

proceeded smoothly, the work was extended by the employment of additional staff. A simple rule of thumb method was introduced. Land contiguous to dongas and watercourses and equivalent in width to the depth of the donga at that point was excised from cultivation and marked by the erection of stone beacons at 50 yard intervals. The beacons are whitewashed and are clearly visible. No cultivation or grazing is permitted in those areas until grass has become properly established. They will then be made available to grazing each year during winter, following Basuto custom.

(2) *Speeding up of the existing Soil Conservation Programme.*

Owing to the delays in the arrival of the machinery and plant little work could be undertaken in this connection.

(3) *Demonstration Areas and Run-off Experiments.* Mr. Hunter who was appointed to assist the Soil Conservation Officer and take charge of this work, resigned to take up an overseas bursary at Cambridge University. The work has, therefore, had to be postponed until a new appointment can be made. Preliminary investigations, which included visits to Experimental Stations in the Union made it clear that this investigational work will necessitate the services of a full time, suitably qualified man.

(4) *The Erection of Crush Pens and Branding and Registration Centres.* At the request of the Paramount Chief and members of the Basutoland Council the Department is to undertake the Branding and Registration of all livestock in the Territory. The scheme, which is primarily intended to combat stock theft, forms part of a general plan for the better use of the land. A proportion of the administration and overhead charges will be borne by the scheme, but the cost of all materials and transport charges have been paid from the Basutoland Wool and Mohair Fund.

Thirty-one sets of Crush Pens have been erected.

35. Five European Development Officers were appointed but it was not until well into the second half of the period under review that they commenced constructional work. Two officers left the service after a few months' work and have not yet been replaced. During the first four months, the Development Officers were attached to either District Commissioners or Agricultural Officers; they toured their respective areas getting to know the Native Ad-

ministrations and the Districts. To date, only two out of the five African Development Officers have been appointed. Thus in four Districts the extension of conservation work is being held up by the lack of staff.

Owing to the delay in obtaining machinery, and with a view to effecting economy in supervision, it was decided not to fill the post of Dam Construction Foreman, Section A. Details of the appointments made and their dispositions are to be found in Appendix I.

### **Equipment and Machinery**

36. The following have been received :

(1) *Tractors*

4 D4 Caterpillar Tractors

2 D6 Caterpillar Tractors

(2) *Scrapers*

1 Caterpillar Scraper

1 Landsborough Findlay Scraper

2 Rotary Scrapers (c.f. Buck Scoops)

30 Dam Scoops

(3) *Graders*

(a) As the five Adams Graders required could not be obtained from War Department Stores, two No. 124 Heavy Graders were purchased.

(b) Two No. 84 Adams Graders are on order from the United States and are expected early in the new year.

(4) *Other Equipment.* 10 Parmier Chain Harrows have arrived.

37. After careful consideration it was decided not to work the Dam Construction Gang as a separate unit, but rather to purchase one additional No. 40 Caterpillar Scraper so as to have three Dam Construction Units, and to place these machines under the supervision of the Conservation Foreman, in this way saving the cost of the appointment of a specialist Dam Construction Foreman.

38. The site for the demonstration conservation area envisaged still has to receive the consideration of the Paramount Chief. No capital works have yet been commenced other than the construction of one dam.

## CONCLUSION

### VISITORS

39. For the purpose of advising Government on the drafting of legislation to improve the "get up" of both wool and mohair the following visited Basutoland early in January :

Messrs. Mitchell, Will and Murrell representing Buyers.

Messrs. Green, Dodds, Patterson and Wedd representing Brokers. Other visitors to the Territory were :

The Secretary of State for Commonwealth Relations, the Right Honourable Patrick Gordon Walker, M. P.

Mr. Abbott of the Farmers' Co-operative Union,

His Excellency the High Commissioner and Lady Mary Baring, Admiral Sir Herbert and Lady Packer,

Mr. Fischer of Messrs. Menck and Co., Professor Scott of Natal University. A Party of Swaziland Chiefs accompanied by Mr. Fitzpatrick, District Commissioner.

Messrs. N. Wessels and Nel, Senior Sheep and Wool Officer and Extension Officer. His Excellency the Austrian Consul, Mr. Marshall of Swaziland, Mr. Pollock of England, Mr. Bickford of the Commonwealth Relations Office, Mr. Aitcheson of England, Mr. P. D. Rose, Senior Wool Officer, Cedara, Natal, Members of the Commission for planning the Social and Economic Rehabilitation of the Native Reserves. Dr. Bisschop of Onderstepoort, Mr. de Villiers, Editor of the Friend, Bloemfontein, Mr. John Bond of the Star, Johannesburg, Mr. Basil Davidson of the New Statesman and Nation, England, Dr. D. Meredith, Agricultural Advisor to African Explosives.

### Acknowledgments

40. I desire to record the appreciation of my staff for the assistance and co-operation of officials and non-officials alike, in our continued efforts to improve and encourage better farming practice. Moreover, it is with pleasure that I record my thanks to the Members of the Department for their contribution in bringing to a satisfactory conclusion another year of progress and more particularly for helping to build up the fine *esprit de corps* which exists at present.

J. G. M. KING,

*Director of Livestock and Agricultural Services.*

## APPENDIX I

At the end of the year two vacancies in the establishment existed, for one Agricultural and Livestock Officer and for a Principal Veterinary Officer.

The following is the staffing as at 31st December of the nine districts into which Basutoland is divided :

### **Maseru**

J. G. M. King	Director of Livestock & Agricultural Services
P. A. Bowmaker	Principal Agricultural Officer
P. H. Brown	Acting Principal Veterinary Officer
L. H. Collett	Soil Conservation Officer
G. R. Chalmers	Agricultural & Livestock Officer (Wool & Mohair)
R. K. Tennant	Agricultural & Livestock Officer
A. Bisschoff	Agricultural & Livestock Officer
I. M. Popiel	Development Officer (appointed 1. 2. 51)

W. Watson	Clerk
C. W. R. Mackay	Accounting Clerk
N. W. Dixie	Assistant Clerk
W. A. R. Schefferman	Storekeeper's Clerk
E. T. G. Ntsasa	Assistant Agricultural & Livestock Officer
A. P. J. Mohasi	Assistant Agricultural & Livestock Officer
	3 Soil Conservation Foremen
	1 Agricultural Overseer
	8 Demonstrators
	8 Assistant Demonstrators
	6 Clerks.
	12 Veterinary Trainees

### **Mafeteng**

A. E. Hensley	Agricultural & Livestock Officer.
	1 Soil Conservation Foreman
	4 Demonstrators
	6 Assistant Demonstrators
	1 Clerk

### **Mohale's Hoek**

G. S. Bennie	Agricultural & Livestock Officer (Seconded to Mauritius)
A. G. Brightmore	Agricultural & Livestock Officer
J. J. Axentowicz	Development Officer (Appointed 7. 6. 51)
	5 Demonstrators
	7 Assistant Demonstrators
	1 Clerk

### **Guthing**

V. S. Gilbey	Agricultural & Livestock Officer
	4 Demonstrators
	7 Assistant Demonstrators
	1 Clerk

### **Qacha's Nek**

I. L. Chard	Agricultural & Livestock Officer
	4 Demonstrators
	8 Assistant Demonstrators
	1 Clerk

**Mokhotlong**

A. L. Mapham

Agricultural & Livestock Officer  
 4 Demonstrators  
 9 Assistant Demonstrators  
 1 Clerk

**Butha-Buthe**

E. G. Wiggill  
 J. R. L. Kotsokoane

Agricultural & Livestock Officer  
 Development Officer (appointed 3. 4. 51)  
 1 Soil Conservation Foreman  
 4 Demonstrators  
 4 Assistant Demonstrators  
 1 Clerk

**Leribe**

M. R. H. Barry  
 A. F. S. Story

Agricultural & Livestock Officer  
 Development Officer (appointed 1. 2. 51)  
 1 Soil Conservation Foreman  
 8 Demonstrators  
 6 Assistant Demonstrators  
 1 Clerk

**Berea**

H. B. Wroughton  
 C. M. K. Seape

Agricultural & Livestock Officer  
 Development Officer (appointed 1. 7. 51)  
 1 Soil Conservation Foreman  
 4 Demonstrators  
 5 Assistant Demonstrators  
 1 Clerk

## APPENDIX II

**Maseru Monthly Rainfall Figures for Inclusion, Statistics 1951**

January	4.83 inches
February	4.09 "
March	3.54 "
April	2.50 "
May	.73 "
June	.65 "
July	.20 "
August	.64 "
September	1.35 "
October	4.98 "
November	1.89 "
December	1.52
<i>Total</i>	<u>26.92 inches.</u>

Average rainfall for 35 years — 28.81 inches.

## APPENDIX III

### Livestock Statistics

	<i>Cattle</i>	<i>Horses</i>	<i>Donkeys</i>	<i>Mules</i>	<i>Sheep</i>	<i>Goats</i>	<i>Pigs</i>
Census 1951	401,221	102,903	59,188	3,089	1,564,001	637,065	35,876
Exports	6,938	58	—	22	6,810	81	—
Imports	7,600	5,787	474	773	858	8	23
Wool Exports					8,814,024		
Mohair Exports						1,242,379	
Bones exported (lbs.)	267,712	(all classes of livestock).					
Hides exported (units)	41,365	—	—	—	193,728		—
Skins exported (units)		—	—	—			—

## APPENDIX IV

Measure	Prior to Dec. 1950	During 1951	Total to Dec. 1951
Area terraced Lowlands (acres)	285,016	21,564	306,580
Length of terrace (miles)	16,684	1,207	17,891
Buffer Strips Mountain Areas (Acres)	289,038	41,958	330,996
Diversion Furrows Mountain Areas (Acres)	75,823	10,282	86,105
Diversion Furrows Mountain Areas (yards)	1,797,793	257,060	2,054,853
Dams Constructed	307	33	340
Trees Planted	884,774	10,242	895,016
Dongas Demarcated (Miles)	—	1,645	1,645

The above figures for the year under review are drawn from gang totals as shown below :

District	Foreman	Area Terraced (Acres)	Area Protected by Diversion Furrows (acres)	Area Protected by Buffer Strips (Acres)	Dams Constructed
Butha-Buthe	H. J. Rothwell	4,100	4,616.6	602.3	—
Leribe	J. A. Smith	3,543	2,938.0	9,574.3	4
Leribe	D. Lekena	1,956	—	4,019.0	8
Maseru (Mountains)	—	—	707.3	1,690.6	—
Berea	J. Mohapi	4,895	—	—	1
Maseru	Brown Mosotho	1,328	—	—	4
Maseru (T.B.)	N. J. McQueen	2,442	—	—	4
Maseru	W. Pheko (Trainee)	806	—	—	—
Mafeteng	P. J. v. d. Walt	2,494.4	4.0	11,171.4	2
—	—	—	—	—	—
Mohale's Hoek	—	—	186.7	9,619.1	2
Quthing	—	—	145.4	1,125.7	1
Qacha's Nek	—	—	783.2	3,463.4	—
Mokhotlong	—	—	901.2	693.0	7
<b>Totals</b>		<b>21,564.4</b>	<b>10,282.4</b>	<b>41,958.8</b>	<b>33</b>

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