

This page was added on 03 December 2012 to included the Disclaimer below.
No other amendments were made to this Product

DISCLAIMER

Users are warned that this historic issue of this publication series may contain language or views which, reflecting the authors' attitudes or that of the period in which the item was written, may be considered to be inappropriate or offensive today.

CHAPTER XI.

THE TERRITORIES OF AUSTRALIA.

GENERAL.

The Territories under the control of Australia are: The Northern Territory; the Australian Capital Territory; Papua (formerly British New Guinea); Norfolk Island; the Territory of New Guinea (by Mandate of the League of Nations); Nauru (under joint Mandate of the Commonwealth, Great Britain and New Zealand); the Territory of Ashmore and Cartier Islands; and the Australian Antarctic Territory.

The Australian Antarctic Territory, estimated area 2,472,000 square miles of a total area of approximately 5,000,000 square miles for the Antarctic Continent, was established by an Order in Council dated 7th February, 1933, which placed under the control of the Commonwealth of Australia that part of the Territory in the Antarctic Seas which comprises all the islands and territories, other than Adelie Land, situated south of the 60th parallel of south latitude and lying between the 160th and 45th meridians of east longitude. The Territory was accepted by the Commonwealth of Australia on 24th August, 1936, when the Antarctic Territory Acceptance Act 1933 came into force by proclamation issued by the Governor-General.

The results of the census of the Territories at 30th June, 1933, may be found in the separate Census bulletins and parts published by this Bureau.

In each of the external Territories Australian currency is used. In the Territory of New Guinea, however, Australian coins are being replaced by local coins consisting of silver shillings, cupro-nickel sixpences and threepences, and bronze pennies.

THE NORTHERN TERRITORY.

§ 1. Area and Population.

1. *Introductory.*—Upon the extension of New South Wales westward to the 129th meridian in 1825, the Northern Territory was incorporated in that colony, but in 1863 was annexed by Royal Letters Patent to the province of South Australia. With the adjacent islands it was transferred to the Commonwealth on 1st January, 1911. The total area is 523,620 square miles, or 335,116,800 acres—about six times as large as Victoria.

2. *Population.*—(i) *Europeans.* At the census taken in 1881 there were only 670 Europeans in the Territory. The number increased slowly, reaching its maximum in 1918 with 3,767 persons. At the census of 1933 the white population had decreased to 3,306. This number, however, was 34.5 per cent. greater than the figure at the census of 1921.

(ii) *Non-Europeans.* The number of full-blood non-Europeans, excluding Australian aboriginals, in the Northern Territory on 30th June, 1933, was 744, of whom 462 were Chinese, the remainder being mainly Filipinos (69), Japanese (91), and Malays (59). There were at one time over 4,000 Chinese in the Territory.

The half-caste population recorded at the census of 1933 numbered 800 of whom 743 were half-caste Australian aboriginals.

(iii) *Total Population.* The estimated population at 31st December in each of the years 1939 to 1943 is given in the following table:—

NORTHERN TERRITORY : POPULATION (EXCLUDING ABORIGINALS).

Year.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1939	4,231	1,981	6,212
1940	4,258	2,041	6,299
1941	4,078	1,492	5,570
1942	3,972	980	4,952
1943 (a)	4,042	1,113	5,155

(a) Subject to revision.

The population at the Census of 30th June, 1933, was 3,378 males, 1,472 females, total 4,850.

(iv) *The Aborigines.* A special article contributed by Dr. W. Ramsay-Smith on the subject of the Australian aborigines was incorporated in Official Year Book No. 3 (p. 158). The Chapter "Population", in Official Year Book No. 17, contained information regarding the number and distribution of aborigines and the measures taken by the States (in the case of the Northern Territory, by the Commonwealth) to protect them and to conserve their interests. Large numbers of the aborigines in the Territory are still outside the influence of Europeans. The total number of full-blood and half-caste aborigines at 30th June, 1944, was estimated at 14,153, of whom 3,314 were in regular employment. There are fifteen "aboriginal" reserves, comprising an area of 67,244 square miles. (See also Chapter XIV. "Population".)

§ 2. Legislation and Administration.

On 1st January, 1911, the Territory was transferred by South Australia to the Commonwealth. The terms are outlined in Official Year Book No. 15, p. 940. By the Northern Australia Act 1926, the Territory was divided into two parts, Central Australia and North Australia, separated by the 20th parallel of south latitude, each administered by a Government Resident. In addition, Advisory Councils and a Development Commission were provided for. The Act of 1926 was repealed by the Northern Territory (Administration) Act 1931. The administration of the Territory was placed in the hands of an Administrator, residing at Darwin, assisted by a Deputy Administrator, residing at Stuart (Alice Springs). The designation of the latter office was later changed to that of District Officer. The Governor-General is empowered to make ordinances having the force of law in and in relation to the Territory, subject to disallowance by either House of the Commonwealth Parliament. The Territory elects a member to the House of Representatives, who may take part in debates, but may not vote, except on a motion for the disallowance of any ordinance of the Northern Territory or on any amendment of any such motion.

§ 3. Physiography.

1. *Tropical Nature of the Country.*—The Territory is within the torrid zone, with the exception of a strip 2½ degrees wide which lies south of the Tropic of Capricorn.

2. **Contour and Physical Characteristics.**—The low flat coast-line seldom reaches a height of 100 feet. Sandy beaches and mud flats, thickly fringed with mangroves, prevail. Sandstone, marl and ironstone form the occasional cliffy headlands. The sea frontage of more than 1,000 miles is indented by bays and inlets and intersected by numerous rivers, many of which are navigable for considerable distances from their estuaries.

The principal features of the coast-line are enumerated in Official Year Book No. 1, p. 66; the rivers in No. 2, p. 76; the mountains in No. 3, p. 67; the lakes in No. 4, pp. 77, 78; the islands in No. 5, pp. 71, 72; and the mineral springs in No. 6, p. 65.

Inland, the country generally is destitute of conspicuous landmarks. From the coast there is a general rise southwards to the vicinity of the 17th or 18th parallel of south latitude, where the higher lands form the watershed between the rivers that flow northwards to the sea and those that form the scanty supply of the interior systems. Towards the centre of the continent the land over a wide area is of considerable elevation, and there are several mountain ranges, generally with an east and west trend.

§ 4. Climate, Fauna and Flora.

1. **The Seasons.**—There are two main climatic divisions—the wet season, November to April, and the dry season, May to October, with uniform and regular changes of weather. Nearly the whole of the rainfall occurs in the summer months. Fuller particulars appear in Official Year Book No. 6, p. 1116.

2. **Fauna.**—The ordinary types of native Australian fauna inhabit the Territory. As elsewhere on the continent, the higher *Theria* are rare, but marsupials, birds, crocodiles, fresh-water tortoises, snakes (mostly non-venomous) and frogs abound. There are many varieties of freshwater fish and littoral mollusca. Butterflies and beetles are strongly represented. The white ant is a pest, anthills in the Territory sometimes attaining great dimensions. Mosquitoes and sandflies are very troublesome, particularly in the wet season. Native fauna are in some cases protected. Buffalo formerly existed in large herds, but their number has been greatly reduced by indiscriminate shooting.

3. **Flora.**—The vegetation is North Australian in type, but a number of the forms belong to the Malayan and Oceanic regions. The timber trees are not of great commercial value, but in the coastal regions tropical vegetation grows luxuriously to the water's edge. On the wide expanses of plain country in the interior there is little vegetation, the principal orders represented being:—*Euphorbiaceae*, *Compositae*, *Convolvulaceae*, *Rubiaceae*, *Goodeniaceae*, *Leguminosae*, *Urticaceae*.

Fuller particulars regarding fauna and flora are given in Official Year Book No. 6, pp. 1116-7.

§ 5. Production.

1. **Area.**—At 30th June, 1944 (figures at 30th June, 1943, in parenthesis), there were 245,176 (226,731) square miles held under lease, licence and permit in the Northern Territory, comprising 180,400 (178,973) square miles of pastoral leases, 696 (696) square miles of pastoral permits, 61,337 (43,841) square miles of grazing licences, 115 (114) square miles of agricultural leases and 2,628 (3,107) square miles of miscellaneous leases.

2. **Agriculture.**—Up to the present agriculture has made little progress in the Territory, although it has been proved that rice, tobacco, coco-nuts, mangoes, bananas, cotton, various fodder plants, and peanuts can be successfully grown. Expense of harvesting is, at present, an obstacle to the economic production of rice, and until labour-saving machinery is procured it cannot be produced with profit. There is a large stretch of first-class coco-nut land on the coast, but hitherto planting has not been attempted on a commercial scale. For the encouragement of primary production a Primary Producers' Board was established in 1931. There was little activity in agriculture during 1940-41 and the outlook was not hopeful. No information of recent developments is available as the collection of agricultural statistics was temporarily discontinued after 1940-41 owing to the war. It is hardly practicable to develop agricultural production in the sub-tropical district around Darwin, and the history of efforts in this connexion is one of almost complete failure.

3. **Pastoral Industry.**—The pastoral possibilities of certain parts of the Northern Territory were recognized at an early date, and in 1866 stock was brought into the Macdonnell Range country from South Australia. Six years later cattle were moved from Queensland to the northern parts of the Territory, and in 1879 Giles reached the Katherine River with 2,000 head of cattle and 12,000 sheep from South Australia. For various reasons sheep-raising did not succeed. The cattle industry however progressed steadily. The number of cattle exported by land from the Northern Territory during 1944 was about 118,943. In the southern portion of the Territory the rainfall in 1944 was above average and evenly distributed throughout the year, resulting in a season comparing favorably with the record year of 1939. Intermittent rains, sufficient to stimulate the growth of grass, together with top feeds which brought cattle into prime condition, produced excellent results as shown when these cattle repeatedly topped the Adelaide markets, averaging approximately £20 per head for lots of up to 150. In the north, including the Darwin and Gulf Districts, the 1944 season was fair, enabling a fair quality of beef to be provided at the Katherine (N.T.) abattoirs for Army use. The average killing weight in the northern parts was 450 lb. for spayed cows and up to 600 lb. for bullocks.

The estimated number of live stock in the Territory at the end of the years 1939 and 1941 to 1944 is given in the table hereunder :—

NORTHERN TERRITORY : LIVE STOCK.

31st December—	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Goats.	Camels.	Donkeys.	Mules.
1939 ..	32,721	922,581	38,587	483	20,335	331	1,443	366
1941 (a) ..	26,209	892,881	28,245	418	10,819	220	1,123	378
1942 ..	43,663	978,434	34,603	532	14,721	342	1,401	360
1943 ..	30,534	978,569	25,575	191	15,149	302	1,460	416
1944 ..	31,803	984,370	29,269	146	11,384	284	1,167	426

(a) Incomplete.

4. **Mining.**—(i) *General.* Alluvial gold-digging in the Northern Territory commenced in 1869, and up to the end of 1880 gold to the value of £79,022 had been produced. In 1881 gold production from alluvial deposits reached its maximum, the value for that year being £111,945. During the following years it fluctuated considerably, but as long as the alluvial deposits lasted the output was satisfactory. In the transition period from alluvial to reef mining the industry declined considerably. The production of metals other than gold has suffered on account of the vagaries of prices, and the high cost of transport and of white labour. Owing to the exceptionally high price the search

for gold was stimulated and production increased annually from 1931 to 1940, but decreased thereafter owing to lack of manpower occasioned by the war. The Warramunga Goldfield, of which Tennant Creek is the centre, has been the principal producing goldfield and gives every indication of increasing production for a number of years once the difficulty in obtaining labour has been overcome. The necessity for satisfying Australian requirements of mica of strategic quality led to the regional development of the Harts Range mica fields, where roads and water supplies, hitherto unknown in this country, were made and established, and as a result, the mica fields were better exploited in the war years. Production of wolfram concentrates fell from £58,166 in 1943 to £31,583 in 1944. The demand for tantalite for Radar work and non-corrosive surgical equipment resulted in a production valued at £1,043 in 1943, when the Commonwealth Government purchased concentrates for forwarding to the United States of America. The use of ochre for camouflage paints caused an increase in production from the Rumbalara deposits. Tin concentrates were produced from the Finnis River area and the Maranboy Tinfield.

(ii) *Mineral Production.* The following table shows the value of mineral production for the six years ended 1944.

NORTHERN TERRITORY : MINERAL PRODUCTION.

Year.	Gold.	Tin Concentrates.	Ochre.	Copper Ore.	Mica.	Wolfram.	Tantalite.	Total Value all Minerals.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1939 ..	163,414	4,487	607	2,248	15,539	58,183	..	244,478
1940 ..	238,849	4,533	1,068	1,072	17,670	47,828	..	311,024
1941 ..	201,599	4,041	876	3,185	12,133	52,326	12	274,172
1942 ..	126,035	6,027	3,416	..	24,554	43,734	..	204,366
1943 ..	40,880	5,594	4,800	2,393	17,919	58,166	1,043	130,795
1944 ..	57,803	2,086	5,090	1,878	26,621	31,583	962	126,025

(a) Excludes bismuth—£1 in 1940 and £2 in 1944.

The value of all minerals produced to the end of 1944 was approximately £5,499,760

In 1934 the Governments of the Commonwealth and the States of Queensland and Western Australia agreed to co-operate in the conduct of a geological and geophysical survey of certain areas in the northern parts of Australia, including the Northern Territory. More detailed reference to the survey and its progress will be found in Chapter XXVI. "Mineral Industry".

5. *Pearl, Bêche-de-Mer, and Other Fisheries.*—In 1884 mother-of-pearl-shell was discovered in the harbour of Port Darwin. Difficulty in working, principally through heavy tides and muddy water, retarded the development of the industry for many years. The production of pearl-shell has declined rapidly since 1937-38. The production for 1939-40 amounted to only 179 tons, valued at £14,350, compared with 804 tons, £67,000, in 1937-38 and 410 tons, £31,500, in 1938-39. Information for later years is not available. The depleted condition of the known beds and the depressed market were responsible for fewer Japanese vessels competing with local vessels during 1939-40.

Three fishing licences and two boat licences were issued during 1938-39 in connexion with bêche-de-mer fisheries. Prices were not remunerative, however, and the production was valued at only £252.

Darwin continues to provide a firm and ready local market for fish. The lack of suitable refrigerating plants on the fishing-boats is responsible for the deficiency of regular supplies of fish except in limited quantities obtained from traps close to the town.

§ 6 Land Tenure.

A description of the system of land tenure in force in the Territory will be found in Chapter V. "Land Tenure and Settlement", Official Year Book No. 22.

§ 7. Commerce, Shipping and Air Services.*

1. Trade.—No record is kept of the trade between the States and Territories. The value of the direct oversea imports and exports for 1901 and for the years 1937-38 to 1941-42 is given hereunder:—

NORTHERN TERRITORY : OVERSEA IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

Items.	1901.	1937-38.	1938-39.	1939-40.	1940-41.	1941-42. (c)
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Imports (a)	37,539	44,793	29,406	61,691	84,694	139,889
Exports (b)	29,191	6,053	12,729	12,814	24,865	13,314

(a) British currency values.

(b) Australian currency values.

(c) July to April.

* Owing to the war the port of Darwin was closed as a Customs station from April, 1942—when Customs officers were withdrawn—till July, 1945 and for this period no details of trade and of shipping movements are available for this port which remained purely military in character and under the control of the Defence authorities.

2. Shipping.—The Territory is dependent for its shipping facilities chiefly on the services of vessels trading between the Eastern States and Singapore. In addition to pearlers and other small craft, larger vessels make occasional visits, while a periodic service between Fremantle and Darwin is carried out by vessels belonging to or under charter to the Western Australian State Shipping Service.

NORTHERN TERRITORY : SHIPPING.

Year.	Entered.		Cleared.	
	No. of Vessels.	Net Tonnage.	No. of Vessels.	Net Tonnage.
1937-38	97	122,060	101	122,061
1938-39	161	181,961	172	179,422
1939-40	104	181,743	103	171,991
1940-41	93	213,710	89	209,963
1941-42 (a)	81	207,970	82	206,378

(a) July to April only.

The foregoing figures exclude particulars of coastwise shipping. During 1938-39 fourteen vessels of 285 tons net were entered at Darwin as coastwise and two vessels of 66 tons net during 1940-41.

3. Air Services.—Prior to the outbreak of war in Europe, Darwin was the first port of arrival in Australia of aircraft from Europe, Singapore and Netherlands East Indies. The air services calling at Darwin were as follows:—Qantas Empire Airways Ltd., under

contract to the Commonwealth Government, which operated the Sydney-Darwin-Singapore section of the Empire Flying Boat Service with a twice weekly service in each direction; the MacRobertson-Miller Aviation Co. Ltd., which operated a twice weekly service in each direction between Perth and Darwin, linking up with the Qantas service at the latter point; Guinea Airways Ltd., which operated a twice weekly service in each direction between Adelaide and Darwin; and the K.N.I.L.M. (Dutch) Company, which extended their Amsterdam-Batavia air route to Sydney via Darwin in 1938, operating a weekly service in each direction which was increased to a twice weekly frequency from 2nd January, 1942. Oversea air services with Darwin were suspended early in 1942 as a result of war with Japan. They were resumed on 7th April, 1946.

§ 8. Internal Communication.

1. **Railways.**—Under the agreement made between the Commonwealth and the State of South Australia for the transfer of the Northern Territory, which was ratified by the Northern Territory Acceptance Act 1910, the Commonwealth was to construct the Northern Territory portion of the transcontinental railway line (connecting Adelaide and Darwin via Port Augusta).

The Northern line from Adelaide terminates at Alice Springs, about 192 miles north of the southern boundary of the Territory. The Commonwealth Government acquired on 1st January, 1911 the property in the line from Port Augusta to Oodnadatta (478 miles), and on 1st January, 1926, the control thereof was transferred to the Commonwealth Railways Commissioner. The line from Darwin to Katherine River, about 200 miles, has been extended as far as Birdum, 316 miles from Darwin. The completion of the remainder of the gap would give access to broad belts of pastoral and mineral country towards the centre of Australia.

The Railway Standardization Agreement Act 1946, provides for the conversion to standard gauge (4 ft. 8½ in.) of the 3 ft. 6 in. gauge lines from Port Augusta to Alice Springs and from Birdum to Darwin, and for the construction of a line of standard gauge from Alice Springs to Birdum.

2. **Posts.**—Postal communication is maintained by vessels which maintain a regular service between the Territory and the Eastern States. In addition, the vessels belonging to the State Steamship Service of Western Australia give a periodic service between Fremantle and Darwin. Mail is carried between the capital cities of Australia and Darwin by the airway companies operating in each State. Inland, the northern part of the Territory receives its mail via Darwin or by means of the aerial services, and the southern districts are served via Adelaide.

3. **Telegraphs.**—The transcontinental telegraph line, covering a length of 2,230 miles, was completed on 22nd August, 1872, at a cost of nearly £500,000. The line runs in a northerly direction from Adelaide to Darwin, whence telegraphic communication is provided with Asia and Europe, via Banjoewangie (Java), Singapore and Madras. Between Darwin and Banjoewangie the submarine cable is duplicated.

Long-distance telephone communication between Darwin and the other capital cities of Australia was established after the outbreak of war in the Pacific.

High-power wireless stations have been constructed by the Commonwealth Government at Wave Hill in the Territory, and at Camooweal, just over the eastern boundary, in Queensland.

§ 9. Finance.

In the Commonwealth finance statement separate accounts are given for Northern Territory administration. Revenue and expenditure for the years 1938-39 and 1940-41 to 1943-44 are given below:—

NORTHERN TERRITORY : REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

Particulars.	1938-39.	1940-41.	1941-42.	1942-43.	1943-44.
REVENUE.					
Taxation—	£	£	£	£	£
Customs and Excise	7,916	30,483	12,945	(a)	(a)
Sales Tax	757	5,523	7,433	(a)	(a)
Land and Income Tax	9,306	67,701	69,142	(b) 314	(b) 23
Probate and Stamp Duties	1,486	2,119	1,886	2,724	869
Pay-roll Tax .. .. .	..	..	5,737	(a)	(a)
Medical Benefits Tax .. .. .	..	..	16,406	2,014	111
Railways—					
North Australia	50,471	185,808	305,448	791,555	822,582
Central Australia	137,521	243,702	742,144	1,584,537	1,736,783
Posts, telegraphs and telephones	21,352	51,072	83,449	130,420	275,352
Territorial	27,994	38,187	33,199	36,779	41,205
Miscellaneous	36,738	110,706	73,031	69,225	98,481
Total	293,541	735,301	1,350,820	2,617,568	2,975,406
EXPENDITURE.					
	£	£	£	£	£
Territory Administration (c)	210,929	232,818	233,555	165,756	192,114
Developmental Services	69,314	67,213	70,802	11,429	9,435
Postmaster-General's Department (d)	25,423	36,827	47,228	50,446	46,740
Other Departments	29,712	90,399	46,058	7,367	5,739
Rents, Repairs, Maintenance	21,189	26,883	68,692	74,957	25,138
Works	243,980	390,514	338,079	94,779	72,853
Interest	66,757	64,742	65,578	50,083	49,590
Sinking Fund	14,044	15,483	16,257	17,070	17,923
Unemployment Relief	5,890	2,857	2,515	1,380	795
Shipping subsidy	10,940	8,050	6,500	800	1,000
Miscellaneous	2,400	300	..	..	..
Railways—					
Working expenses	269,560	348,453	697,498	1,131,425	1,507,249
New Works	29,204	13,525	20,597	6,574	19,643
Interest	274,537	268,586	268,276	252,934	259,791
Sinking Fund	51,966	57,291	60,154	63,073	66,061
Total	1,325,845	1,623,941	1,941,789	1,928,073	2,265,071

(a) Not dissected. (b) Territorial tax only, Commonwealth tax not dissected. (c) Salaries, contingencies and miscellaneous. (d) Salaries, contingencies and conveyance of mails.

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY.

1. **Introductory.**—In Official Year Books Nos. 4 and 5 information was given in Section XXXI. in regard to the events leading to the selection of the Australian Capital Territory and the necessary legislation and the progress of operations in connexion with the establishment of the capital city. The physiography of the Territory was dealt with extensively and topographical and contour maps accompanied the letterpress, as well as reproductions of the award-winning designs for the laying out of the city. On 14th March, 1913, the official ceremony to mark the initiation of operations in connexion with the establishment of the Seat of Government was carried out. At this ceremony the selection of "Canberra" as the name of the capital city was announced. The Seat of Government Acceptance Act 1938 provides that the Territory shall be known as the Australian Capital Territory. (A special article contributed by Dr. F. Watson, entitled "Canberra Past and Present", appears on p. 454 of Official Year Book No. 24).

2. **Transfer of Parliament.**—On 9th May, 1927, Parliament House at Canberra was officially opened by His Royal Highness Albert, Duke of York, our present Monarch His Majesty King George VI., the occasion being the 26th anniversary of the opening of the first Parliament of the Commonwealth at Melbourne by His Royal Highness George, Duke of Cornwall and York—afterwards His Majesty King George V.—on 9th May, 1901. (For particulars of the opening ceremony see Official Year Book No. 21, p. 604).

3. **Administration.**—In Official Year Book No. 18 a summary is given of the development of the administration prior to the taking over of the control of the Territory by the Federal Capital Commission, and in Official Year Book No. 22 a summary is given of the administrative activities of the Federal Capital Commission.

The administration of the Territory by the Federal Capital Commission was continued until 30th April, 1930, when the Seat of Government (Administration) Act 1924-1929 was repealed, and the powers and functions of the Commission reverted to the Government.

Since April, 1932, the general control of the Territory has been exercised by the Minister for the Interior, certain specific services, however, being undertaken by the Department of Health, the Department of Works and Housing, and the Attorney-General's Department.

4. **Progress of Work.**—The general progress of the work of construction up to the time the Territory was taken over by the Commission is outlined in Official Year Book No. 18. Later progress under the Commission is described in Official Year Book No. 22.

During 1943-44 the Canberra Community Hospital and the new abattoirs were completed. The construction of 90 houses was commenced during 1944-45 but only 18 were completed to 30th June, 1945. There were no residences completed during 1943-44.

In previous issues of the Official Year Book a synopsis of the works completed during the year were given, but for reasons of economy has been omitted from this issue.

5. **Forestry.**—A considerable amount of reforestation work has been undertaken, and plantations have been established at Uriarra, Mount Stromlo, Pierce's Creek, Green Hills and Kowen. Experimental plots have also been established in the Brindabella mountains.

The total area of plantations to 30th June, 1944, was 14,000 acres. Forestry operations were begun on Mount Stromlo in 1915, and up to 1925 approximately 700 acres had been planted with pine and other trees. The plantings up to this time were chiefly on aesthetic lines, but since the initiation of a wider programme, arrangements have been made for pruning and thinning, and sawmill timber is now being obtained from the logs resulting from thinning operations. The yearly output of sawmill logs from thinnings is gradually improving and has increased from 21,762 super. feet in 1930-31 to about 1,500,000 super. feet in 1943-44.

In 1926 a comprehensive review was undertaken of the Territory's potentialities in regard to forest development. A system of forestry management was instituted in the existing forest areas, and a considerable amount of survey and assessment work has been completed. *Pinus radiata* has been most extensively planted, and also, as a result of experimental work, pinus areas of better quality pines on a longer rotation, such as *Pinus ponderosa* and *laricio*, have been planted during recent years, but *Pinus radiata* remains the principal species.

6. **Lands.**—(i) *In the Australian Capital Territory.* Reference has been made in previous issues of the Official Year Book to the general conditions of land tenure in the Australian Capital Territory and to the area of alienated and leased land.

As considerable portions of the Territory lands are not required in connexion with the establishment of the city, large areas have been leased under special improvement conditions in regard to the extermination of noxious weeds and the destruction of rabbits and other pests. The lands are classified into three grades of agricultural and three grades of grazing land. About 315,634 acres comprising 457 leases and 7 grazing licences were held under lease and licence at 31st March, 1945, for periods varying from quarterly tenure to 25 years.

Auction sales of city leaseholds are described in Official Year Book No. 22, p. 599.

Five leases under the Church Lands Leases Ordinance 1924-1932, which require the lessees to submit a definite building programme within a specified period, and one lease under the Church of England Lands Ordinance 1926 have been granted for church purposes. A further eight leases under the Leases (Special Purposes) Ordinance 1925-1943 and two leases under the Leases Ordinance 1918-1937 have been granted for church and scholastic purposes.

The total number of leases granted under the City Area Leases Ordinance, excluding surrendered leases, at the end of the financial year 1943-44 was 559, representing a capital value of £238,393. During the year 12 new leases were granted. The number of business and residential blocks surrendered to or determined by the Commonwealth to the end of the year was 294.

Under the terms of the City Area Leases Ordinance 1936-1938 each block is leased for a period of 99 years at a rental of £5 per cent. per annum of the unimproved capital value as assessed by the Commonwealth or bid at auction. At present such rentals are subject to a 20 per cent. rebate.

(ii) *In the Jervis Bay Territory.* The Commonwealth acquired from the State of New South Wales sovereign rights over the area comprising about 28 square miles of land and water at Jervis Bay for possible use as a port in connexion with the Australian Capital. The Royal Australian Naval College was established in this area on a site known as Captain's Point, but was removed in 1930 to Flinders Naval Base, Victoria. Leases have been granted over an area of 11,788 acres in the Jervis Bay Territory.

7. **Railways, etc.**—Canberra is connected at Queanbeyan with the railway system of New South Wales by a line $4\frac{3}{4}$ miles long. This line was opened for goods traffic on 25th May, 1914, and for passenger traffic on 15th October, 1923. The railway terminus is situated in the area known as Kingston.

A direct passenger service is in operation connecting Canberra with Sydney and Melbourne, and trains leave both cities for Canberra daily. Improved facilities for goods traffic have also been provided.

Regular car services operate between Canberra and Albury and Canberra and Sydney. There are also air services operating several times daily on the Melbourne-Canberra-Sydney route.

8. **Population.**—The census return of population on 30th June, 1938, was 11,290 in the Australian Capital Territory and 272 in the Jervis Bay Territory, or a total of 11,562 persons. The estimated population at 30th June, 1944, was 14,445.

9. **Live Stock.**—The numbers of live stock depastured at 31st March, 1945 (at 31st March, 1944, in parentheses) were—Horses, 1,091 (1,151), cattle, 9,320 (8,083), sheep, 250,778 (274,642), and pigs 689 (657).

10. **Educational Facilities.**—Arrangements have been made with the New South Wales Education Department to continue the administration of education in the Territory, the expenditure involved being refunded annually to the State. There are nine schools in the Australian Capital Territory and two in the Jervis Bay Territory. The largest school is situated at Telopea Park, Barton, with accommodation for 750 scholars. Secondary education is provided at the Canberra High School, Acton. It has accommodation for 550 scholars, and its curriculum provides a standard of education comparable in range of subjects with that provided at the Government High Schools in New South Wales. The School also provides for Commercial and Junior Technical Classes, and there is an Evening Continuation School attached, with Evening Commercial and Matriculation Classes. To meet the increased demand for Secondary education, a Secondary Department has been established at the Telopea Park Central School.

The Canberra Technical College at Kingston is provided with modern equipment for supplementary courses for apprentices, journeymen desirous of improving their trade qualifications, and for others who desire to take any special courses.

The Canberra Nursery School, Acton, established in 1944, provides for the training of children between the ages of 3 and 5 years.

There are at present four private schools in the Territory. The Canberra Grammar School, the Canberra Church of England Girls' Grammar School, and St. Christopher's Convent School provide for primary and secondary education, and St. Patrick's School provides primary and sub-primary education.

Reference to the establishment of the Canberra University College will be found in Chapter VI. "Education".

11. **Finance.**—(i) *Financial Year 1943-44.* Receipts and Expenditure for the financial year 1943-44 are given in the following table:—

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY : RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE, 1943-44.

Receipts.		Expenditure.				
Items.	Amount.	Items.	New Works, etc.	Main-tenance.	Other.	Total.
	£		£	£	£	£
Rent and rates ..	219,136	Architectural services ..	38,877	26,827	..	65,704
Electricity ..	77,513	Engineering services ..	90,122	102,078	..	192,200
Motor registration and fees ..	11,256	Lands, Forestry ..	10,060	..	16,626	26,686
Water charges ..	11,085	Loans for housing, net ..	Cr.6,262	..	..	Cr.6,262
Interest ..	14,771	Sundry works and services ..	954	33,572	1,317	35,843
Hotels ..	38,070	Plant, etc.—Works ..	1,980	..	..	1,980
Transport and City Bus Service ..	163,867	Plant, etc.—Transport ..	26,640	..	..	26,640
Sales of goods, manufactured products, etc. ..	294,556	Education ..	..	..	49,657	49,657
Housing ..	10,542	Hospital—Working expenses ..	..	..	30,200	30,200
Miscellaneous ..	46,843	Interest and Sinking Fund ..	..	..	285,819	285,819
		Administrative ..	..	..	95,314	95,314
		Hotels—Working expenses ..	..	..	41,274	41,274
		Transport and City Bus Service—Working expenses ..	..	..	149,128	149,128
		Factory Stores, etc.—Working expenses ..	..	..	279,729	279,729
		Housing ..	..	..	11,291	11,291
		Miscellaneous—Police, Fire Brigade, etc. ..	..	..	58,198	58,198
Total Receipts ..	887,639	Total Expenditure ..	162,371	162,477	1,018,553	1,343,401

Similar information for the year 1942-43 will be found in the *Finance Bulletin*, No. 34, p. 18.

(ii) *From 1901-2 to 30th June, 1944.*—The total receipts and expenditure from 1901-2 to 30th June, 1944, were as follows:—

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY : RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE TO 30th JUNE, 1944.

Receipts.	£	Expenditure.	£.
Commonwealth Treasury—		Lands	908,935
Parliamentary Appropriations—		Engineering works	5,100,474
Revenue	8,626,651	Architectural works	4,716,641
Loan	5,792,200	Other capital expenditure, sundry debtors, etc.	1,391,639
			12,117,689
		Seat of Government Establishment Account, being maintenance and administration less revenue: expenditure of a capital nature for which assets no longer exist; profit and loss accounts of trading activities, etc.	2,301,162*
Total Receipts	14,418,851	Net Expenditure	14,418,851

* Excludes interest £4,156,725 net.

The foregoing table was prepared by the Department of the Interior and excludes part cost of National Buildings—Parliament House, the Secretariats, etc., Federal Highways within the Territory, Queanbeyan-Canberra Railway, and Housing Loan, etc., and Loans for Housing—£2,289,695.

NORFOLK ISLAND.

1. *Area, Location, etc.*—Norfolk Island, discovered by Captain Cook in 1774, is situated in latitude 29° 3' 45" South, longitude 167° 56' 29" East. Its total area is 8,528 acres, the island being about 5 miles long and 3 miles wide. From Sydney it is distant 330 miles, and from Auckland, 630 miles. The length of the coast line is 20 miles, and its form that of an irregular ellipse. Except on the south-west, inaccessible cliffs rise from the water's edge. The climate is equable, the temperature ranging between 49° and 85° F. with a mean of 68° F. The average annual rainfall is 52 inches. It has been said that the salubrious climate, coupled with the beauty of its land and sea scapes, should render Norfolk Island "the Madeira of the Pacific". Until the war the island was visited annually by a number of tourists, and, with the return of improved shipping facilities, this traffic is likely to return on an increased scale. A tourist bureau has been established on the Island.

2. *Settlement.*—The first colonization, in 1788, was by Lieutenant King, who in H.M.S. *Supply* established a small penal station as a branch settlement of that at Port Jackson. The settlement was abandoned in 1813, and for 13 years thereafter its chief use was as a whaling station and place of call for British warships.

From 1826 to 1855 it was again made a penal station. In 1844 it was annexed to Van Diemen's Land (Tasmania).

The descendants of the *Beauty* mutineers, having become too numerous to subsist on Pitcairn Island, were removed thence to Norfolk Island in 1856. The new community numbering 94 males and 100 females were the descendants of British sailors and Tahitian women. The last of those transferred died at Norfolk Island on 1st March, 1943.

3. **Administration.**—In 1856 the island was created a distinct and separate settlement under the jurisdiction of New South Wales. In 1896 it was made a dependency under the Governor of that Colony, and finally by the passage of the Norfolk Island Act 1913 it was accepted by the Federal Parliament as a territory of Australia. From July, 1914 until 1st January, 1929, Norfolk Island was administered by the Department of Home and Territories, and then, until 25th June, 1941, by the Territories Branch of the Prime Minister's Department, but is now administered by the Department of External Territories through an Administrator. An amending measure, the Norfolk Island Act 1935, provided for the establishment of an Advisory Council of eight elected members to advise the Administrator.

4. **Population.**—The population at 30th June, 1944, was 733, consisting of 385 males and 348 females. During 1943-44, 12 births, 9 deaths, and 1 marriage were recorded. The average age of the persons who died was 66 years. Departures from the island exceeded arrivals by 40, the respective figures being departures 157, arrivals, 117.

5. **Live Stock.**—The latest returns of live stock show that at 30th June, 1944, there were on the island 1,858 cattle, 572 horses, 343 sheep and 51 pigs. In addition, there were 6,768 head of poultry.

6. **Production, Trade, etc.**—The soil throughout is good and is specially suitable for the cultivation of bananas, citrus and other fruits. The Canadian Wonder bean seed is one of the staple crops of the island. Since the promulgation of the Ordinance regulating the export of seed the area planted with bean seed has increased. The 1939-40 crop was particularly good, the quantity exported amounting to 1,047 bushels, but, owing to a shortage of local labour due to war conditions, only 288 bushels of seed were grown and exported during the 1943-44 season.

Apart from the bean, agriculture generally has been depressed. A modern pulping factory was erected on the island during 1938 and whilst 82 tons of passion fruit pulp were produced during 1939-40, the quantity of pulp produced during 1943-44 amounted only to 14½ tons. The pulping of cherry guavas for jelly has also been experimented with and investigations are being carried out with a view to cultivating flax and ramie.

The citrus trees on the island in full bearing are capable of producing over 3,000 cases of fruit, but owing to previous drought conditions trees have not resumed normal bearing and no fruit was exported during 1943-44, the season's crop being absorbed locally.

A demonstration farm was established in 1938 for the study of crop diseases and suitable farming methods for the island.

Large numbers of whales pass the island throughout the season. However, whaling had not been conducted for a number of years until 1939, when the industry was revived by the formation of a whaling company. Three boats have been fitted out and manned by full crews. The preserved fish industry which was established some years ago has been abandoned, and the fish-freezing factory has also ceased operations. Such fish as trevally, kingfish, schnapper and many others abound in the waters around the island.

On 30th June, 1944, the total area of land held under freehold and Crown leasehold amounted to 6,667 acres, consisting of 4,518 acres freehold and 2,149 leasehold.

Imports and exports for the last six years are given hereunder; the values are expressed in Australian currency:—

NORFOLK ISLAND : IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

Country.	1938-39.	1939-40.	1940-41.	1941-42.	1942-43.	1943-44.
IMPORTS.						
From—	£	£	£	£	£	£
Australia ..	27,427	26,056	26,030	20,102	20,250	23,412
Pacific Islands	163	194	56	30	..	62
Total ..	27,590	26,250	26,086	20,132	20,256	23,474
EXPORTS.						
To—	£	£	£	£	£	£
Australia ..	16,110	14,240	10,683	7,374	3,866	4,006
New Zealand	623	541	..	..	..	..
Pacific Islands	237	92	71	30	..	41
Total ..	16,970	14,873	10,754	7,404	3,866	4,047

Duties of Customs are levied on the following goods imported into Norfolk Island for home consumption:—

IMPORT DUTIES SCHEDULE.

Article.	Unit.	Rate of Duty.	Article.	Unit.	Rate of Duty.
		<i>s. d.</i>			<i>s. d.</i>
Spirits	pr. gal.	30 0	Chicory	lb.	0 3
Ale, beer, porter and cider	gal.	2 6	Petroleum, etc. ..	gal.	0 3
Wine, still—			Kerosene, etc. ..	..	0 3
Australian .. ..	..	5 0	Residual oil, etc. ..	..	0 3
Other .. ..	..	10 0	Oil, n.e.i. .. ..	..	0 3
Wine, sparkling—			Lubricating oils ..	..	0 3
Australian .. ..	..	15 0	Sugar	cwt.	3 0
Other .. ..	..	25 0	Molasses, etc. ..	..	2 0
Tobacco, manufactured or unmanufactured—			Biscuits	lb.	0 1
Australian leaf ..	lb.	2 0	Candles .. ..	..	0 1
Other leaf .. ..	..	4 0	Confectionery ..	..	0 3
Cigars and cigarettes ..	..	6 0	Dried fruits—		
Tea .. ..	..	0 3	Australian .. ..	..	0 1
Coffee .. ..	..	0 3	Other .. ..	..	0 3
			Jams, jellies and pre- serves .. ..	..	0 1

No duties are chargeable on goods imported into Australia from Norfolk Island if the goods are (a) the produce or manufacture of Norfolk Island; (b) shipped direct to Australia; and (c) not goods which if manufactured or produced in Australia would be subject to excise duty.

7. **Communication.**—The “all-red” cable from Great Britain via Vancouver, Fanning Island and Fiji bifurcates at Norfolk Island, one line connecting with New Zealand, the other with Brisbane.

Under normal conditions a shipping service to the Territory is maintained by vessels of Burns Philp & Co. Ltd. Sydney, under the terms of the contract with the Commonwealth Government for the maintenance of shipping services to the Pacific Islands.

The journey from Sydney to Norfolk Island occupies four days.

8. **Social Condition.**—Education is free and compulsory up to the age of fifteen years. The school conforms to the Australian standard of public education, ranging from kindergarten to the intermediate certificate, with a two years' super-primary course of instruction in cultural subjects and in agriculture, woodwork, metalwork, etc. The headmaster and one assistant teacher are lent by the New South Wales Education Department, but they are paid by the Norfolk Island Administration. The number of scholars enrolled at 30th June, 1944, was 115.

The Court of Norfolk Island presided over by a Chief Magistrate is a court of record with dual jurisdiction. Sitting in its Limited Jurisdiction the Court has power to hear and determine actions of claims not exceeding £30 and to punish summarily all crimes and offences involving a pecuniary penalty or a sentence of imprisonment not exceeding six months. In its Full Jurisdiction the Court can hear and determine all actions, punish all crimes and offences, grant probate and letters of administration, hear and determine appeals from any conviction of the Court sitting in its Limited Jurisdiction, and has authority in all other matters. An appeal lies to the High Court of Australia from any judgment, order, decree or sentence of the Court sitting in its Full Jurisdiction.

9. **Finances.**—The whole of the Territorial revenue together with an annual grant from the Commonwealth Government in aid of the administrative expenses is paid to the credit of the Norfolk Island Trust Fund Account, and all administrative and developmental expenses are paid from that account. The operations for 1943-44 were as follows:—

NORFOLK ISLAND TRUST FUND ACCOUNT, 1943-44.

Items.	Receipts.	Items.	Expenditure.
	£		£
Balance brought forward ..	8,679	Salaries	5,688
Commonwealth Grant	4,000	Purchase of liquor	5,342
Customs duties	3,445	Demonstration farm	219
Sale of liquor	6,794	Repairs and maintenance	596
Miscellaneous	2,438	Miscellaneous	3,552
		Balance	9,959
Total	25,356	Total	25,356

PAPUA.*

§ 1. General Description.

1. **Early Administration.**—Particulars of the early administration of Papua are given in Official Year Book No. 19, p. 576.

2. **Administration by Commonwealth of Australia.**—The Territory was placed under the authority of the Commonwealth on 1st September, 1906, by proclamation issued in pursuance of Letters Patent of 18th March, 1902, and was accepted by the Commonwealth by the Papua Act 1905, which came into force by virtue of the

* Civil Administration in the Territory of Papua was suspended on 11th February, 1942, and military control commenced on 12th February, 1942. Civil administration was resumed on 30th October, 1945 (see Papua-New Guinea Provisional Administration, p. 289). During the period of military control matters relating to the former Civil Administration were dealt with by the Department of External Territories, Canberra. The Minister for External Territories was empowered by National Security Regulations to exercise the powers and functions of the Administrator, officers and authorities of the Territory, and jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of Papua was vested in the Supreme Court of the Australian Capital Territory.

aforesaid proclamation. The transfer was made under the authority of Section 122 of the Constitution. The Territory is now under the control of the Commonwealth, but not included within it, and is divided into magisterial districts.

Prior to an amendment made in 1940, the Papua Act provided for the appointment of a Lieutenant-Governor to administer the Territory. The office of Lieutenant-Governor was held by Sir Hubert Murray, K.C.M.G., from 1909 until his death in February, 1940. By virtue of the amendment referred to, the Territory is now controlled by an Administrator.

Pursuant to the provisions of the Papua-New Guinea Provisional Administration Act 1945 (No. 20 of 1945) a single Provisional Administrative Service was formed to take over from the military authorities in the whole of the Territory of Papua and in that portion of the Territory of New Guinea which lies south of the Markham River. Civil control was later extended to other areas in the Territory of New Guinea as circumstances permitted. Colonel J. K. Murray was appointed Administrator on 11th October, 1945, and the transfer from military to civil control was effected on 30th October, 1945.

3. **Area, etc.**—Papua lies wholly within the tropics. The northernmost point touches 5° S. latitude: its southernmost portion, comprising Sudest and Rossel Islands, lies between 11° S. and 12° S. latitude. It is separated from Australia by Torres Strait. The length of Papua from east to west is upwards of 800 miles: towards either end the breadth from north to south is about 200 miles, but about the centre it is considerably narrower. The Territory comprises also the islands of the Trobriand, Woodlark, D'Entrecasteaux and Louisiade groups. The length of coast-line is estimated at 3,664 miles—1,728 on the mainland, and 1,936 on the islands. The total area is about 90,540 square miles, of which 87,786 are on the mainland, and 2,754 on the islands. A reference to the physical characteristics of the Territory appears in previous issues of the Official Year Book (see No. 18, p. 633).

§ 2. Population.

The white population of Papua at the census of 30th June, 1941, was 3,070, made up of 2,409 males and 661 females. The numbers recorded in previous years were:—1937, 1,323; 1938, 1,488; 1939, 1,608; and 1940, 1,822.

It is not possible to give exact data regarding the number of natives, because a large area of the interior has not as yet been under complete Government control. The official estimate is 300,000. Such censuses of the native population as have been taken during recent years point to a slight increase. The coloured population, other than Papuans, on 30th June, 1933, was 786, and included many mission teachers from Samoa, Fiji and other Pacific Islands. On the same date, half-castes, with one of the parents a European, were 227. An Immigration Restriction Ordinance prohibits the immigration of persons who fail to pass the dictation test, or who are of bad character, or likely to become a charge upon the public. Exemptions may, however, be granted by the Administrator to persons of special skill required for employment as overseers or foremen.

§ 3. Native Labour, Taxation, Health, etc.

1. **Native Labour.**—Information regarding the conditions connected with the employment of native labour will be found in Official Year Book No. 22, p. 607.

The number of natives who served under contracts of service for various periods during 1940-41 was 17,168 and the estimated number of non-indentured labourers was 2,900.

2. **Native Taxes.**—Under the Native Taxes Ordinance, 1917-1936, a tax not exceeding £1 per annum may be imposed on natives, except native constables, mission teachers, natives unfit for work, and those who have four living children. The proceeds of the tax must be expended on native education, or devoted to purposes directly benefiting the natives.

The taxes collected in 1940-41 amounted to £16,761, of which £5,904 was transferred to the Native Education Fund, and £8,474 to the Native Benefits Fund. The Native Education Fund during 1940-41 disbursed to primary and technical education £4,036,

and to agricultural education £1,262, leaving a credit balance of £26,200. From the Benefits Fund the expenditure included :—Anthropology, £838 ; health, £6,309 ; village improvements, £94 ; family bonus, £1,720 ; games in villages, £12 ; and clerical expenses, £25.

3. **Care of Half-caste Children.**—An Ordinance was passed in 1922 to provide for the care and maintenance of neglected half-caste children. The Ordinance provides that a sum of £26 per annum shall be paid to the Commissioner for Native Affairs by the adjudged father of the child until the child, if a boy, shall reach the age of 16 years, or, if a girl, 18 years.

4. **Health.**—The two principal native hospitals are in Port Moresby and Samarai ; but minor hospitals are attached to the out-stations. Hospitals are also conducted by the various mission societies and plantation companies. The mission societies employ two doctors and a number of trained nurses. Several European medical assistants are employed by the Government. Prior to the Japanese invasion parties of natives received a six months course of instruction in first aid and in elementary physics, chemistry, anatomy, physiology and pathology at the School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, University of Sydney. On their return, the natives were employed as travelling native medical assistants. A training school has been established for this purpose. The chief complaints treated are yaws, ulcers, lung affections, hookworm, venereal and skin diseases. The death rate amongst native labourers was 2.7 per cent. in 1940-41.

§ 4. Land Tenure.

1. **Method of Obtaining Land.**—The broad principles upon which the land laws of Papua are based are (a) no land can be alienated in fee simple ; (b) the rental of the land leased is assessed on the unimproved value of the land, and is subject to re-appraisal at fixed periods. The terms upon which land may be leased are very liberal. Leaseholds of the best class of agricultural land may be obtained for 99 years. No rent is payable during the first ten years of the lease on areas less than 1,000 acres. During the following ten years the rent is charged at the rate of 5 per cent. on the unimproved value of the land. The unimproved value of the land is appraised every twenty years and the rent determined accordingly. If on any appraisement the rent is raised by more than one-third the lessee may disclaim the lease and shall be entitled to receive compensation for his improvements. The unimproved value of agricultural land has been fixed at 5s. per acre. Rent is immediately payable on areas exceeding 1,000 acres, and survey fees on areas exceeding 100 acres.

2. **Crown Lands.**—Private sales of land in the Territory have now ceased. The Government buys from the natives, and then leases to planters, who are forbidden to have direct dealings in land with Papuans. The amount of Crown Land purchased from the natives in 1940-41 was 12,177 acres, and the total to 30th June, 1941, 1,787,783 acres. The tenures under which surveyed areas were held at 30th June, 1941, were leasehold 200,303 acres, and freehold 23,490 acres. The area of leases granted during 1940-41 for agricultural purposes was 9,834 acres most of which was intended for rubber plantations. The low price of copra and the more favorable prospects of rubber have diverted attention to the latter culture. At 31st December, 1941, more than 80,000 acres were held under leases for the cultivation of rubber. Crown rents on leaseholds for 1941 amounted to £7,317.

§ 5. Production.

1. **General.**—The products of the Territory are obtained from its agricultural, timber, fishing, mining and manufacturing industries. Gold is the principal mineral mined, and rubber and copra are the most important amongst plantation products. Portions of the Territory appear well suited for cotton cultivation, and there is a possibility of obtaining petroleum in marketable quantities. Bounties are paid by the Commonwealth Government on cocoa beans and shells, hemp and coir, sago, vanilla beans, bamboos and rattans, and spices and kapok, produced in the Territory and exported direct to Australia for home consumption.

2. **Agriculture.**—(i) *Soil and Rainfall.* Rich soils at varying elevations and heavy and evenly distributed rainfall favour the cultivation of a variety of tropical products including sugar-cane, coco-nuts, sago palm, bread fruit, dyewoods, spices, ginger, nutmegs, bananas and other fruits. There are large areas of rich alluvial and volcanic soils along the coast, and fertile land is found at elevations up to 6,000 feet. Heavy rainfalls occur, except over a belt of country which runs back from the coast to the hills, and which has its dry season from May to November. This "dry" area is admirably suited for the production of tobacco, fibres, cotton, etc. There are 21 meteorological stations throughout the Territory, and an economic museum and agricultural library have been established.

(ii) *Plantations.* Agricultural settlement has been mostly in the Central and Eastern Divisions with coco-nuts and rubber as the principal crops. The natives are compelled by an Ordinance to plant coco-nuts for food supply. In addition to the coco-nuts in these plantations, many more are planted over small and widely scattered areas by the older natives in accordance with custom. The Native Plantations Ordinance provides for the establishment of plantations in which half of the proceeds is paid to the natives entitled thereto, and the remaining half paid into the Native Education Fund. The following table shows the areas under the different crops during the five years 1936 to 1940:—

AREA UNDER CULTIVATION.

Crop.	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.	1940.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Coco-nuts	48,188	45,297	44,719	44,527	44,583
Rubber	10,270	10,956	12,809	14,494	18,262
Sisal hemp	150	150	700	700	..
Kapok	168	110	84	92	85
Coffee	368	271	248	190	84
Other	801	933	664	554	595
Total	59,945	57,636	59,224	60,557	63,609

At 30th June, 1940, the London market price for hot-air dried copra was £13 5s. per ton as compared with £11 7s. 6d. at 30th June, 1939. Rubber at the later date was 13½d. per lb. compared with 8d. per lb. on 30th June, 1939.

(iii) *Government Plantations.* There are two Government plantations, the Orangerie Bay coco-nut plantation and the Kemp Welch rubber plantation, of which the former, having ceased production during 1940-41 owing to the collapse of the copra market, sustained a loss, while the latter reported a net profit on the year's undertakings.

3. **Forestry.**—The principal softwood timber is known as "ilimo," while among satisfactory timbers of the lowlands are "nara," "medobi," and "melila." There are a large number of woods, varying from the softest to the hardest, including beautiful cabinet woods, but research is necessary to determine their usefulness. The development of a coniferous belt at the higher altitudes offers great possibilities. It is believed that teak and sandalwood are well suited for cultivation.

4. **Live Stock.**—At 31st December, 1940, the live stock in the Territory consisted of 587 horses, 5,994 head of cattle, 87 mules, 1,244 goats, 665 pigs, 30 sheep and 6,320 fowls. The introduction of rabbits, foxes, hares and monkeys is prohibited.

5. **Fisheries.**—Pearl-shell fishing occupies an important place in the industries of Papua. In 1941 considerable numbers of luggers were licensed, but the returns were mostly credited to Queensland, whose boundary approaches to within a few miles of the Papuan coast. The species of tortoise which supplies the commercial tortoise-shell is also a native of Papua. Bêche-de-mer and trochus are found along the shores and reefs and form valuable articles of export.

6. *Mining.*—(i) *Variety of Minerals.* Minerals have been found over a wide range of country. Those discovered so far are gold, copper, tin, lead, zinc, cinnabar, iron, osmiridium, gypsum, manganese, sulphur, graphite, chromite, lignite, platinum and petroleum.

The existence of petroleum has been traced at scattered intervals over a large area. Three companies hold permits under the provisions of the Petroleum (Prospecting and Mining) Ordinance 1938-1939 and oil prospecting has been carried on in the Western, Delta, Gulf and Central Divisions.

Of precious stones, only the topaz and beryl have been obtained. Large beds of apparently good coal also exist.

(ii) *Gold.* Gold was discovered in 1888 and the search gradually spread over every division, finds being reported wherever the explorers went. The estimated quantity in fine ounces and the value of the gold yield for the five years 1936-37 to 1940-41 are given below:—

PAPUA : GOLD YIELD.(a)

1936-37.		1937-38.		1938-39.		1939-40.		1940-41.(b)	
Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Fine oz.	£	Fine oz.	£	Fine oz.	£	Fine oz.	£	Fine oz.	£
21,605	187,975	25,835	223,160	35,808	325,116	30,422	316,203	10,348	110,501

(a) Valued at average price realized for fine gold in Australia. 1941.

(b) Nine months ended March.

Most of the rivers, except those flowing into the Gulf of Papua, have been declared open to gold dredging, and good yields have been obtained. The total value of gold won to 31st March, 1941, was £3,269,021.

(iii) *Copper.* Copper matte to the value of £5,999 was exported during 1940-41. The principal value of this item is its gold content.

(iv) *Other Minerals.* Some good samples of galena (sulphide of lead) have been obtained, while cinnabar (sulphide of mercury), graphite (or plumbago), zinc-blende, native sulphur, and other minerals are known to exist. In 1924 a deposit of lignite was discovered on Smoky Creek, a tributary of the Era River.

A mineral laboratory and museum have been fitted up, and are available to prospectors and others interested.

7. *Water Power.*—Most of the rivers in Papua carry a large volume of water from a great height over a relatively short distance, thereby offering opportunities for the installation of hydro-electric power plants. It is estimated that there is at least 10,000,000 h.p. available for this purpose.

§ 6. Trade and Shipping.

1. *Customs Tariff.*—In the Schedule to the Customs Tariff of Papua 136 items are mentioned, of which approximately one-third is on the free list, consisting of a number of foodstuffs and certain manufactures for use in the development of the Territory or its industries. Where duties are imposed they are generally on a 10 per cent. ad valorem basis, with the exception of ale, spirits, beverages and tobacco on which high revenue rates are imposed. Preference is given to Australian wines. On 16th July, 1931, a primage duty of 4 per cent. ad valorem was imposed on all goods, whether dutiable or not, in addition to the ordinary customs dues; the rate was subsequently reduced to 2½ per cent. and the duty ceased to operate on 1st July, 1937. From 12th July, 1940, the duty has been re-imposed, but certain specified articles have been exempted. The value of imports into Papua during 1940-41 was £539,152 and the duty collected, £63,116. The duty collected in 1939-40 was £64,611.

In 1940-41, £4,255 was received in export duties which are levied on pearl-shell, gold and copra, in the latter case only on the excess above £20 per ton of a certain declared value deemed to be the London market price.

Provision is made in the Australian Customs Tariff (Papua and New Guinea Preference) 1936 for the free entry into Australia of certain goods produced and imported direct from Papua (see Chapter XII. "Trade"), and a proclamation of 25th September, 1935, exempted from primage duty goods produced or manufactured in the Territory.

2. Imports and Exports.—Tables of imports and exports during the years 1936-37 to 1940-41 are given below. The values of exports are expressed in Australian currency but it is not possible to determine accurately the currency of the £ in the table of imports.

PAPUA : IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

Particulars.	1936-37.	1937-38.	1938-39	1939-40.	1940-41.
IMPORTS.					
	£	£	£	£	£
Ale, spirits and beverages ..	11,362	14,453	14,818	19,544	24,922
Tobacco and manufactures ..	25,037	24,213	27,466	31,669	31,874
Agricultural products and groceries	114,621	143,937	138,551	156,560	160,345
Textiles, felts, furs, attire, etc. ..	40,087	45,492	37,712	55,388	46,883
Metals and machinery ..	98,875	124,277	76,068	306,937	80,294
Oils, paints and varnishes ..	27,519	37,139	33,331	44,141	37,437
Earthenware, cement, glass, etc.	5,078	6,969	5,585	7,069	7,939
Drugs and chemicals ..	9,596	12,904	12,828	17,630	16,904
Wood, wicker and cane ..	7,620	14,918	13,076	8,400	9,039
Jewellery and fancy goods ..	9,171	9,495	7,756	8,075	7,443
Leather and rubber ..	6,288	6,748	8,076	11,154	8,996
Paper and stationery ..	6,317	8,569	8,521	8,218	8,237
Miscellaneous ..	58,633	126,479	94,272	79,128	53,516
Government stores ..	30,352	55,964	36,747	72,499	45,323
Total ..	452,056	631,497	514,808	826,412	539,152
EXPORTS.					
	£	£	£	£	£
Bêche-de-mer ..	3,939	1,363	2,506	1,024	1,202
Coco-nut, desiccated ..	47,137	52,628	48,140	58,015	59,523
Coffee beans ..	7,536	6,506	6,911	5,289	5,754
Copra ..	191,808	91,166	57,999	45,568	59,062
Gold ..	91,775	109,738	152,102	139,621	133,341
Pearls ..	1,966	2,400	15	..	6,000
Rubber ..	124,174	120,448	114,949	152,487	172,099
Trochus-shell ..	12,581	8,578	9,200	9,312	1,680
Other ..	43,085	33,666	98,335	99,356	54,114
Total ..	524,001	435,593	490,158	510,672	492,775

The trade of the Territory reached its maximum in 1939-40, exceeding by £180,414 the previous highest figure which was established in 1925-26 when imports were valued at £470,774 and exports at £685,896. Prices for both copra and rubber were high about that time and the copper-mines were producing freely.

3. Direction of Trade.—Particulars of the countries of origin of the imports into Papua and of destination of the goods shipped therefrom are shown below for the three years ended 1940-41.

PAPUA : DIRECTION OF TRADE.

Country.	Imports.			Exports.		
	1938-39.	1939-40.	1940-41.	1938-39.	1939-40.	1940-41.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Australia	239,105	319,431	298,848	409,408	456,120	453,504
United Kingdom ..	56,699	88,354	51,732	25,840	12,454	16,764
Other British	45,313	28,505	49,454	17,630	8,359	8,453
Europe	23,966	14,864	5,414	11,024	11,118	..
Japan	14,858	18,937	24,821	7,582	4,237	7,718
Asia, excluding Japan	38,960	42,563	15,414	2,425	252	1,279
Dutch East Indies and Philippine Islands ..	21,288	24,188	29,278	11,519	10,948	4,744
U.S. of America	73,446	288,224	64,137	576	5,077	313
America, Other	1,173	1,346	54	..	2,107	..
Morocco .. ..	..	..	..	4,154	..	..
Total	514,808	826,412	539,152	490,158	510,672	492,775

4. Shipping.—The following table shows the number and tonnage of oversea vessels entered and cleared at ports during the five years ended 1940-41. Of the vessels recorded in 1940-41, 166 were of British nationality.

PAPUA : OVERSEA SHIPPING.

Year.	Vessels.	Tonnage.
1936-37	181	356,476
1937-38	243	482,981
1938-39	215	461,199
1939-40	227	489,970
1940-41	217	489,469

NOTE.—The figures above exclude ships of war and Government vessels.

§ 7. Finance.

The revenue and expenditure for the five years 1936-37 to 1940-41 were as follows:—

PAPUA : REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

Particulars.	1936-37.	1937-38.	1938-39.	1939-40.	1940-41.
	£	£	£	£	£
Revenue—					
Customs	57,443	58,539	54,606	64,874	77,359
Commonwealth Grant ..	42,500	42,500	42,500	42,500	42,500
Lands	6,530	6,709	6,013	7,112	7,700
Fees, fines, etc.	6,148	7,065	9,501	9,534	10,050
Other	(a) 59,170	67,995	53,203	53,878	51,909
Total	171,791	182,808	165,823	177,918	189,518
Expenditure—					
Medical	16,718	20,884	22,075	20,785	24,718
Ordinary Votes	(b) 127,926	122,536	116,275	127,455	132,633
Public Works	23,503	35,828	25,458	26,966	29,886
Native Affairs	2,773	3,854	2,522	2,726	1,763
Total	170,920	183,102	166,330	177,932	189,000

(a) Includes Commonwealth grant to rubber growers of £6,871.

(b) Includes expenditure

of Commonwealth special grant.

§ 8. Progress of Papua.

The following table indicates the progress made from 1st September, 1906, when the Territory was placed under Australian control, to 30th June, 1941 :—

PAPUA : STATISTICAL SUMMARY.

Items.	Year ended 30th June—			
	1907.	1939.	1940.	1941.
White population	No. 690	1,608	1,822	3,070
Native labourers employed	2,000	19,733	20,352	20,068
Territorial revenue	£ 21,813	123,323	135,418	147,018
" expenditure	£ 45,335	166,331	177,932	189,000
Value of imports	£ 57,776	514,808	826,412	539,152
" exports	£ 63,756	490,158	510,672	492,775
Area of plantations	acres 1,467	59,224	60,557	63,609
Meteorological stations established	No. 3	21	21	21
Gold yield	fine oz. 12,439	35,808	30,422	(a)10,348

(a) Nine months ended March, 1941.

MANDATED TERRITORY OF NEW GUINEA.*

§ 1. General Description.

The land area of the Territory of New Guinea is about 93,000 square miles and the area including the sea within the lines drawn through its extreme outer points is more than 1,000,000 square miles. As the coast of the Territory has not been completely surveyed, the areas of the various islands are known only approximately.

The approximate areas of the principal islands together with the small islands adjacent thereto are as follows :—

AREA OF TERRITORY OF NEW GUINEA.

Particulars.	Approximate Area.
North East New Guinea (also called "The Mainland")	Sq. Miles. 69,700
Bismarck Archipelago—	
New Britain	14,600
New Ireland	3,340
Lavongai	460
Admiralty Islands	300
Solomon Islands—	
Bougainville	3,880
Buka	220
Total	4,100
Total	93,000

Information regarding physiography and climate will be found in Official Year Book, No. 22, p. 613, and in the *Official Handbook of the Territory*.

* Civil Administration in the Territory of New Guinea was suspended on 11th February, 1942, and military control commenced on 12th February, 1942. On 30th October, 1945, Civil Administration was resumed in that portion of the Territory which lies south of the Markham River. During the period of military control matters relating to the former Civil Administration were dealt with by the Department of External Territories, Canberra. The Minister for External Territories was empowered by National Security Regulations to exercise the powers and functions of the Administrator, officers and authorities of the Territory, and jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of New Guinea was vested in the Supreme Court of the Australian Capital Territory (see Papua, § 1, 2, page 280).

§ 2. Government.

1. **The Military Occupation (1914–19 War).**—On 17th September, 1914, the Acting Governor of German New Guinea signed terms of capitulation with the officer commanding a Naval and Military Expedition sent from Australia, and thereafter the Territory was under military administration until the establishment of Civil Government in May, 1921.

2. **Mandate.**—In 1919 it was decided by the Principal Allied and Associated Powers that the Territory of New Guinea, which Germany gave up as one of the terms of peace, should be entrusted under Mandate from the League of Nations to the Government of the Commonwealth. The issuing of the Mandate was, however, delayed, and it was not until 17th December, 1920, that its terms were settled, and the Mandate itself did not reach Australia until April, 1921.

The terms of the Mandate are given in Official Year Book No. 33 (see p. 264).

3. **New Guinea Act and Statute Law.**—In anticipation of the issuing of the Mandate the Commonwealth Parliament in September, 1920, passed the New Guinea Act 1920, by which the Governor-General was authorized to accept the Mandate when issued. The Territory was, by the Act, declared to be a Territory under the authority of the Commonwealth, with the name of the Territory of New Guinea.

The Act provided for an Administrator, while power to legislate for the Territory was to be exercised by the Governor-General, and provision was made for the observance of safeguards in the interests of the natives as set out in the Mandate.

In 1932 the Act was amended to provide for the establishment of a Legislative Council and an Executive Council for the Territory, the Executive Council to consist of nine members appointed by the Governor-General, of whom one shall not be an officer of the Territory. The Legislative Council is empowered to make Ordinances for the peace, order and good government of the Territory. Such Ordinances are subject to disallowance by the Governor-General who, however, is not now empowered to make Ordinances for the Territory. The amending Act was proclaimed to commence on 2nd May, 1933, and the Act is now entitled the New Guinea Act 1920–1935. The Acts of the Commonwealth Parliament do not (unless expressly so stated) extend to the Territory, but the Laws Repeal and Adopting Ordinance 1921–1939 provides that certain Acts and Ordinances shall be applied thereto.

4. **Legislative Council.**—The Legislative Council consists of the Administrator, the eight official members of the Executive Council and seven non-official members, the latter nominated by the Administrator and appointed by the Governor-General.

5. **Expropriation.**—The Treaty of Peace provided that German nationals resident in her former colonies might be repatriated, and that the property rights and interests of German nationals in former colonies might be retained and liquidated by the Allies, the proceeds being credited to Germany in part payment of the reparation payable by her under the Treaty. In pursuance of these powers, in September, 1920, the property of the principal German companies in the Territory, and in March, 1921, that of a large number of German planters, was vested in the Public Trustee. In 1926 and 1927 these plantations were transferred to private owners.

6. **Departments and Districts.**—The Administration is organized in eight Departments—Government Secretary; Treasury; District Services and Native Affairs; Public Health; Customs; Lands, Surveys, Mines and Forests; Agriculture; and Public Works.

For administrative purposes the Territory is divided into the seven following districts:—New Britain, comprising New Britain and adjacent islands; Morobe, Madang and Sepik on the mainland; New Ireland, comprising New Ireland, Lavongai and adjacent islands; Manus, comprising the Admiralty Group; and Kieta, the former German portion of the Solomon Islands. Each district is under a District Officer, assisted by a small staff.

7. **Reports to the League of Nations.**—Twenty reports to the League of Nations, in compliance with Article 6 of the Mandate, have been published, the latest being for the year ended 30th June, 1940.

§ 3. Population.

1. **White Population.**—The number of the white population for various years since 1885 is shown in the following table. At 30th June, 1941, the white population was 4,101, of whom 3,122 were British subjects.

TERRITORY OF NEW GUINEA : WHITE POPULATION.

Year.	Number.	Year.	Number.
1885	64	1938	4,445
1933	3,191	1939	4,608
1936	4,281	1940	4,399
1937	4,286	1941	4,101

2. **Asiatic Population.**—Malays seem to have been the first Asiatics brought by the Germans to German New Guinea; 37 of them were recorded on the mainland in 1885. About 1889 the New Guinea Company began to bring Chinese, Malays and Javanese in growing numbers from Singapore and Java to work on the plantations; in the year 1892 there were about 1,800 Asiatics on the mainland. By 1898 the number had decreased to 300 or 400, but it had risen to 1,830 at the time of the 1933 Census and at 30th June, 1941, numbered 2,228, of whom 2,199 were Chinese and 29 Japanese. The Japanese at the 1933 Census numbered 73. The Chinese provide the skilled artisans of the Territory, and many of them are small traders.

3. **Native Population.**—As a large portion of the Territory is not under Government influence it is not possible to obtain reliable figures in regard to the number of the natives.

The following table shows those enumerated as at 30th June, 1941 :—

TERRITORY OF NEW GUINEA : NATIVE POPULATION AT 30th JUNE, 1941. (Including Indentured Labourers.)

District.	Children.			Adults.			Total.		
	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons.
Kieta	11,307	9,912	21,219	15,618	15,218	30,836	26,925	25,130	52,055
Madang	37,406	30,897	68,303	58,786	54,901	113,687	96,192	85,798	181,990
Manus	3,259	2,740	6,008	4,235	3,891	8,126	7,494	6,640	14,134
Morobe	29,334	26,348	55,682	42,541	39,076	81,617	71,875	65,424	137,299
New Britain	21,737	19,349	41,086	31,563	25,938	60,501	56,300	45,287	101,587
New Ireland	7,619	6,422	14,041	15,791	11,723	27,514	23,410	18,145	41,555
Sepik	32,223	27,772	59,995	44,049	45,060	89,109	76,272	72,832	149,104
Total	142,885	123,449	266,334	215,583	195,807	411,390	358,468	319,256	668,428

(a) Includes 6,560 Mission scholars, constabulary, etc., not distributed.

The number of natives indentured as labourers, mostly for plantation work, on 30th June, 1941, was 34,087, compared with 39,344 in the previous year.

§ 4. The Natives.

1. **General.**—The natives are divided into two main groups—Melanesian and Papuan—the former, with a few exceptions, constituting the population of the Bismarck Archipelago, the Solomon Islands, and the coastal districts of the New Guinea mainland, the latter inhabiting the interior of the mainland. Odd tribes of Negritos exist in the mountains of New Guinea. There is a strain of Papuan, and, possibly, of Polynesian blood in the Admiralty Islanders, while the Western Islanders and the inhabitants of the small islands east and south-east of New Ireland are Micronesians. (See Official Year Book, No. 16, p. 670. and *Official Handbook of the Territory*, Pt. V.)

2. **Land Tenure.**—Native customs in regard to the ownership and use of land may be briefly outlined as follows. The ownership and use of the land are generally individual, although, in some rare cases, particularly in North Bougainville, the communal system

exists. In districts where a great many coco-nut palms are growing on native lands it is often found that the land is the property of a chief or of one of the old men of the tribe, and that the coco-nut palms growing thereon are divided into small groves, and are the property of several members of the tribe. Customs with regard to the use of unoccupied forest lands vary. Right of inheritance to land is almost invariably through the maternal branch. (See Official Year Book No. 17, p. 634, and *Official Handbook of the Territory*.)

3. **Research Work.**—During the German occupation of the Territory a certain amount of research work was carried out, partly by scientific expeditions, and partly by missionaries and by a local resident. For many years an anthropologist was engaged consolidating the work already done, and extending it throughout the Territory. The results of his work appear in special reports.

4. **Education.**—Provision is made for the education of natives in the Ordinance of 1922-1938 under which the Administrator is authorized to establish schools, grant money therefor, prescribe instruction, and arrange for the training of teachers and other matters. The expenditure on native education in 1940-41 was £6,827. Though the natives are liable to pay education tax, none has been collected since 1922-23. The European teachers have been seconded from the Education Department of Queensland. During the year ended 30th June, 1941, the following schools were maintained by the Administration.—Native elementary schools and native day schools, Malagunã, Tavui, Nodup and Pila Pila, near Rabaul, and Kavieng and native elementary school at Chimbu (Morobe); native technical school, Malaguna; native agricultural school, Keravat. In addition there are schools for Europeans at Rabaul, Kavieng and Wau. A new day school for European children was erected at Bulolo in the Morobe District during the year.

A considerable amount of educational work is carried out by the missions, the schools maintained being of three classes; (a) elementary schools in villages; (b) intermediate boarding schools at head-quarters; and (c) high schools and technical schools. At 30th June, 1941, the various missions maintained 31 training centres, 51 high and technical schools, 144 elementary schools, and 2,397 village schools. The pupils numbered 65,598 at 30th June, 1940.

The missions also conduct schools for Chinese children in Rabaul and Kavieng.

The granting of assistance to mission schools is provided for by the Education Ordinance, but no grants have hitherto been made.

5. **Health of Natives.**—In a report dealing with the health of the natives in New Britain submitted before the 1914-19 War, it was stated that "the natives in the districts examined are not degenerate; but they are sick". The same qualification undoubtedly applies to the native population throughout the Territory.

The diseases taking the greatest toll of native life directly or through lowering vitality are—Malaria, respiratory diseases, dysentery, frambœsia, yaws, tropical ulcer, hookworm, filariasis and beriberi.

The Health Department of the Administration consists of (i) a staff of medical officers and orderlies, including travelling doctors; (ii) native hospitals at Government stations and sub-stations (its staff also supervises hospitals on plantations); (iii) a laboratory; (iv) training system for natives as medical orderlies; (v) scheme of distribution of medical necessaries; and (vi) two leper-stations. It also undertakes the general oversight of sanitary conditions. The first Infant Welfare Centre in the Territory was opened in Malabunga in August, 1931.

6. **Missions.**—Several mission societies have operated in the Territory. The Society of the Sacred Heart of Jesus worked in the Bismarck Archipelago, the Society of the Holy Ghost and the Society of the Divine Word along the coast of North-East New Guinea from Sek to the Dutch border, the Marists in Buka and Bougainville. These are Roman Catholic Missions. The Protestant Missions are the Australian Methodist Mission in New Britain and New Ireland, the New Zealand Methodist Mission in Bougainville, the Liebenzell Mission in the Admiralty Group, the Lutheran Mission (supported and staffed by the Lutheran Churches in Australia and America) which

worked along the coast of North-East New Guinea from Sek to the Papuan border, the Melanesian Mission (Anglican) in New Britain, and the Seventh Day Adventist Mission in Bougainville and New Britain. All these societies include teaching and planting with their missionary work.

§ 5. Land Policy.

1. **Acquisition of Land.**—A short account of the modes of acquiring land appears in Official Year Book No. 19, p. 590, but considerations of space preclude its repetition.

2. **Land Policy of the Present Administration.**—The Land Ordinance 1922-1941 provides for sale as well as leasing of land belonging to the Administration. The divergence from the policy usually adopted by the British in the Pacific (including Papua), which provides for leasehold only, was made with a view to disposal by sale of the freehold properties taken over from Germans, and which until 1927 were controlled by the Expropriation Board. The general land policy is based on the leasehold principle. All grants or leases contain a reservation to the Administration of all minerals, including mineral oil. Leases are for a term of 99 years except where a shorter period is provided. Lands, except in towns, are classified by a Land Board into land suitable for agriculture (Class A) and land not so suitable (Class B), and the unimproved value of the land is assessed. In the case of agricultural leases for more than 30 years the rent is 5 per cent. of the unimproved value, with power to remit during the first ten years, and subject to reappraisal every 20 years. Pastoral leases of lands of Class B may be granted for terms not exceeding 30 years, at a rental of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the unimproved value, subject to reappraisal every 10 years. Agricultural leases are subject to improvement conditions and pastoral leases to stocking conditions. Leases of town allotments may be granted for terms not exceeding 99 years, at a rent to be fixed at such percentage of the unimproved value as is prescribed.

The following table shows the leases in force on 30th June, 1941 :—

TERRITORY OF NEW GUINEA : LEASES IN FORCE, 30th JUNE, 1941.

Tenure.	No. of Leases.	Area.
		Acres.
Agricultural leases	442	141,628
Pastoral leases	3	9,496
Residence and business leases	320	334
Special leases	56	707
Mission leases	441	1,542
Chinatown leases	213	58
Long period leases from German regime	115	5,189

The area of the Territory is estimated at 59,517,593 acres, of which 906,763 acres had been purchased from the natives by the Administration to 30th June, 1941. This alienated land comprised 521,057 acres of freehold, 158,952 acres of leasehold, 200,144 acres held by the Administration, and 26,610 acres vested in the Director of District Services and Native Affairs as a trustee for natives. The area alienated in 1940-41 was 3,360 acres.

3. **Registration of Titles.**—Under German law there was a system of registration of titles in a "Ground Book," but registration did not confer an indefeasible title. The German system has been replaced by one modelled on the Torrens plan, embodied in an Ordinance entitled the Lands Registration Ordinance 1924-1939.

§ 6. Production.

1. **General.**—The natives have been described as a people of peasant proprietors, practising a crude form of agriculture. Their gardens and groves furnish but a small amount of produce for oversea trade, and the exports of the Territory grew only as European plantations were made, and natives were employed to work them.

Scientific methods of cultivation have been adopted, and production has been greatly increased thereby. Bounties are paid by the Commonwealth Government on cocoa beans and shells, hemp and coir, sago, vanilla beans, bamboos and rattans, and spices and kapok, produced in the Territory and exported direct to Australia for home consumption.

2. **Agriculture.**—(i) *General.* Under the supervision of the Director of Agriculture soil analysis has been undertaken in different parts of the Territory and an agricultural chemist was appointed in 1939 to carry out this specialized work. A demonstration plantation has been established at Keravat where natives are being trained in tropical agriculture. A laboratory and a herbarium have been established, an entomologist and economic botanist engaged, and travelling inspectors appointed for the purpose of combating plant pests. Experiments are being carried out with a variety of crops. The foregoing measures, in conjunction with the Papua and New Guinea Bounties Act 1937 and the preference given by the Commonwealth Tariff to certain produce grown in the Territories, have greatly stimulated tropical agriculture.

(a) *Coco-nuts.* Coco-nut growing was, prior to the outbreak of war in September, 1939, by far the most important industry in the Territory, but low prices followed by the collapse of the world copra market checked expansion, the exports in 1940-41 being valued at only £266,970 compared with £504,627 in the previous year and with £1,231,309 (76,409 tons) in the peak year 1936-37.

(b) *Tobacco.* In 1940-41 many planters were cultivating tobacco to cater for the local market. Two companies manufactured tobacco suitable for issue to the natives or for trade. In some instances planters issued the dry leaf to the native labourers who make their own cigars and cigarettes.

(c) *Cotton.* In 1924-25 the Government obtained 1,615 lb. of cotton seed, and cultivation was tried at the experimental stations as well as by private planters, including a few natives, but little progress has been made.

(d) *Kapok.* During 1940-41 the cultivation of kapok continued on a small scale, the local demand being more than sufficient to absorb the available crop.

(e) *Cocoa.* Greater interest is being displayed in the cultivation of cocoa. The quality of the beans produced is good, and 292 tons were exported during 1940-41.

(f) *Desiccated Coco-nut.* Three desiccated coco-nut factories have been established in the Territory. The quantity exported during 1940-41 was 1,877 tons, an increase of 96 tons over the previous year's figure.

(g) *Coffee.* In 1940-41 two plantations of coffee were in satisfactory condition and were commencing to yield. Seventy-four tons of coffee of good quality, valued at £5,525 were exported during that year and were well received on the Australian market.

(h) *Rubber.* The tapping of rubber trees was increased during 1940-41 mainly because of the satisfactory price of rubber.

(i) *Other Crops.* The climate and soil of New Guinea are suitable for the cultivation of rice, Manilla hemp, cinchona, nutmeg, vanilla, peanuts and maize, but hitherto their cultivation has either not advanced beyond the experimental stage or has been attempted on a small scale only. Sugar-cane of many varieties flourishes, and the natives cultivate extensive areas for their own use; other indigenous food-producing plants include the sago palm and the cassava.

(j) *Plants Yielding Power Alcohol.* It seems probable that alcohol for power purposes will be produced economically. The sago palm and nipa palm yield as much as 60 gallons a ton, and in places are abundant.

(ii) *Plantations.* During 1934-35 the Administration disposed of the several plantations maintained by it with the exception of the demonstration plantation at Keravat. The principal crops grown on plantations are shown in the table hereunder for the year ended 30th June, 1940. The figures are not complete, but they give an indication of the progress of agriculture in the Territory to that date.

TERRITORY OF NEW GUINEA : PLANTATIONS. 1939-40.

(Excluding Native Reserves.)

Crop.	Area Planted. (a)		Area Bearing.	Yield.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Tons.
Coco-nuts	261,676	210,954		(b)71,583
Cocoa	5,827	2,301		570
Coffee	2,792	1,935		56
Rubber	2,481	1,591		95
Kapok	556	321		15
Native Food (c)	3,289	1,453		2,099
Other	912	106		..
Total	277,533	218,661		..

(a) Includes inter-planted crops.

(b) Copra; desiccated coco-nut, 696 tons, also produced.

(c) Native food of all kinds is mostly grown between young coco-nut palms not yet in bearing.

The area of plantations for various years from 1885 to 1940 is shown hereunder. As in the case of the previous table, the figures exclude native plantations:—

TERRITORY OF NEW GUINEA : PLANTATIONS.

Year ended June—	Total Area.	Area Planted.	Area under Coco-nuts (including Area not in Bearing).
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
1885	148	(a)	(a)
1895	2,152	(a)	(a)
1911	58,837	(a)	51,510
1914	84,488	(a)	76,847
1924	411,275	(a)	172,373
1932	460,942	216,730	211,882
1937	487,375	244,066	234,189
1938	496,118	262,547	239,976
1939	504,000	264,877	253,235
1940	525,965	277,533	261,676

(a) Not available.

3. **Live Stock.**—The coco-nut plantations are now of a sufficient area to maintain numerous live stock, the stock being depastured on the indigenous grasses growing between the rows of palms. In 1939-40 there were 1,323 horses, 20,494 cattle, 1,184 sheep, 9,327 goats, and 6,160 pigs (excluding the large number of pigs kept by the natives).

4. **Timber.**—An investigation of the timber resources was made by the Commonwealth Inspector-General of Forests, and a report in connexion therewith was published in 1926. According to this report, while offering no prospects of immediate gain to large sawmilling interests, the Territory possesses forest potentialities of a high order. A survey of the timber resources of the Morobe District in 1934 indicated, however, that a pine forest in the Bulolo Valley contains approximately 200 million super. feet of millable timber; it is proposed to harvest this forest over a period of years and progressively to re-forest the area. In North-East New Guinea the Lutheran Mission and the Holy Ghost Mission both possess up-to-date sawmilling plants, while most of the timber required in the Archipelago is supplied by the Sacred Heart Mission's sawmill and three privately owned mills in New Britain. Timber cut on permit areas during 1940-41 was 5,785,027 super. feet in the log. The exports, consisting principally of timber in the log, amounted to 6,272,904 super. feet in 1940-41.

The Forestry Ordinance 1936-1937 provides for the issue of permits and licences to cut timber. Timber growing on native lands cannot be acquired by private purchasers directly from the natives, but must be obtained through the Administration. A royalty is payable on all forest produce taken under a permit or licence. Eight timber permits were issued during 1940-41 and 26 permits were in force at 30th June, 1941, embracing an area of approximately 199,019 acres.

5. **Fisheries.**—The wealth of the waters of the Territory has been little exploited. Fish is caught at many places along the coast to supply the small local demand of the natives and of the few resident Europeans. Pearl-shell is exported in fair quantities, while *bêche-de-mer*, trochus-shell and tortoise-shell also figure amongst the exports. The value of marine products exported in 1940-41 was £9,255, compared with £11,956 in the previous year.

6. **Mining.**—Except for gold there has been little mining in New Guinea. Gold has been discovered on the Waria, the Ramu, the Francisco, and the Markham Rivers, and in tributaries of the Sepik River. Rich gold was discovered in the Morobe District in 1926; the field is situated about 60 miles (35 by air) inland from Salamaua, the nearest coastal port. Communication was established with the coast by a regular aeroplane service. Osmiridium is reported to have been found on the upper tributaries of the Ramu, and platinum on the Kabenau River. Copper has been discovered in the form of chalcopyrite and malachite in the Baining District. Iron occurs as magnesite and hæmatite in the Baining District, apparently in large quantities. Sulphur occurs in several localities in the volcanic regions of the Territory. Brown coal has been found on the mainland in the vicinity of Astrolabe Bay, and in the southern portion of New Ireland.

Mining is regulated by the Mining Ordinance 1928-1940. Copies of the Ordinance and Regulations made thereunder may be obtained from the Secretary, Department of External Territories, Canberra.

The following table shows the production of gold during the five years 1936-37 to 1940-41 :—

TERRITORY OF NEW GUINEA : GOLD PRODUCTION.

Year.	Quantity.		Value. (a)
	Fine oz.		£
1936-37	..	223,120	1,938,694
1937-38	..	223,929	1,935,954
1938-39	..	237,705	2,153,018
1939-40	..	278,922	2,917,526
1940-41	..	263,097	2,808,835

(a) Valued at average price realized for fine gold in Australia.

Since the high market price of gold has been maintained, the search for profitable areas in various parts of the Territory has not diminished and systematic testing by drilling and other means has been undertaken on alluvial areas previously considered unworthy of attention. Although there were no new discoveries of alluvial or reef gold during 1941, work proceeded steadily on the known gold-bearing areas.

A search for petroleum has been actively conducted on the mainland. The Petroleum Ordinance 1936 has been superseded by the Petroleum (Prospecting and Mining) Ordinance 1938-1939, which has facilitated the carrying out of geological surveys and prospecting activities generally. On 30th June, 1941, two permits to search for petroleum were in force.

§ 7. Trade.

1. **Customs Tariff.**—With the exception of high revenue rates on ale, spirits, beverages and tobacco and a duty of 3d. per gallon on petrol, kerosene and lubricating oil, the tariff of the Territory of New Guinea is generally on a 10 per cent. ad valorem

basis. Only 72 items are mentioned in the import schedule, of which approximately 60 are on the free list consisting of articles for use by the Administrator, the Trade Commissioners and the Missions, and medical supplies, live stock, meat, fish, fresh fruit, vegetables and certain essential manufactures for use in the Territory. The rate of duty for the remaining items as well as for all other goods not mentioned in the schedule is 10 per cent. ad valorem. No preferential tariff rates are provided in the schedule.

Export duties are levied on copra, trepang, shell, feathers and sulphur. When the price, or the assessed value of copra is less than £5 15s. per ton no tariff is imposed, but when the price exceeds this figure up to £11 per ton 2s. 6d. per ton is charged, which increases on a sliding scale to 11s. 6d. per ton as the price rises to £18, with an additional 2s. per ton for every further increase of £1 in the price of copra. The imports in 1940-41 amounted to £962,129 on which £147,452 was received in import duties, while £590 was paid in export duties and royalties.

Provision is made in the Australian Customs Tariff (Papua and New Guinea Preference) 1936 for the free entry into Australia of certain goods produced and imported direct from the Territory of New Guinea (see Chapter XII. "Trade"), and a proclamation of 25th September, 1935 exempted from primage duty goods produced or manufactured in the Territory.

2. Imports and Exports.—Values of the principal items of imports and exports for the years 1936-37 to 1940-41 are shown below. The values of exports are expressed in Australian currency, but it is not possible to determine accurately the currency of the £ in the table of imports.

TERRITORY OF NEW GUINEA : IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

Particulars.	1936-37.	1937-38.	1938-39.	1939-40.	1940-41.
IMPORTS.					
	£	£	£	£	£
Foodstuffs of animal origin ..	142,943	157,391	152,023	165,637	127,464
Foodstuffs of vegetable origin ..	186,732	190,657	158,895	164,751	145,070
Spirituous and alcoholic liquors ..	50,550	52,385	54,969	50,161	46,753
Tobacco and preparations thereof	59,045	58,155	63,122	61,160	51,931
Live animals	1,870	1,843	1,328	664	508
Animal substances	1,227	961	1,124	1,587	179
Vegetable substances and fibres	3,539	4,191	3,307	3,640	2,386
Apparel, textiles and manufac- tured fibres	152,923	182,590	138,077	130,360	93,164
Oils, fats and waxes	56,982	72,080	65,901	97,370	72,153
Paints and varnishes	14,422	11,044	10,934	9,932	7,818
Stones and minerals	14,039	16,030	8,164	4,314	5,439
Metals, manufactures and mach- inery	431,216	635,991	470,781	387,125	252,750
Rubber and leather and manu- factures thereof	13,810	15,663	16,365	21,668	16,739
Wood and wicker	28,860	33,565	29,195	20,617	9,105
Earthenware, cement, glass, etc.	17,113	14,251	13,215	13,549	8,383
Paper and stationery	22,917	24,026	22,829	24,169	19,122
Jewellery and fancy goods ..	11,282	21,328	14,133	10,231	10,045
Optical and scientific instruments	18,610	21,377	22,318	14,750	17,140
Drugs, chemicals and fertilizers ..	44,907	46,878	46,163	45,101	45,539
Miscellaneous	38,636	50,561	47,992	41,311	30,441
Specie	80,400	31,500	..	..	..
Total	1,392,023	1,642,467	1,340,835	1,268,097	962,129

TERRITORY OF NEW GUINEA: IMPORTS AND EXPORTS—*continued.*

Particulars.	1936-37.	1937-38.	1938-39.	1939-40.	1940-41.
EXPORTS.					
	£	£	£	£	£
Copra	1,231,309	847,734	727,949	504,627	266,970
Cocoa	6,600	4,475	6,580	11,340	11,680
Ivory nuts	767	162	..	7	..
Trepanng	1,350	2,250	2,025	1,680	1,870
Shell (trochus, etc.)	26,960	12,478	10,560	10,227	7,383
Tortoise-shell	50	91	89	49	2
Gold	2,020,667	2,028,980	2,129,263	3,021,731	2,797,226
Desiccated coco-nut	86,930	73,423	69,960	89,050	93,850
Rubber .. .. .	..	242	4,050	13,328	19,027
Miscellaneous	45,073	25,334	23,419	29,081	55,976
Total	3,419,706	2,995,169	2,973,895	3,681,120	3,253,984

3. Direction of Trade.—Particulars of the countries of origin of the imports into the Territory of New Guinea and of destination of the goods shipped therefrom during the years 1938-39 to 1940-41, are given in the following table.

TERRITORY OF NEW GUINEA: DIRECTION OF TRADE.

Country.	Imports.			Exports.		
	1938-39.	1939-40.	1940-41.	1938-39.	1939-40.	1940-41.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Australia	563,594	583,291	489,369	2,326,269	3,283,246	3,039,767
United Kingdom	154,501	119,042	79,136	337,605	220,200	47,599
Other British	48,163	55,306	63,745	..	..	29,976
China	69,831	87,412	43,317	17,428	11,115	1,870
Japan	46,627	34,921	28,063	7,445	7,266	28,822
France	3,806	2,523	1,275	6,193	12,291	..
Germany	71,245	17,430	4,595	31,829	2,669	..
U.S.A.	265,591	247,189	167,437	..	62,529	21,131
Other	117,477	120,983	85,192	247,126	81,804	84,819
Total	1,340,835	1,268,097	962,129	2,973,895	3,681,120	3,253,984

The bulk of the imports into the Territory of foodstuffs, beer, coal, paints, boats, launches and soap comes from Australia, which also supplies large quantities of machinery and metal manufactures, drugs, explosives, tobacco, cigarettes, apparel, boots, leather manufactures, timber, stationery and polishes.

§ 8. Shipping and Communication.

1. **General.**—Prior to the Japanese invasion a subsidized mail service between New Guinea and Australia was maintained by Burns, Philp and Coy. Ltd., which company also operated a two-monthly non-subsidized service between Australia, New Guinea, Hong Kong and Saigon. The Dutch Royal Packet Navigation Company's vessel called at Rabaul every five weeks en route from Singapore to Australia. Shipping within the Territory is regulated by the Shipping Ordinances 1936 and the Coastal Shipping, Ports and Harbours Regulations.

2. **Oversea Tonnage in 1940-41.**—The number and net tonnage of oversea vessels which entered and cleared the Territory during 1940-41 are shown hereunder.

TERRITORY OF NEW GUINEA : SHIPPING, 1940-41.

Nationality.	Vessels Entered.		Vessels Cleared.		Total.	
	Number.	Net Tonnage.	Number.	Net Tonnage.	Number.	Net Tonnage.
American	4	6,132	4	6,132	8	12,264
British	67	171,669	68	174,684	135	346,353
Dutch	5	12,090	5	12,090	10	24,180
Greek	1	3,209	1	3,209	2	6,418
Japanese	14	15,452	14	15,452	28	30,904
Norwegian	1	1,482	1	1,482	2	2,964
Panamanian	1	1,321	1	1,321	2	2,642
Thai	1	1,995	1	1,995	2	3,990
Total	94	213,350	95	216,365	189	429,715

3. **Local Shipping.**—Inter-island shipping services were maintained by the steamers and motor vessels of Burns, Philp and Coy. Ltd., and W. R. Carpenter and Coy. Ltd. A number of smaller motor vessels were also engaged in this trade.

4. **Land Communication.**—Means of communication on land are scanty. There are no railways. Roads lead from Rabaul to places within 30 or 40 miles, and there is a road 200 miles long in New Ireland. Elsewhere there are few roads outside plantations and the District Officers' stations. The large rivers of the mainland are as yet but little used.

There is a high-power wireless station at Rabaul, and low-power installations at the out-stations, including Salamaua and Wau.

5. **Communication by Air.**—The discovery of gold in New Guinea resulted in great aviation activity in the vicinity of the gold-fields. On account of the mountainous country and dense undergrowth between the coast and the gold-fields the task of transporting food and stores to the fields and of bringing the gold to the seaboard by land is an irksome and costly process. The fields are situated about 60 miles (35 by air) inland from Salamaua, and whereas aircraft cover the distance in approximately an hour, the nature of the country is such that a journey by other means occupies more than a week. During 1931-32 an air service was established between Port Moresby and the gold-fields, reducing the time occupied by the journey from Australia by about seven days. At 30th June, 1941, 41 aeroplanes were operating in New Guinea.

A weekly subsidized air service between Sydney and Rabaul came into operation on 30th May, 1938, and ceased in January, 1942. Passengers and mails were carried and the route followed was Sydney, Brisbane, Rockhampton, Townsville, Cairns, Cooktown, Port Moresby, Salamaua and Rabaul. Qantas now operates a tri-weekly air service between Australia and Port Moresby in Papua, and Lae, in New Guinea.

Further reference to New Guinea air activities is contained in Chapter V. "Transport and Communication" (see p. 167).

§ 9. Revenue and Expenditure.

Details of the revenue collected from various sources and the expenditure during each of the years 1936-37 to 1940-41 are given hereunder :—

TERRITORY OF NEW GUINEA : REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

Particulars.	1936-37.	1937-38.	1938-39.	1939-40.	1940-41.
REVENUE.					
	£	£	£	£	£
Taxation—					
Customs(a)	233,657	247,062	214,629	207,261	158,221
Licences	12,654	13,087	13,796	12,667	10,408
Native Head Tax	21,859	20,481	21,417	20,025	21,786
Stamp duties	6,861	6,182	6,467	5,978	3,906
Postal	25,208	47,240	27,163	20,340	15,583
Lands	17,006	16,179	18,416	15,281	16,357
Mining—					
Royalty on gold	97,622	97,464	107,975	143,906	119,792
Other	24,154	19,479	16,403	40,298	50,995
Fees and fines	24,377	19,285	17,947	16,155	13,615
Sales of stores, etc.	2,605	2,472	2,170	2,428	2,011
Miscellaneous	15,067	17,467	14,453	12,351	11,076
Total	481,070	506,398	460,836	496,690	423,750
EXPENDITURE.					
	£	£	£	£	£
Treasury and Audit	66,177	52,570	54,736	60,628	45,530
Agriculture	15,851	17,722	19,424	20,337	19,475
Public Justice	31,209	32,809	34,245	34,530	31,606
Public Health	73,191	80,377	89,784	85,207	80,162
Public Works	29,228	30,954	34,802	28,097	22,730
District Services and Native Affairs	109,705	115,648	125,876	127,296	106,107
New Works	66,223	70,011	69,146	63,257	48,509
Native Welfare	6,177	7,185	6,453	6,621	6,078
Other	62,357	610,1337	68,114	74,641	71,595
Total	460,118	508,613	502,580	500,614	431,792

(a) Includes harbour dues, wharfage and storage fees.

(b) Includes £40,011. expenditure due to the volcanic eruption.

NAURU (Mandated).*

1. **General.**—Nauru is an oval-shaped atoll about 12 miles in circumference, having an area of about 5,263 acres, of which approximately two-thirds is phosphate-bearing. It is situated in longitude 166° E., and is 26 miles south of the Equator. Portion of the island between the sandy beach and the coral cliffs is fertile, and it is there that the Nauruans reside. With the exception of a small fringe around an inland lagoon, the plateau which contains the phosphate deposits possesses few food plants and is uninhabited, but portion of the area has been planted with fruit trees. The system

* Communications with Nauru ceased on 25th August, 1942, and it was assumed that the Island was occupied by Japanese Forces on or about that date. The island was re-occupied by a joint Australian Naval and Military Force on 14th September, 1945, and Civil Administration was re-established on 1st November, 1945.

of land tenure is governed by an old custom, and, with the exception of small allotments held by the Government, the British Phosphate Commissioners and the Missions, the whole of the island is owned by individual natives. The average shade temperature ranges between 72° and 95° F., and the average humidity between 70 and 80 per cent. The average rainfall is 85 inches, but droughts occasionally occur, and in 1916 and 1917 only 40 inches were received for the two years. Similarly in 1938 only 20.94 inches were recorded.

2. **History.**—The island, discovered by Captain Fearn in 1798, was annexed by Germany in 1888, and prior to 1914 was part of the protectorate of German New Guinea.

In November, 1914, Nauru was occupied by a detachment from the Australian Naval and Military Expedition at Rabaul, and it was included in the cession of colonies made by Germany in 1919 to the Allied and Associated Powers, whose representatives agreed that a mandate for its administration should be conferred upon His Britannic Majesty. The mandate, which is in similar terms to that for the Territory of New Guinea, was confirmed by the Council of the League of Nations on the 17th December, 1920. On 2nd July, 1919, the British, Australian and New Zealand Governments agreed that the administration (which, since 1915, had been in charge of an official appointed by the British Colonial Office) should be vested in an Administrator who took up duty in June, 1921. The Agreement between the three Governments was approved by the Commonwealth Parliament in the Nauru Island Agreement Act 1919, and is shown in the Schedule to that Act. A supplementary agreement concerning Nauru was drafted in May, 1923, and ratified by the Commonwealth Parliament by the Nauru Island Agreement Act 1932.

3. **Administration.**—The administration of the island is vested in the Administrator, who is obliged to conform to instructions issued by the Government which appointed him, and all ordinances made by him are subject to confirmation or disallowance by the Governor-General of Australia acting on the advice of the Federal Executive Council. All administration expenses are met from local revenue. Native industries such as canoe-building, fishing, mat-making, etc., are encouraged by the provision of prizes at annual competitions. An agency of the Commonwealth Savings Bank has been established. There is a co-operative store managed to a large extent by the natives. The store books, however, are audited by Government officers. Natives are not allowed to carry or be in possession of firearms, and the use by them of intoxicating liquors and deleterious drugs is prohibited.

4. **Population.**—The population figures on 1st April in each of the years from 1937 to 1939 and on 31st December, 1940 and 1941, are given hereunder :—

NAURU : POPULATION.

Nationality.	1937.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.
Europeans	194	179	171	192	68
Chinese	1,261	1,533	1,512	1,350	584
Nauruans (a)	1,658	1,727	1,765	1,761	1,827
Other Pacific Islanders	4	27	44	49	193
Total	3,117	3,466	3,492	3,352	2,672

(a) The natives of Nauru are Micronesians.

Births in 1941 numbered 83, all of which were Nauruans. There were 13 marriages (Nauruans), and 31 deaths (26 Nauruans and 5 Chinese).

5. **Health.**—Cases of the usual diseases known in the Pacific occur. Venereal disease is rare, but elephantiasis is occasionally met with. An area has been set apart for the segregation of lepers, and the latest methods of treatment are

applied. The total number of persons receiving treatment at 31st December, 1940, was 136, of whom 44 were in the Leper Segregation Hospital. Two hospitals are maintained on the island, one by the Administration for Nauruans, and one by the British Phosphate Commission for its employees. In common with other natives, the Nauruans are very susceptible to tuberculosis and influenza, and in 1921 an influenza epidemic caused the deaths of 230 islanders. Dysentery, both amœbic and bacillary, is endemic. A regular anti-mosquito campaign is conducted. Steps have been taken by the authorities to improve the water supply and to provide efficient sanitation generally. Every Nauruan is required to undergo a medical examination once a month. Baby clinics have been established to give help and advice to Nauruan mothers in regard to infant nurture.

6. **Education.**—Formerly the education of Nauruan and other native children was undertaken by the Missions subsidized by the Administration, but on 1st October, 1923, the Administration assumed responsibility for education. At the close of 1940 there were seven primary and two post-primary schools for natives and a primary school for European children. A total of 37 European children and 609 native children were receiving instruction. The school for European children was in charge of a teacher on loan from the Education Department of Victoria who also supervised educational matters generally. The curriculum is similar to that of corresponding schools in Australia, and the teaching is, as far as possible, wholly in English. Education is compulsory between the ages of six and sixteen for Nauruan and other native children; after the termination of ordinary school attendance, twelve months are devoted to technical training.

7. **Judiciary.**—The judicial power is vested in the Administrator in a Central Court and a District Court. The right of appeal is provided.

8. **Religion.**—The London Missionary Society (Protestant) and the Sacred Heart of Jesus Mission (Roman Catholic) operate in Nauru.

9. **Phosphate Deposits.**—(i) *General.* From 1906 to 1919 the deposits were worked by the Pacific Phosphate Company, which also worked the deposits on Ocean Island (about 165 miles east of Nauru and part of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony administered by the Colonial Office). The quantity on Nauru has been estimated at not less than 50,000,000 tons, and the exports average 85 per cent. to 88 per cent. of tricalcium phosphate.

The interests of the Pacific Phosphate Company in the two islands (though not in other islands in the Pacific in which it had workings) were bought by the British, Australian and New Zealand Governments in 1919 for £3,500,000, the purchase money being contributed in the proportions of 42, 42, and 16 per cent. respectively. The Agreement of 2nd July, 1919, provides for the working of the deposits by the British Phosphate Commission of three members, one appointed by each Government; and the three countries are to receive the output in the same proportions of 42, 42, and 16 per cent.

(ii) *Royalty on Phosphate.* By an agreement entered into between the British Phosphate Commissioners and the Nauruan landowners in 1927 provision was made, *inter alia*, for the payment of a royalty of 7½d. per ton of phosphate exported as follows:—

(a) 4d. per ton to be paid to the Nauruan landowner concerned;

(b) 1½d. per ton to the Administrator for the benefit of the Nauruan people;

(c) 2d. per ton to the Administrator to be held in trust for the Nauruan landowner concerned and invested at compound interest for a period of 20 years.

The capital will then remain invested and the interest thereon will be paid to the landowner.

The rates specified above were to have effect for a period not exceeding 20 years on and from 1st July, 1927, but the royalty of 4d. per ton to the Nauruan landowner was subject to adjustment for the second, third and fourth five-yearly period by increasing or decreasing it pro rata to any increase or decrease of the export price of the phosphate. The royalty for the second five-yearly period was increased to 4¾d. per ton.

In June, 1937, the price of phosphate had fallen 1. 14s. per ton and consequently under the terms of the original Agreement the royalty would have been reduced to 1½d. per ton. By an amendment of the Lands Ordinance in 1939 the agreement was extended for a period of 20 years, or to 30th June, 1967. The royalty of 2d. per ton paid to the Administrator to be held in trust and invested was increased from 1st July, 1937, to 2½d. per ton. From the same date a royalty of 4d. per ton was paid to the Nauruan land-holders instead of 1½d. per ton under the original Agreement. This rate is subject to adjustment at the end of five years, and from 1st July, 1947, is to be 5d. per ton if the price of phosphate is 12s. per ton or less, with an additional ½d. per ton for each 1s. above 12s. up to a maximum royalty of 6d. per ton.

The amending Ordinance also increased, from 1st July, 1947, the lump sum to £45 per acre and to £7 10s. for areas less than 1 acre, payable to landowners from whom phosphate-bearing lands are leased.

(iii) *Nauru and Ocean Island Phosphate Industry.* The following table gives particulars regarding exports of phosphate during the years 1937-38 to 1941-42 :—

NAURU AND OCEAN ISLAND : EXPORTS OF PHOSPHATE.

Year.	Total.	To Australia.	To New Zealand.
		Per cent.	Per cent.
	Tons.		
1937-38	1,169,361	66.17	24.81
1938-39	1,228,590	67.06	23.63
1939-40	1,243,428	54.49	32.14
1940-41	626,149	50.14	38.76
1941-42	144,454	53.79	46.21

From Nauru alone during the calendar year 1941 the export was 99,150 tons.

(iv) *Accounts of Commission.* A statement for the five years ended June, 1942, is given hereunder :—

NAURU AND OCEAN ISLAND : SALES OF PHOSPHATE.

Heading.	1937-38.	1938-39.	1939-40.	1940-41.	1941-42.
	£	£	£	£	£
Receipts from Sales, etc. . . .	944,068	909,027	1,041,418	749,354	387,464
F.o.b. cost, including interest on capital, sinking fund, etc. . .	940,059	906,133	1,037,208	745,233	327,607

The amount due by the British Phosphate Commission to the partner Governments for purchase-money and other capital sums was £3,666,457 on 30th June, 1921, and at 30th June, 1942, this had been reduced to £3,024,373. The f.o.b. cost in 1941-42 includes a sum of £112,027 consisting of interest at 6 per cent. upon the purchase-price and a contribution to a sinking fund for the redemption of the capital debt in 50 years. The redemption fund now totals £507,127.

(v) *Employees.* Apart from a limited number of Europeans and a few Pacific Islanders, the employees are Chinese engaged under a three years' contract. A few Nauruans are employed occasionally.

10. *Trade.*—The Customs Tariff of Nauru provides for the free admission of all goods other than cigars, cigarettes, tobacco, spirits, wines, beer, cider, and perry, and cylinder blocks for motor cycle engines. Articles imported by the Administration for its own use and spirits for scientific purposes are exempt.

The Tariff rates apply to all countries alike. Information regarding imports and exports for the years 1937 to 1941 is shown in the following table.

NAURU : IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

Heading.	Year ended 31st December—					
	1937.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.	
Imports ..	£	144,454	272,256	170,624	192,749	106,978
Exports—						
Phosphate ..	tons	688,900	841,050	932,100	808,400	99,150
	£	513,989	546,683	605,974	541,168	69,375

Of the total imports Australia supplied £72,348 or 68 per cent. during 1941; the balance came mainly from United Kingdom, China, Dutch East Indies, New Zealand and Canada in that order.

In 1941 56,850 tons of phosphates were exported to Australia, and 42,300 tons to New Zealand.

11. **Revenue and Expenditure.**—The revenue and expenditure of the Administration during the years 1937 to 1941 were as follows:—

NAURU : REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

Heading.	Year ended 31st December—				
	1937.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.
Revenue	£	£	£	£	£
Expenditure	53,343	29,428	33,084	27,104	12,023
	29,311	30,287	29,391	26,223	23,951

Of the revenue in 1941, royalty on phosphate amounted to £5,630. Post Office receipts £600, capitation tax £1,611, import duty £1,258, interest on investments £1,334, and harbour dues £78. At the close of 1941 the accumulated funds of the Administration amounted to £46,297.