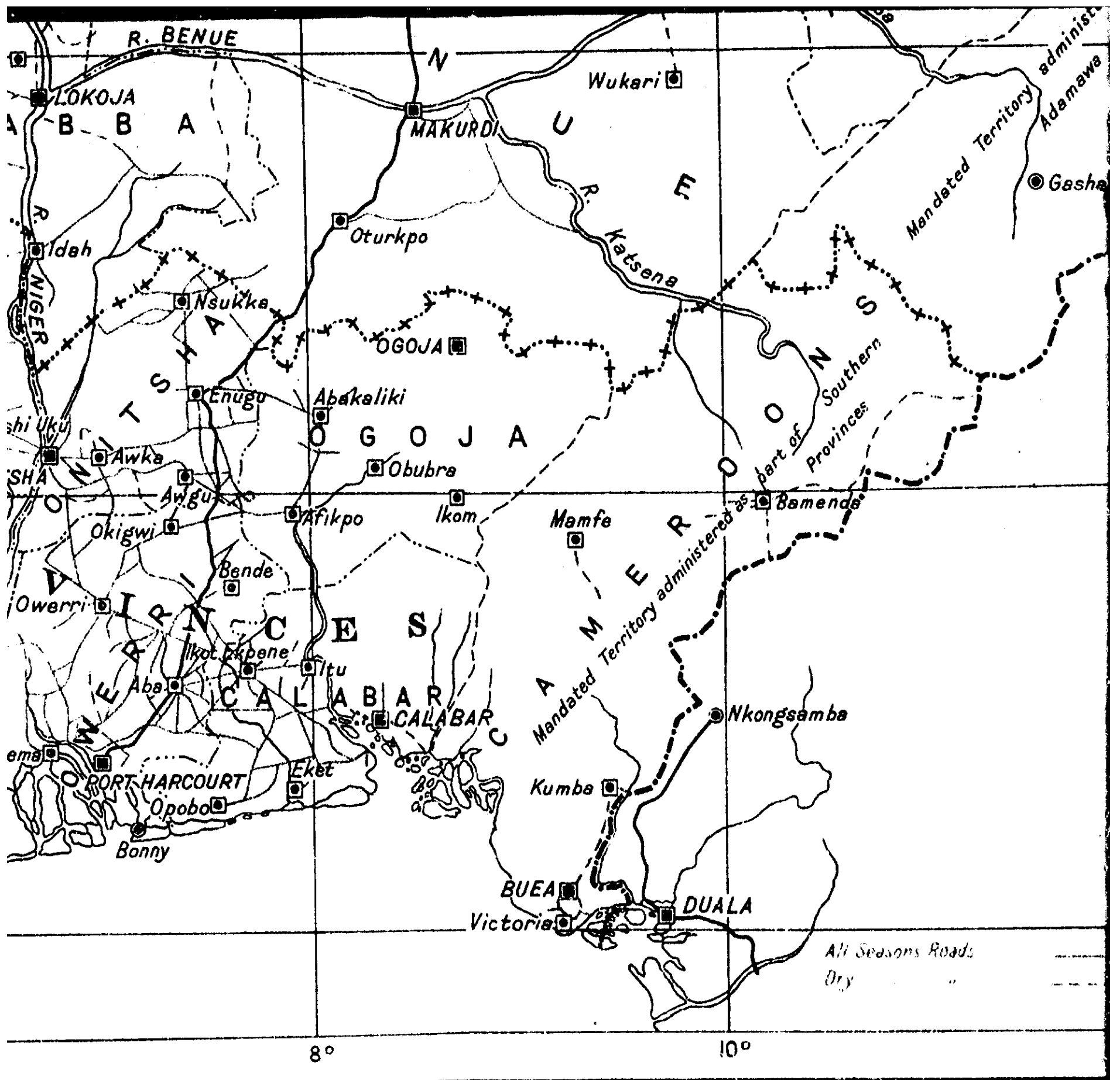
23rd March, 1932.











Drawn

