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INFORMATION FROM NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES:
SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS OF INFORMATION TRANSMITTED
UNDER ARTICLE 73 e OF THE CHARTER. REPORT
OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Summary of information transmitted by the Government of Australia^{1/}

In accordance with paragraph 4 (a) of General Assembly resolution 218(III), the Secretary-General has prepared the following full summary of information transmitted in 1952 showing the progress made over the past three-year period in respect of economic, social and educational conditions.

The information has been classified under the main sections contained in Parts I to IV of the revised Standard Form approved by General Assembly resolution 551 (VI).

Unless otherwise stated, the information given in the following summary relates to the administrative year 1951, which ended on 30 June 1951. Where another year is mentioned without qualification, the reference is to the twelve months ending 30 June in the year specified.

The currency of Papua is the Australian pound, which equals 16s. (sterling) or US \$ 2.24.

^{1/} This summary is also submitted to the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories.

PAFUA

GENERAL INFORMATION

Geography, history and people

The Territory of Papua comprises the south-eastern part of the island of New Guinea, together with the Trobriand, Woodlark, D'Entrecasteaux and Louisiade groups of islands. The total area is approximately 90,540 square miles, of which some 87,786 are on the mainland and 2,754 in the islands.

Much of Papua consists of the skeletal soils of the high mountain ranges and a considerable proportion of the remainder is swamp-land associated with the coasts and rivers. Apart from subsistence agriculture, the principal crops are rubber and copra. There are extensive forest resources and exploitable gold, copper and manganese deposits. Extensive and intensive search for petroleum has not produced very promising results.

The actual discovery of the island of New Guinea took place around 1527. In 1884, a British Protectorate known as British New Guinea was proclaimed over the southern coast of New Guinea. In 1905 the Australian Parliament passed the Papua Act, which came into force in 1906, and under this Act what had been the Protectorate and afterwards the Possession of British New Guinea became the Territory of Papua, administered by the Commonwealth of Australia. During the Second World War Japanese forces invaded Papua early in 1942 and the Territory came under military control. Civil Administration was restored to the Territory in October 1945. A major happening during 1951 was the eruption in January of Mount Lamington in the Northern Division; about 2,900 of the indigenous population and 35 Europeans lost their lives, and the factory and plantations of the Sangara Coffee Project were destroyed.

Varying greatly in culture and language, the inhabitants of Papua, generally known as Papuans, present also physical differences, which indicate frequent racial admixture in the past. Those with branches of the Austronesian language are called Micronesians, Polynesians or Papuo-Melanesians according to the type represented, and those speaking languages not of the Austronesian family are called Papuans. A census of the indigenous population has been conducted by officers of the Department of District Services and Native Affairs

/but no

but no census of the non-indigenous population composed mainly of Europeans has been taken since 1947. The following estimated figures show the composition of the population:

	<u>1948-49</u>	<u>1949-50</u>	<u>1950-51</u>
Indigenous	300,000	368,559	371,436
Non-indigenous	<u>4,024</u>	<u>4,380</u>	<u>4,530</u>
Total	304,024	372,939	375,966

Government

Under the Papua-New Guinea Provisional Administration Act of 1945-1946 the two territories were provisionally administered as one entity and the power to make ordinances, formerly exercised by the Legislative Council of Papua, was vested in the Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia. On 1 July 1949, the Papua and New Guinea Act, 1949, which provides for the administration of the Territory of Papua in an administrative union with the Trust Territory of New Guinea, was brought into operation. The Chief Executive of the Territory is the Administrator. In 1951 the major departments in the administration were: (1) the Government Secretary; (2) Health; (3) District Services and Native Affairs; (4) the Treasury; (5) Crown Law; (6) Education; (7) Agriculture; (8) Lands, Surveys and Mines; (9) Forests; (10) Customs and Marine; (11) Works. The Administration staff of Papua is part of the public service of the Administrative Union, and the positions in the public service allocated to Papua total 394.

The Papua and New Guinea Act 1949-1950 also provides for an Executive Council consisting of not less than nine officers of the Territory appointed by the Governor-General and a Legislative Council, largely an advisory body, composed of 17 official and 12 non-official members including 3 indigenous persons. In November 1949, the Executive Council was inaugurated with 10 high officials as members. Before the Legislative Council was established in November 1951, the power to make ordinances had remained with the Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia.

The Papua and New Guinea Act 1949-1950 provides for the establishment of the Supreme Court of the Territory. As the highest judicial tribunal it is the only court in the Territory that possesses general jurisdiction over both civil and criminal matters. The High Court of Australia has jurisdiction to hear and determine all the appeals from the Supreme Court of the Territory of Papua-New Guinea. Subordinate courts in the Territory are the Courts of Petty Sessions, Courts for Native Matters and Wardens' Courts. The latter, established under the Mining Ordinance and presided over by mining wardens, have jurisdiction in all mining affairs.

The Department of District and Native Affairs is responsible for the implementation of Government policy in regard to native affairs. With the proclamation of the Native Village Councils Ordinance, 1949, which empowers the Administrator to establish councils by proclamation for the maintenance of peace, order and good government in the villages, the local advisory bodies already in existence are to be vested with statutory authority. The existing system varies in size and importance from individual village councillors, nominated by the people, to larger councils elected by secret ballot and serving a group of villages. Subject to the approval of a District Officer a Native Council, when officially established, may organize, finance or engage in business, carry out public works and provide social services. Unofficial village councils throughout the Territory are still purely advisory bodies. A Native Village Council of Hanuabada under the Native Village Councils Ordinance, 1949, was established in 1951 with 17 Councillors for the four villages in the Port Moresby Sub-District of the Central Division.

The Administration is represented in each village by a village constable who is appointed by the District Officer and responsible for maintaining peace and order in his village. The number of village officials follows:

	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>
Councillors	3,689	3,716	3,726
Constables	<u>1,600</u>	<u>1,645</u>	<u>1,709</u>
Total	5,289	5,361	5,435

/ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

General

There has been a steady increase in the production and export of copra and rubber, the principal crops of the Territory. The supply of workers from the Central Highlands District of New Guinea for work on coastal areas has eased the labour situation in both the rubber and copra industries. Interest in producing more cacao was evidenced by the experimentation of inter-planting with existing coconuts and sole plantings, and by a further investigation into the prospects of extending the growing of cacao by a well known expert. Rice growing in the Mekeo area has increased and during 1951 nine Rural Progress Societies were formed by the inhabitants which produced considerable rice. Peanuts planted by the Lowland Agricultural Experiment Station to test the market in Australia has produced encouraging results. Coffee, tea and pepper were also brought to the nursery stage by the station. During 1951 the Rural Credits Development Fund of the Commonwealth Bank of Australia made a grant of £3,500 for the construction of a laboratory on the station. The introduction of kenaf, which was made following the visit of an Agricultural Officer to fibre producing areas in Florida and Cuba, constituted a major step in the development of a fibre industry in Papua.

Agriculture and livestock

Agricultural activity comes under the control and direction of the Department of Agriculture, Stock and Fisheries which is divided into the following functional divisions: (1) Division of Animal Industry; (2) Division of Agricultural Extension; (3) Division of Plant Industry; (4) Division of Production and Marketing; (5) Division of Fisheries. The Department of Agriculture has also undertaken the training of selected indigenous persons in agricultural pursuits following the cessation of training under the Commonwealth Post-War Reconstruction Training Scheme.

Under existing legislation, land cannot be alienated from the indigenous population except by the Administration; only leaseholds may be granted, the

/maximum

maximum period being 99 years. Classes of lease authorized by the law include agricultural, pastoral, residence or business, mission, and special.

The total area of Papua is approximately 58,000,000 acres and a major portion of the land is held by the indigenous inhabitants as indicated below:

Land tenure	<u>1949</u> (acres)	<u>1950</u> (acres)	<u>1951</u> (acres)
Held by natives	56,207,849	56,111,316	56,167,846
Alienated	1,792,151	1,828,684	1,832,154
Leased	219,532	223,287	228,604

In 1951, of 33,808 acres under coconut palms, 32,718 acres were producing; 25,137 acres were under rubber trees, including 7,670 acres on which the trees had not reached maturity. The quantities exported were:

	<u>1949</u> (tons)	<u>1950</u> (tons)	<u>1951</u> (tons)
Rubber	1,198	1,634	1,952
Copra	9,458	10,791	11,181

Pigs are the principal livestock raised by the local inhabitants while cattle are kept mainly on plantations. Horses are little used. For the development of livestock, an Animal Industry Centre at Kila Kila near Port Moresby and the Papuan Highlands Livestock Station and the Papuan Lowlands Livestock Station were established. Goat herds established at these breeding stations are thriving. A tick eradication programme was being carried out with good results. As of 30 June 1951 livestock held on the Administration Stations were: Horses, 60; mules and donkeys, 26; cattle, 481; sheep, 422; goats, 487; pigs, 9.

Forestry

Forest regions extend from the mangrove swamps through the rain forests of the lowlands to the oaks of the hills and the pine forests of the mountains. The latter are perhaps the highest quality forests of Papua. Shortage of skilled staff has handicapped the development of conservation practices.

/Under

Under the provisions of the Forestry (Papua) Ordinance, 1950, emergency timber permits were issued which resulted in greater development of the forests. The eight permits granted so far cover approximately 43,000 acres of land. During 1951 inspection and research were conducted in order to develop forest resources. The three major saw-mills operating in the Territory in 1951 produced about 1,250,000 superficial feet of sawn timber, a slight increase over the previous year's production.

Mining and mineral oils

Gold and manganese are the chief mining industries in Papua. However, Cuthberts Misima Goldmine Ltd., the largest company operating in the field, went into voluntary liquidation; some mining was done by other smaller concerns. High-grade manganese ore is being obtained by open-cut and selection methods. The search for petroleum continued. As of 30 June 1951 an area of over 18,900 square miles was held under permit by three large oil companies and deep drilling tests were in progress at several points. The principal mineral exports were as follows:

	<u>Value (in £)</u>		
	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>
Gold	264	10,875	3,715
Manganese ore	6,103	1,482	2,075

Power

Electricity supply in the Port Moresby area is still limited. It is expected that when the new generating machinery on order is installed in the Konedobu power-house the situation will be greatly improved. Revenue from consumers for 1950 was £27,808 compared with £18,452 for the previous year.

Transport and communications

Roads: Of the 776 miles of roads, 614 are regarded as suitable for medium to heavy traffic. Bridle paths are estimated at 8,480 miles.

/Air:

Air: Regular passenger and airmail services between Australia and Port Moresby and air services within the Territory were maintained. There were 22 serviceable airfields, the majority suitable for light aircraft only.

Inland waterways: Several rivers are navigable by small vessels.

Sea: A total of 513,126 tons of shipping entered and cleared territorial ports during 1951, compared with 498,117 tons for the previous year.

Telecommunications: The Overseas Telecommunications Commission maintains radio and radio-telephone services between Papua, Australia and the Territory of New Guinea. Radio communications within Papua are maintained by the Administration; in 1951 there were 28 radio outstations operating through the Port Moresby zone, and 26 through Samarai.

Public finance

Ordinary and extraordinary expenditure has been met by grants from the Commonwealth of Australia and revenue of the Territory. No income or business tax is levied but the Administration derives revenue from taxation by way of customs duties, licence fees, postal receipt, and land revenue. Total revenue and expenditure during 1949-1951 were:

	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>
	£	£	£
Initial surplus	135,568	709,388	745,942
Revenue			
Internal receipts	384,066	458,444	646,838
Grant by Commonwealth			
Government	1,607,828	1,903,313	1,998,253
Total revenue fund	2,127,462	3,071,145	2,645,091
Expenditure	1,418,074	2,325,203	2,810,691
Closing surplus	709,388	745,942	580,342

Banking and credit

Australian currency is used throughout Papua and the coinage of the Territory of New Guinea is also accepted as legal tender. The Commonwealth Bank of Australia and the Bank of New South Wales provide full banking facilities

/for Papua

for Papua at Port Moresby while savings bank facilities are provided throughout the Territory with agencies at all Government Stations. As of 30 June 1951, foreign business companies, which are incorporated outside Papua but carry on business in the Territory, totalled 32 with a nominal capital of £73,539,500, while the number of local companies operating in Papua was 81 with a nominal capital of £9,029,069.

International trade

Papua's main trading country is Australia and the imports and exports by value were as follows:

	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>
	£	£	£
Imports	3,177,285	4,684,028	4,642,988
Principal imports:			
Agricultural products and groceries	715,102	1,134,129	--
Metals and machinery	472,927	1,605,347	--
Oils, paints and varnishes	422,395	358,247	--
Textiles, pelts and furs and manufactures thereof, and attire	192,758	267,500	--
Exports (including re-exports)	934,112	1,202,694	1,923,289
Papuan produce (mainly copra and rubber)	633,895	1,015,792	1,613,758
Total trade	4,111,397	5,886,722	6,566,277

SOCIAL CONDITIONS

General

Papua is sparsely populated, and the inhabitants are diversified in language and culture although the communal type of life predominates. The religious beliefs and practices of the indigenous population, which may be loosely defined as ancestor and spirit worship, are also numerous and diverse in character. Illiteracy is high. The labour force that is available is another factor hampering development. Epidemics of respiratory diseases occur periodically and other endemic ills include yaws, malaria, hookworm, tropical

/ulcers and filaria.

ulcers and filaria. Tuberculosis and leprosy remain a problem.

Human rights

All inhabitants are secure in the enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms. There is no restriction on freedom of thought, expression and conscience and the free exercise of religious worship is enjoyed by all.

Status of women

In general women are not the social inferiors of men. However, the status of women of the local inhabitants varies with the particular social group. Inheritance may be matrilineal and kinship ties may also be through the female line. Under the Native Village Councils Ordinance, 1949, women are qualified to vote if they pay a tax fixed by their own Council.

Labour and employment conditions

The supply of local labour is steadily improving but still cannot meet the demand. The Papua and New Guinea Act 1949-1950 prohibits forced labour in the Territory, except in such circumstances as are permitted by the Convention concerning Forced and Compulsory Labour of the International Labour Organisation. Safeguards concerning the engagement of workers are provided by the Native Labour Ordinance, 1950, which makes it mandatory for employers to provide employees with an adequate supply of food, housing and clothing.

On 1 January 1951 the main functions of the Department of Native Labour reverted to the Department of District Services and Native Affairs. The functions of the Administration relating to the employment of the indigenous population are divided between the Native Labour Section of the Department of District Services and Native Affairs and the Native Labour Branch of the Department of the Government Secretary. The former is responsible for the administration of the employment provisions of the Native Labour Ordinance, 1950, while the latter controls the inspection of workers and places of employment and is responsible for the investigation of complaints made by or against workers.

/The majority

The majority of the labour disputes have been of a minor nature. Three disputes involving 54 workers were brought before the notice of inspectors and dealt with during 1951 compared with ten disputes involving 152 workers settled in 1950. During the year there was one offence against the labour laws by an employer and a conviction resulted in that case.

The Administration and Missions continued to provide opportunities for workers to be trained in technical trades and other forms of skilled work.

The majority of the indigenous workers employed in or near the larger towns may be classified into five categories: (1) workers, numerically the largest group; (2) artisans and clerks, the second largest group; (3) employees of the Administration or the well-established companies; (4) cash croppers; (5) contractors. Workers are free to choose the occupation which they desire. There were 2,077 workers from the Trust Territory of New Guinea employed in Papua as of 30 June 1951. Of these, 214 were employed by the Administration and 1,863 were in private employment. During the year 382 Papuans were in employment in the Trust Territory of New Guinea.

At the close of the year there were 3,120 employers and 17,094 local workers as compared with 2,894 employers and 15,934 employees on 30 June 1950. The following figures give the general trend in relation to the allocation of labour:

	<u>Number</u>		
	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>
Indentured labourers	4,916	5,654	2,679
Labourers under agreement	--	--	3,619
Non-indentured labourers	4,157	5,952	6,457
Administration employees	4,192	4,328	4,339
Total	<u>13,265</u>	<u>15,934</u>	<u>17,094</u>

Minimum monthly wages are fixed by law at 15s. plus rations, accommodations etc. The general trend of the average monthly wages is as follows:

	<u>1948</u>			<u>1949</u>			<u>1950</u>		
	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
General labourer	17		4	1	0	2	1	1	1
Plantation labourer	17		7	1	0	3	1	0	1
Domestic (male)	1	7	1	1	9	10	1	10	0
" (female)	--			1	9	5	1	10	0
Seaman	3	11	3	2	3	0	2	5	9

/Co-operative societies

Co-operative societies

Under the direction of the Co-operative Section of the Department of District Services and Native Affairs the co-operative movement has steadily grown. Before the enactment of the Co-operative Societies Ordinance, 1950, two officers of the Registry of Co-operative Societies of New South Wales had been attached to the Co-operative Section for the promotion of the movement, two officers of the Section had received training at the Registry, and 10 Native Co-operative Societies had been registered -- six in the Central Division (of which Port Moresby is the centre) and four in the Northern Division. As of 30 June 1951 there were 43 Societies in the Central Division; eight of them operated consumer stores in the immediate vicinity of Port Moresby. In 1950 there were 71 Societies in the Gulf Division engaged almost exclusively in the production and marketing of copra and in 1951 17 of these Societies were amalgamated in order to achieve efficiency. To facilitate shipping, 7 village Co-operatives in the Kukipi area of the Gulf Division were formed in 1951 for the purpose of purchasing and operating a twenty-ton vessel. As of 30 June 1951 there was a total of 101 co-operative societies with a turnover capital of £96,571.

In 1950 a Co-operative School was established at Kerema to teach the Societies' representatives something of co-operative procedure and elementary book-keeping. Native co-operative inspectors are being trained in a school at Port Moresby where the instruction covers the wide ramifications of the co-operative movement in both the economic and social fields. Marked improvement in the operation of co-operative societies has been achieved by the introduction of a series of short-term courses of instruction at Kerema and Port Moresby.

The Acting Registrar of Papua attended the International Labour Organisation Technical Conference on Co-operation in South East Asia, held at Karachi from 26 December 1950 to 2 January 1951, and two young Papuan trainee co-operative inspectors were selected to accompany the Acting Registrar to the Annual Congress of Queensland Co-operatives held at Brisbane in April 1951.

/Town and rural

Town and rural planning and housing

The Commonwealth Department of Works and Housing, which has a branch in the Territory, is responsible for all maintenance and construction in most areas of Papua though minor work in remote areas is carried out by departments of the Administration. There is a housing shortage in the urban areas and improvement in the supply of building materials has resulted in greater building activity among the non-indigenous population. During 1951 one interesting experiment was the purchase of fifty aluminium prefabricated houses to be used as accommodation for married officers of the Administration in Port Moresby. In 1949 a contour survey of the areas involved in the replanning of Port Moresby township was started and a preliminary plan prepared. The indigenous inhabitant constructs his dwelling of materials readily available in his locality and the type of house varies with each locality and the materials there available. To help the village people to improve the design and construction of their houses and the lay-out of their villages, field officers are dispatched by the Department of District Services and Native Affairs.

Social security and welfare

Welfare and social security are the primary aims of the activities of the Departments of District Services and Native Affairs, Public Health, Education, and Agriculture, Stock and Fisheries. Social welfare services to the local inhabitants are provided by the Administration and by missionary organizations with financial aid from the Administration. A social welfare section is to be established in the Department of Education, while the scope and activities of the Infant and Maternal Welfare Section of the Department of Public Health widened during 1951. The initiation of two major community-development projects and the establishment of more village libraries were major developments in the field of social welfare during 1951. The voluntary organizations, such as the Red Cross Society and Missions, co-operated with the Administration in an enormous task of relieving the distress of those in the Mount Lamington area.

/Prevention

Prevention of crime and treatment of offenders

The administration of the prisons in Port Moresby and Samarai, and of the penal and correctional institutions of the Territory, is the responsibility of the police. All the other prisons throughout the Territory are under the direct command of officers of the Department of District Services and Native Affairs acting in their capacity as officers of the Royal Papuan Constabulary. Cases tried before the courts of Papua are shown in the following table:

	<u>Number</u>		
	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>
Supreme Court			
Charged	223	246	153
Convicted	152	168	124
Discharged	37	68	24
<u>Nolle prosequi</u> entered	34	8	5
Courts of Petty Sessions			
Europeans:			
Tried	115	186(a)	152(a)
Convicted	106	158	124
Natives:			
Tried	346	683	668(a)
Convicted	335	395	469
Courts of Native Matters			
Tried	2,756	2,917	3,459
Convicted	2,644	2,815(a)	3,269

(a) Includes cases committed for trial to Supreme Court.

Public health

The Department of Public Health is administered by the Director and headquarters staff consisting in 1950 of seventeen Europeans and six Papuans. The policy of the Department is to maintain and promote better health among the inhabitants, to prevent and control epidemics, and to carry out a programme of health education. The Department has branches in all the Divisions of the Territory which function under a District Medical Officer or Senior Medical Assistant with trained nursing staff and hygiene personnel. The work of both the medical patrol and village aid posts continued to expand in all the

/Divisions.

Divisions. In 1951 the number of patrols was double that of the previous year while the number of patients seen on patrol increased by over 63 per cent from 56,696 in 1950 to 87,148 in 1951. The number of persons treated on patrol increased from 3,168 in 1950 to 10,590 in 1951 or 231 per cent. The village aid posts are staffed by native medical and hygiene assistants who have been trained at Idubada School. The number of the aid posts increased from 89 in 1950 to 98 in 1951 (10.1 per cent), while the incomplete returns of patients treated at the aid posts showed an increase from 53,160 in 1950 to 67,403 in 1951.

During the Mount Lamington volcanic eruption in January 1951 several members of the medical staff were killed and a hospital was completely destroyed. However, the Department of Health met satisfactorily medical needs and health requirements created by the emergency.

During 1951 there was an increase in the native technical staff but a slight decline in the European staff. As the breakdown figures for 1951 and full data from Mission and private enterprises are not yet available the following table shows only a general picture regarding the medical and health staff in Papua:

<u>Medical Personnel</u>	<u>Number</u>		
	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>
Doctors	12	31	--
Dentists	1	1	--
Nurses	42	49	--
Medical assistants	41	70	--
Native medical orderlies	209	292	--
Others	140	332	--
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	445	775	904

Expenditure for public health was as follows:

	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>
	£	£	£
Administration:			
Public health (including aid to Missions)	160,078	425,381	499,844
Hospital buildings	12,070	10,264	--
Missions (from their own funds)	12,580	8,063	8,977
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total known expenditure	184,728	443,708	508,844

/Both the medical

Both the medical activities of the missions and government aid to their work have increased. The aid, consisting of financial grants and medical supplies, amounted to £18,653 in 1949; £20,921 in 1950; and £23,946 in 1951.

During 1951, while the number of government hospitals with approximately 2,000 beds showed no important change, there was an appreciable increase in other medical institutions. For the last three years public health institutions were as follows:

	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>
Government hospitals (for indigenous persons)	15	17	--
Government hospitals (for Europeans)	2	2	--
Private hospitals (for indigenous persons)	1	1	--
Private hospitals (for Europeans)	1	1	--
Mission hospitals (for indigenous persons)	6	14	--
Government aid posts	40	79	--
Mission aid posts	56	65	--
Government welfare clinics	2	4	--
Mission welfare clinics	29	35	--
Government leprosaria	2	2	--
Total	<u>154</u>	<u>200</u>	<u>261</u>

The two major disease problems in Papua are malaria and tuberculosis. In 1950 and 1951 tuberculosis and malaria caused 33.98 and 30.15 per cent of the total hospital deaths respectively. Village sanitation and malaria control remain the major health problems. Through the action of the Village Council in carrying out a health programme the village of Hanuabada near Port Moresby has improved its sanitation conditions **greatly**.

The training of local inhabitants in medical work continued at Idubada during the year. Certified training schools have also been established at three Mission hospitals. The first Papuan student medical practitioner was expected to graduate and return to the Territory from the Central Medical School, Suva, in December 1951. In medical training the major advance was the invitation of applications for the position of Assistant Director (Medical Training).

Vital statistics are not available.

/EDUCATIONAL CONDITIONS

EDUCATIONAL CONDITIONS

General

Educational policy in Papua takes the existing differences of language and culture among its inhabitants into account and conforms therefore with the general principle that while the interests of the indigenous people are regarded as paramount, involved in the full implementation of such a principle is recognition of the necessity for the provision of suitable facilities for non-indigenous inhabitants as well. The objectives of the education programme are (1) universal literacy, as high a standard of general education as possible, leading to improvement in village life and ability to participate in the control and direction of political, legal and executive machinery; and (2) the training, in various vocations, of as many individuals as are required for the practice of skilled trades and professions.

Educational administration and system

The Department of Education is responsible for carrying out the policy and programmes in education and is organized in four main groups: the Director's Central Administrative Panel, and the General, Technical and Special Services' Divisions. On a basis of Areas, Divisions and Regions the organization of the Department is intended to provide for flexibility and the adaptation of educational practice to local needs and circumstances. The present education systems are: (1) education through Administration organizations; (2) education through Mission organizations, subsidized by the Administration and inspected by Administration officers.

Total expenditure on education was as follows:

	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>
	£	£	£
Administration	67,778	178,249	157,563
Grants from Commonwealth Government	49,436	--	--
Missions (from their own funds)	27,817	32,573	39,563
Total known expenditure	145,031	210,822	196,929

/There are

There are five types of schools for the indigenous population: (1) Village schools conducted by the Missions with grants-in-aid from the Administration; (2) Village higher schools conducted by both the Administration and the Missions; (3) Area schools conducted by both the Administration and the Missions for a number of villages belonging to a single cultural and linguistic grouping; (4) Central School conducted by the Administration at Sogeri Education Centre; (5) Higher Training conducted by the Administration at Sogeri where courses are provided for teacher training and pre-vocational training. Primary schools for European children are found in Port Moresby and Samarai. There is no secondary school in Papua but during the year financial assistance was granted to parents of approved students for secondary education in Australia. As of 30 June 1951 there were 84 children from Papua attending secondary schools in Australia.

Education statistics are as follows:

Number of Schools:	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>
Administration schools	9	11	16
Mission schools	687	723	777
Enrolment:			
Administration and Mission schools	40,573	42,532	
Reconstruction training scheme students	401	453	348
Number of teachers:			
Local	893	815	
Non-local	154	183	

Adult Education

Programmes for adult or mass education provide for integrated work by a number of Departments and include provision for the utilization of radio, films, publications and other media of mass education. During 1951, as part of the Community Development Project at Kinipo, a Village Higher School was established and adult literacy classes were held each evening. By June 1951 thirty adults had received literacy certificates. During the year several village libraries were established serving also as a focal point for social activities of all kinds. Technical training programmes continued at the Technical Training Centre, Iduabada, and at the Auxiliary Technical Training Centre run by Missions. At Daru a school has been established giving special courses on home economics to girls who have completed their training in village and higher village schools. An adult education centre at Saiho provides training in English, hygiene, handicrafts and sewing.

/Cultural institutions

Cultural institutions

The Special Services Division of the Department of Education includes a Music Section and Art and Handicrafts Section, and have the functions of carrying out research in their respective spheres and designing programmes for special educational activities intended to maintain interest in indigenous art and culture. Vernacular newspapers are circulated. Besides the village libraries, public libraries are in operation at Port Moresby and Samara. A noteworthy feature during the year was a display in Australia of paintings by the students of the Sogeri Education Centre.
