

358. Since the resumption of the control of the Strip by this Administration no outbreak of contagious or infectious animal diseases has occurred.

359. The Northern Labour Organization has a depot at Mongwe on the Mashi River, but recruiting has been temporarily suspended on account of the depression.

360. The natives have been quiet and contented.

(e) *Caprivi Strip (Western Portion).*

361. Owing to the closing of the Police Post at Andara, to which reference has been made above, information in regard to the western portion of the Strip is not yet available.

RESERVES WITHIN THE POLICE ZONE.

362. Particulars in regard to boreholes undertaken in the various reserves are given in the table hereunder:—

Borehole No.	Reserve.	District.	Depth (Feet).	Yield (Gallons).	Approximate Cost.
2521.....	Gibeon.....	Gibeon.....	397	Nil	£496
2541.....	Berseba.....	Keetmanshoop.....	376	In progress	—
2547.....	Aminuis.....	Gobabis.....	600	31,680	£750
2557.....	Gibeon.....	Gibeon.....	230	Nil	£287
2606.....	Aminuis.....	Gobabis.....	203	In progress	—
2612.....	Waterberg.....	Otjiwarongo.....	—	In progress	—

363. The following schedule shows the numbers of large and small stock in the various reserves:—

Native Owned Stock: Native Reserves, 1931.

District.	Reserve.	Cattle.	Horses.	Donkeys.	Mules.	Total Large Stock, 1931.	Total Large Stock, 1930.	Sheep.	Goats.	Total Small Stock, 1931.	Total Small Stock, 1930.
Bethanie.....	Soromas.....	70	33	18	2	123	142	447	1,991	2,438	1,944
Gibeon.....	Gibeon.....	316	35	194	1	546	280	3,177	6,915	10,092	2,584
Gobabis.....	Aminuis.....	9,068	627	1,489	4	11,188	11,884	8,304	19,938	28,242	24,792
Gobabis.....	Epukiro.....	6,488	229	1,018	—	7,735	8,000	492	3,587	4,079	4,080
Grootfontein.....	Otjituo.....	6,400	143	525	1	7,069	7,636	397	2,053	2,450	4,186
Karibib.....	Otjimbingwe.....	625	48	250	3	926	709	983	8,833	9,816	9,779
Keetmanshoop.....	Berseba.....	3,000	250	350	—	3,600	3,600	5,104	25,496	30,600	30,600
Keetmanshoop.....	Tses.....	600	55	220	—	875	1,300	1,017	9,717	10,734	12,750
Maltahohe.....	Neuhof.....	29	4	54	—	87	94	77	1,114	1,191	962
Okahandja.....	Ovitoto.....	6,012	217	752	—	6,981	6,248	1,335	11,990	13,325	4,611
Omaruru.....	Otjihorongo.....	1,731	79	657	—	2,467	3,871	2,959	15,934	18,893	32,878
Omaruru.....	Okambahe.....	418	17	175	—	610	1,709	569	5,440	6,009	11,497
Otjiwarongo.....	Waterberg.....	12,412	408	1,719	5	14,544	14,291	5,966	18,988	24,954	20,471
Outjo.....	Franzfontein.....	231	—	6	—	237	443	389	1,314	1,703	1,686
Warmbad.....	Bondels.....	1,040	129	543	—	1,712	1,826	2,076	4,230	6,306	8,381
TOTALS.....	.....	48,440	2,274	7,970	16	58,700	62,033	33,292	137,540	170,832	171,201
TEMPORARY RESERVES.											
Rehoboth.....	Hoachanas.....	69	16	54	—	139	327	85	3,107	3,192	1,453
Windhoek.....	Aukeigas and Furstenwalde.....	1,088	75	79	2	1,244	1,924	163	3,635	3,798	7,220
Windhoek.....	Eros.....	138	11	81	3	233	236	78	1,000	1,078	990
TOTALS.....	.....	1,295	102	214	5	1,616	2,487	326	7,742	8,068	9,663
GRAND TOTALS.....	.....	49,735	2,376	8,184	21	60,316	64,520	33,618	145,282	178,900	180,864

Soromas Reserve.

364. There has been an increase in the population which is attributed to the fact that some of the native labourers discharged by the diamond mines at Luderitz originally came from this reserve and have now returned to their homes.

365. There has been an increase in small stock which has nearly brought the figures up to the 1929 mark.

Gibeon Reserve.

366. A boundary fence 11,826 yards in length was erected during the year on the eastern side of the reserve, half the cost of which amounted to £108. 7s. 10d. and was paid out of the Reserve Trust Fund. The other boundary of this section on the Kalk Plateau was fenced a few years ago without cost to the Reserve.

367. The wire fence around the reserve garden was improved with wire-netting so as to make it stock proof. A second well is also being sunk in this garden with a view to planting and irrigating a few hectares of "Old Man" salt bush, in addition to the fruit trees and vegetables.

368. A well was sunk in the Falkenhorst portion of the Reserve and a small dam with a wall of 30 paces long was built recently to serve the same section.

369. Two boreholes were sunk on the Kalk plateau in an endeavour to provide water on the good grazing ground in this section, but both wells proved unsuccessful. The construction of several small dams will now be proceeded with in this area.

370. No outbreaks of stock diseases occurred in the Reserve.

371. About 4 to 5 inches of rain fell in the Reserve early in the year and the grazing has lasted fairly well. Should the 1932 season be a very poor one, relief will be resorted to in the form of well sinking and dam construction.

Aminuis Reserve, Gobabis.

372. Good rains fell in the reserve in the early part of the year, over 8 inches having been registered at Aminuis, and the precipitation was fairly general. The Superintendent, however, reported that he feared that the veld has been so overgrazed that there would still be a shortage of grazing towards the end of the year unless the eastern part of the reserve could be opened up by sinking additional boreholes. The wells sunk had in a number of cases not proved successful. It was decided therefore to restart boring operations. One successful borehole was sunk during the year and the drill is now operating at another site in the reserve.

373. The natives also sunk a number of wells, the blasting material for which was supplied by the Administration.

374. Two branding kraals were erected during the year.

375. Gallamsiekte, as in the past, claimed a fairly heavy toll. There is, therefore, a decrease in large stock but the small stock shows a considerable increase.

376. In this connection the natives are themselves largely to blame for the losses due to Gallamsiekte. The Superintendents of both the Aminuis and the Epukiro Reserves have been given instructions to endeavour to persuade the natives to resort to bonemeal feeding, but so far little progress has been made.

Epukiro Reserve.

377. During the year one of the existing dams was considerably enlarged and can now hold water for a very lengthy period. Owing to this reserve depending largely on boreholes for its water supply the cost of administration is very high. The reserve is capable of accommodating a considerably larger population if more water could be opened up, but in view of the present position of the Reserve Trust Fund further expenditure at the moment is impracticable and the natives must rely on the construction of dams undertaken by themselves under the direction of the Superintendent.

378. The rainfall at the beginning of the year was below normal, but good rains fell in November and the grazing is at present good.

379. The numbers of stock are substantially the same as they were last year.

Otjituo Reserve.

380. During the year a fence was erected on the north-western boundary of the reserve, and several wells were made by the natives.

381. The big dam which was constructed during 1930 was unfortunately washed away by floods but it is hoped to restore it as soon as possible.

382. The natives grow sufficient mealies for their own requirements, about 150 bags having been reaped during the year.

383. Good rains fell during the year. About June, a veld fire which started outside penetrated the reserve and did considerable damage to the north-western portion.

384. According to the figures given there is a decrease in stock, but owing to a change in Superintendents the new incumbent is unable to give a reliable estimate of the natural increase during the year and figures in this connection have been omitted.

385. About 100 head of cattle died from Gallamsiekte. There were no outbreaks of scab among the small stock.

386. Recently an agitation has been started amongst the Hereros in this reserve against the payment of grazing fees. This was apparently engineered by the wealthier natives and has taken the form of passive resistance.

387. In illustration of their attitude the Magistrate relates the following:—

In November arrangements were made with a buyer to go out to the reserve to buy oxen, but only one or two oxen of the required class were produced, although the Magistrate had been assured by natives that they had over 100 for disposal which were fit for the butcher. On another occasion a local farmer visited the Reserve and offered very good prices. He could not obtain any cattle. Almost immediately afterwards, however, the natives sold to a second farmer at lower prices than the first one had offered! The object of the natives is to dispose of their stock so that it will not become known that they have money to pay their grazing fees. This is done by selling the stock outside the Reserve without the knowledge of the Superintendent.

388. The Administration is doing its best to bring home to these people the fact that if it were not for the Reserve Fund it would not have been possible to sink boreholes to provide water during times of drought and to make a larger portion of the Reserve available for grazing. Defaulters are being firmly dealt with, and the agitation will no doubt quickly die out when the cattle owners find that the fees have to be paid.

389. The addition of the farms Okahumba and Otjomikambo has proved to be a great boon to the natives for, as was anticipated by the Administration it did not become necessary for the natives to move any cattle out of the Reserve in 1931, as was the case in previous years.

390. The Rhenish Mission started its first school in the Reserve in February.

Otjimbingwe Reserve.

391. As stated in last year's Report, the stock owners in the Karibib district, Europeans and natives alike, were very hard hit by the terrific drought which was only broken in February. The mortality among stock was very heavy until the end of that month; in fact, the magistrate estimates that 50 per cent. of the stock shown in last year's statistics had perished by the end of February. When this fact is borne in mind the actual increases may be regarded as excellent.

392. The rainy season, as far as the Reserve is concerned, was a record one, and it is thought that even should no rain fall during 1932, the grazing should last until the following rainy season.

393. The Swakop River was in flood several times and gardening along its banks was energetically engaged in by the natives. They produced about 6,000 lbs. of vegetables and an excellent crop of wheat, about 380 bags being reaped in the riverbed. Part of this was used by the natives and part sold at prices ranging from 25s. to 30s. per bag.

394. One grass fire occurred which destroyed about 3 square miles of grazing, but as the Reserve has an area of some 90,000 hectares the damage was practically negligible.

395. Owing to the depleted state of the Reserve Fund through the purchase of a portion of the farm Audawib in the previous year, fresh development work has not been undertaken.

Berseba Reserve.

396. In last year's Report it was mentioned that it was proposed to provide a windmill and a storage reservoir in the Reserve. The windmill was erected during the year and a storage reservoir of 10,000 gallons capacity was constructed.

397. A borehole is also being sunk in the Swartrand area of the Reserve in order to provide a reserve water supply during the dry season. The depth of this borehole, which is still in progress, is 376 feet at present.

398. The rainfall during the year amounted to about 4 inches and grazing is again becoming scarce but thus far there have fortunately been no losses on account of drought.

399. The numbers of stock are substantially the same as those given last year.

Tses Reserve.

400. During the year the fencing of 6,000 yards of boundary, viz.: between the Reserve and the farm Shirley, was completed.

401. Four wells are at present being sunk, two of which are already furnishing small supplies of water of good quality.

402. One additional dipping tank was constructed during the year.

403. The rainfall during the year amounted to 3 inches and the grazing in this Reserve is considerably poorer than that in the Berseba Reserve.

404. The decrease in the number of stock is due partly to the fact that some of the natives who had moved to fresh pastures with their stock have not yet returned to the Reserve and partly to the fact that the losses have not been altogether made good by natural increase.

Ovitoto Reserve.

405. The dam which was referred to in last year's Report has proved a great boon. It was filled to overflowing during the rainy season and has still a fair amount of water.

406. Another dam which, owing to some fault in the construction, did not retain its water, has now been repaired and ought to be of great assistance when filled, as it is situated in an area where the grazing is good.

407. The rainfall was excellent and the stock has increased correspondingly.

408. The big increase in small stock is due to the fact that, firstly the season was a good one, secondly the previous figures, owing to there being no reserve superintendent at the end of 1930, were underestimated, and thirdly natives brought additional stock into the Reserve.

Oljihoronggo Reserve.

409. A distance of 70 kilometres of fencing, which was damaged during the rainy season, was repaired.

410. One auxiliary engine was erected at the Omatjette windmill and 60 feet of piping added to the borehole at Kapelle.

411. The whole Reserve enjoyed good rains during the rainy season and during the second half of November good early rains fell, especially in the eastern portion.

412. William Kapia (Herero) was elected as successor to his late father Philemon Kapia, as Headman of the Reserve.

Okombahe Reserve.

413. During the year the boundary fence of the Reserve was repaired over a distance of seventeen kilometres and some gardens were fenced.

414. Good rains fell this year but the losses in stock, both large and small, have been very heavy. The natives expect to reap good crops and if this materialises it will naturally be of very great assistance as they will not be compelled to kill so many of their stock.

Waterberg East Reserve.

415. The farm Okatingenge, which is surrounded on three sides by the Reserve was fenced by its owner during the year, half the cost of dividing fence being borne by the Reserve Trust Fund.

416. The reservoirs at all boreholes were completed during the year. Two further boreholes are being sunk, one at Amapanda and another between Ombindi and Ombujoumubonde.

417. Some 18 inches of rain fell in the Reserve and no loss of stock occurred on account of drought.

418. The Superintendent reports that 907 head of large stock and 282 head of small stock died during the year but that the majority of deaths may be ascribed to old age, and that 752 head of cattle were sold during the year at very satisfactory prices.

419. The stock figures show a considerable advance upon those of the previous year. This is due to natural increase and to the fact that the number of inhabitants of the Reserve has increased by about 500.

420. A Reserve Board was established during the year.

421. There were no grass fires and no stock diseases occurred except one outbreak of gallamsiekte.

Franzfontein Reserve.

422. A further water supply was opened up by the natives during the year whereby the existing supply was considerably strengthened.

423. Good rains fell early in the year and again towards the end of the year. Grazing has been plentiful and no losses of stock have occurred owing to lack of food. No outbreaks of disease among stock occurred during the year.

424. In this Reserve there is a permanent water supply and here wheat and vegetables can be produced by the natives. Gardening operations are carried on fairly extensively but if the natives were to display more energy this could be done on a much larger scale and they could raise all they require in the line of food supplies.

Bondels Reserve.

425. This Reserve has been worse off than any other in the Territory. The rainfall has been very meagre, not having exceeded one inch anywhere in the Reserve, and the natives have sustained further losses of stock. It is feared that if the 1932 rainy season does not improve conditions, relief measures will have to be undertaken.

Neuhof Reserve, Maltahohe.

426. This Reserve had good rains and the figures show a fair increase in small stock. The year has been a satisfactory one as far as the Reserve is concerned.

RESERVE TRUST FUNDS.

(a) *Within the Police Zone.*

427. The native Reserves in 1931 contributed £7,086. 11s. 4d. towards the Reserve Funds. The collections stated comparatively with those of 1930 are set out below:—

	1930.	1931.
Dog Tax.....	£268 10 0	£276 13 9
Forest Revenue.....	2 10 0	6 10 0
Grazing Fees.....	334 1 6	5,517 14 5
Rental Trading Sites.....	6,879 12 7	824 9 2
Annual Rate.....	851 5 0	461 4 0
	6 0 0	
£	8,341 19 1	7,086 11 4

428. The following table sets out in respect of each Reserve the collections and expenditure during the year and the balance at the end of the year:—

General Account of Native Reserves Administration Funds showing Balances, Receipts and Expenditure for the year ended 31st December, 1931.

Reserve.	Amounts Credited during the Period 1/1/31 to 31/12/31.		Expenditure 1/1/31 to 31/12/31.		Credit Balance as at 31/12/31.		Debit Balance as at 31/12/31.	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Soromas.....	36	0 5	174	3 11	303	0 9	—	—
Gibeon.....	117	13 8	142	19 8	678	17 11	—	—
Aminuis.....	1,011	11 4	70	10 0	1,118	7 9	—	—
Epukiro.....	502	16 4	462	18 11	—	—	992	5 5
Otjituio.....	2,220	17 8	710	19 6	—	—	1,893	9 1
Otjimbingwe.....	111	8 11	161	9 0	262	17 4	—	—
Berseba.....	131	12 6	402	11 1	—	—	726	6 0
Tses.....	117	19 11	161	7 9	1,912	9 4	—	—
Neuhof.....	18	12 2	44	7 9	40	4 2	—	—
Ovitoto.....	514	15 10	13	17 6	132	9 5	—	—
Otjihorongo.....	292	4 9	116	6 11	1,686	9 7	—	—
Okambahe.....	150	10 8	180	0 4	1,149	15 7	—	—
Waterberg.....	2,856	7 8	1,106	1 2	2,573	14 0	—	—
Franzfontein.....	33	18 3	21	7 11	446	10 1	—	—
Bondels.....	—	—	34	2 0	25	14 6	—	—
TOTAL.....£	8,116	10 1	3,803	3 5	10,330	10 5	3,612	0 6
TEMPORARY RESERVES.								
Hoachanas.....	34	15 1	—	—	324	17 7	—	—
Aukeigas and Furstenwalde.....	197	1 3	68	10 2	740	0 1	—	—
Eros.....	25	2 8	23	3 0	18	17 0	—	—
TOTAL.....£	256	19 0	91	13 2	1,083	14 8	—	—
Invested Funds— Berseba Trust Account.....	—	—	—	—	4,231	9 6	—	—
GRAND TOTALS....£	8,373	9 1	3,894	16 7	15,645	14 7	3,612	0 6

Ovamboland.

429. The following return shows the collections during the year in respect of the Ovamboland Tribal Trust Funds:—

Tribal Trust Fund.	Collections, 1931.
Credit balance as at 30th December, 1930.....	£ s. d. 2,743 17 6
Ondonga.....	430 5 0
Ukuanyama.....	306 10 0
Ukuambi.....	105 15 0
Ukualuthi.....	50 5 0
Ongandjera.....	42 15 0
Ombalantu.....	18 5 0
Ovambo.....	4 5 0
TOTAL.....£	3,701 17 6

430. During the year an amount of £2,482. 4s. 11d. was appropriated from the funds and expended on drought relief measures. This leaves a balance of £1,219. 12s. 7d. in the fund as at the end of the year.

431. The £2,482. 4s. 11d. is not included in the £16,603 mentioned in paragraph 101 (Ovamboland Distress).

432. Owing to the fact that the Ovambos out at work remitted most of their savings to the dependents at home to enable them to purchase grain during the famine, the tax for 1931 (which fell due in October) was suspended.

Caprivi Zipfel.

433. The following return shows the collections during the year in respect of those tribes who reside in the Eastern portion of the Caprivi Zipfell:—

Tribal Trust Fund.	Collections, 1931.
Mafuri (Bayeyi)	£280 10 0
Basubia	110 0 0
	<hr style="width: 100%; border: 0.5px solid black;"/>
	£390 10 0
	<hr style="width: 100%; border: 0.5px solid black;"/>

Only 10s. had been collected from members of the Ovambukushu tribe who reside in the Western portion. These natives have no money and cannot obtain work owing to the depression.

XXI.—MISSIONS.

434. The work done by the various mission stations in the Territory is enumerated in the following reports which are reproduced as furnished by the Missions.

Rhenish Mission.

435. "Under the exceedingly sad economical position of the country in the past year, a result of the preceding years of distress, the native population naturally also suffered much. Their possessions of large and small stock have considerably diminished in large areas of the Territory. To this must be added retrenchments or reductions of wages. In many cases the people had to be satisfied in obtaining food instead of wages, if they did not want to lose their jobs altogether. If the master gets poor and impecunious, there hardly remains anything for the servants, especially on the farms. But the natives are used to such periodically returning conditions of their country from times of yore, and they do not regard them as tragically as the white man does, who certainly has more obligations to meet than merely sustaining bodily life. They certainly feel the stress of the time, the want and the hunger, but owing to their fatalistic disposition of mind they get over such times easily. The communistic way of living which has been the custom of the people from times of yore, is a good adjuvant to keep even the poorest above water. And where even this ended in failure, the Administration was always prepared to render considerable assistance by distributing rations.

436. "Naturally, the income of the Mission likewise considerably suffered under the general depression. It had difficulty in balancing the income and expenditure of its great work at times. But, thanks to the financial support from home, the Rhenish Mission did not require to reduce its work yet. On the contrary, in spite of the stress of the time, it could extend its work in a normal way. The staff of native teachers could be increased from 70 to 86, the number of public schools to 57. Approximately 4,000 children were instructed in the latter against approximately 4,500 in the previous year. The low number must be ascribed to the fact that many children were scattered over the rural areas and in the Reserves in consequence of the bad economical position. One hour of the four daily school hours is generally devoted to manual instruction of boys and girls. The instruction of girls in needlework, given by the wives of the missionaries or Mission sisters, shows very good results throughout. In two special schools for manual instruction (Otjimbingue and Kranzplatz) where youths who have left school are mostly instructed in woodwork, diligent work was done. Trained German school sisters were the principals of five schools.

437. "In the Training Institute for Teachers in Okahandja of which Dr. Vedder is the principal, 32 aspirant teachers were instructed by two European teachers. The students are made up of 6 Hereros, 9 Bergdamas, 13 Namas, 2 Ovambos, 1 Bechuana and 1 Baster. The medium of instruction is Afrikaans which has to be learnt by all students at the commencement of the 3 years' course of training. In the middle of 1932 the present course will be completed, and hence a further much desired number of trained teachers will be available then.

438. "Sixty peripatetic and chief evangelists laboured amongst the tribes speaking different languages. The first mentioned travel from farm to farm according to a fixed itinerary, give primitive instruction to the children and farm labourers, preach and give baptismal instruction to adults. The chief evangelists are entrusted with the administration of the Sacraments. Under the guidance and supervision of the missionaries they serve as native pastors. In view of the scattered way of living of the natives in this country these native assistants render inestimable services. Their appearance on the

lonely farms and their instruction are hailed with delight. The missionaries almost all of whom have now been supplied with motor cars, make several tours in their circuits annually, supervise the work of the evangelists and conduct services. On the stations 212 elders assist the missionaries in the guidance of the congregation and they also conduct divine services in the absence of the missionaries.

439. "The chief centres of labour of the Mission are 21 mission stations spread over the whole country. To these numerous smaller preaching places in the rural areas with more or less strong filial congregations are joined. Churches and schools are the houses of assembly. Knowing that human beings only esteem that for which they are prepared to make sacrifices, the Rhenish Mission expects all men and women who are capable of earning money and who are members of the congregation to pay a small annual church contribution. If the native church is to stand on its own feet financially in the course of time, then its members should be accustomed to make sacrifices for the common great cause in time. Unfortunately this necessary recognition has not yet been awakened in all. The money collected is used for paying the salaries of the evangelists and for other numerous requirements of the congregations.

440. "During the year under report the staff of the European Mission labourers amounted to 24 married missionaries, 1 unmarried missionary, 5 school sisters, 3 sick-nurses, 1 economy sister for the House of Recuperation at Swakopmund, 2 teachers of manual work, 1 mason, and 2 farm managers. Seven missionaries had also to care for German congregations apart from their missionary service.

441. "The Mission farm Gaub again did splendid work. But, like all farms, it had to suffer under the want of markets for their products.

442. "The following figures in connection with the whole work at the end of 1931 are added:—

Number of members of congregations	54,848
Baptisms of heathens	1,537
Baptisms of Christian children	1,150
Marriages	381
Teachers	86
Pupils	4,000
Deceased	497
Catechumens	2,175

(a) *Catholic Mission.*

443. "The Vicariate of Windhoek comprehends the middle and northern districts of the country from Windhoek up to the boundary towards Angola.

444. "One Bishop, 28 priests, 31 brothers, 88 sisters and 37 native teachers and catechists are working on 22 mission stations.

445. "The Fathers care for the religious instruction and ministry of the European (1,358) and native members (6,053) of their respective missions. Separate services according to races and languages are regularly held on the head stations and the outposts are visited according to the circumstances.

446. "The brothers are occupied with different trades and agricultural work.

447. "The sisters are employed in the different branches of house-keeping on the mission stations, and as nurses and teachers in the hospitals and schools of the mission.

448. "The Roman Catholic Mission manages three hospitals for Europeans and two for Natives. The total number of patients and reconvalescents in these hospitals during the year has been:—

1,679 Europeans, with 21,834 days of treatment.

371 Natives, with 11,302 days of treatment.

On different mission stations 7,014 natives have been privately helped and nursed by the Fathers and sisters.

449. "The Mission is further in charge of:

"(1) 1 School for Europeans (Höhere Töchterchule, Windhoek) with hostel and special training courses for music, shorthand and commercials. The number of the pupils was 138.

"(2) 35 Schools for natives (11 state-aided) with 1,052 registered pupils. The attendance in some of the schools, especially in Ovamboland and on the Okavango River is, however, rather irregular.

“(3) One training school for native teachers with 16 students. In all these schools a considerable attention is given to hand work. Owing to the general depression and financial situation, which may affect more the Roman Catholic than the other missions, on account of the charitable and educational institutions (hospitals and high school) and on account of the different agricultural works of this mission, the mission had to confine itself during this period to the upkeep and improvement of the existing stations and institutions and could not think of further developments during the past year.”

(b) *Prefecture of Great Namaland.*

450. See paragraphs 629 and 630 of Report for 1930.

451. No report in respect of 1931 has been received from this Mission.

Finnish Mission, Ovamboland.

452. “The last year began in a time of famine and while the Administration was organizing relief work among the natives. During the first month the rainfall improved considerably and life and hope were restored. It pleased the Almighty to give the Ovambo tribes a good harvest. This came as a relief to the Administration too, as it had made great efforts to save the Ovambos from starvation. The measures adopted by the Administration proved to be very successful.

453. “The good crop saved the Ovambo and facilitated the work of the local missionaries. On the other hand the general depression is also felt in Ovamboland. Money has disappeared. This has increased the difficulties in maintaining the congregations. As Finland has abandoned the gold standard the Finnish Mission has to overcome considerable financial difficulties. It loses about 1,400,000 F.M. annually when its money is exchanged for South African money. This fact has compelled our Society to adopt drastic measures and will reduce our work to a smaller scale.

454. “God has been merciful and has given us a chance to recover from the effects of the famine. This is proved by the fact that more natives attend our services and our schools and that they are eager to build us churches and school buildings. The different trade schools are also doing good work. It might increase if times were better.

455. “In conclusion we beg to express our gratitude for the support we have received from the Administration. In spite of the general distress and the difficulties it had to face the following amounts were granted to the Finnish Mission:—

“(1) *For Schools*—

For the Oniipa Seminary for Teachers £100
For the Onguediva Industrial School 100

“(2) *For Nursing*—

Grants-in-aid £514. 3s. 6d.
Medicines free of charge 234. 6s. 0d.

456. “The work done by our Mission is reflected by the following statistics:—

“STATISTICS OF THE FINNISH MISSION, OVAMBOLAND, 1931.

A. EDUCATION.

Station.	1. Primary Schools (including Station Schools).			2. Baptismal and Catechumenical Schools.
	Schools.	Teachers.	Pupils.	Pupils.
Olukonda.....	11	16	1,087	128
Oniipa.....	3	5	163	69
Ontananga.....	4	7	333	54
Onandjokue....	1	1	92	4
Onajena.....	13	20	715	59
Oshigambo.....	18	20	647	86
Oshitaji.....	7	7	705	101
Engela.....	39	78	2,423	229
Ukuambi.....	12	25	766	186
Ongandjera....	4	12	178	127
Ukualuthi.....	3	8	260	28
Ukolonkathi....	1	2	52	2
Ombarantu....	4	4	138	25
Kaakoveld.....	—	—	—	—
Kuring-Kuru....	8	5	65	46
	128	210	7,624	1,139

3. Educational Institutions.

European Teacher with Native Assistant Teachers.

Station.	Schools.	Teachers.	Pupils.
Oniipa.....	Teachers' Seminary.....	4	26
Oshigambo.....	Girls' School.....	4	53
Engela.....	Girls' School.....	2	58
Engela.....	Boys' School.....	3	35
Onguediva.....	Industrial School.....	3	26
		16	198

B. HOSPITAL WORK.

Station.	Nurses.		Clinical Establishments.	Hospitals.	Patients. No. of Days.	Clinical Cases.	Clinical Treatment.
	European.	Native.					
Olukonda.....	—	—	1	—	—	1,217	2,172
Oniipa.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ontananga.....	1	—	1	—	—	836	1,684
Onajena.....	1	—	1	—	—	2,580	3,209
Oshigambo.....	1	—	1	—	—	1,485	2,678
Oshitaji.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Engela.....	2	2	1	1	379	—	—
	—	—	—	—	7,719	4,445	9,455
Ukuambi.....	1	1	1	—	80	—	—
	—	—	—	—	981	3,751	6,026
Ongandjera.....	1	—	1	—	10	—	—
	—	—	—	—	69	1,041	2,093
Ukualuthi.....	1	—	1	—	10	—	—
	—	—	—	—	205	4,504	9,429
Ombarantu.....	1	—	1	—	69	—	—
	—	—	—	—	1,327	1,020	2,318
Onguediva.....	—	—	1	—	—	658	2,485
Kuring Kuru.....	1	1	1	—	54	1,607	5,023
Onandjokue.....	4	2	1	1	895	—	—
	—	—	—	—	17,883	5,129	10,032
Onandjokue Doctors.	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
	15	6	12	2	29,681	28,273	56,604

C. CONGREGATIONAL WORK.

Station.	Churches.	Children of Christians Born.	Heathens Baptized.	Married.	Died.	Church Members.
Olukonda.....	1	90	83	33	49	2,904
Ontananga.....	1	26	36	15	12	1,056
Oniipa.....	1	22	31	5	9	1,095
Onajena.....	3	72	43	25	28	2,577
Oshigambo.....	2	48	—	14	13	1,760
Oshitaji.....	1	44	1	20	39	2,302
Engela.....	5	314	158	112	119	9,209
Ukuambi.....	1	49	49	35	23	1,370
Ongandjera.....	1	34	6	11	15	831
Ukualuthi.....	1	27	33	15	19	822
Ukolonkathi.....	1	4	—	5	3	202
Ombarantu.....	1	32	13	13	11	661
Kaakoveld.....	—	3	—	—	1	177
Kuring Kuru.....	1	9	25	4	4	180
	20	774	478	307	345	25,146

D. WORKERS.

1. *Europeans.*

Ordained Missionaries	12
Unordained Missionaries	1
Women	13
Unmarried Missionary Nurses	23
	<u>49</u>

2. *Natives.*

Ordained Pastors	9
Teachers (men)	205
Teachers (women)	12
	<u>226</u>

XXII. NATIVE LABOUR.

457. See paragraphs 658 to 669 of the Report for 1930.

458. During the year under review the demand for labour steadily decreased. The total number of natives recruited in 1931 was 2,557 as compared with 5,724 in 1930 and 7,257 in 1929.

459. As will be seen from the following tables the curtailment of the mining activities resulted in the discharge of more than one half of the total number of native employees as compared with the previous year.

460. Fortunately the majority of the natives discharged from the mines were willing to return to their homes where the good crops that have been reaped enable them to live in comparative comfort.

461. In the urban areas, however, the natives are feeling the result of the general depression to a far greater extent. This question has already been dealt with under the Economic Position (paragraph 119).

462. The following return gives particulars of the natives recruited in the Mandated Territory:—

RETURN OF NATIVES RECRUITED DURING 1931 IN MANDATED TERRITORY.

Month.	Recruited in Ovamboland.				Recruited in Okavango at Kuring Kuru.				Recruited within Police Zone at Tsumeb.		Total All Races 1931.	Total All Races 1930.
	Ovambos.	Angolan Natives.	Total 1931.	Total 1930.	Angolan Natives.	Okavango Natives.	Total 1931.	Total 1930.	Total Mixed Races 1931.	Total Mixed Races 1930.		
January.....	94	139	233	367	75	—	75	109	102	132	410	608
February.....	19	66	85	578	93	—	93	53	158	126	336	757
March.....	18	78	96	508	42	—	42	44	99	52	237	604
April.....	—	79	79	251	60	—	60	89	117	97	256	437
May.....	2	253	255	673	6	—	6	42	68	114	329	829
June.....	83	215	298	534	35	—	35	48	72	41	405	623
July.....	138	221	359	623	20	—	20	58	2	23	381	704
August.....	5	2	7	298	35	—	35	77	19	37	61	412
September.....	48	3	51	52	—	—	—	29	27	68	78	149
October.....	—	—	—	38	—	—	—	36	13	45	13	119
November.....	—	6	6	58	—	—	—	26	9	87	15	171
December.....	—	—	—	176	—	—	—	82	36	53	36	311
TOTAL.....	407	1,062	1,469	4,156	366	—	366	693	722	875	2,557	5,724

463. The following return gives the territorial analysis of the natives employed on the mines at the beginning of 1931, the number taken into service, the wastage and the numbers on strength at the end of the year:—

	Union Natives.	Other S.W.A. Natives.	Ovamboland and Okavango.	Angolan Natives.	Bechuanas.	Rhodesian.	Unclassified Natives.	Total.
In Service on 1st January, 1931.....	60	443	2,513	1,595	4	244	35	4,894
Taken on strength during year.....	22	192	923	1,431	1	48	68	2,685
<i>Deduct</i> Wastages shown below.....	82	635	3,436	3,026	5	292	103	7,579
	55	385	2,619	2,060	—	197	50	5,366
<i>Strength</i> as at 31/12/31.....	27	250	817	966	5	95	53	2,213
<i>Wastages.</i>								
Discharged and Transferred.....	55	377	2,502	1,960	—	189	47	5,130
Deaths.....	—	6	22	43	—	8	3	82
Desertions.....	—	2	95	57	—	—	—	154
TOTAL WASTAGES.....	55	385	2,619	2,060	—	197	50	5,366

TRIBAL DISTRIBUTION OF NATIVES ON MINES.

464. The following returns set out under the various tribes, the number of natives employed by the different classes of mines, in each case the total for 1931 being compared with that of the preceding year.

465. The monthly average for the diamond mines has dropped from 3,880 to 901, while the average for the copper mines has decreased by nearly one half, from 2,477 in 1930 to 1,628 in 1931.

466. The vanadium mines reflect a slight increase but there is a decrease in the figures for the tin mines, while the average for the miscellaneous mines remains the same:—

DIAMOND MINES.

Month.	Ovambos and Okavangos.	Other S.W.A. Natives.	Union Natives.	Bechuanas.	Rhodesian Natives.	Angolan Natives.	Caprivi Zifaf.	Other Natives.	Total, 1931.	Total, 1930.
January.....	766	85	46	—	—	482	—	18	1,397	5,098
February.....	548	85	29	—	—	396	—	9	1,067	5,444
March.....	545	84	27	—	—	394	—	7	1,057	5,191
April.....	543	39	19	—	—	392	—	1	994	4,746
May.....	542	34	18	—	—	392	—	1	987	4,202
June.....	422	34	18	—	—	380	—	2	856	4,026
July.....	377	36	23	—	—	414	—	2	852	3,835
August.....	239	39	25	—	—	388	—	2	693	3,751
September.....	281	39	24	—	—	386	—	2	732	3,834
October.....	280	39	23	—	—	387	—	2	731	2,748
November.....	278	39	23	—	—	382	—	2	724	1,861
December.....	278	39	22	—	—	382	—	2	723	1,824
MONTHLY AVERAGE...	425	49	25	—	—	398	—	4	901	3,880

COPPER MINES.

January.....	1,307	242	—	3	64	760	11	2	2,389	2,284
February.....	1,224	247	—	3	63	920	11	3	2,471	2,614
March.....	1,115	251	—	3	64	974	—	3	2,410	2,843
April.....	1,039	264	—	3	65	994	—	3	2,368	2,859
May.....	875	266	—	3	53	931	—	3	2,131	2,852
June.....	581	207	—	3	23	606	—	3	1,423	2,722
July.....	521	177	—	3	19	529	—	3	1,252	2,308
August.....	481	154	—	3	17	522	—	3	1,180	2,238
September.....	468	142	—	3	17	520	—	3	1,153	2,211
October.....	448	132	—	3	17	517	—	2	1,119	2,198
November.....	367	119	—	3	12	350	—	2	853	2,237
December.....	345	100	—	3	13	323	—	2	786	2,360
MONTHLY AVERAGE...	731	192	—	3	35	662	2	3	1,628	2,477

VANADIUM MINES.

Month.	Ovambos and Okavangos.	Other S.W.A. Natives.	Union Natives.	Bechuanas.	Rhodesian Natives.	Angolan Natives.	Caprivi Zipfel.	Other Natives.	Total, 1931.	Total, 1930.
January.....	277	94	2	1	166	270	—	3	813	733
February.....	285	96	3	1	155	286	—	3	829	734
March.....	280	91	3	1	151	287	16	3	832	778
April.....	255	94	3	1	148	260	16	3	780	774
May.....	246	92	4	1	147	280	30	3	803	771
June.....	246	88	3	1	144	311	46	3	842	730
July.....	232	92	3	1	142	306	45	4	825	712
August.....	229	102	6	1	140	304	38	4	824	707
September.....	199	103	6	1	131	279	37	3	759	767
October.....	190	109	6	1	114	295	41	3	759	768
November.....	197	111	6	2	86	254	42	3	701	778
December.....	194	111	5	2	82	261	46	3	704	784
MONTHLY AVERAGE...	236	99	4	1	134	283	29	3	789	753

TIN MINES.

January.....	19	290	6	—	—	—	—	—	315	378
February.....	22	299	7	—	—	—	—	—	328	361
March.....	20	300	6	—	—	—	—	—	326	404
April.....	17	300	7	—	—	—	—	—	324	421
May.....	13	189	7	—	—	—	—	—	209	398
June.....	16	191	2	—	—	—	—	—	209	374
July.....	27	210	2	—	—	—	—	—	239	366
August.....	19	265	3	—	—	—	—	—	287	385
September.....	14	298	—	—	—	—	—	—	312	328
October.....	16	296	—	—	—	—	—	—	312	316
November.....	24	325	—	—	—	—	—	—	349	312
December.....	18	346	—	—	—	—	—	—	364	313
MONTHLY AVERAGE...	19	276	3	—	—	—	—	—	298	363

MISCELLANEOUS MINES.

Month.	Ovambos and Okavangos.	Other S.W.A. Natives.	Union Natives.	Bechuanas.	Rhodesian Natives.	Angolan Natives.	Caprivi Zipfel.	Other Natives.	Total, 1931.	Total, 1930.
January.....	48	125	—	—	7	—	—	—	180	149
February.....	46	136	—	—	7	—	—	—	189	190
March.....	46	146	—	—	5	—	—	—	197	161
April.....	50	156	—	—	4	—	—	—	210	168
May.....	48	155	—	—	5	—	—	—	208	195
June.....	32	115	—	—	3	—	—	—	150	184
July.....	31	152	1	—	3	—	—	—	187	190
August.....	36	131	1	—	1	—	—	—	169	191
September.....	31	131	1	—	1	—	—	—	164	183
October.....	31	140	1	—	1	—	—	—	173	134
November.....	15	87	—	—	—	—	—	—	102	152
December.....	17	147	—	—	—	—	—	—	164	170
MONTHLY AVERAGE...	36	135	—	—	3	—	—	—	174	172

467. The next return sets out in respect of each of the years 1927 to 1931 the monthly average number of natives of each of the different tribes employed in connection with mining in South West Africa. This statement also shows how the natives employed are divided amongst the different classes of mining:—

TERRITORIAL ANALYSIS OF NATIVE LABOURERS EMPLOYED ON DIAMOND, COPPER, VANADIUM, TIN AND MISCELLANEOUS MINES, SHOWING THE AVERAGE
NUMBER EMPLOYED MONTHLY FOR THE YEARS 1927 TO 1931.

Territory of Origin.	Diamond Mines.					Copper Mines.					Vanadium Mines.					Tin Mines.					Miscellaneous Mines.			Total for All Mines.					
	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.	
Union of South Africa.....	1,250	143	256	190	25	1	13	14	1	—	—	—	—	2	2	4	—	7	6	4	3	9	2	—	1,251	166	287	199	32
Other South-West Africa.....	179	100	466	209	49	213	311	238	272	192	149	135	145	100	99	499	178	453	324	276	131	105	135	803	1,223	1,433	1,010	751	
Ovamboland and Okavango.....	3,236	2,649	1,985	1,611	425	1,356	1,256	1,189	1,359	731	269	337	283	301	236	331	68	104	34	19	66	50	36	5,031	4,641	3,627	3,355	1,447	
Angola.....	—	228	1,328	987	398	363	497	657	748	662	107	171	217	233	283	—	5	—	—	—	2	—	—	470	901	2,204	1,968	1,343	
Bechuanaland....	1,645	1,372	1,616	862	—	4	1	6	3	3	1	—	4	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,650	1,373	1,626	866	4	
Rhodesia.....	—	—	—	—	—	177	18	70	85	35	89	46	54	106	134	—	11	—	—	—	13	15	3	266	75	137	206	172	
Basutoland.....	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	13	—	—	—	—	
Unclassified.....	14	181	—	21	4	11	—	2	9	3	—	—	5	10	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	26	181	7	41	10	
Caprivi Zipfel...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	29	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	31	
TOTALS.....	6,337	4,673	5,651	3,880	901	2,125	2,096	2,176	2,477	1,628	616	689	710	753	789	830	265	563	363	298	221	172	174	9,510	8,560	9,321	7,645	3,790	

DESERTIONS.

468. Desertions show an increase on the mines in the north owing to a misunderstanding which arose among the natives employed on the copper mines at Tsumeb. Due to the discharge of several of the natives, whose time had not expired and who agreed to terminate their contracts, several other natives thought that they too were no longer wanted on the mines and attempted to desert to their homes, where good rains and bumper crops formed an added inducement for them to leave their work.

469. The figures are as follows:—

Year.	Copper Mines.	Vanadium Mines.	Total.
1928.....	471	71	542
1929.....	118	74	192
1930.....	91	37	128
1931.....	148	6	154

The figures for the year 1928 do not include all cases. The figures for 1929, 1930, and 1931, however, are complete.

XXIII. PUBLIC HEALTH.

I.—HEALTH OF NATIVES EMPLOYED ON MINES AND WORKS.

A.—SOURCES OF LABOUR.

470. The labour requirements of the Luderitz diamond fields were met by the recruitment of natives in Ovamboland, South-eastern Angola, South West Africa and the Union of South Africa. The copper and vanadium mines derived their labour from Ovamboland, South-eastern Angola, South West Africa, Barotseland, Bechuanaland and the Caprivi Zipfel. The tin and miscellaneous mines obtained their labour for the most part from local sources.

471. The natives from South-eastern Angola are not recruited there, but come down voluntarily to Ovamboland in search of work on the mines and elsewhere.

472. Owing to the curtailment of mining operations and other concerns as a result of the depression and lack of markets there has been more labour in the country than is necessary for ordinary requirements. The Administration has therefore requested the mines to utilize as far as possible the available sources of labour already in the Territory.

473. Dr. Erlank, the District Surgeon, Ovamboland, resigned in January. His successor, Dr. M. van Niekerk, assumed duty almost immediately. He was at first stationed at Omafufu, which is situated about 40 miles north of Ondangua. While there he visited Ondangua regularly for the purpose of examining recruits. His headquarters were transferred to Ondangua in August.

474. During 1931 the natives recruited in Ovamboland were classified by the District Surgeon as follows:—

	Class A. Any work.	Class B. Light Mine Work.	Class C. Light Farm Work.	Class D. Unfit.	Total.
January.....	143	90	—	5	238
February.....	47	27	11	2	87
March.....	61	35	—	21	117
April.....	48	21	10	6	85
May.....	158	65	32	15	270
June.....	280	14	4	27	325
July.....	359	—	—	102	461
August.....	7	—	—	—	7
September.....	51	20	—	9	80
October.....	—	—	—	—	—
November.....	6	4	—	—	10
December.....	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL.....	1,160	276	57	187	1,680

The percentage in each class is:—

Class A ...	69.05 per cent.
Class B ...	16.43 per cent.
Class C ...	3.39 per cent.
Class D ...	11.13 per cent.

475. Since July only boys classified as being in "A" Class by the District Surgeon have been sent to the mines. This is, of course, due to the fact that the demand for labour has fallen considerably.

B.—INCIDENCE OF DISEASE AND MORTALITY ON THE MINES.

476. From the schedule referred to in paragraph 480 it will be observed that the average number of natives employed on the various mines in South West Africa during 1931 was 3,790, which figure falls far short of the number employed in 1930, viz. 7,645. In 1929 the number employed was 9,321. This marked decrease in the number employed within the last two years is due to operations having virtually ceased on the diamond fields. Only one company, the Consolidated Diamond Mines, remains, both Namaqua North and South have closed down. The Otavi Minen- und Eisenbahn-Gesellschaft has also been obliged to reduce its complement considerably.

477. According to the trend of affairs it seems as if the number of natives employed in mining operations is to be even less in 1932; for, except in the case of Vanadium, all other concerns showed a marked decrease in the number employed towards the end of the year. The complement of the iron mines at Kalkveld, which usually maintained an even strength of 100 odd natives, has now been reduced to four. It is hoped, however, that in 1931 a turn in the tide of this disastrous state of affairs will be evidenced.

478. Although it is deeply regretted that the chances of employment for natives have been so greatly reduced, at the same time it is with pleasure recorded that the mortality rate on the mines has been reduced to such an extent that the figures can hardly be compared with previous years, especially is this the case when the fact is taken into consideration that the number of employees has been practically halved, which fact tends rather to exaggerate the death rate per 1,000.

479. The total number of deaths of those actually engaged in mining operations was 83, giving a death rate of 21.90 per 1,000, this figure being based on the average number employed per month.

480. The death rate per thousand from the principal causes of death as compared with the previous three years is as follows:—

	1928.		1929.		1930.		1931.	
	Deaths.	Mortality.	Deaths.	Mortality.	Deaths.	Mortality.	Deaths.	Mortality.
Pneumonia.....	83	9.68	109	11.21	132	17.27	44	11.61
Other Respiratory Diseases	—	—	4	0.41	1	0.13	—	—
Tuberculosis (all forms)....	13	1.52	21	2.16	8	1.05	10	2.64
Influenza.....	135	15.76	217	22.32	23	3.01	6	1.58
Scurvy.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever.....	4	0.47	—	—	4	0.52	4	1.06
Dysentery.....	—	—	2	0.20	1	0.13	—	—
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis...	17	1.99	26	2.67	12	1.57	2	0.53
Other Diseases.....	41	4.79	23	2.37	18	2.35	12	3.17
Accidents.....	8	0.95	8	0.82	16	2.09	5	1.32
TOTAL.....	301	35.16	410	42.16	215	28.12	83	21.90
Average number employed..	8,560		9,321		7,645		3,790	

481. This is the lowest death rate as yet recorded. It will be noted that there were only 6 deaths due to influenza, whereas in 1930 this disease accounted for 23 deaths and in 1929 for 217 deaths. Respiratory diseases proper, that is, pneumonia, both lobar and broncho-, pulmonary tuberculosis and bronchitis accounted for 54 deaths, whereas in 1930 there were 141 deaths from these diseases.

482. The following statements show the incidence of disease and the mortality on the various mines:—

(a) Luderitz Diamond Fields.

(i) Mortality from the Principal Causes of Death during the years 1928-1931.

Disease.	1928.			1929.			1930.			1931.		
	C.	D.	M.	C.	D.	M.	C.	D.	M.	C.	D.	M.
Pneumonia.....	587	63	13.49	761	82	14.51	307	52	13.4	75	4	4.57
Other Respiratory Diseases.....	443	3	0.65	573	4	0.71	582	1	0.26	240	—	—
Tuberculosis.....	22	4	0.86	9	9	0.59	—	3	0.77	—	—	—
Influenza.....	126	—	—	162	4	0.71	97	3	0.77	—	—	—
Scurvy.....	95	—	—	43	—	—	20	—	—	13	—	—
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis.....	13	13	2.78	24	17	3.01	12	10	2.58	1	1	1.14
Enteric Fever.....	5	4	0.85	—	—	—	1	1	0.26	—	—	—
Dysentery.....	—	—	—	5	1	0.18	1	1	0.26	—	—	—
Chicken Pox.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	58	—	—	2	—	—
Other Diseases....	1,626	28	5.97	1,648	16	2.83	1,099	12	3.09	424	2	2.29
Accidents and Injuries.....	249	1	0.22	172	1	0.18	193	4	1.03	141	1	1.14
Syphilis.....	—	—	—	25	—	—	5	—	—	4	—	—
Gonorrhoea.....	—	—	—	4	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL.....	3,166	116	24.82	3,426	134	23.71	2,382	87	22.42	900	8	9.14

NOTE.—C. = No. of cases. D. = No. of Deaths. M. = Death-rate per 1,000 per annum.

483. The statistics given above for 1931 are solely in respect of the Consolidated Diamond Mines. The monthly average number of natives employed on those mines during 1931 was 875, as compared with 2,916 in 1930, when the mortality rate was 19.20 per 1,000.

484. Taking the Namaqua Diamonds (North) into consideration the average number of natives employed on the diamond fields in 1931 was 901 and the death rate 9.99. The number of native employees on the diamond mines was 3,880 in 1930, 5,621 in 1929, and 4,673 in 1928.

485. As regards Namaqua Diamonds (North) this concern closed down at the end of January, 1931; during that month there were 312 natives employed and one death occurred.

(ii) The Incidence of Diseases and Death Rate among the various tribes employed by the Consolidated Diamond Mines were as follows:—

Disease.	Ovambos.			Ovambos from Angola recruited in Ovamboland.		
	C.	D.	M.	C.	D.	M.
Pneumonia.....	37	2	4.91	38	2	5.12
Other Respiratory Diseases.....	88	—	—	152	—	—
Tuberculosis.....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Influenza.....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scurvy.....	8	—	—	5	—	—
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis.....	1	1	2.46	—	—	—
Other Diseases.....	177	1	2.46	239	—	—
Accidents and Injuries.....	64	1	2.46	70	—	—
Syphilis.....	1	—	—	3	—	—
Gonorrhoea.....	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL.....	376	5	12.29	507	2	5.12
Average number employed.....	407			391		

NOTE.—C. = No. of caese. D. = No. of Deaths. M. = Death rate per 1,000 per annum.

486. A detailed analysis has only been given in respect of those tribes where the average number employed per month is 100 or more.

487. The following natives were also employed:—

Union natives: Average number employed per month 24.5; number of deaths, nil.

S.W.A. natives: Average number employed per month 49; number of deaths, 1.

Others (unclassified): Average number employed per month 3; number of deaths, nil.

488. The mortality rate on the diamond fields hardly calls for comment. It is to be hoped, however, that, when the strength of natives employed on these mines returns to normal, this low death rate will be maintained.

489. It is interesting to note that the incidence of respiratory diseases was greatest during the periods April, May and August, September, which periods coincide with the change of seasons; and further that deaths in each case only occurred at the commencement of these waves of increased incidence.

(b) *Tsumeb Mines (O.M.E.G. Group).*

(iii) Death Rate per thousand per annum from the Principal Causes of Death from 1927 to 1931:—

Disease.	1927.		1928.		1929.			1930.			1931.		
	D.	M.	D.	M.	C.	D.	M.	C.	D.	M.	C.	D.	M.
Pneumonia.....	7	2.76	15	6.06	100	27	10.47	257	57	23.01	91	26	15.97
Tuberculosis (all forms).	6	2.37	9	3.68	12	12	4.65	6	3	1.21	11	10	6.14
Other respiratory diseases	—	—	—	—	288	—	—	502	—	—	255	—	—
Influenza.....	179	70.64	107	43.23	1,398	165	63.98	143	12	4.84	—	—	—
Enteric Fever.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	3	1.84
Dysentery.....	—	—	—	—	1	1	0.39	1	—	—	2	—	—
Scurvy.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12	—	—	8	—	—
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	3	1.18	4	1.61	9	9	3.49	2	2	0.81	1	1	0.61
Malaria.....	—	—	—	—	39	—	—	43	—	—	148	—	—
Chicken Pox.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	80	—	—	30	—	—
Other diseases.....	5	1.97	6	2.42	1,073	1	0.30	902	5	2.02	1,049	9	5.53
Accidents and injuries..	2	0.79	5	2.00	1,359	6	2.33	1,230	10	4.04	966	2	1.23
Syphilis.....	—	—	—	—	14	—	—	28	—	—	30	—	—
Gonorrhoea.....	—	—	—	—	29	—	—	25	—	—	21	—	—
TOTAL.....	202	79.71	146	59.00	4,322	221	85.70	3,231	89	35.93	2,619	51	31.33
Average number employed	2,534		2,475		2,579			2,477			1,628		

NOTE.—C. = No. of cases. D. = No. of Deaths. M. = Death-rate per 1,000 per annum.

490. Although the death rate per thousand per annum has fallen considerably it is not the lowest on record for in 1923, calculated on a similar basis, the death rate is stated to have been 30.31 and 24.61 in 1925; but in those years the strength of those natives employed on the farms was included.

491. It is, however, interesting to view the number of deaths that occurred during 1931 from another angle. At the commencement of the year the strength (natives) on the copper mines was 2,360 and during the course of the year 1,236 natives signed on, thus actually the 51 deaths occurred amongst 3,596 natives, which gives a mortality rate of 14.18 per thousand.

492. It must again be pointed out that the figure given as the average monthly number employed for this year and last year relates solely to the number of natives actually employed on the copper mines, whereas in former years the figures given included natives who, although in the employ of the Otavi Minen- und Eisenbahn Gesellschaft, were not engaged in mining copper only, but included farm hands and those employed on the iron mines at Kalkfeld. These employees are being reported on separately.

(iv) The Incidence of Diseases and Mortality among the various tribes employed on the Copper Mines at Tsumeb were as follows:—

Disease.	Ovambos.			Ovambos from Angola Recruited in Ovamboland.			Rhodesian Boys.			Other S.W.A. Natives.		
	C.	D.	M.	C.	D.	M.	C.	D.	M.	C.	D.	M.
Pneumonia.....	28	1	1.41	52	23	34.74	4	1	28.17	6	1	5.21
Tuberculosis (all forms).....	8	7	9.89	1	2*	3.02	—	—	—	2	1	5.21
Other respiratory diseases.....	75	—	—	163	—	—	—	—	—	15	—	—
Influenza.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric fever.....	2	—	—	5	3	4.53	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery (Amoebic).....	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chicken pox.....	22	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—
Cerebro-spinal meningitis.....	—	—	—	1	1	1.51	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria.....	95	—	—	42	—	—	2	—	—	9	—	—
Scurvy.....	5	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other diseases.....	376	3	4.24	598	3	4.53	25	2†	56.34	45	1	5.21
Accidents and injuries.....	445	1	1.41	456	1	1.51	19	—	—	41	—	—
Syphilis.....	18	—	—	4	—	—	1	—	—	6	—	—
Gonorrhoea.....	15	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—
TOTAL.....	1,091	12	16.95	1,332	33	49.85	51	3	84.51	131	3	15.63
Average No. Employed Monthly	708			662			35.5			192		

NOTE.—C.=No. of cases; D.=No. of deaths; M.=Death-rate per thousand per annum.

* One death of a case which occurred in 1930.

† One death due to homicide.

493. The following natives were also in the company's employ at Tsumeb, viz.:—

- (1) Okavangos, their average monthly strength being 23. No deaths occurred.
- (2) Bechuanas, their average monthly strength being 3. No deaths occurred.
- (3) Caprivi Zipvel Boys, their average monthly strength being 2. No deaths occurred.
- (4) Others (unclassified), their average monthly strength being 2.5. No deaths occurred.

494. The Okavangos can for statistical purposes be classified with the Ovambos, as they come from the eastern portion of Ovamboland. The latitude in which they live is the same as that the Ovambo lives in. The tribal mortality rate in 1930 was: Ovambos 19.87; Ovambos from Angola 76.20; Rhodesia boys 35.29; and other S.W.A. natives 7.35 per thousand.

495. The Ovambo strength at the commencement of the year was 1,199, new arrivals during the course of the year totalled 444, thus the total number of different individuals (Ovambos) who worked on the copper mine during 1931 was 1,643, amongst whom there occurred 12 deaths. Based on this figure the mortality rate per 1,000 is 7.30.

496. Applying the same argument to—

	(1) Ovambos from Angola.	(2) Rhodesian Boys.	(3) Other S.W.A. Natives.
Strength at commencement of year.....	775	74	248
New arrivals during year.....	707	5	76
Total No. of Different Individuals.....	1,482	79	324
No. of deaths.....	33	3	3
Mortality rate per 1,000.....	22.27	37.97	9.26

Calculated in this manner a better idea is obtained of the tribal fatality rate. It will be observed that the Angolas have the highest death rate, that is, excluding the Rhodesian boys, in whose case the numbers dealt with are too small to draw any definite conclusions.

497. The Otavi Minen- und Eisenbahn Gessellschaft also employed an average monthly number of 175 native farm labourers amongst whom no deaths occurred. At Kalkveld at the iron mines they employed an average monthly number of 72.5 natives; amongst these also no deaths occurred.

(c) *Vanadium Mines, Grootfontein.*

(v) Incidence of Disease and Death Rate per thousand per annum for the years 1927-1931 inclusive are as follows:—

Disease.	1927.		1928.		1929.			1930.			1931.		
	D.	M.	D.	M.	C.	D.	M.	C.	D.	M.	C.	D.	M.
Pneumonia.....	21	33.65	1	1.45	—	—	—	51	23	30.54	23	14	17.74
Tuberculosis.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	2.66	1	—	—
Other respiratory diseases.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—
Influenza.....	5	8.01	27	39.19	298	48	67.60	127	8	10.62	78	6	7.60
Enteric fever.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	3	3.98	1	1	1.27
Dysentery.....	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scurvy.....	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria.....	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	5	—	—	102	—	—
Chicken pox.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	—	—	1	—	—
Other diseases.....	—	—	4	5.80	281	2	2.82	184	1	1.33	245	—	—
Accidents and injuries.....	—	—	—	—	78	1	1.41	65	2	2.66	82	—	—
Syphilis.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	—	11	—	—
Gonorrhoea.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	5	—	—
TOTAL.....	26	41.66	32	46.44	667	51	71.83	461	39	51.79	550	21	26.62
Average No. employed monthly.....	616		689		710			753			789		

NOTE.—C.=No. of cases; D.=No. of deaths; M.=Death-rate per thousand per annum.

498. This is the lowest death rate per thousand on record for these mines.

(vi) The Incidence of Disease and Mortality among the various tribes employed on the Vanadium Mines at Abenab are as follows:—

Disease.	Ovambos.			Ovambos from Angola Recruited in Ovamboland.			Rhodesian Boys.			Other S.W.A. Natives.		
	C.	D.	M.	C.	D.	M.	C.	D.	M.	C.	D.	M.
Pneumonia.....	5	4	16.95	9	5	17.79	4	1	7.46	3	2	20.30
Tuberculosis.....	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other respiratory diseases.....	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Influenza.....	15	—	—	28	2	7.12	11	3	22.39	21	—	—
Enteric fever.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	7.46	—	—	—
Chicken pox.....	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria.....	42	—	—	35	—	—	5	—	—	13	—	—
Scurvy.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other diseases.....	71	—	—	113	—	—	21	—	—	33	—	—
Accidents and injuries.....	26	—	—	35	—	—	11	—	—	9	—	—
Syphilis.....	6	—	—	3	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
Gonorrhoea.....	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	1	—	—
TOTAL.....	166	4	16.95	226	7	24.91	58	5	37.31	80	2	20.30
Average No. Employed Monthly	236			281			134			98.5		

NOTE.—C.=No. of cases; D.=No. of deaths; M.=Death-rate per thousand per annum.

499. Besides those given in the table there were also in the company's employ an average monthly number of 4 Union boys, 1 Bechuana, 3 Unclassified and 35.5 Caprivi Zipvel boys; of the last mentioned three deaths occurred during the year, two deaths from pneumonia and one from influenza.

500. The Okavangos have been included amongst the Ovambos.

501. The tribal mortality rate in 1930 was: Ovambos 59.80; Ovambos from Angola 60.09; Rhodesian boys 37.73; and other S.W.A. boys 20.00 per thousand.

502. Basing the mortality rate per thousand on the number of different individuals who passed through the vanadium mines in 1931 the following result is obtained in respect of—

	(1) Ovambos.	(2) Ovambos from Angola.	(3) Rhodesian Boys.	(4) Other S.W.A. Boys.
Strength at commencement of year.....	286	224	170	98
New arrivals during year...	145	301	41	78
Total No. of different Individuals.....	431	525	211	176
No. of deaths.....	4	7	5	2
Mortality rate per 1,000.....	9.28	13.33	23.70	11.36

503. It would therefore appear that disease is more fatal in case of the Rhodesian boys and in the natives from Angola.

(d) *Tin and Miscellaneous Mines.*

504. The health of the labourers employed on the tin fields was as in the case of previous years good. The labour consists for the most part of South West African natives. The average number employed during 1931 was 298, as compared with 363 in 1930.

505. Two deaths occurred during the year, both of which were the result of a blasting accident.

506. The average number of natives employed in the miscellaneous mines was 174.72 as compared with 172 in 1930. Of these 174 natives have already been referred to, namely, those employed on the iron mines at Kalkfeld.

(e) *Natives Employed on Industrial Works.*

507. At Luderitz there is an average monthly number of 405 natives employed. The health of these natives has been exceedingly good. Only one death is recorded—a native in the employ of the South African Railways and Harbours, Luderitz.

508. As regards the rest of the Territory accurate figures are not available, but in the majority, if not all, cases the number employed by the different industrial concerns is less than 50, and in terms of the Mines and Works Proclamation returns are not compulsory in such instances.

C.—THE NORTHERN MINES.

509. The death rate on the copper and vanadium mines during the year under review was 29.79 per thousand, as compared with 39.63 in 1930 and 82.40 in 1929.

510. The periods of the year at which respiratory diseases are most prevalent bear but a slight relationship to one another at Tsumeb and Abenab, although these mines are situated within 30 miles of each other. This may be due to the fact that Abenab is an open mine, whereas at Tsumeb the natives work for the most part below the surface. (See page 129 for Diagram.)

511. The death rate per thousand for respiratory diseases was 23.87 for the year under review, 32.51 in 1930, and 76.62 in 1929. The case mortality rate, that is, the number of deaths per hundred cases, was 12.17 for 1931, 9.65 in 1930 and 12.02 in 1929. These figures signify that, whereas the virulence of the disease has been practically the same during the three years, there had however, been rather an active predisposing factor, viz., influenza in 1930 and especially in 1929.

512. It can now with almost absolute certainty be stated that the high death rate that has prevailed on the northern mines during the past few years, and which reached its peak in 1929, has been almost entirely due to the occurrence of periodic waves of influenza, which fortunately did not put in an appearance during 1931.

513. Dr. Nægelsbach, the Medical Officer of the Otavi Minen- und Eisenbahn Gessellschaft reports as follows:—

“For the first time after a period of twelve years there has been no patient suffering from influenza.”

514. He feels confident that there will not be a repetition of the high mortality rate again, even should times improve and allow the number of native employees to reach normal figures again.

515. At Tsumeb the majority of the cases of pneumonia occurred during the first half of the year. Dr. Nägelsbach states that the disease is not brought on by cold days and nights as on the Rand, but by warm nights after a cold spell.

516. During the months February to May there was an outbreak of enteric fever—both natives and Europeans being affected. Seven natives contracted the disease, of whom three died. There were also four European cases—one patient died. The origin of this outbreak could not be ascertained. The water supply could not have been responsible, otherwise the outbreak would have reached more alarming proportions and furthermore the supply is chlorinated and examined bacteriologically daily. Boiled milk was given to the natives and the people generally were warned not to drink unboiled milk. No cases occurred after May. It is presumed, therefore, that this sporadic outbreak originated from a carrier, who may have left or who only on occasion imparts the germs.

517. The mines will be asked whether it will be possible to have the Widal test performed on all recruits in order to guard against the introduction of a carrier.

518. As regards the mine at Abenab the average number of natives employed per month was actually increased, and the mortality rate per thousand almost halved.

519. According to the returns submitted 78 cases of influenza occurred during the year with 6 deaths, one of which was recorded as broncho-pneumonia.

520. It is felt that the majority of these cases were merely febrile "colds," or bronchitis and that in those where death had ensued, the disease had gone on to broncho-pneumonia.

521. There was only one case of enteric fever which proved fatal. It occurred in March. The victim was a Rhodesian boy.

522. The reasons for the marked reduction in the death rate per thousand on the northern mines can be summarized as follows:—

523. As previously stated the non-appearance of influenza had a great deal to do with the fall in the mortality figures, over which factor one has little or no control. Little is known about the causal organism of influenza and less about its epidemiology.

524. The other factors which may have played a part in reducing the death rate are, firstly, the humidity of the air. In 1929 the Territory experienced a severe drought; this was also the case in 1930 and in 1931 the drought was broken. The prolonged dryness of the air may be a source of irritation to the serous membranes and may have caused a lowering of their resistance to infection. Secondly, owing to the mines having to curtail operations on account of the world-wide depression the number employed has been considerably reduced. Thus there was less and better "raw material" brought into contact with the diseases of civilization and further there was not the same chance of "mass infection."

525. Lastly, apart from the foregoing over which there is little or no control the fact must not be lost sight of that the mine authorities have done much to improve the living conditions, the food, etc., of the natives, thereby increasing their powers of resistance, and further have gone carefully into sanitary and hygienic conditions on the mines, thereby lessening the chances of infection. It is felt that this latter factor has played no small part in reducing the mortality figures.

526. With regard to the question raised by Mr. Weaver at the Eighth Meeting of the Permanent Mandates Commission held on the 13th June, 1931, *re* the policy of the Mandatory Power in connection with the question of "new" races, that is, non-immune people being subjected to "mass infection"; this difficulty has for the moment practically solved itself owing to the mines having had to reduce their strength.

527. It should, however, be pointed out that these natives—Ovambos from Angola—are not recruited, but come down from Angola to Ondangua of their own accord in order to obtain work on the mines. This would not be the case if the natives regarded the mines as a death trap. However, the strictest medical stringency is being observed and only those who are really fit are accepted for work on the mines.

528. The problem of "mass infection" is not only applicable to South West Africa or even solely to "new" races. It is a difficulty that has to be confronted throughout the world and is one which at all times will be a source of danger, as one cannot defy the laws of nature. At the same time if any country is to prosper it is essential that it should foster its industries and not cut off its labour supply. The Administration will, however, insist upon a high standard of fitness, especially in the case of Ovambos from Angola, and also see to it that the present high standard of sanitation and hygiene is maintained on the mines.

529. With regard to Mr. Weaver's question *re* the limiting of recruits at the commencement of an epidemic. Should occasion arise again where it is thought necessary to prohibit non-immune natives from entering the mines the suggestion put forward by Prof. Campbell will be carried out in so far as it is possible to do so.

II.—GENERAL.

530. The position as regards the administration of matters dealing with Public Health is the same as stated in last year's annual report. The number of part-time District Surgeons is also unchanged.

531. With regard to Dr. Ruppel's query as to why there was only one whole-time District Surgeon for Ovamboland, it may be pointed out that the former Additional District Surgeon's duties were mainly those of examining native labour recruits and that owing to the marked fall in the demand for labour it is now possible for this duty to be performed by one officer in conjunction with his other duties. Should the labour market improve the advisability of employing a medical officer purely for the purpose of examining recruits or dividing the medical duties in Ovamboland will be considered.

Rodent Destruction.

532. For the year under review the rat-catcher employed by the Railway Administration submits the following summary of work performed and results achieved:—

Number of traps set.....	5,246
Number of poison baits laid.....	48,670
Number of burrows destroyed.....	15,851
Number of rodents destroyed.....	1,731

533. No abnormal rodent mortality was observed by the rat-catcher.

534. In regard to the number of rodents destroyed, the figure mentioned only reflects the actual number caught in traps. The number which may have died as a result of eating poison or the number destroyed in the burrows by the use of Capex and Vermin Cartridges, etc., is, of course, not known.

Medical Practitioners, Dentists, and Chemists and Druggists.

535. The total number of persons registered in terms of the Medical, Dental and Pharmacy Act of the Union, as applied to this Territory by Proclamation No. 3 of 1929 is as follows:—

Medical practitioners.....	34
Dentists.....	8
Chemists and druggists.....	8

Their distribution throughout the various districts in the Territory is as follows:—

Gibeon.....	1 medical practitioner (Headquarters, Mariental).
Gobabis.....	1 medical practitioner.
Grootfontein.....	4 medical practitioners—two of whom are mine medical officers—stationed respectively at Abenab and Tsumeb.
Karibib.....	1 medical practitioner (Headquarters, Usakos).
Keetmanshoop.....	2 medical practitioners.
Luderitz.....	4 medical practitioners—two of whom are mine medical officers, 2 dentists, and 1 chemist and druggist.
Okahandja.....	1 medical practitioner and 1 dentist.
Omaruru.....	1 medical practitioner.
Otjiwaronga.....	4 medical practitioners, one of whom is not practising.
Outjo.....	1 medical practitioner.
Ovamboland.....	2 medical practitioners—the Administration's officer and a mission doctor.
Swakopmund.....	4 medical practitioners—one of whom is stationed at Walvis Bay, 1 dentist and 2 chemists and druggists.
Warmbad.....	1 medical practitioner (Headquarters Kalkfontein).
Windhoek.....	7 medical practitioners—one of whom is the medical officer to the Administration, 4 dentists and 5 chemists and druggists.

536. It is regretted that the figures given last year were incorrect. The numerical strength has not, however, remained stationary. There have been many changes since the commencement of 1930 in the personnel, owing either to deaths or departures for the Union, but in practically all instances the vacancies have been filled.

537. During the year one dentist was registered in terms of sub-section (8) of section *ninety-nine* of the Medical, Dental and Pharmacy Act. One medical practitioner and one dentist were granted permission to practise in South West Africa as *locum tenens* in terms of sub-section 4 of section *ninety-nine* of the said Act.

538. With regard to the question raised by Dr. Ruppel, viz., whether the Administration would consider the extension of the time limit prescribed for registration in the case of nurses, it may be stated that this matter is receiving attention.

Medical and Nursing Assistance to Settlers from Angola.

539. These settlers are rendered medical assistance by the District Surgeons of the respective areas in which they are settled. Such services are paid for out of the Angola Funds (Loan D) and debited against the individual to whom the service was rendered, that is, in the case of those who possess a farm or have been allotted a farm. In all other instances the cost of the medical services is borne by the Public Health Vote. The medical practitioners rendering such assistance are paid in accordance with the tariff laid down in their contracts as District Surgeon. No special allowance is being paid to District Surgeons in whose areas indigent Angola-boers are settled.

General Remarks on the Health of the Population.

540. From practically all districts with the exception of Outjo reports were received to the effect that the health of the European community was on the whole good. This is undoubtedly due to the fact that there were no serious outbreaks of any zymotic disease.

541. As regards the district of Outjo malaria was extremely prevalent and many fatal cases are reported to have occurred. In Grootfontein the predominant diseases during the year are stated to have been malaria and influenza, and in Keetmanshoop, influenza was also in evidence during the winter months.

542. As regards the health of the native community living within the Police Zone including the reserves it is reported that on the whole their health is either good or satisfactory, but that in the South, that is, in the districts of Keetmanshoop, Warmbad, Luderitz, Aroab and Bethanie, their physical condition is below par. These natives have always been rather a "poor" type, and thus probably the bad times are having a greater effect on them as they have but little reserve power on which to draw in times of stress.

543. Throughout the Territory it is stated that venereal disease is prevalent amongst the natives. This is probably the case, but there has certainly been a vast improvement, and it is felt that syphilis is not quite so rampant as previously thought. Among 375 natives examined at Windhoek for railway work the percentage of syphilis was 1.07 and gonorrhoea 4.53. The gaol figures, given elsewhere, also point to this.

544. It is also reported that the native is subject to pulmonary diseases, and that these diseases account for most deaths. The native can be likened to an infant. It is known that measles, or rather its complication, broncho-pneumonia, and other respiratory diseases are responsible for the majority of infant deaths. The reason is that the infant, not having developed any immunity, is very susceptible, and, as is often the case, the highest infant mortality rate from these diseases is found amongst the poorer classes, where the diet is not a proper one. There is no doubt that the native's diet, apart from being frequently inadequate, lacks many articles essential to health. This is revealed by the fact that they readily contract scurvy. In fact a large percentage of the natives live in a pre-scurvy state, thus it does not take much to upset the balance completely. The number of cases of purpura met with, which disease is due to cachetic conditions, also proves this.

545. The Medical Officer of Health, Keetmanshoop, gives the following figures in respect of the non-european population for the year under review:—

Number of deaths (all ages).....	76
Number of deaths of infants under one year of age.....	23
Crude death rate (i.e. Number of deaths per 1,000 population)	39.43
Crude birth rate.....	19.20

546. In respect of the Keetmanshoop Native Location the Infant mortality rate (i.e. the number of deaths per 1,000 children born) of 621.62 is given.

547. In connection with this figure it may be stated that the native infant mortality rate is always found to be high no matter where the investigation is made. It is due to one pregnancy being superimposed on another, the mother thus becoming thoroughly exhausted and totally unable to nurse her child; the food then given is anything but suitable, diarrhoea follows, and many an infant is carried off in this manner. Then too many deaths are due to the parents having venereal disease, especially syphilis. The usual sequence is a number of still-births and then the birth of a weakling suffering from hereditary syphilis; and lastly, the economic situation plays no small part in the death-rate of those who at the best of times live on the border-line.

548. According to reports received there were 18 suicides during the year. The race was not given in every instance but the majority were Europeans. This figure needs no comment.

549. With regard to the question raised by Mlle. Dannevig as to whether the medical inspection of school children included native children, it must be pointed out that the service is as yet but in its infancy, and that in a country like this, where the schools are dotted about and in the majority of cases many miles distant from the nearest doctor it is impossible, without limitless resources, to perfect such a service. The service has only been rendered to European children. The total sum allotted for this purpose has been £500, and at the most £250 has been spent a year; the reasons being that the restrictions imposed, which were absolutely essential in view of the total amount allocated for this purpose, were such that it was not possible for very many outlying schools to be visited. The examination could only take place if and when the District Surgeon in the course of his duties passed that way.

549. During the course of the year 1,476 children were examined at the larger centres, and 467 were found to have some defect or other. The majority of the defects were either of the throat, eye, or teeth.

HOSPITALS.

A.—STATE-AIDED HOSPITALS.

550. There has been no change in the number of State-aided hospitals.

551. The Hospitals and Charitable Institutions Ordinance, No. 16 of 1930, which came into operation in July, 1930, has on the whole worked smoothly.

552. 792 Patients were admitted to State-aided hospitals during the year as compared with 823 in 1930. The number of deaths was 29. The daily average number of patients was 24.17, and the average duration of treatment 10.77 days.

553. Besides the figures given above, which refer to European patients only, 24 natives were admitted at the Luderitz Hospital during the year. There were 5 deaths.

554. It will be observed that there was a slight falling off of the number of patients admitted as compared with the previous year. At the Windhoek Hospital, however, more patients were treated than in 1930, but in all the other than State-aided hospitals the number treated was less. The explanation for this is that people cannot afford to go to hospital and only go there when obliged to do so, whereas in Windhoek the number increased owing to the number of indigents who have come to this area.

556. The number of patients treated at the various hospitals during the year, including those carried forward from the previous year was as follows:

Windhoek, 477; Keetmanshoop, 158; Grootfontein, 78; Luderitz, 56 and 27 natives; and Walvis Bay, 50.

557. The following amounts were paid by way of subsidy during the past five years:—

1927.....	£3,887
1928.....	4,794
1929.....	5,062
1930.....	4,753
1931.....	4,714

B.—STATE-OWNED NATIVE HOSPITALS.

558. The total number of patients treated in these institutions during 1931 was 1,263, as compared with 1,245 in 1930 and 1,135 in 1929. The daily average number of patients was 123·11 and the average duration of treatment was 35·58 days as compared with 114·16 and 34·27 days respectively during 1930.

559. Besides the above, 35 non-venereal patients were treated at the Venereal Disease Compound at Grootfontein. There were 7 deaths.

560. The number of out-patients was 5,075, and the total number of attendances 14,157 as against 4,784 patients and 9,852 attendances in 1930, and 2,617 patients and 8,942 attendances in 1929.

561. At the Native Location, Windhoek, the District Nurse's returns were 588 visits and 3,234 attendances at the dispensary, of which 101 patients were advised to go to hospital. Thirty-nine maternity cases were attended. It is interesting to note that in 1930 the number of maternity cases attended was 22, and that in 1929 only 14 were attended.

562. The total expenditure on maintenance of State-owned native hospitals was £4,914. 15s. 1d. as compared with £5,059. 2s. 2d. during 1930. The daily average cost per in-patient was 2s. 2·24d. as compared with 2s. 3·89d. in 1930.

563. The total expenditure incurred during the year in connection with the treatment of natives was as follows:—

1. Maintenance of native hospitals.....	£4,914 15 1
2. Maintenance of venereal compounds.....	685 6 6
3. Maintenance of patients (in mission hospitals) suffering from—	
(a) Tuberculosis.....	213 18 9
(b) Venereal disease.....	473 5 6
(c) Other diseases.....	78 6 0
4. Grants to Missions, Ovamboland and Okavango towards medical treatment of natives.....	475 0 0
5. Maintenance of mental patients (natives) in institutions in the Union.....	320 19 6
6. Expenditure on drugs and hospital equipment.....	1,002 15 9
	<hr/>
	£8,164 7 1

The corresponding figure for 1930, exclusive of Item 4, was £8,514. 15s. 4d.

564. As requested the subsidies granted to Missions have been included in the above statement. The four hundred and seventy-five pounds (item 4) is the actual amount paid during the calendar year 1931.

565. For the financial year 1931/32 the grants authorised are as follows:—

Finnish Mission, Ovamboland.....	£300
Finnish Mission, Okavango.....	50
St. Mary's Mission (English), Ovamboland.....	100

566. The missions (Finnish, Rheinische Roman Catholic and English) were also issued free of charge with drugs to the value of £637. 12s. 1d.

567. With regard to the disparity between the figures given in paragraphs 756 and 111 of last year's report—firstly, the figures given in paragraph 111 are in respect of the expenditure incurred during the financial year 1929/30, whereas the figures given in paragraph 756 relate to the expenditure incurred during the calendar year 1930; secondly, the salary paid to the District Surgeon, Ovamboland, is shown in the former paragraph. This item does not appear in paragraph 756. Further, Grants to Missions were only shown in paragraph 111. These two items alone account for more than £1,500; lastly, it may also be stated that the amount spent on Medical Services, etc., viz. £6,657 (paragraph 111) is not entirely spent on natives, a portion—a thousand pounds or so—goes towards the payment of isolation fees, treatment, etc., of Europeans. It would be a most difficult matter to ascertain exactly what was spent on Europeans. However, it may be stated that more is spent on natives than is actually shown, for the salaries paid to District Surgeons are not only in respect of the services they render European paupers, but also for the treatment and medical attention they give to natives which services are really the major portion of their duties.

568. For similar reasons the figures given in paragraphs 563 and 101 of this report do not tally.

569. It will be observed that there has been a further decrease in the amount spent on the treatment of natives. Actually, however, more natives have been treated than in 1930 or 1929. The decrease is entirely due to measures of economy which have had to be resorted to on account of the financial position.

570. The drug bill was considerably reduced and wherever possible expenditure has been curtailed, without, however, detracting from the medical treatment and attention.

571. An amount of £111. 10s. 7d. was collected in fees from patients during the year.

C.—NURSING HOMES.

572. (1) *Omaruru Nursing Home*.—A private home at Omaruru run under the auspices of the Frauenbund der Deutschen Kolonialgesellschaft. Particulars of patients attended during 1931:—

Number admitted.....	63
Number of deaths.....	2
Number of confinements.....	14
Number of miscarriages.....	1
Number of still-births.....	2
Number of deaths of infants.....	Nil
Number of out-patients.....	200

The considerable increase in the amount of work done is due to the fact that there is now a medical practitioner resident in Omaruru.

(2) *Elizabeth House, Windhoek*.—A home founded and maintained by a charitable organisation in Germany for the benefit of women in South West Africa. It is essentially a maternity home and children's hospital. Treatment is not given free of charge.

Statistics of patients treated during the year are:—

Number admitted.....	259
Number of deaths.....	Nil
Number of confinements.....	43
Number of miscarriages and abortions.....	6
Number of still-births.....	5
Number of deaths of infants.....	1
Number of out-patients.....	5
Maternity cases treated outside.....	2
Operations—major.....	20

(3) *Otjwarongo Nursing Home*.—A private nursing home in charge of a trained nurse.

Particulars of the work performed during the year:—

Number of patients admitted.....	13
Number of deaths.....	2
Number of confinements.....	8
Number of miscarriages and abortions.....	Nil
Number of still-births.....	Nil
Number of deaths of infants.....	Nil
Number of maternity cases attended outside home.....	5

D.—MISSION HOSPITALS.

573. *Roman Catholic Mission*.—The Catholic Mission maintains three hospitals—the Krankenhaus at Windhoek, the Antonius Hospital at Swakopmund and the Benedictine Hospital at Gobabis.

574. The hospitals at Swakopmund and Gobabis admit natives as well as Europeans. At Swakopmund the Native Hospital is, however, quite distinct from the European Hospital, and the majority of cases treated there are paid for by the Administration. It will also be noted that the Krankenhaus is also not adverse to taking in natives—there is, however, hardly any necessity for this hospital to take in natives in view of the native hospital being at hand.

575. Statistics as to these hospitals are given below:—

	Europeans.				Natives.			
	Cases remaining from 1930.	No. of Cases admitted during 1931.	No. of Deaths.	Total No. of days of treatment.	Cases remaining from 1930.	No. of Cases admitted during 1931.	No. of Deaths.	Total No. of days of treatment.
Krankenhaus	15	333	14	4,905	4	—	—	59
Antonius Hospital.....	13	310	15	5,848	13	142	15	3,477
Benedictine Hospital..	1	91	3	1,110	23	179	3	7,500
TOTAL	29	734	32	11,863	40	321	18	11,036

	<i>Europeans.</i>	<i>Natives.</i>
Daily average No. of patients	32.50	30.23
Average duration of treatment in days	15.54	30.57

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