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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

Pacific Territories^{1/}

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^{1/} Information transmitted to the Secretary-General by the Government of the United States of America on American Samoa, Guam and Hawaii; by the Government of New Zealand on Cook, Niue and Tokelau Islands; by the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on Fiji, Gilbert and Ellice Islands, Pitcairn Island and Solomon Islands, and by the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and France on New Hebrides. The summary is also submitted to the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories.

AMERICAN SAMOA

Information for the fiscal year ending 30 June 1955 on American Samoa was transmitted to the Secretary-General by the Government of the United States of America on 8 March 1956 in the form of the Annual Report of the Governor of American Samoa to the Secretary of the Interior. The following is a summary of the information under the headings of the Standard Form for the guidance of Members in the preparation of information to be transmitted under Article 73 e. Account is also taken of information on the Territory transmitted by the Government of the United States in 1953 and 1954.

AREA

76.5 square miles (198 square kilometres)

POPULATION

The inhabitants of American Samoa are Polynesians. According to the United States Census of 1950, the total population was 18,937, the number of people of part non-Polynesian ancestry 970, and the number of Europeans 358, mostly naval personnel. At the present time there are no naval or military personnel in the Territory.

The population of the Territory increased from 5,697 in 1900 at the rate of approximately 27 per cent per decade to about 21,500 as of 30 June 1955. The increase during the decade 1940-50 amounting to 6,029 was 46.7 per cent. The general trend in the composition of the population is toward the lower age-groups due to the accelerating birth rate and the declining death rate. During the year, 188 Samoans emigrated to the Hawaiian Islands and the mainland United States.

GOVERNMENT

The Fono, the advisory legislative body of American Samoa, is composed of the House of Representatives of seventeen members elected by universal suffrage and secret ballot and of the Senate of fifteen members chosen from among the

Chiefs by the traditional councils of each country in accordance with Samoan custom. All sessions are conducted in the Samoan language and all records, reports, and resolutions are translated into English.

Under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior of the United States the Governor of American Samoa exercises authority as chief executive of the Territory. On matters pertaining to Samoan ceremony and custom the Governor consults the Council of Paramount Chiefs. This body, the former upper house of the legislature, was transferred to the executive branch and now advises the Governor. The Government is encouraging the participation of Samoans in administration. Many qualified Samoans have risen to become assistant directors of various departments. Local, district, county, and village government is entirely in the hands of the indigenous leaders. The "Samoa Affairs Office" was replaced by the "Department of Local Government" during 1954-55.

A constitutional committee was established to draft a territorial constitution to serve as the basic law of the Territory. The committee is composed of five Samoan leaders, one part-Samoan lawyer, the Attorney General, Samoa Affairs Officer, and the Chief Judge. During the June 1955 session of the Fono, nine resolutions were drawn up as recommendations to the Governor, pertaining to the drafting of the constitution, board of health, junior high schools, branch bank, transportation, budget, leave regulations, scholarships and protection of fish.

The policy of the United States is to assist the Samoans to progress towards self-sufficiency in political affairs; on 30 June 1955 the number of non-indigenous personnel holding positions in the Government, for example, had been reduced to forty-seven from a previous total of fifty-three. Samoans now occupy the positions formerly filled by non-indigenous personnel.

E C O N O M I C C O N D I T I O N S

The Samoan economy is essentially agrarian. With the rapidly increasing population, emphasis is being put on increasing subsistence crops, as well as money crops. Cocoa has been introduced last year as a source of income, and

several small shipments have been made recently for export. Coffee is also being planted, and information on the care and production is being relayed to coffee growers. Copra still continues to be the largest export of the indigenous people. The programme of industrial incentives designed to encourage the establishment of industry has been successful; the local privately operated fish cannery shows good prospects for success. During the year the Civil Aeronautics Board and the President of the United States approved the application of the Pan American Airways to make American Samoa a regular stop on its route between Honolulu and Australia.

The policy of the United States is to assist the Samoans to progress toward self-sufficiency in economic affairs.

AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK

The function of the Department of Agriculture in the Territory is to develop the ultimate potential of the agricultural economy for the ultimate good of the Samoan people. In addition to the Office of the Director, the department is divided organizationally into the following divisions: Dairy, Experimental Farm, and Extension Service. Plant and animal control and quarantine regulations for the Territory were finalized and became effective as Executive Order 1, 1955.

The dairy is primarily a production project to provide good milk for the people; it operates a modern pasteurization plant, constructed a modern milking barn and imported twelve bred heifers and one bull in 1954-55. The experimental farm was designed as an introduction and experimental project where new plant varieties could be tested for use within the Territory; experimental projects for fertilization of taro, banana improvement, poultry and swine improvement, and introduction of new crops, such as cocoa and coffee, are currently in operation. The Extension Service, which now has three district agricultural officers and ten agents under the supervision of the Samoan assistant director, disseminates information to the growers.

Principal crops

	Area				Production			
	1951/52	1952/53	1953/54	1954/55	1951/52	1952/53	1953/54	1954/55
	(acres)				(tons)			
Copra	8,950	8,950	...	...	3,000	2,700	1,895	1,680
Banana	7,000	17,000	2,500	2,500	22,500	17,543	2,500	2,500
Taro	1,600	1,600	600	600	6,500	2,610	1,500	1,500

Livestock

	Numbers				Numbers slaughtered			
	1951/52	1952/53	1953/54	1954/55	1951/52	1952/53	1953/54	1954/55
Cattle	250	275	287	250	25	35	37	...
Hogs	9,000	8,000	14,400	2,900	2,500	3,000	7,000	...
Chickens	30,000	25,000	66,900	11,950	6,000	7,000	36,000	...

FORESTRY

At the experimental farm tree seedlings are grown on a small scale and distributed to interested individuals. In 1954 two sawmills were obtained and plans were made to put them into operation.

FISHERIES

Development of the fisheries resources was undertaken by a private concern in co-operation with the Government.

POWER

	Output			
	1951/52	1952/53	1953/54	1954/55
	kwh	kwh	kwh	kwh
Diesel	2,403,600	3,136,300	3,332,400	3,969,300

INDUSTRY

The promotion of industrial development is handled directly through the Governor's office. The Samoan Industries Board, composed of both Samcans and Government officials, is mainly responsible for developing handicrafts. An

Industrial Development Advisory Committee, made up of nine Samoan leaders, was appointed by the legislature to work with the Governor. As part of the industrial development programme the Government leased, in 1954, its fish cannery facilities to the Van Camp Sea Food Company, a non-indigenous tuna packing concern, which commenced operation in February 1954. Production figures for the handicrafts and the fishing cannery were:

	Production by amount				Production by value			
	1951/52	1952/53	1953/54	1954/55	1951/52	1952/53	1953/54	1954/55
					(in 1,000 US dollars)			
Handicrafts:					85	123.1	135	48
Weaving	500	750	750	250	75	112.5	...	...
		(thousand mats)						
Woodcarving	4,500	4,750	5,000	3,000	10	10.6	...	...
		(wood products)						
Fish cannery	-	-	10,000	...	-	-	110	...
			(cases)	a/	b/			b/

a/ February to June

b/ Statistics not available but production increased appreciably over previous year.

TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Roads

There are nearly seventy miles of roads, four miles of which are surfaced. In 1954-55, 2.5 miles of old roads have been widened and the construction of two miles of road has started.

Sea-borne shipping

The Government maintains one small inter-island vessel and three launches for inter-island use. In 1954-55, the main dock was being reconstructed. Cargoes and passengers arriving and leaving by sea were:

	1951/52	1952/53	1953/54
Imports and exports (tons)	6,701	7,621	7,937
Passengers	7,319	7,865	9,489

Communications

Telephone: There is a single telephone system with 212 telephones connected with an automatic dial type telephone switchboard.

Radio-telegraph: A Government-owned radio station maintains a constant service for Government and private telegraphic correspondence to all parts of the world; an inter-island radio telegraph network provides inter-island communication. This fiscal year the volume of Government traffic increased 12 per cent and private traffic, 14 per cent, over fiscal year 1954.

PUBLIC FINANCE

During the year the Budget Office and the Department of Management were replaced by the Department of Budget and Finance. The Director, who is also treasurer, is aided by two administrative assistants, one a Samoan career employee for finance, and the other a non-indigenous contract employee for budgetary matters.

	1948/49	1952/53	1953/54	1954/55
		(United States dollars)		
Local revenue	422,739.11 <u>a/</u>	453,632.32	524,969.95 <u>b/</u>	591,316.50 <u>c/</u>
Expenditure	626,774.94	1,704,501.71	1,541,134.24	1,565,101.31

a/ Not including \$US55,000 allocations from the Navy Department.

b/ Not including \$US1,434,000 grant-in-aid and \$US116,000 direct appropriation.

c/ Not including \$US1,159,000 grant-in-aid and \$US105,000 direct appropriation.

The principal categories of local revenue in 1955 were: customs duties, \$US210,207.54; electric current, \$US52,868.55; licences and permits, \$US50,098.67 and rental and leases, \$US42,628.35.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE

	1948/49	1952/53 (United States dollars)	1953/54	1954/55
Imports	886,701.00	844,272	992,543	987,968.31
Exports	459,055.61	188,276	548,142	1,270,548.10
<u>Principal imports</u>				
Meat preserved	247,699	140,130	192,611	...
Fish, canned	32,935	35,717	47,823	...
Cloth	73,114	67,775	74,841	...
<u>Principal exports</u>				
Copra	353,285.15	132,933	363,237	243,065
Floor mats	44,936.58	41,060	45,737	38,363.23
All other mats	8,279.97	11,077	23,859	4,854.23
Wood craft	262.78	205	1,063	1,655.07
Fish, canned	-	-	107,700	979,688.96

American Samoa imports mainly from the United States (for \$US603,056.14 in 1955) and from Australia and New Zealand (for \$US302,440.20 in 1955).

S O C I A L C O N D I T I O N S

The policy of the United States is to encourage and develop Samoan leadership, to place Samoan personnel in high-level positions when possible, to reorganize the government structure to enable the Government to work more closely with the Samoan people from the legislature down to the village level. The major emphasis of the Department of Local Government (Samoan Affairs Office) has been the development of a self-sustaining and self-reliant system of local government to deal with village, county and district interests and concerns of both traditional and modern nature. It thus acts as a liaison between the administration and the people in providing a mechanism for bringing to members of the Territorial Government the needs and problems of the Samoans.

LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT

Besides the Government, the major employer is the fish canning company, which employed approximately 150 Samoans in 1954 and over 300 in 1955. The number of

workers in the handicrafts increased from 4,650 in 1952 to 5,175 in 1953 and 6,300 in 1954.

Regular wage-earners numbered only about 1,100 in 1954; approximately one-third of the total population depended on the wage-earner's income.

Persons who registered their willingness to accept employment outside of American Samoa numbered approximately 1,000 in 1954. These persons were not completely unemployed as they performed plantation or other work in their own village.

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES

There are four craft co-operatives, three of which were formed in 1954-55, and all are owned and operated by Samoans. During this period three credit unions were organized: a credit union for government employees, a loan association for teachers and a credit union for veterans. In 1953, a consumers co-operative with a membership of about 40 Samoan families was formed. The Samoan Industries Board, a co-operative agency composed of both Samoans and government officials set up to assist the Samoan producers of mats and woodcraft in marketing their products, is now self-supporting and receives only technical assistance and administrative guidance from the Government.

STANDARD OF LIVING

The cost of living has increased slightly.

<u>Retail prices</u> (per pound)	1952	1953	1954
		(in United States dollar)	
Meat, preserved	0.53	0.55	0.50
Fish, canned	0.40 to 0.50	0.30 to 0.50	0.33
Rice	0.17	0.22	0.18
Flour, wheat	0.12	0.12	0.13
Sugar	0.16	0.16	0.16
Butter	0.60	0.60	0.65
Coffee	1.30	1.40	1.85

SOCIAL PROTECTION AND DEVELOPMENT

Prevention of Crime and Treatment of Offenders

Crime statistics

	1951/52	1952/53	1953/54	1954/55
Offences:				
Number of persons tried	212	299	486	116
Convicted	183	238	343	101
Acquitted	29	61	143	15
Persons (all adults) sentenced to:				
Deprivation of liberty	26	22	20	17
Financial penalty	151	206	290	81
Other (village work)	<u>6</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>33</u>	<u>3</u>
Total	183	238	343	101

Institutions

The American Samoa Prison is under the supervision of the warden assisted by fourteen guards, who also perform duties as police patrolmen. Prisoners are assigned daily to the Public Works Department for labour and to other departments on request. The policy is to place prisoners on parole if they have satisfactorily served approximately two-thirds of their prison sentences. The prison has an average population of thirty-three, all males.

PUBLIC HEALTH

In 1954-55, the designation of "Department of Public Health" was changed into "Department of Medical Service" to differentiate between the departmental functions and that division within the department which deals with public health. The position of medical director was abolished and a medical board, consisting of all doctors of medicine and dentistry and the administrative officer, was established. The position of statistician was abolished during the year and that of administrative assistant was created. This position is held by a Samoan.

A dispensary is being established outside the hospital and will handle all out-patient service. A surgical clinic is being established to provide surgical, gynecological, and obstetrical care for out-patients.

	<u>Expenditure</u>			
	1951/52	1952/53	1953/54	1954/55
		(United States dollars)		
Recurrent	296,016	372,711	364,241	{ 368,317
Capital	21,777	18,155	24,475	
Proportion of public health expenditure to total expenditure of the Territory (per cent)	24	22.9	23.4	23.5

	<u>Medical and health staff</u>			
	1951/52	1952/53	1953/54	1954/55
Physicians (M.D.)	4	3	3	3 a/
Medical Practitioners	12	12	10	9
Samoan Dental Practitioners	2	3	4	3
Nurses (regular R.N. nurses, stateside)	3	3	2	4
Nurses certified	81	81	81	91
Nurses partially trained	50	84	84	65
Sanitary inspector	1	1	1	1
Laboratory and X-ray technicians	3	5	4	4

a/ Not including a doctor of dentistry.

	<u>Institutions</u>							
	1951/52		1952/53		1953/54		1954/55	
	Number	Beds	Number	Beds	Number	Beds	Number	Beds
Hospital	1	225	1	225	1	225	1	225
Cottage hospital	1	20	1	25	1	25	1	25
Dispensaries	5	-	5	-	4	-	4	-

Specialized units

In 1954-55, there were one maternity and child welfare centre in hospital, five in dispensaries and one as a separate unit; one tuberculosis centre in hospital and one as a separate unit; one venereal disease unit in hospital; one leprosarium in hospital and one as a separate unit with thirty-five beds; and one mental patient treated in hospital.

Vital statistics

	1951/52	1952/53	1953/54	1954/55
Total births registered	828	729	739	767
Infant mortality per 1,000 live births	79.9	87.7	59.5	40.3
Total deaths	214	148	110	147
Death rate per 1,000 population	10.4	8.2	5.8	7.3

The major health problems are in the field of preventive medicine and sanitation. The control of tuberculosis is still of primary importance and will be accelerated with the initiation of a tuberculosis survey in 1956. An immunization programme has brought typhoid under control. No cases of smallpox, diphtheria, or whooping cough were reported in 1955.

E D U C A T I O N A L C O N D I T I O N S

The objectives of the Government with respect to education are inter alia:

- (a) to provide training which will enable the people to serve more effectively within the social, economic, and political structure of the area in which they live;
- (b) to provide at the same time suitable background for those who will find it possible to take advantage of opportunities for higher education in the United States or other countries;
- (c) to lead the people toward self-government.

In line with these objectives, the policy of the Department of Education is to maintain a programme adapted thereto in the following fields: (a) curriculum; (b) school organization; (c) compulsory education between the ages of seven and fifteen; (d) buildings and equipment; (e) scholarships; (f) upgrading of the school system.

Illiteracy in the Territory is one per cent of the total population ten years of age and over. There is a total of 6,057 children of school age.

	<u>Expenditure</u>			
	1951/52	1952/53	1953/54	1954/55
	(in US dollars)			
Budget for the Department of Education	237,561	247,745	271,169	253,551
Capital expenditure	2,900	2,521	...	...
Proportion of current expenditure on education to total expenditure (per cent)	17.9	15.9	16.5	16.2

Schools

	1952/53		1953/54		1 July 1955	
	Publ.	Indep.	Publ.	Indep.	Publ.	Indep.
Primary	53	7	52	6	47	6
Secondary	1	-	1	-	6 <u>a/</u>	-
Vocational	1	-	1	-	1	-
Teacher education	1	-	1	-	1	-

a/ One high school and five junior high schools.

Pupils

	1952/53		1953/54		1 July 1955	
	Publ.	Indep.	Publ.	Indep.	Publ.	Indep.
Primary schools	4,251	1,088	4,909	961	3,875	1,113
Secondary schools	176	-	144	-	990 <u>a/</u>	-
Vocational schools	32	-	46	-	46	-
Teacher education	26	-	16	-	13	-
Higher education (outside the Territory)	10	-	-	-	...	-

a/ 161 in high school and 829 in junior high schools.

Teachers

	1953 <u>a/</u>		1954 <u>a/</u>		1 July 1955	
	Publ.	Indep.	Publ.	Indep.	Publ.	Indep.
Primary schools	149(4)	20(11)	169(4)	16(9)	170	31
Secondary schools	4(7)	-	4(7)	-	37 <u>b/</u>	-
Vocational schools	1(2)	-	1(1)	-	2	-
Teacher education	(1)	-	(1)	-	1	-

a/ Number of non-Samoan teachers are indicated within parentheses.

b/ Ten in high school and twenty-seven in junior high schools.

ADULT EDUCATION

The object of the Office of Information and Adult Education is to provide adult Samoans with greater opportunities for education and an understanding of events and ideas which will be helpful to the Samoan people in progressing toward self-government and economic self-sufficiency. This mission is to be achieved primarily through the use of radio, newspapers, printed materials, cinemas, and group meetings. This office is entirely staffed by Samoans.

CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS

The Department of Education maintains a library which provides service to both the students and the general public. It has approximately 11,000 volumes of books and an annual circulation of some 2,500 volumes. Plans were made for the development of a Government museum.

MASS COMMUNICATIONS

The Office of Information and Adult Education publishes: (a) the "Failauga Samoa", a weekly in the Samoan language, with a distribution of approximately 3,000 copies every week; (b) the "Leaso", a daily in English, with a daily circulation of approximately 300 copies; (c) the "O Le Fa'atunu", a bilingual official historical quarterly review of Government activities, with a quarterly issue of approximately 2,500 copies.

The Office also operates a small radio station broadcasting twenty-five hours a week and organizes community discussion groups in villages.

COOK, NIUE AND TOKELAU ISLANDS

Information for the year ending 31 March 1955 on Cook, Niue and Tokelau Islands was transmitted to the Secretary-General by the Government of New Zealand on 14 November 1955. The following is a summary of the information under the headings of the Standard Form for the guidance of Members in the preparation of information to be transmitted under Article 73 e.

AREA

The Cook Islands (excluding Niue Island) comprise fifteen islands scattered over 850,000 square miles of ocean with a total land area of approximately 88 square miles (195 square kilometres).

Niue Island has an area of just over 100 square miles (259 square kilometres).

The total land area of the Tokelau Islands is nearly four square miles (10 square kilometres).

POPULATION

	1949	1953 (estimates on March 31)	1954	1955
Cook Islands				
Indigenous	14,349	14,978	15,280	15,514
Non-indigenous	301	365	377	385
Total	<u>14,650</u>	<u>15,343</u>	<u>15,657</u>	<u>15,899</u>
Niue				
Indigenous	4,303	4,576	4,661	4,689
Non-indigenous	30	37	47	45
Total	<u>4,333</u>	<u>4,613</u>	<u>4,708</u>	<u>4,734</u>
Tokelau				
Indigenous	1,616 <u>a/</u>	1,671	1,751 <u>b/</u>	1,796 <u>c/</u>

a/ 182 of whom were absent on other islands.

b/ In addition, two permanent European residents, a priest and a nun, are stationed on the Island of Nukunono.

c/ Including one European resident, a nun stationed on the island of Nukunono.

GOVERNMENT

The Cook, Niue and Tokelau Islands form part of New Zealand. The inhabitants are British subjects and New Zealand citizens.

Subject to the control of the Minister of Island Territories, the Resident Commissioner appointed by the Governor-General is charged with the executive government of the Cook Islands. Constitutionally Niue is included in the Cook Islands. A Resident Commissioner, directly responsible to the Minister of Island Territories in Wellington, carries out the executive function of the government in Niue.

The Tokelau Islands Administration Regulations, 1949, vest administrative and executive functions relating to Tokelau in the High Commissioner of Western Samoa. The Private Secretary to the High Commissioner is designated Executive Officer for the Tokelau Islands.

Legislative bodies in the Cook Islands consist of the Legislative Council and the various Island Councils. The Legislative Council comprises 10 unofficial members elected by the Island Councils and 10 official members appointed by the Governor-General; the lesser islands are not represented on the Legislative Council. The functions of the Island Councils are mainly advisory and proposals have been made to empower them to raise funds for local public purposes. In Niue Island, the Resident Commissioner is assisted by an Island Council consisting of thirteen Niueans which has met quarterly.

Although the Administrator has the power formally to appoint the Faipules, chief local representatives of the Government, elections were held for the first time in 1953/54 to elect for a period of three years the Faipules of each of the three islands.

The Government policy of New Zealand is to train the local inhabitants to take an increasing share in the administration of these territories. In 1954/55 it was decided that Maoris who hold qualifications, and possess abilities equivalent to those of imported officers should receive approximately equal salaries. Consequently, several well-qualified officers have returned from New Zealand to work in the Administration.

E C O N O M I C C O N D I T I O N S

The Cook, Niue and Tokelau Islands depend mainly on agriculture. The most important agricultural products in the Cook Islands are oranges, tomatoes and copra, while the latter form the main crop of Niue and Tokelau.

In the Cook Islands an improved shipping service is essential to the promotion of export trade and plans for a cool store and packing shed for perishable fruits are almost complete. Loans have been made available recently by the government for a citrus replanting scheme. The Administration seeks to develop the fruit export industry through the Fruit Control Scheme, under which fruits are purchased from the growers at fixed prices for export to the New Zealand market. Work completed by the Public Works Department during the year include water tanks, houses, a gaol, a cottage hospital, a dispensary and improvement of the Aitutaki water supply.

In Niue, an Agricultural Officer was appointed in 1953/54 to promote more diversified and higher production. Public works carried out during 1953/54 and 1954/55 included: a new underground storage tank and a concrete reservoir for water supplies; road construction and repairing; hospital and school buildings; a power house; and new houses.

Since the completion of a major capital development programme in the Tokelau Islands in 1952, public works during 1953/54 were confined to repairs and maintenance or improvement. More water-tank catchment areas have been built.

AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK

	<u>Principal crops</u>				
	<u>Cook</u>				<u>Niue^{a/}</u>
	Acres estimated				
	1948/49	1952/53	1953/54	1954/55	
Coconuts	18,000	18,000	30,250	28,250	4,685
Taro	...	450	1,350	400	3,175
Yams	...	...	50	50	1,750
Manioc (Cassava)	550	365	400	325	1,195 (tapioca)
Bananas	...	...	1,380	1,380	1,100
Kumaras	...	135	310	200	500
Citrus	650	1,000	1,810	1,980	25
Tomatoes	300	425	800	800	-
Pineapples	...	...	400	250	-

a/ Estimated over a period of seven years.

Livestock

	<u>Cook</u>			
	1948/49 ^{a/} (est.)	1951/52 (est.)	1952/53 (est.)	1955 (March census)
Horses	1,717	1,798	1,778	1,538
Cattle	314	425	817	321
Goats	899	2,282	2,565	2,244
Pigs	2,738	8,361	9,032	9,017

a/ In Rarotonga only.

FORESTRY

In the Cook Islands an afforestation scheme has led to the planting of 65 acres on the island of Atiu. During 1952/53 the Senior Forester of the New Zealand Forest Service visited Atiu, Aitutaki and Rarotonga and recommended further planting. It is hoped that in the future Cook Islands produce will be shipped in cases made from local timber.

Niue possesses about 22,000 acres of forest with excellent timber trees. Improvements to the sawmill during 1953/54 enabled thicker logs to be cut with less wastage.

	1952/53	1953/54	1954/55
Timber production (superficial feet)	55,700	95,700	94,000

FISHERIES

Ocean and lagoon fish and shellfish form a staple constituent of the diet of the islanders. There is no commercial fishing in Niue and Tokelau. Pond culture on a small scale is carried out in some of the Cook Islands. The Fisheries Adviser to the South Pacific Commission is to visit the Group to advise on pond culture, sea fishing and the transfer of live pearl shell. Pearl shell exports were as follows:

	1952/53	1953/54	1954/55
Shell exported (tons)	301	309	290
Value of exports (£NZ) ^{a/}	69,230	71,997	74,240

^{a/} The local currency is the New Zealand £, which is equivalent to the £ Sterling.

POWER

At Rarotonga in the Cook Islands the electric-power station has increased its capacity. There are no electric-power supply schemes in the other islands, except for small lighting plants. On Niue electric power is supplied by diesel and petrol engines in public places, and a new generator has enabled a few private residences, Niuean and European, to use electricity.

INDUSTRY

The Cook Islands have two clothing factories and one shoe factory using imported material. The clothing factories fulfil orders from New Zealand; the shoe factory supplies the local market. In the Cook and Niue Islands manufacture of hats, belts, baskets and mats from coconut fibre is undertaken, largely on a

domestic basis. There are no other industries on Niue. Other important industries in the Cook Islands are the packing of fruits and vegetables for export, and pearl shell.

TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Transport

The fortnightly air service to Aitutaki and Rarotonga in the Cook Islands has been replaced by a fortnightly service to Aitutaki only. A total of 270 motor vehicles operate in the Cook Group. In 1953/54 21 vessels with a tonnage of 41,397 called at the port of Alofi in Niue. The New Zealand Government maintains a regular monthly shipping service with the Cook Islands. The cargo and passengers carried by this service and other vessels were:

	1952/53	1953/54	1954/55
Cargo (tons)	9,557	16,701	19,243
Passengers	428	599	650

Communications

A radio circuit was established from Rarotonga to Pitcairn Island in November 1953. The main radio station on Rarotonga maintains communication with Wellington and the principal Pacific centres, as well as with twelve sub-stations in the outer islands. A radio-telephone service to the outer islands is available for emergency use. The number of connexions of Rarotonga's system and the paid traffic handled by the parent radio station were:

	1948/49	1952/53	1953/54 (number)	1954/55
Telephone	...	151	182	160
Radio				
Radiograms	16,908	30,611	36,278	41,256
Words	361,425	605,144	727,087	881,046
Revenue (£NZ)	...	4,113	5,117	5,764

Aitutaki is the only other island which has a small telephone service.

In Niue, a radio station at Alofi including a recently installed radio-telephone communicator for use in emergencies provides for overseas communication; a telephone service connects all villages.

Radio-telegraph receivers and transmitters are operated in Tokelau by operators trained and directed by Western Samoan radio authorities. Receiving sets are installed in all villages.

PUBLIC FINANCE

The revenue of the Cook, Niue and Tokelau Islands is derived principally from customs duties. The Government of New Zealand has continued to provide subsidies and grants for economic and social development and for meeting budgetary deficits.

Revenue and expenditure

<u>Cook Islands</u>	1948/49	1952/53 (New Zealand pounds)	1953/54	1954/55
Revenue	85,822	225,736	257,217	248,582
Expenditure	207,302	453,557	548,674	488,004
Subsidies and grants from New Zealand	100,249	276,382	324,037	339,727
Principal categories of revenue:				
Import duties		49,406	47,265	40,235
Export duties		8,091	6,079	11,452
Stamp sales		7,496	10,160	4,974
Principal categories of expenditure:				
Education	35,659	64,059	81,731	77,030
Health	44,652	67,691	78,239	83,937
Public works	36,206	77,079	94,051	53,255
<u>Niue</u>				
Revenue	19,434	42,315	68,865	73,660
Expenditure	50,820	100,918	137,069	188,269
Deficit	31,386	58,603	71,204	114,609
Subsidy	32,257	49,671	83,184	99,254
<u>Tokelau</u>				1954 ^{a/}
Revenue		8,174	9,794	14,588
Expenditure		8,174	9,794	14,588
Subsidy		5,483	4,822	10,631

a/ 31 December 1954; provisional.

Income tax is levied at New Zealand rates and affects a few individuals. All Niuean males aged eighteen or over pay a tax of 10 sh. annually known as an "Aid to Revenue". There is no public debt in the Tokelau Islands.

The Post Office Savings Bank has branches in the Cook Islands and Niue. Credit facilities are confined to the financing by the New Zealand Treasury of the Niue fruit-control scheme.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE

<u>Cook Islands</u>	1948	1952	1953	1954
		(New Zealand pounds)		
Imports	299,849	592,415	552,019	642,696
Exports	155,098	365,399	351,542	385,051
Principal imports				
Foodstuffs	97,450	176,958	167,316	195,851
Drapery and piece goods	54,572 a/	93,418	52,752	70,350
Oils and petrol, etc.	...	32,823	26,998	34,272
Vehicles and parts	...	24,359	23,378	26,031
Principal exports				
Mother-of-pearl shell	13,941	69,809	71,747	74,203
Copra	57,933	86,702	74,276	101,326
Tomatoes	23,469	41,004	77,469	38,599
Citrus fruits	36,864	69,702	49,808	74,830

a/ Piece goods and apparel.

<u>Niue</u>	1948	1952	1953	1954
		(New Zealand pounds)		
Imports	69,508	102,595	116,852	147,172
Exports	46,769	82,971	72,685	69,398
Principal exports				
Copra	29,571	63,277	41,066	39,068
Bananas	660	3,580	2,858	5,556
Kumaras	...	1,166	17,740	11,053
Plaited goods	16,262	8,251	7,163	10,068

<u>Tokelau</u>	1948/49	1952/53	1953/54	1954/55
		(New Zealand pounds)		
Exports - copra only	£90	5,102	9,255	8,783
Imports	...	5,051	...	4,842
Flour	...	498	...	284
Sugar	...	117	...	405
Rice	...	370	...	320
Tobacco	...	390	...	450

The trade of the Islands is predominately with New Zealand.

Trading operations of the Tokelau Islands are in the hands of the New Zealand Reparation Estates, a government agency.

S O C I A L C O N D I T I O N S

Fourteen per cent of the Cook Islands population are of mixed descent. There are no serious social problems. The Cook Islanders are not conscious of race distinctions; social and economic equality is extended to all sections of the community. The traditional subsistence economy assures landholders security. A social problem arises, with a small group of Maoris migrating from the outer islands to Rarotonga, thereby divorcing themselves from their family lands and becoming dependent upon wages.

In Niue there is no tribal system, although there is a division of the people into the Motu of the north and Tafiti of the south. Unlike most Polynesian communities, the Niueans have no chiefs, nor does hereditary rank assume any importance. The Church plays an important role in the village community, which is based on the family.

The general isolation of the Tokelau Islands and the limited nature of the economy have combined to produce a simple pattern of living and a stable society. Divergent economic interests, cultural differences and racial conflicts are not prevalent. There is no rigid matai system, although the Tokelau Islanders are linked with the Samoan people as a result of past immigration waves and present administrative organization. Society to a large extent is centred on the family group.

Human rights

The provision relating to human rights, which applies in New Zealand, applies also to the Cook, Niue and Tokelau Islands without judicial distinction between race or sex.

The principles outlined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights are applied and taught in the Islands in so far as compatible with the needs and

traditions of the people. Some special measures have had to be taken for the protection of the inhabitants. An example is provided by the Tokelau Islands Departure Regulations, 1952, which restricts the departure of residents over the age of twelve.

Status of women

There is no discrimination made under statute law between the rights of Men and women. In Niue women have no authority in the running of village affairs and no voice in the appointment of Island Council members.

LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT

There are no unemployment problems. A 1954-55 summary of the principal categories of employment and occupations based on the 1951 census indicates that in the Cook Islands, of 4,068 males, 3,315 were engaged in primary production. The rest were occupied in secondary industries, trades, transport and communications, commerce, domestic and personal service, and professional workers. In Niue, there is little permanent wage-earning employment, apart from positions in the Administration and wharf labour, which is normally employed for only one day each month. Wage earners in Niue numbered 519 in 1954, 467 in 1955 and 352 in 1952. In the Tokelau Islands no supervision of employment conditions is necessary in copra production and the manufacture of plaited ware and woodwork which are the only local industries.

Daily wages

Cook Islands

Factory workers	1952		1953		1954	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Skilled workers	12	0	12	0	12	6
Semi-skilled	11	0	11	0	11	6
Unskilled	11	0	11	0	11	6

Daily wages (continued)

<u>Niue</u>	1952/3		1953/4		1954/5	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Unskilled labour	7		8	9a/	8	9a/
Wharf labour	9		1	5	1	5

a/ Hour of wage.

Migrant labour

Labour is recruited in the Cook Islands by the French Phosphate Company of Oceania for the phosphate deposits at Makates, in the Society Islands. As of 31 March 1955, there were 209 such male labourers at Makates. A number of the Cook Islanders, principally females, go to New Zealand for domestic service or to learn trades.

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES

There are as yet no co-operative societies, although in the Cook Islands regulations for the control of co-operative societies have been enacted under which a registrar of co-operative societies was appointed.

STANDARD OF LIVING

No accurate information on the national income of the Cook, Niue and Tokelau Islands is as yet available. Although the greater portion of the indigenous population of Cook and Niue lives largely off the land, high export prices have enabled many of them to make more use of foodstuffs and other articles obtainable in stores.

Retail prices

<u>Cook Islands</u>	1948/49		1952/53		1953/54		1954/55	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Bread (18 oz. to 20 oz. loaf)	0	6a/		9		9		9
Meat (tinned, per pound)	1	10	3	1	3	1	3	1 to 3/9
Fish (fresh, per pound)	1	0	2	8	2	9		3
White drill (per yard)	5	4	6	8	6	8	5	6 to 6/6

Retail prices (continued)

<u>Niue (in Alofi)</u> ^{b/}	1948/49		1952/53		1953/54		1954/55	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Meat (tinned, per pound)	1	10c/	2	11	3	5	3	5
Fish (tinned, per pound)	...		4		4		4	
Bread (per pound)		3d/		7		7		7

a/ Per pound.

b/ Prices in outer villages are generally ten per cent higher.

c/ Preserved.

d/ Flour

TOWN AND RURAL PLANNING AND HOUSING

Local materials are widely used in house building in the Cook Islands. In Rarotonga and Aitutaki, European influence is noticeable in much of the Maori housing. At the 1954 session of the Legislative Council, recommendations were made for the granting of loans for housing against approved securities.

In the new village of Fatiau in Niue, model Niusan-style houses are being built with the assistance of the Public Works Department. These houses may serve as a pattern for those built in other parts of the island. An island ordinance provides for the control of overcrowding and lack of ventilation.

The villages in the Tokelau Islands are well planned and laid out, although some overcrowding is now noticeable. Resettlement between the islands is being encouraged.

SOCIAL PROTECTION AND DEVELOPMENT

Social security and welfare

Owing to the broad conception of family responsibility and to the traditional communal system, special assistance to needy indigenous inhabitants is not a problem.

In the Cook Islands several welfare organizations are active. Disabled ex-servicemen receive financial assistance from the Administration. In May 1954, the New Zealand Crippled Children Society granted £NZ250 to a doctor to conduct

an orthopaedic clinic. Thirty-three children were examined. The Society made a further grant of £NZ1,000 towards the cost of sending fifteen of them to New Zealand for treatment.

In Niue and the Tokelau Islands child welfare is assisted by Welfare Sisters and Village Women's Committees.

Prevention of crime and treatment of offenders

The majority of offences are of a minor nature.

The number of criminal cases filed before the High Court in the Cook Islands was:

1948/49	1952/53	1953/54	1954/55
1,436 ^a / _a	3,530	3,185	3,081

a/ In Rarotonga only.

Criminal convictions in Niue Island were:

1948	1952	1953	1954
506	715	539	508

Punishment takes the form of labour on public works, but a system of fines is developing. In the Cook Islands the gaol at Rarotonga during the year was replaced by a new concrete-block building to house 36 prisoners. The prison population in Rarotonga averaged 19.6 persons per month during 1954/55 compared with 29.5 in 1953/54. For the calendar year 1953, there was on Niue an average of 19 prisoners per month as against 20 in 1952. In the Tokelau Islands at 31 March 1955, there were only two prisoners; four others were in custody in New Zealand and Western Samoa.

PUBLIC HEALTH

Government subsidies from New Zealand contribute to the health services, since the internal revenue raised in these Territories remains so small. Free medical and dental care is carried out by the National Department in Niue and by the Health Department in the Cook Islands. There are no private medical or dental practitioners on Niue. The medical services of Tokelau are administered from Western Samoa.

<u>Expenditure</u>				
<u>Cook Islands</u>	1948/49	1952/53 (New Zealand pounds)	1953/54	1954/55
Recurrent)	44,672	60,065	70,190	76,270
Capital)		5,626	8,049	7,667
<u>Niue</u>				
Recurrent)	8,019	16,972	15,965	18,269
Capital)		567	1,783	4,476
<u>Tokalau</u>				
Recurrent		2,877	4,657	4,102

The Cook Health Department, headed by a chief medical officer, is centred on Rarotonga, where the main hospital and the sanatorium are located. Health services for the outer islands are in the hands of resident Cook Islands medical practitioners.

<u>Medical and health staff</u>				
	1948/49	1952/53	1953/54	1954/55
Medical officers	2	1	1	2
Medical practitioners	7	8	10	12
Matrons and New Zealand certified nurses	5	5	4	4
Cook Islands trained nurses	3	8	12	51
Cook Islands nurse trainees	22	30	30	33
Health inspectors	14 ^{a/}	14	13	14 ^{b/}
Other medical staff	6	10	18	11
New Zealand dental officer	1	1	1	1
New Zealand dental nurse	...	1	1	1
Cook Islands trained dental nurses	2	2	2	5 ^{c/}
Dental assistants	5 ^{d/}	4	3	3

- a/ Mosquito inspectors.
b/ Including 11 mosquito inspectors.
c/ Maori staff.
d/ Cook Islands dental trainees.

Institutions

	No.	Beds	No.	Beds	No.	Beds	No.	Beds
Hospitals								
General	1	36	1	36	1	50	1	57
Cottage	3	13	3	14	3	14	3	14
Dispensaries for out-patients	3	-	5	-	5	-	8	-
Specialized units								
Maternity and child welfare centres			42	-	42	-	42	-
T.B. sanatorium	1	16	1	64	1	40	1	52

The only hospital on Niue, which was built to accommodate twenty beds and has been overcrowded, is situated at Alofi, from which medical staff using motor transport attend to urgent cases in the outer districts.

Medical and health staff

	1948	1952	1953	1954
	(at the end of the year)			
Chief medical officer	1 ^{a/}	1	1	1
Matron	1	1	1	1
Child welfare sister		1	1	1
Tutor sister	1	1	1	
Assistant medical practitioners	1	2	2	1 ^{b/}
Assistant dental practitioners	2	2	2	1
Nurses	6	12	12	12
Others	<u>5</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>10</u>
Total	17	31	30	27

^{a/} In addition, there was a relieving European medical officer.

^{b/} Dental officer.

Sickness in the Tokelau Islands is mainly attributable to yaws and filaria. In September 1953, an outbreak of hepatitis (jaundice) occurred. Communications between the Tokelau Islands and Samoa have provided sufficient contact with the common infectious diseases to ensure reasonable immunity. In Niue, tuberculosis is the main health problem; yaws has ceased to be a major problem, but skin infections remain prevalent. The Cook Islands are comparatively free from tropical diseases, but tuberculosis remains the greatest single fatal disease.

Vital statistics

<u>Cook Islands</u>	1948/49	1952/53	1953/54	1954/55
Total births	648	654	678	663
Infant mortality death rate per 1,000 live births (calendar year)	101.85 ^{a/}	123.53	131.22	...
Total deaths	215	246	277	296
Total births per 1,000 population	44.23	42.62	43.43	43.92
Total deaths per 1,000 population	...	16.03	17.60	19.6

a/ For 1948/49.

<u>Niue</u>	1948	1952	1953	1954
Total births	169	170	194	204
Infant mortality per 1,000 live births	284 ^{a/}	35.3	56.7	49.6
Total deaths	142	50	61	44
Death rate per 1,000 population	33.02	10.92	12.9	9.2

<u>Tokelau</u>	1951/52	1952/53
Total births	27	35
Infant mortality per 1,000 live births	74.07	...
Total deaths	5	8
Death rate per 1,000 population	6.36	...

a/ High rate was due to whooping-cough epidemic.

EDUCATIONAL CONDITIONS

Primary education is provided by the Administration and the Missions. Education is free and compulsory between the ages of six and fourteen in both Cook and Niue. Attendance at all schools in the Tokalau Islands is very close to 100 per cent. The curriculum of the Niuean schools is based on that of New Zealand so far as relevant to the island's needs. In Niue and the Cook Islands it is now established policy to use the vernacular almost exclusively during the child's first two years at school, English being taught only as an oral subject. In the Cook Islands there is an education department under a director assisted by two imported organizing teachers, Niue has an education officer. In Niue the mission schools were replaced with four regional schools in 1951/52, when the Administration took over primary education in the island. In the Cook Islands secondary education is provided for promising children at the new Tereora College in Rarotonga, while two mission schools have post-primary classes. Also at Tereora the Education Department has opened a teachers' training college.

	<u>Expenditure</u>				
<u>Cook Islands</u>	1948/49	1951/52	1952/53	1953/54	1954/55
			(New Zealand pounds)		
Recurrent)	35,659	50,114	58,631	66,921	69,394
Capital)		3,491	5,428	14,810	7,636
<u>Niue</u>					
Recurrent			14,629	16,041	19,271
Capital			6,977	2,391	3,384
Special expenditure by New Zealand on scholarships			1,975	1,635	
<u>Tokelau</u>					
Recurrent		408	678	1,276	1,495

<u>Cook Islands</u>	<u>Number of primary schools</u>				<u>Enrolment</u>			
	1948 _{a/}	1952	1953	1954	1948	1952	1953	1954
Government schools	11	18	19	19	3,237	3,707	3,767	3,851
Roman Catholic Mission schools	7	8	8	8	409	365	398	409
Seventh Day Adventist Mission school	...	1	1	1	...	41	47	47

a/ In addition the London Missionary Society had 7 schools with an enrolment of 331.

The enrolment in the post-primary school in Cook was:

	1952		1953		1954	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
First year	12	10	11	19	10	9
Second year	13	12	10	10	9	9
Third year	12	7	10	7	9	7
Fourth year	2	5	-	-	-	-

Furthermore twenty-seven students were attending the teachers' training college at Tereora in 1955. A total of 40 pupils, 32 boys and eight girls from 1946 to March 1955 have received scholarships under the New Zealand Government Scholarship schemes.

In Niue there are seven primary schools under the control of the Administration, for which the statistics were:

	1952	1953	1954
31 December roll number	1,169	1,113	1,150
Average roll	1,172	1,100	1,142
Average attendance	1,130	1,011	1,098
Number of teachers	64	58	71
Pupil-teacher ratio	1:17.6	1:19	1:15.4

In 1948, 701 pupils were enrolled in the three Administration schools, 524 in the mission schools.

In 1954/55, a post-primary school opened with 9 boys and 11 girls on the roll. Under the New Zealand Government Scholarship scheme, 3 Niuean boys and 3 Niuean girls are attending New Zealand secondary schools while a native teacher is observing modern teaching methods in New Zealand Maori schools.

In the Tokelau Islands there are two Government and one mission primary schools with nine trained teachers.

Tokelau students are trained at the Western Samoa Teachers' Training College and later, as teachers, rotate between Tokelau schools and schools in Western Samoa.

ADULT EDUCATION

The establishment of separate community centres for each village in the Cook Islands has proved to be effective. As a result of lectures and discussions on co-operation at these centres, the co-operative movement has made a good start. In 1954/55, evening classes in bookkeeping and in English were held at Avaroa School. Assisted by four New Zealand and two local teachers, a scheme aiming at raising the academic level of 50 administration employees was started in 1954/55.

In Niue Island, adult education covers all villages.

CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS

In the Cook Islands a small public library has been built by voluntary effort, while a quota of books is sent by the New Zealand National Library Service. Provision is made for the protection of native antiquities and all other articles of historical or scientific value relating to the territory.

The Country Library Service of New Zealand keeps the Niue Islands supplied with books at regular intervals. In 1954/55, the nucleus of a small museum of Niuean arts was provided by a private collection.

MASS COMMUNICATIONS

In the Cook Islands, there are no newspapers, news being distributed by daily press sheets circulated by the Administration. A monthly publication is now being printed. The Rarotonga radio station relays a weekly half-hour broadcast. The New Zealand Broadcasting Service short-wave station, which broadcasts programmes nightly to the Pacific area, occasionally includes feature items on the Cook Islands.

On Niue Island, a tri-monthly Newsletter in both Niuean and English is the most important source of information. Documentary films have recently been shown by the Administration in all villages at regular intervals. Magazines, newspapers and periodicals are provided at these showings. Commercial films are shown weekly by a private operator in most villages. Of late 'Radio New Zealand' programmes are broadcast from the wireless station by means of loudspeakers.

FIJI

Information for the year ending 31 December 1954 on Fiji was transmitted to the Secretary-General by the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on 11 July 1955. The following is a summary of the information under the headings of the Standard Form for the guidance of members in the preparation of information to be transmitted under Article 73 e.

AREA

7,040 square miles (18,233 square kilometres)

	POPULATION ^{a/}			
	1948	1952	1953	1954 ^{b/}
		(estimates on 31 December)		
Fijian	123,995	135,877	139,373	143,100
Indian	129,761	148,802	154,803	160,303
European	6,159	7,980	6,500	8,460
Part-European	6,530	7,298	7,496	7,748
Chinese	2,804	3,719	3,857	3,985
Others	8,123	9,002	8,772	9,793
Total	277,372	312,678	320,801	333,389

a/ Fiji: Journal of the Legislative Council, Sessions of 1949, Council Paper No. 12, Suva, 1950, p. 4, Table 1; Sessions of 1953, Council Paper No. 13, Suva, 1953, p. 5, Table 5; Sessions of 1954, Council Paper No. 13, Suva, 1955, p. 6, Table 1.

b/ Legislative Council, Fiji, 1955, Council Paper No. 10, Departments of Registrar-General and Registrar of Titles, p. 7, Table 1.

E C O N O M I C C O N D I T I O N S

The economy of Fiji depends primarily on its agricultural production. Measured by expenditure more than half of the Development Programme (1949-1958) was completed by the end of 1954. Expenditure at 31 December 1954 was £F2,879,087^{1/} of a total current programme of £F4,706,739. A new Commerce and

^{1/} £Fiji 111 = £ Sterling 100 = \$US278.61.

Industries Office was established combining the Economics Control Office and the statistical section of the Secretariat, and with additional duties to encourage the establishment of new and the expansion of existing industries.

AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK

The Department of Agriculture is responsible for government services in respect of agriculture and livestock. The estimated expenditure for 1954 was £F206,942.

Agricultural policy includes (a) the preservation of land and other natural resources; in particular the conservation and improvement of soil fertility; (b) the improvement of food crops and livestock to secure the optimum nutrition of the people; and (c) the efficient production of raw materials for export and for local secondary industries.^{2/}

Three-sevenths of Fiji is mountainous and unsuitable for cultivation; two-sevenths is steep hillside suitable for grazing; the remainder is used for agricultural and pastoral purposes. The shortage of good agricultural land is becoming serious. The area under cultivation is approximately 350,000 acres. There are also 27,000 acres of permanent pastures and 125,000 acres of permanent meadows.

There are four types of land tenure: (a) Estates in fee simple which exist only on freehold land. They cannot as a rule be granted over Native or Crown Land; (b) Leasehold titles of both Crown and Native-owned land for terms of years; (c) Annual tenancy; (d) Land belonging to the Fijians, which is owned communally in accordance with Fijian customs and which cannot be permanently alienated.

The rentals assessed by the Crown and the Native Land Trust Board have been recently increased commensurate with the rising value of land and the increased prices of produce.

The Native Land Trust Ordinance, enacted in 1940, vested the control of native land in the Native Land Trust Board. The sale of native lands is prohibited other than to the Crown and only where required for a public purpose.

The area of tribal land owned by indigenous inhabitants is 3,970,800 acres and of freehold land held by non-indigenous inhabitants 534,800 acres. The tribal land, occupied by non-indigenous inhabitants under leasehold or similar title covers 275,733 acres; that of tribal land, leased to Government but otherwise

^{2/} Fiji: Journal of Legislative Council, Sessions of 1953, Council Paper No. 33, Suva, 1953, p. 1.

unalienated, 26,432 acres; and that of unalienated tribal land, including waste land and forest land, 3,668,635 acres.

Aerial, geological, soil and drainage surveys are being carried out with a view to future land development. The possibilities of developing hydro-electric power are also being investigated.

Principal crops

	Area (Thousands of acres)				Production (Thousands of long tons)			
	1947/48 ^{a/}	1952 ^{a/}	1953 ^{a/}	1954	1948 ^{a/}	1952 ^{a/}	1953 ^{a/}	1954
Sugar cane	51	53	61	58	157	138 ^{b/}	197	137 ^{c/}
Coconuts	130	160	160	160	35	40	33	40
Rice (padi)	34.5	35.2	37	35	17	25	...	24
Bananas	1.8	3.2	3.4	4	134	67	371	20
					(cases exported)	(cases exported)	(cases exported)	(cases exported)

a/ Fiji: Journal of Legislative Council, Sessions of 1949, Council Paper No. 24, Suva, 1950, pp. 3, 4, 5, 7, 61; Sessions of 1953, Council Paper No. 33, Suva, 1953, pp. 3, 61; Sessions of 1954, Council Paper No. 37, Suva, 1955, pp. 3, 4, 52.

b/ Including 23,000 tons of molasses.

c/ Quantity exported. United Kingdom, The Colonial Territories 1954-55, London, H.M.S.O., 1955, p. 38.

The 1954 crop was under that for 1953 due to a succession of two dry seasons.

In 1954 the area under cassava, taro and yams was 31,000 acres yielding an estimated 147,000 long tons of produce.

Livestock

	Heads			
	1947/48 ^{a/} (Oct.-Sept.)	1951/52 ^{a/} (Oct.-Sept.) (Thousands)	1953 ^{b/}	1954
Cattle	80	81	84	81
Goats	27	24	24	24
Pigs	9	9	27	9
Horses	16 ^{c/}	16	17	16

^{a/} FAO, Yearbook of Food and Agricultural Statistics, 1950, Production, Vol. IV, Part I, Washington, D.C., 1951, pp. 116, 126, 130, 137; 1953, Vol. VII, Part I, Rome, 1954, pp. 121, 126, 130, 137.

^{b/} Fiji, Journal of Legislative Council, Sessions of 1954, Council Paper No. 37, Suva, 1955, p. 52.

^{c/} January 1945.

The Territory is free from the major tropical diseases of livestock and is protected by strict control of livestock importation.

The high prices paid for agricultural products have improved the standard of living of farmers; plantation and farm owners have largely discharged mortgages and any credit obtained is for further improvements. The Agricultural and Industrial Loans Board has been in operation for three years and assisted farmers in the purchase of land and its development.

The Fijian communal system precludes any serious indebtedness amongst Fijians. For certain forms of development, they are able to draw on the Fijian Development Fund. In general, Indian cane farmers likewise are not seriously embarrassed by indebtedness. Some indebtedness occurs among smallholders on freehold-lands. A Fijian marketing organization, the Fiji Banana Venture, has instituted a voluntary savings scheme.

The marketing of copra and sugar is controlled by the Government under the Copra (Control) Ordinance of 1948 and the Sugar Control Ordinance of 1945. The overseas marketing of all other produce is left to private enterprise.

Nearly 700 tractors (mainly for cane) were in use in 1954 as compared to 180 in 1951. The sugar cane industry is the only large user of artificial fertilizer. A plant and quarantine station is maintained jointly by the South Pacific Commission and the Agriculture Department. The latter also maintains an animal quarantine station. The Rhinoceros Beetle Eradication Board is

undertaking a campaign against the Asiatic rhinoceros beetle which established itself in 1953.

Agricultural subjects are included in the curriculum of the Teachers' Training College and of the principal schools. The Colonial Sugar Refining Company maintains a training school where Fijian youths are instructed in the cultivation of sugar cane. The Methodist Mission has a similar establishment for general field crops and animal husbandry. A Farm Institute for youths of all races has been established by the Agriculture Department. Government provides four scholarships annually to Gatton College in Queensland for a three-year course in agriculture. Agricultural, animal husbandry and extension services are maintained.

A Land Conservation Board and a special cocoa section of the department were set up in 1954. The completion of a new road up the Sigatoka Valley has enabled guava-infested land to be brought into production for potatoes, maize and tobacco. A soil survey of Viti Levu was completed.

FORESTRY

There is a Forestry Department, with a Conservator as chief officer, and a trained staff of ten.

In 1953 a Forest Ordinance was passed and a Forestry Board constituted. The Board recommended the reservation of approximately 45,000 acres of which 18,300 acres were proclaimed reserved forest in 1954. Little work has been done in natural regeneration but some 300 acres were planted in 1954.

Firewood and sawn timber production

	1948 ^{a/}	1952 ^{b/}	1953 ^{b/}	1954
	(in thousands of cubic feet)			
Sawn timber	276	6,038 ^{c/}	7,000 ^{c/} (est.)	1,500
Firewood	3,874	2,786	2,600	2,850

a/ Fiji: Annual Report on Fiji for the year 1948, Suva, Govt. Press, 1949, p. 33.

b/ United Kingdom: Report on Fiji for the year 1952, London, H.M.S.O., 1953, pp. 29-30; 1953 Report, London, H.M.S.O., 1955, pp. 28-29.

c/ Superficial feet.

FISHERIES

The Department of Agriculture is responsible for services for fisheries. There is no special staff. Reef and coastal fishing is undertaken for consumption and local markets. There is no pelagic fishing industry. A South Pacific Commission expert in 1954 visited the Territory and proposed the setting up of a small unit to undertake control, advisory and investigational work.

MINING

Governmental activities relating to mining and geological operations are the responsibility of the Department of Lands, Mines and Surveys. The Geological Survey is financed from a grant from the United Kingdom. Progress in this work, started in 1952, has been affected by staff shortage. Mineral rights and ownership are vested in the Crown to which all royalties are payable. The large gold mines are owned by an Australian company and four of the seven operating manganese mines are controlled by a European syndicate. The smaller gold mines and the remaining three manganese mines are owned by Indian residents of Fiji. One manganese deposit, as yet not operating, is entirely Fijian owned. During the year good gold values were established at Vatukoula at a depth of 1600-1700 ft.; three manganese mines came into production and two mines were approaching the production stage.

Production of manganese in 1954 amounted to 9,899 long tons.

Gold and silver production

	1948 ^{a/}	1952 ^{a/}	1953 ^{a/}	1954
	(thousands of fine ounces)			
Gold	93	78.3	77	72
Silver	29	26	19	21

a/ Fiji: Journal of Legislative Council, Sessions of 1954, Council Paper No. 34, Suva, 1955, p.14.

POWER

There are five suppliers of electric power (three privately-owned) in towns. Their total installed capacity is 2,728 kw. The sugar and mining companies and other private suppliers have a total installed capacity of 5,740 kw.

INDUSTRY

There are five sugar mills, two copra mills (manufacturing soap, coconut oil and meal), a pineapple cannery, and butter, biscuit, clothing and button factories. The Public Works Department and two private companies have small iron works. Local craftsmen build small vessels for inter-island transport. Chief handicrafts are tortoise-shell ware, tapa cloth, mat and basket making and filigree work.

To new industries assistance may be granted by way of remission of custom duties on plant. The Protected Industries Ordinance provides protection in the initial stages of a new enterprise.

TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Roads

There are just over a thousand miles of road, approximately 646 miles all-weather.

Railways

There are 440 miles of permanent narrow gauge railway for transporting sugar cane.

Air transport

A total of 611 aircraft of main services (between North America and the Antipodes) alighted at Nadi Airport during 1954, setting down and picking up 9,356 passengers and 386 metric tons of air freight. Two hundred and eighty-four regional service aircraft set down and picked up 10,709 passengers and 317.25 metric tons of air freight. Flying boats alight at Laucala Bay Marine Airport.

Sea-borne shipping

During 1954, 206 overseas vessels of a total net registered tonnage of 695,939 tons arrived in the Territory, as compared with 200 vessels of 609,555 tons in 1953 and 171 vessels of 553,633 tons in 1952. Regular inter-island services are maintained.

Communications

One hundred and four post offices and agencies handled an estimated 5,800,000 items of mail during the year. Telegraph and telephone facilities are available at all centres. Installation of an automatic exchange was begun in 1954 in Suva. A modern telephone exchange with about 3,300 telephones was installed at Lautoka. There were ninety-three radio-telegraph or telephone stations on various islands.

PUBLIC FINANCE

The budgetary system involves two separate related annual budgets: the Colonial Estimates and the Development Budget.

Government revenue and expenditure

	1948 ^{a/}	1952 ^{a/}	1953 ^{a/}	1954 ^{b/}
	(in thousands of Fijian pounds)			
Revenue	2,888	4,186	4,109	5,031
Expenditure	2,475	4,410	4,308	4,616
<u>Main heads of revenue</u>				
Customs	1,409	1,913	1,938	2,249
Licences, taxes and internal revenue not otherwise classified	976	1,249	1,336	1,597
Fees of court or office, royalties, payments for specific services and reimbursements in aid	155	413	364	576
<u>Main heads of expenditure</u>				
Agriculture	61	113	117	140
Education	245	469	465	575
Medical service	297	527	550	591
Works annually recurrent	280	476	562	516
Works non-recurrent	43	291	307	308

a/ Fiji: Journal of Legislative Council, Sessions of 1950, Council Paper No.18, p.1, App.V, p.1, App.VI, p.1; Sessions of 1953, Council Paper No.45, Suva, 1953, p.1, App.II, p.1, App.III, p.1; Sessions of 1954, Council Paper No.41, Suva, 1955, p.1, App.II, p.1, App.III, p.1.

b/ Legislative Council for Fiji 1955, Council Paper no.12, Report on the Accounts and Finances for the year 1954. p.1. App.II. p.1. App.III. p.1.

Actual revenue and expenditure of the Development Fund for 1954 amounted to £F538,580 and £F675,102 respectively.^{3/} Loans outstanding at 31 December 1954 totalled £F2,597,961 while the corresponding accumulated sinking funds amounted to £F623,771.^{4/}

The individual income tax for chargeable income ranges from 1s. to 6s. in the pound according to income. Surtax is charged on individual incomes. The company income tax is 6s.3d. in the pound.

BANKING AND CREDIT

Three foreign trading banks have branches and agencies in Fiji. The Government Savings Bank has branches throughout the Territory. Commercial bank deposits for the quarter ending December 1954 stood at £F4,793,275 compared to £F4,716,041 for the same period in 1953. Savings Bank deposits increased from 1953 to 1954 by about £F157,341 to £F1,882,062.

^{3/} Legislative Council Fiji 1955, Council Paper No.12, Report on the Accounts and Finances for the year 1954, p.4.

^{4/} Ibid., App.XII.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE

Value of imports and exports

	1948 ^{a/}	1952 ^{a/}	1953 ^{a/}	1954
	(in millions of Fijian pounds)			
General imports	5.9	12	10.5	11.6
General exports <u>b/</u>	7.8	11	13	11.2

Principal imports and exports

	1948 ^{a/}	1952 ^{a/}	1953 ^{a/}	1954
	(in thousands of Fijian pounds)			
Principal imports:				
Food, drink and tobacco	1,447	2,900	2,965	3,013
Fibres, yarns and textiles	1,323	1,826	1,644	1,688
Metals and metal manufactures	1,217	3,373	2,666	3,031
Oils, greases, waxes, resins, paints and varnishes	580	1,212	1,118	1,397
Principal exports:				
Raw sugar	4,265	5,657	7,752	5,494
Gold	1,011	1,170	994	1,082
Copra	992	855	458	324
Coconut oil	761	1,645	1,948	2,153
Bananas	95	60	333	319
Principal re-exports:				
Fibres, yarns and textiles	10	171	256	310
Metals and metal manufactures	65	424	276	208
Oils (aviation spirit, diesel, etc.)	134	248	425	512

a/ Fiji: Journal of Legislative Council, Sessions of 1949, Council Paper No.26, Suva, 1950, pp. 5,6,77,78,88; Sessions of 1953, Council Paper No.30, Suva, 1953, pp.5,6,81,82,83; Sessions of 1954, Suva, 1955, pp. 6-7, 81,82,83.

b/ Including re-exports and gold.

	<u>Direction of trade</u>			1954
	1948 ^{a/}	1952 ^{b/} (percentage of	1953 ^{b/} value)	
Principal origin of imports:				
United Kingdom	34.07	34.36	34.53	32.65
Other parts of the British Commonwealth	54.06	46.63	51.73	51.40
Principal destination of exports:				
United Kingdom	30.65	31.64	51.59	36.68
Other parts of the British Commonwealth	53.71	62.06	43.16	57.17

a/ Fiji: Journal of Legislative Council, Sessions of 1949, Council Paper No.26, Suva, 1950, p.36, Table 6, p.81, Table 12.

b/ Ibid., Sessions of 1954, Council Paper No.30, Suva, 1955, p.39, Table 6, p.86, Table 12.

S O C I A L C O N D I T I O N S

The Fijian, Indian and European communities represent three separate cultures. The population is undergoing a fundamental change of structure as a result of the more rapid growth of the Indian group than that of the Fijian.^{5/} Women play an important part in public life through membership of numerous Government boards and committees.

L A B O U R A N D E M P L O Y M E N T

The Labour Department is headed by the Commissioner of Labour assisted by a labour officer and four labour inspectors. A Labour Advisory Board, representing workers and employers, advises the Government on labour matters.

The majority of the population depends on the land for its livelihood. Unskilled labour for employment is not plentiful but there are small reserves of labour in Fijian villages and among the rural Indian population. There is

5/ Fiji: Journal of Legislative Council, Sessions of 1954, Council Paper No.18, Suva, 1955, p.5; Colonial Office, Report on Fiji for the year 1953, London, H.M.S.O., 1955, pp.8, 9.

a shortage of first-class tradesmen, which may be attributed to inadequate training.

The only seasonal employment is in the sugar industry where about 800 additional millworkers are employed during the crushing season. There is no migrant labour except occasional short-term employment of a few seamen on overseas vessels.

Conditions of employment

There are a number of laws and regulations for the protection of workers. Health in workplaces is the concern of the Medical Department. About a quarter of all wage-earners are housed by the employer (43 per cent by the sugar and mining companies). The mining companies supply their Fijian labourers with rations. The practice of rationing labour elsewhere is disappearing with the decline of recruiting from a distance. Although under the Labour Ordinance (No.23 of 1947) provision has been made for minimum wages, resort thereto so far has been unnecessary.

Principal categories of wage-earners and daily wages^{a/}

	1948 ^{b/}			1952 ^{b/}			1954 ^{c/}		
	0/- to 8/-	8/1- 16/-	16/1 and over	0/- to 8/-	8/1- 16/-	16/1 and over	0/- to 8/-	8/1- 16/1	16/1 and over
Government departments	1,564	635	273	1,343	1,635	648	222	3,230	793
Gold mining	761	546	69	7	1,226	199	6	1,025	229
Sugar manufacture and transport <u>d/</u>	2,041	637	196	578	1,847	253	31	1,853	360
Copra	922	158	7	473	992	57	300	1,075	87
Air transport	319	249	25	110	432	137	4	514	257
Building and allied trades	599	256	55	531	732	214	264	766	313
Wholesale and retail trade	758	263	19	696	565	150	551	774	302

a/ Including value of rations and quarters where supplied at employers' expense.

b/ Fiji: Journal of Legislative Council, Sessions of 1949, Council Paper No.32, Suva, 1950, Table 2; Sessions of 1953, Council Paper No.29, Suva, 1953, Table 2.

c/ Legislative Council Fiji 1955, Council Paper No.15, Annual Report of the Commissioner of Labour, Fiji, 1954, Table 2(a).

d/ Figures for crushing season.

Workers' and employers' organizations

These organizations are governed by the Industrial Associations Ordinance. By the end of 1954 there were 30 registered unions including two employers' organizations. The five principal workers' unions had together approximately 4,000 members. Under a 1954 Ordinance strikes and lock-outs in essential services are prohibited provided arbitration machinery is set up within stipulated time-limits. There were two small strikes in 1954, involving the loss of sixty-eight man-days. Employers have adopted the system of collective bargaining.

Vocational training

The Colonial Sugar Refining Company's system of indentured apprenticeship has been successful. A school for the training of female office workers was opened last year.

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES

In 1954, out of a total of fifty-five registered co-operative societies, forty were Fijian, twelve Indian, two European and one of mixed racial membership.

Most of the Fijian societies are producers' marketing organizations handling copra, while the principal objective of the Indian societies is the use of agricultural machinery.

	1948 ^{a/}	1952 ^{a/}	1953 ^{b/}	1954 ^{c/}
Number of registered societies	25	37	47	55
Membership	1,402	2,254	2,903	2,820
Subscribed capital (In Fijian pounds)	10,876	25,692	...	43,482

a/ Fiji: Journal of Legislative Council, Sessions of 1949, Suva, 1950, p.6, App.II A; Sessions of 1953, Council Paper No.43, Suva, 1953, p.12, App.

b/ United Kingdom, Report on Fiji for the year 1953, London, H.M.S.O., 1955, p.32

c/ Fiji, Legislative Council, 1955, Council Paper No.13, Registrar of Co-operative Societies (1954 Annual Report), p.4, App.

STANDARD OF LIVING

No Fijian cost-of-living index has been compiled. Cost-of-living indices are maintained for two groups of Indian workmen based on budget surveys relating to 100 families per group on incomes of £F2.10.0 or less per week in 1943. The index maintained for European families covers a budget survey of twenty-three families on salaries of £F400 - £F600 per year in 1939.

Cost-of-living indices for Indian workmen and European families^{6/}

(1 August 1939 = 100)

Date	Indian		European
	Suva	Viti Levu (excluding Suva)	
1 July 1948	207	235	171
1 July 1952	263	297	221
1 July 1953	256	291	226
1 July 1954	270	306	236
1 January 1955	275	310	242

TOWN AND RURAL PLANNING AND HOUSING

In townships, house building is controlled by township boards. In rural areas it is subject to the approval of local authorities on the advice of medical health officers.

The major employers provide housing for their workers. The Development Programme includes £F80,000 for low-cost housing. By the end of 1954, fifty-eight units had been completed by the Public Works Department.

SOCIAL PROTECTION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Workmen's Compensation Ordinance provides compensation for accident and occupational disease. Fijians are protected against want by the communal system under which they live. District commissioners assisted by Indian Advisory Committees administer relief for destitute Indians.^{7/} Government

^{6/} Fiji: Legislative Council 1955, Council Paper No.15, Annual Report of the Commissioner of Labour, Fiji, 1954, p.9, Table 7(a).

^{7/} Fiji: Journal of Legislative Council, Sessions of 1954, Council Paper No.42, Suva, 1955, pp.9-10.

medical services are free for Fijians, Indians and indigent residents. Pension and provident schemes exist for civil servants and in certain commercial and industrial concerns for staff employees. There is no social insurance or old-age pension. A rehabilitation officer is responsible for disabled ex-servicemen.

The Education Department is in charge of juvenile probation. An approved school for boys is located near Suva.

Prevention of crime and treatment of offenders

Crime statistics

	1952 ^{a/}	1953 ^{a/}	1954
	(persons convicted)		
Offences against the person	513	466	468
Offences against property	660	641	617
Other offences	5,616	5,522	5,350

Sentences

	1952 ^{a/}	1953 ^{a/}	1954
Imprisonment	694	510	554
Fine	5,575	5,466	5,294
Corporal punishment	16	6	2
Bound over or otherwise disposed of	<u>504</u>	<u>647</u>	<u>585</u>
Total	6,789	6,629	6,435

^{a/} United Kingdom: Report on Fiji for the year 1952, London, H.M.S.O., 1953 p.62; 1953, London, H.M.S.O., 1955, p.62.

During 1954, 148 juveniles were found guilty of offences, mostly against property. Of these forty-five were fined, eleven imprisoned and forty-seven placed on probation.

Institutions

Fiji has one central and seven district gaols. The daily average prison population for 1954 consisted of 212 males and four females. Admission figures were: 629 Fijians, 208 Indians, twenty-three Europeans and part-Europeans and forty-seven other races. Recidivism has increased from 260 cases in 1952 to 372 cases in 1954. Prisoners receive no wages but are employed in works mostly outside the prison.

PUBLIC HEALTH

The Director of Medical Services is responsible for public health. The Central Board of Health advises on all health matters and has executive powers in areas where there are no local health authorities. Each of the four medical districts has a medical officer. There are twenty-two local health authorities who are also responsible for town planning and the sub-division of lands in their areas.

The gross expenditure of the Medical Department increased from £F351,764^{8/} in 1948 to £F631,676 in 1952 and to £F655,575 in 1953.^{9/} The total recurrent expenditure of the Department for 1954 was £F571,567; capital expenditure totaled £F11,400. United Kingdom Development fund payments during the year amounted to £F9,016.

Medical and Health Staff

	1948 ^{a/}	1952 ^{a/}	1953 ^{a/}	1954
Registered physicians	28	32	32	43 ^{b/}
Assistant medical practitioners	82	96	96	98
Dentists	1	3	3	...
Assistant dental practitioners	-	2	2	...
Dental mechanics	-	2	2	...
Nurses of senior training	78	70	73	68
Certificated nurses	206	294	319	275
Sanitary inspectors	(	11	11	11
Assistant health inspectors	{ 33	23	23	23
Laboratory and X-ray technicians	7	13 ^{c/}	13 ^{c/}	7
Pharmacists	2	7	7	2

^{a/} Fiji: Journal of Legislative Council, Sessions of 1949, Council Paper No.25, Suva, 1950, p.13; Sessions of 1954, Council Paper No.50, Suva, 1955, p.10, App.I.

^{b/} Government: 28, Missions: 1, Private: 14.

^{c/} Including four assistant pharmacists.

There are, in addition, 205 partially trained nurses and sixteen senior, 275 certificated and fifty-eight partially trained midwives.

^{8/} Including £F12,130 from Colonial Development and Welfare funds for mosquito control (Anopheline prevention).

^{9/} Fiji: Journal of Legislative Council, Sessions of 1949, Council Paper No.25, Suva, 1950, p.2; Sessions of 1954, Council Paper No.5, Suva, 1955, p.1.

Institutions

	Number			
	1948 ^{a/}	1952 ^{b/}	1953 ^{c/}	1954
Hospitals:				
General	4	4	4	4
Cottage hospitals or infirmaries	18	17	17	17
Dispensaries	36	38	43	47
Specialized units (as separate units):				
Maternity hospitals	2	1	1	1
Tuberculosis hospital	1	1	1	1
Leprosarium	1	1	1	1
Mental institution	-	1	1	1
Maternity and child welfare centres	-	-	-	9
Venereal disease clinic	-	-	-	1

a/ Fiji: Journal of Legislative Council, Sessions of 1949, Council Paper No.25, Suva, 1950, p.23.

b/ United Kingdom: Report on Fiji for the year 1952, London: H.M.S.O., 1953, p.49.

c/ Fiji: Journal of Legislative Council, Sessions of 1954, Council Paper No.50, Suva, 1955, p.6.

There were three mobile units with a total staff of eight. The four general hospitals and fourteen cottage hospitals or infirmaries had 936, special hospitals 1,163 and private hospitals sixty-five beds.

The Central Medical School in Suva offers a five years' course for assistant medical practitioners, a one to two years' course for assistant radiographers and three years' courses for assistant dental practitioners, assistant health inspectors, assistant pharmacists, laboratory assistants and assistant mosquito inspectors. Post-graduate training in the above subjects is arranged when required. Approximately twelve students from Fiji and twelve from other Pacific territories enrol each year. One hundred and twenty-nine medical and dental students including thirty-nine Fijians and fifteen Fiji Indians attended the school during 1954. Nurses' training is provided at the Central Nursing School, Suva and at four hospitals. New buildings for the school were completed in 1953. The average number of nurses in training is 212 with an intake of about ninety new students each year.^{10/}

10/ Fiji: Journal of Legislative Council, Sessions of 1954, Council Paper No.50, Suva 1955, p.9.

The state of health and nutrition of the community is good; isolated cases of malnutrition are reported from time to time. The year has been free from epidemics, with the exception of an outbreak of influenza during July. The principal causes of death were tuberculosis, broncho-pneumonia, diseases of the cardio vascular system, tetanus, and diarrhoea and 'whites' in young children. Socially and economically, tuberculosis is the most important communicable disease. The proportion of Fijian to Indian cases is seven to one. A campaign of testing and vaccination and a radiographic survey are being carried out. During 1954, a thirty-two bed tuberculosis ward was opened at Labasa District Hospital, and the in-patient accommodation at the Central Tuberculosis Hospital was increased. Leprosy decreased further. The Central Leprosy Register ensures the re-examination of all discharged patients. Active yaws is mostly prevalent in rural areas. A mass treatment programme will be undertaken in 1955 with assistance from the World Health Organization and the United Nations Children's Fund. Enteric diseases continue to diminish.

Vital statistics

	1948 ^{a/}	1952 ^{a/}	1953 ^{a/}	1954
Total births	11,313	12,512	12,936	13,204
Birth rate per 1,000 population	41.9 ^{b/}	40.7	40.8	39.6
Deaths under one year	668	804	663	644
Infant mortality per 1,000 live births	59.0 ^{b/}	64.3	51.3	48.8
Total deaths	3,258	3,605	2,926	3,106
Death rate per 1,000 population	12.1	11.7	9.2	9.5

a/ United Nations: Demographic Yearbook 1954, pp.251, 261, 524, 525, 596, 597.

b/ Including stillbirths.

A sewerage system is in use in the centre of Suva; other towns use septic tanks while country districts use bore hole and pit latrines. Water supplies are piped to the towns and to an increasing number of villages. The South Pacific Health Service in which the Governments of New Zealand, of Fiji and the Western Pacific High Commissioners' Territories participate, has its headquarters in Fiji and has undertaken nutritional education and nutrition- and dietary surveys. Efforts to improve infant feeding and institutional diets were continued and in May 1954 an investigation was made among Indian families in the Samabula area of Suva.

Health Sisters travel throughout their districts directing Health Nurses, teaching elementary hygiene and organizing campaigns of immunization against communicable diseases. In Fijian villages, womens' committees supervise child and maternal welfare.

E D U C A T I O N A L C O N D I T I O N S

Education is compulsory on the island of Rotuma. Elsewhere regulations require the attendance of Fijian children between the ages of six and fourteen, if the school exists within three miles of the children's home. Education is free in Fijian District schools and in other schools; exemption from fees may be granted in cases of hardship.

The control of educational administration is under a Board of Education consisting of eight members with the Director of Education as chairman. In 1954 three members were European, two Fijian and two Indian. The Education Department carries out educational policies, trains and appoints teachers, inspects schools and supervises the standard of education in all schools. The Suva, Lautoka and Labasa districts have each an education officer advised by the District Education Committees and responsible for the general efficiency of the schools.

Of a total of 486 schools, thirty-two are maintained by the government, 238 by the Fijian communities, 124 by the Indian communities, seventy-four by the mission, and eighteen by employers and others.

	<u>Educational expenditure^{a/}</u>			
	1943	1952	1953	1954
	(in thousands of Fijian pounds)			
Gross expenditure	256	506	458	566
Development funds	...	45	20 (app.)	34
Estimated expenditure of voluntary agencies	60	133	150	...

^{a/} United Kingdom: Annual Report on Fiji, 1948, London, H.M.S.O., 1950, p.38; Report on Fiji, 1952, London, H.M.S.O., 1953, p.41; 1953, London, H.M.S.O., 1955, p.41; 1954, London, H.M.S.O., 1955, pp.41-42.

EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM

The school system comprises Fijian schools, Indian schools, European schools and multi-racial schools. The great majority of schools are co-educational. The pre-primary schools are privately operated. The primary school course comprises eight years from 6 to 14. The medium of instruction for the first four years in Fijian schools is Fijian (Bau dialect) and in Indian schools, Hindustani, or Tamil, Telegu or Gujerati. Urdu and Arabic script are taught in a few Muslim schools. English is taught from the beginning and generally becomes the language of instruction in the fifth year. The curriculum was revised and amplified in 1953 with provision for the needs of a predominantly agricultural society in the South Pacific.

Post-primary education is provided in six government, five mission and four independent schools. Total enrolment in 1954 was 1,932. Twenty-two candidates passed the New Zealand School Certificate examination and 12 candidates the New Zealand University Entrance examination.

A new technical education centre was opened at Labasa in 1954 to make a total of four centres maintained by government. They offer technical and commercial subjects to children during the day and to adults during the evening. At most of the larger and several of the smaller schools woodwork and homecrafts are taught. The Methodist Mission maintains an agricultural college. Higher education is provided in New Zealand; 93 students attended institutions in that country during the year. Of these 17 were Fijians, 57 Indians, 12 Chinese and 7 part-Europeans. A number of scholarships for overseas study are given locally and are open to students of all races. The Australian Government in 1954 made available the South East Asian Scholarship tenable at an Australian university. The Government of India provides scholarships at Indian universities for Indian students from Fiji.

The Teachers' Training College maintained by the Government is a post-secondary institution. Eighty-five graduates from this College became teachers in 1954. The Fulton Seventh Day Adventist School has post-secondary courses for training teachers.

31 December:	<u>Schools</u>							
	1948 ^{a/}		1952 ^{a/}		1953 ^{a/}		1954	
	Govt.	Private	Govt.	Private	Govt.	Private	Govt.	Private
Fijian schools:								
Primary	4	272	5	282	5	282	6	281
Secondary and post- primary	5	3	5	3	5	3	5	5 ^{b/}
Indian schools:								
Primary	8	104	9	126	9	126	9	131
Secondary and post- primary	1	1	1	5	1	5	2	5 ^{b/}
European schools:								
Primary	5	12	2	15	2	15	-	15
Secondary and post- primary	2	1	2	1	2	1	4 ^{c/}	1 ^{b/}
Mixed or other schools:								
Primary	2	12	1	13	2	10	1	13
Secondary and post- primary	-	3	2	2	2	2	4	3 ^{b/}
Post-secondary	1	-	1	-	1	-	1	-

a/ Fiji: Journal of Legislative Council, Sessions of 1950, Council Paper No. 1, Suva, 1951, p. 22, Table 1; Sessions of 1953, Council Paper No. 22, Suva, 1953, p. 13, App. I, Table I; Sessions of 1954, Council Paper No. 43, Suva, 1955, p. 13, App. I, Table I.

b/ Including one primary school with secondary classes.

c/ Including two primary schools with secondary classes.

Pupils

30 September:	1948 ^{a/}		1952 ^{a/}		1953 ^{a/}		1954	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Fijian schools								
Government:								
Primary	644	398	636	477	872	448	695	516
Secondary	733	62	362	99	397	101	185	23
Private:								
Primary	11,798	11,250	12,094	11,068	12,219	11,367	13,617	12,557
Secondary	-	283	229	259	239	301	216	26
Indian schools								
Government:								
Primary	1,464	728	1,739	858	1,803	1,006	1,785	1,047
Secondary	98	12	125	18	121	17	100	17
Private:								
Primary	9,317	5,733	12,296	8,368	12,548	9,053	13,080	9,374
Secondary	-	36	415	117	562	152	549	161
European schools								
Government:								
Primary	410	427	480	470	518	444	508	484
Secondary	118	56	70	60	71	72	91	123
Private:								
Primary	456	375	606	528	688	642	669	605
Secondary	-	17	-	33	-	32	-	42
Mixed or other schools:								
Government:								
Primary	16	-	38	-	42	-	42	-
Post secondary	207	84	85	71	77	82	88	87
Private:								
Primary	2,183	937	1,907	1,020	2,089	919	2,453	1,396
Secondary	219	27	292	51	229	18	310	89
Post-secondary	-	-	-	-	24	11	-	-

a/ Fiji: Journal of Legislative Council, Sessions of 1950, Council Paper No. 1, Suva, 1951, p. 25, Table III; Sessions of 1953, Council Paper No. 22, Suva, 1953, p. 16, App. I, Table III; Sessions of 1954, Council Paper No. 43, Suva, 1955, p. 16, App. I, Table III.

31 December:	<u>Teachers</u>							
	1948 ^{a/}		1952 ^{a/}		1953 ^{a/}		1954	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Fijian schools								
Government:								
Primary	31	5	26	5	22	14	23	7
Secondary	34	3	29	7	32	7	34	10
Post-secondary	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Private:								
Primary	559	155	628	166	465	150	459	146
Secondary	2	7	9	1	9	2	6	1
Indian schools								
Government:								
Primary	42	24	37	28	38	29	35	23
Secondary	6	-	7	-	8	-	6	-
Post-secondary	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-
Private:								
Primary	347	92	385	151	354	151	412	142
Secondary	-	2	16	1	13	2	7	2
European schools:								
Government:								
Primary	10	16	7	18	8	22	4	16
Secondary	3	7	5	9	5	5	5	5
Post-secondary	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-
Private:								
Primary	9	20	9	23	17	20	12	18
Secondary	-	9	-	6	4	6	-	8
Mixed or other schools:								
Government:								
Primary	5	1	2	2	16	2	10	2
Secondary	-	-	5	2	5	2	2	2
Post-secondary	5	2	5	2	-	-	8	2
Private:								
Primary	18	6	52	42	42	39	37	40
Secondary	21	33	7	1	-	9	3	8

^{a/} Fiji: Journal of Legislative Council, Sessions of 1950, Council Paper No. 1, Suva, 1951, pp. 29-30; Table VI; Sessions of 1953, Council Paper No. 22, Suva, 1953, p. 20, App. I, Table VI; Sessions of 1954, Council Paper No. 43, Suva, 1955, p. 20, App. I, Table VI.

ADULT EDUCATION

Evening classes are held at four technical centres; general subjects are taught at an educational institute at Suva. Radio programmes with educational material are prepared by the Public Relations Officer.

YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS

The girl guides and boy scouts movements are well established. Several societies and associations such as the Red Cross society include youths in their activities. The British Council and some of the missions conduct clubs for young people.

CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS

The Suva City Council administers the local Carnegie Library. The British Council, certain clubs and most of the larger and some of the smaller schools have libraries.

There is a museum of Polynesian and Melanesian ethnology and a Fiji Arts Club.

MASS COMMUNICATIONS

Fiji has one daily newspaper in English, seven weekly and one monthly periodicals in one or two of the three languages: Fijian, Hindi and English.

There are 40 permanent cinemas. Three radio transmitters are located in Suva; the number of licensed radio receivers is 6,986.

GILBERT AND ELLICE ISLANDS

Information for the year ending 31 December 1954 on Gilbert and Ellice Islands was transmitted to the Secretary-General by the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on 28 June 1955. The following is a summary of the information under the headings of the Standard Form for the guidance of Members in the preparation of information to be transmitted under Article 73 e.

AREA

The area is 369 Square miles (956 square kilometres).

POPULATION

Composition of the population (1947 census)

Micronesians (almost entirely Gilbert Islanders)	29,923
Polynesians (almost entirely Ellice Islanders)	5,066
Europeans	304
Chinese (labourers at Ocean Island)	142
Mixed	523
Other races	42
Total	<u>36,000</u>

Estimates for the total population were: 38,000 in 1952 (mid year), 37,000 in 1953 (mid year) and 40,000 at the end of 1954.

E C O N O M I C C O N D I T I O N S

Nearly all cultivable land is planted with coconut. Copra is the principal agricultural product.

Commercial development through the co-operative movement progressed further during 1954. There was a partial drought towards the end of the year.

Phosphate exports remained high. The royalty on phosphate exports, the consolidated tax paid by the British Phosphate Commissioners and the export duty

on copra are the main-stay of the territorial budget. The Societies Development and Copra Welfare Fund increased from £A142,783 in 1952 to £A193,000^{1/} by the end of 1953.^{2/}

AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK

In view of the Territory's limited resources, there are no special agriculture, veterinary, forestry or fisheries services. The Territory, however, obtains advice from the Fiji Agriculture Department and contributes towards its expenses.

Water is conserved by catchment and storage in cisterns.

Since 1917 the sale of land by natives to non-natives has been prohibited and no lease may be granted for over 99 years, or, without the approval of the High Commissioner, for a parcel of land of more than five acres.

The local tenure system restricts the transfer of land outside the family. In order to avert disputes over land inheritance, real property titles have been registered on all islands with domiciled populations. Attempts have been made to convince the Islanders to introduce modifications into their land system. An ordinance was amended to facilitate the leasing of land between the indigenous inhabitants. A post-war rehabilitation programme for three islands in each of the Gilbert and Ellice Groups has gone far towards restoring the former production of food crops and copra. Funds provided by the United Kingdom Government to landowners for rehabilitation purposes totalled £A106,327.

A Colonial Development and Welfare Scheme for Land Settlement came to an end in 1954. As a part of this work a Native Lands Ordinance was drafted but remains to be enacted. An application has been made for an extension of the scheme on a reduced scale.

A total of 5,770 tons^{3/} of copra were produced by owner producers in 1954. The coconut tree is also one of the main sources of local food supply.

1/ The currency of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands is the Australian pound which is equal to 16 shillings or \$US2.24.

2/ United Kingdom: Report on the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony and the Central and Southern Line Islands, 1952 and 1953, London, H.M.S.O., 1954, pp. 21, 25.

3/ Wholesale Society purchases only.

FORESTRY

Production is limited chiefly to coconut and pandanus woods used for house construction.

MINING

The land on Ocean Island is leased to the British Phosphate Commissioners for the extraction of lime phosphate. The phosphate is crushed locally but shipped overseas for processing. It is estimated that the phosphate deposits will be exhausted in about thirty years.^{4/} Production of phosphate lime in 1954 is provisionally estimated at 294,012 tons; approximately 281,762 tons were exported in 1952 and 285,109 tons in 1953.^{5/}

POWER

Of eight diesel-power plants, three are maintained by the Government. A number of mission stations own lighting and power plants.

INDUSTRY

Apart from phosphate mining and crushing there are no manufacturing industries. Rural handicrafts such as mats, baskets, fans, string and hats are made usually by women. The Government assists in marketing these products which the producers sell through their co-operative societies.

TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Roads

Road transport is limited. There were 143 registered motor vehicles in 1954.

Air transport

The main trans-Pacific air route passes through Canton Island.

^{4/} United Kingdom: Report on the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony and the Central and Southern Line Islands, 1952 and 1953, London, H.M.S.O., 1954, p. 25.

^{5/} Ibid., p. 18.

Sea-borne shipping

The normal method of transport are light outrigger canoes, carrying passengers and copra. There are in addition a few ships sailing between the islands. About six phosphate vessels a month call at Ocean Island.^{6/} Eighty-three overseas vessels called on various ports of the islands in 1954.

Communications

During 1953, 140,200 articles were posted and 64,500 received from overseas. An automatic telephone system is in operation at Ocean Island, and small party-line magneto systems at Tarawa and Fanning. The trans-Pacific cable from Australia to Canada has a relay station at Fanning Island.^{7/}

The number of wireless stations increased from twenty-three in 1953 to twenty-seven in 1954.

PUBLIC FINANCE

Revenue and expenditure

	1947/48 ^{a/}	1952	1953	1954
	(in thousands of Australian pounds)			
Revenue	141	341	404	463 (revised estimate)
Expenditure	269	272	286	330

^{a/} United Kingdom: Report on the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony, 1949, London, H.M.S.O., 1950, p. 13.

In addition, grants expenditure under the Colonial Development and Welfare Act amounted to £A2,346 in 1947/48,^{8/} £A21,238 in 1952, £A23,455 in 1953 and £A22,978 (revised estimate) in 1954. The expenditure for Special War Rehabilitation amounted to £A6,052 in 1952, £A39,198 in 1953 and £A66,074 (revised estimate) in 1954.

^{6/} United Kingdom: Report on the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony and the Central and Southern Line Islands, 1952 and 1953, London, H.M.S.O., 1954, pp. 37-38.

^{7/} Ibid., pp. 39-40.

^{8/} United Kingdom: Report on the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony, 1949, London, H.M.S.O., 1950, p. 14.

There was a general revenue balance of £A325,809 at 31 December 1953; it increased to £A500,000 by the end of 1954. The Territory has no public debt. Copra export duties provided the largest revenue item in 1953 amounting to £A143,690. Other taxes included import duties, landowners' copra tax, income tax, capitation tax and estate duties.^{9/} The British Phosphate Commissioners make an annual payment of £A40,000 in lieu of income tax, custom duties on certain imports and certain fees and licenses.

BANKING AND CREDIT

The Government Savings Bank at Tarawa and its five branches had £A76,221 on deposit at 31 December 1953. There are about 2,000 depositors. Agencies of the Commonwealth Savings Bank of Australia operated at Ocean and Fanning Islands.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE

The principal imports are rice, flour, cotton piece-goods, tobacco and manufactured articles. Excluding Ocean Island, the value of imports increased from £A134,189^{10/} in 1948 to £A311,532 in 1952, and £A274,783 in 1953. Exports almost exclusively consist of phosphate and copra. Phosphate exports increased from 260,900 tons in 1949^{11/} to 294,012 tons in 1954. Copra exports increased from 4,007 tons, valued at £A148,657, in 1948,^{12/} to 6,226 tons, valued at £A505,861, in 1952,^{13/} to 7,074 tons, valued at £A574,762, in 1953 and to 8,601 tons, valued at £A698,831, in 1954.

Imports are obtained from Australia and Fiji; phosphate is exported to Australia and New Zealand; copra almost entirely to the United Kingdom. Some

^{9/} United Kingdom: Report on the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony and the Central and Southern Islands, 1952 and 1953, London, H.M.S.O., 1954, pp. 14-16.

^{10/} Ibid., 1947-48, p. 19.

^{11/} Ibid., p. 20.

^{12/} Ibid.

^{13/} Ibid., 1952 and 1953, p. 18.

essential goods and foodstuffs from British sources are duty free: on most articles there is an ad valorem duty of 25 per cent, the British preferential rate being 12-1/2 per cent.^{14/}

S O C I A L C O N D I T I O N S

The Micronesians (Gilbert Islanders) and the Polynesians (Ellice Islanders) live in separate groups of islands roughly two hundred miles apart, but in places where they meet intermarriage is common. No racial discrimination exists. Government and the missions are giving increasing attention to the education of women, particularly to their training in domestic duties, motherhood and professional nursing.

LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT

Administrative officers supervise the recruiting of labour and undertake labour inspection. The need for work outside the home-islands is recognized in order to relieve the pressure on their limited natural resources. Through the local (native) governments usually a just balance is struck between the people's desire to earn good wages elsewhere and the need to maintain copra production and land development at home.

Under the 1951 Labour Ordinance, a worker, unmarried or unaccompanied by his family, may be recruited for a year; a married worker, accompanied by his family, for not over eighteen months.

At the end of 1953, the British Phosphate Commissioners were employing 1,286 Islanders on Ocean Island and Nauru (1,258 in 1947).^{15/} These workers were accompanied by 1,661 dependents. The coconut plantations at Fanning, Washington and Christmas Island employed 274 Gilbert Islanders as compared to 245^{16/} in 1953

^{14/} United Kingdom: Report on the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony and the Central and Southern Islands, 1952 and 1953, London, H.M.S.O., 1954, p. 14.

^{15/} United Kingdom: Annual Report on the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony, 1948, London, H.M.S.O., 1949, p. 7.

^{16/} United Kingdom: Report on the Gilbert and Ellice Islands and the Central and Southern Islands, 1952 and 1953, London, H.M.S.O., 1954, p. 9.

and about 240^{17/} in 1948. Full time Government employees numbered 450: paid officials of the Native Island Governments 363; Native Government officials work part time only. Approximately 304 islanders were employed by the Government at the end of 1954 on the construction of the new headquarters at Tarawa.

Indigenous labourers at Ocean Island receive £A9 a month; copra workers (unskilled) between £A4.10.0 and £A5.12.6. Both are provided with free quarters, rations and other facilities.

A ten per cent cost of living allowance was in force in 1954 for Government employees pending a revision of salaries. Hours of work were forty-eight a week on plantations and thirty-eight and one half in the civil service.

There are no trade unions. Under the Labour Ordinance disputes arising out of a contract are referred to a Deputy Commissioner who is empowered to arbitrate. There have been no major work stoppages during the last three years.^{18/}

Apprenticeship schemes are run by commercial companies and by the Government. Over a hundred apprentices are employed at Ocean Island and Nauru.

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES^{19/}

The Co-operative Department, with a staff of fifteen in 1953, is responsible for the development of the co-operative societies. It is financed under a Colonial Development and Welfare Scheme; expenditure increased from £A434 1947/48 to £A1,699 in 1952 and to £A1,721 in 1953. The Colony Wholesale Society acts as a central banking organization.

In 1953, three producer-consumer societies in the Phoenix Islands were registered as co-operatives. Two multi-purpose unions, one on Canton Island and the other on the Gilberts, were also registered. The latter operates two

^{17/} Ibid.

^{18/} United Kingdom: Report on the Gilbert and Ellice Islands and the Central and Southern Islands, 1952 and 1953, London, H.M.S.O., 1954, p. 11.

^{19/} Gilbert and Ellice Islands, Annual Report of the Co-operative Department for 1953, Tarawa, 1954.

small vessels, a kitchen-type furniture shop and a recruiting agency. By the end of 1953 several other societies had applied for registration as co-operatives including a better-living society.

At the end of 1953, twenty-nine producer-consumer co-operatives with branches were registered with a membership of 13,350, supplying some 34,000 consumers.

STANDARD OF LIVING

Cost of living index for the quarter ending June for an average family of a man, wife and one child at Colony headquarters was as follows:

Cost of living index (June 1950 = 100)

	1952	1953	1954
Expatriate	117.77	123.78	129.26
Local	130.55	137.18	142.11

TOWN AND RURAL PLANNING AND HOUSING

A construction and housing programme was started in Tarawa in 1953. Houses are being constructed of permanent materials under the direction of experts.

SOCIAL PROTECTION AND DEVELOPMENT

A Workmen's Compensation Ordinance was passed in 1947, and hospital and health services are supplied free by Government and employers.

Prevention of crime and treatment of offenders

The majority of offences were of a minor nature.

Each island with a Native Government has a prison; there are six central gaols where persons committed by a High Commissioner's Court are detained.

The Prisons Department and District Administrations assume responsibility for rehabilitating discharged prisoners.

The Native Courts deal with the small amount of juvenile delinquency which does arise.

Crime statistics

	1952 ^{a/}	1953
Native Courts:		
Number convicted	8,598	8,554
Number imprisoned	266	273
Number fined	8,107	8,178
Other	1,489 <u>b/</u>	103
High Commissioners' Court:		
Number convicted	175	143
Number imprisoned	8	12
Number fined	108	126
Other	67 <u>b/</u>	5

a/ United Kingdom: Report on the Gilbert and Ellice Islands and the Central and Southern Islands, 1952 and 1953, London, H.M.S.O., 1954, p. 34.

b/ Discharged.

PUBLIC HEALTH

The medical services are under the direction of a senior medical officer.

A medical representative on each island is a member of the Island Council and advises on all matters of public health, and enforces the Island Regulations dealing with the subject. Women's committees assist in sanitation and report cases of sickness.^{20/} Every inhabited island has a resident dresser and usually a nurse whose duties include ante-natal work and care of children. Child welfare clinics are held at Ocean Island and Tarawa and Government nurses or sisters, qualified or trained in child welfare, visit the islands. Public health expenditure amounted to £A24,247 in 1949, £A51,237 in 1952, £A52,402 (estimate) in 1953 and £A52,372 in 1954.^{21/} £A80,000 is being provided under the Colonial Development and Welfare funds for the construction of the new Colony Central Hospital.

20/ United Kingdom: Report on the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony and the Central and Southern Line Islands, 1952 and 1953, London, H.M.S.O., 1954, p. 30.

21/ Ibid.

Medical and health personnel

	1952		1953		1954	
	Govt.	Private	Govt.	Private	Govt.	Private
Registered physicians	2	3	2	3	2	3
Assistant medical practitioners	12	0	18	0	20	---
Nurses of senior training	2	2	2	2	2	2
Nurses trained locally	10	0	15	0	16	2
Partially trained nurses	16	10	12	0	16	---
Male medical orderlies trained dressers	40	2	41	2	41	8
Partially trained dressers						
Pharmacists	1	1	1	1	1	1
Others (warders, orderlies, etc.)	5	---	4	---	4	---

An assistant laboratory technician and an assistant dispensary technician were added to the staff in 1952, and an assistant health inspector in 1954.

Institutions

During the past three years the Islands had two general hospitals with a total of 100 beds, one cottage hospital with twenty beds and thirty-one dispensaries. Work on the new Colony Control Hospital was started during the year.

Assistant medical practitioners and technicians are trained at the Central Medical School in Suva. The (temporary) Central Hospital has three-year courses for dressers and nurses.

The general state of health of the people is good. Except for an outbreak of dysentery at Makin involving forty-five cases and two deaths, there were no serious epidemics during 1954. Tuberculosis, in all forms, remains the most serious health problem, sixty-four cases being reported during the year. Preventive treatment is important as only few cases can be treated at Tarawa. Antibiotic and chemotherapeutic drugs were made available during 1954. Filariasis is common in the Ellice Islands, yaws endemic and scabies and dysentery common throughout the Territory. Mild outbreaks of influenza have been frequent.

Vital statistics

	1949	1952	1954
Total births	1,383	1,379	1,482
Deaths under 1 year	203	211	141
Infant mortality per 1,000			
live births	146.80	148.24	95.8
Total deaths	684	822	588
Death rate per 1,000 of local			
population	...	22.8	17.1

The islanders either use drop latrines built over the sea or the beach below high tide level. New houses at Tarawa have septic-tank systems, older ones, bucket and sand latrines. The water supply comes from shallow wells or catchments from roofs or trees into tanks or drums.

Plans are under preparation for the local treatment of leprosy patients. Nui Island, which according to a 1954 survey, indicated microfilaria present among half of its 460 population, has been cleared of mosquitoes.

EDUCATIONAL CONDITIONS

Primary education is largely in the hands of the missions who provide a free, rudimentary education in village schools for the bulk of the people. This work has been aided by the Government since 1913. Education is compulsory for children between the ages of six and sixteen.

The education department under a senior education officer with a staff of twenty-eight undertakes primary education and post-primary education as well as inspection of the mission schools. In co-operation with the Island Councils, it is gradually establishing sufficient primary schools to meet the essential needs in education.

A grant has been made available for the reconstruction in permanent materials of primary schools at Bairiki and Betio. The difficulty of obtaining supplies has eased; nevertheless, village schools have only the essential articles of instruction.

	<u>Expenditure</u>		
	1952 ^{a/}	1953 ^{a/}	1954 ^{b/}
	(in Australian pounds)		
Recurrent Metropolitan government expenditure under C.D.&W. Scheme	12,330	14,691	19,087
	...	...	6,660
a/ Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony, <u>Report on Education, 1953, Ann.1.</u>			
b/ Estimated.			

The mission schools include different types of institutions such as training establishments which stress theological work; co-educational boarding schools, a school for the wives of pastors-in-training and village schools where the majority of the people receive education. Instruction in these schools is in the vernacular with English taught in some schools. In Government schools, which generally have a higher standard, particular attention is given to English.

Post-primary education is confined almost entirely to King George V School for boys at Tarawa. It will accommodate 120 boarders. Under Colonial Development and Welfare Schemes, thirteen students were studying overseas for secondary and higher education in 1954.^{22/} Four of these were attending Queen Victoria School, Suva.

The British Phosphate Commissioners at Ocean Island established a training and apprenticeship scheme in 1947 for trades such as fitting, plumbing, carpentry, electricity and painting. Over one hundred workers now employed have received such training. Government departments train dressers, nurses, wireless operators and technicians.

Under a Government subsidized mission teacher training scheme inaugurated in 1948, the London Missionary Society and the Sacred Heart Mission each undertake the maintenance of a teacher training class for student pastors and catechists. Students undergo part-time training for four years. In 1954, fifty-six students were training at the L.M.S. centre and thirty-eight at the S.H.M. centre. Graduates combine village teaching with pastoral duties.

^{22/} Gilbert and Ellice Islands, Report on Education for the year 1953, Annex H.

Since 1949, thirteen students have been trained at the Teachers' Training College, Fiji. One of them took two years of secondary education in New Zealand. It is intended to train in the future Government teachers at Tarawa; as an interim measure, three trainees were given a one-year course at education headquarters in 1954.

	Schools							
	1948 ^{a/}		31 Dec. 1952 ^{b/}		31 Dec. 1953 ^{c/}		1954	
	Govt.	Private	Govt.	Private	Govt.	Private	Govt.	Private
Primary	4	229	7	244	12	241	13	253

a/ Gilbert and Ellice Island Colony, Report on Education for the year 1948, p. 12, Table I.

b/ Ibid., 1951 and 1952, Table I.

c/ Ibid., Table I.

	Pupils ^{a/}							
	1948		31 Dec. 1951		1953		1954	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Government schools:								
Primary			319	150	526	196	539	203
Private schools:	8,232		4,513	3,162	4,026	3,902	4,027	3,841
Education overseas under C.D and W. grant ^{b/}			20		17		13 ^{c/}	

a/ Gilbert and Ellice Island Colony, Report on Education for the year 1948, p. 12, Table I; ibid., 1951 and 1952, Table III, Ann. G; ibid., 1953, Table III, Ann. H.

b/ Including secondary education, teacher, technical and medical training in Fiji and teacher training in New Zealand.

c/ Gilbert and Ellice Island Colony, Report on Education for the year 1953, Ann. H.

	Teachers					
	31 Dec. 1952 ^{a/}		31 Dec. 1953 ^{b/}		1954	
	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women
Government schools:						
Primary	25	-	26	-	26	-
Private:						
Primary	200	17	258	20	269	23

a/ Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony, Report on Education for the years 1951 and 1952, Table VI.

b/ Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony, Report on Education for the year 1953, Table 5.

ADULT EDUCATION

Evening classes in English and technical subjects are held for junior staff at Tarawa and in English and arithmetic for British Phosphate Commission apprentices at Ocean Island.

YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS

There are two registered Boy Scouts associations and a few Guide troops. The Boys Brigade movement sponsored by the London Missionary Society has an active patrol at Tarawa.

MASS COMMUNICATIONS

A monthly news-sheet in the vernacular is duplicated for both groups of islands. Weekly radio broadcasts consist of a half hour programme in the vernacular and a half hour of music.

GUAM

Information for the fiscal year ending 30 June 1955 on Guam was transmitted to the Secretary-General by the Government of the United States of America on 14 February 1956 in the form of the Annual Report of the Governor of Guam to the Secretary of the Interior. The following is a summary of the information under the headings of the Standard Form for the guidance of Members in the preparation of information to be transmitted under Article 73 e. Account is also taken of information on the Territory transmitted by the Government of the United States in 1953 and 1954.

AREA

225 square miles (534 square kilometres)

POPULATION

The population as of 31 March 1954, excluding persons under military jurisdiction, was 34,889.

GOVERNMENT

The Organic Act of Guam, which was passed by the Congress of the United States on 1 August 1950, provides for the declaration of Guam as an unincorporated territory of the United States. Whereas before the passage of the Act, the status of the inhabitants of Guam was that of nationals of the United States; they are now citizens of the United States. The relations of the Government of Guam with the federal Government have been placed by Executive Order of the President of the United States under the general administrative supervision of the Secretary of the Department of the Interior. The Organic Act provides for a unicameral legislature. Members of the House are elected biennially in even-numbered years. Every person over 21 years of age who is a citizen of the United States, who has established his residence in Guam for a period of at least two years, and who complies with the provisions of the Elections Code governing the registration of electors, is entitled to vote in any general election held within the Territory. To be eligible for the office

of legislator, a person must be a citizen of the United States, at least 25 years of age, and be domiciled in Guam for at least five years.

During the period from 14 June 1954 to 12 July 1955 the Guam Legislature considered a total of 199 bills. Of these, 84 became public laws. During the same period 159 resolutions were adopted.

The administrative supervision of the judiciary branch is vested in a Judicial Council consisting of local judges, the Chairman of the Committee on Judiciary of the Guam Legislature, the Attorney General of Guam and the President of the Guam Bar Association. The courts of justice are comprised of the District Court, the Island Court, the Police Court and the Commissioners' Courts. Public Law enacted during the year provides for trial by jury in felony and civil cases in the District Court.

Court Cases 1954-55

	District Court	Island Court	Police Court
Cases pending as of 30 June 1954	119	2,186	23
Cases filed	133	843	5,928
Cases decided	118	755	5,909
Cases pending as of 29 June 1952	114	2,269	42

E C O N O M I C C O N D I T I O N S

The economy is largely a service economy. Agricultural activities, which were seriously curtailed by the war are regaining their former importance. In an attempt to gear the island economy and governmental administration to probably decreasing tax revenues, the budget and management office in 1953/54 made an analysis of the existing work programme resulting in a reduction of five per cent in government expenditure in comparison to the total appropriations. In 1954/55 the civilian economy was considered healthy and competitive, and it was apparent that facilities must necessarily be provided to meet demands for expanded public services. The Guam Finance and Development Agency operates with a fund of \$900,000 with a view to augment credit facilities for development, advancement

and research. Forty-seven loans were approved during 1954/55, and 45 loans were disbursed for a total sum of \$294,983 for agriculture, industrial and commercial projects. Number of loans outstanding as of 30 June 1955 was 137, to a total of \$542,304.70. The Agency also has an experimental copra mill under the supervision of the department of agriculture.

AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK

The Department of Agriculture is concerned with agriculture, animal husbandry, fisheries and extension services. The Department of Land management administers the land programme and assists in the relocation of displaced persons and property owners affected by military acquisition.

Principal crops

	1951/52	Production (1,000 lbs.) 1952/53	1953/54
Banana	453	533	551
Taro	329	268	196
Papaya	155	243	258
Casava	150	154	142
Sweet potato	144	91	63
Corn	137	541	665

Rice planting was revived in 1953/54. The yield in 1954/55 from 50 acres was approximately 1,500 lbs. per acre.

Livestock

	1951/52	Numbers 1952/53	1953/54
Cattle	4,796	5,074	6,136
Hogs	11,558	8,812	11,895
Chickens	130,437	129,440	171,840
Carabacs	756	850	...

The Department kept cattle, swine and poultry specimens and other animals and sold them to farmers. Disease prevention was part of the poultry improvement programme and included the use of vaccines and common "cold" medicines, better housing and balanced feeds. No disease of livestock occurred in 1954/55.

The Farmers' Market serves as a central exchange for Island farmers and the consuming public. Produce sold in 1954/55 amounted to about \$88,000, a thirty per cent increase over the average for past years. A meat inspection law was enacted in 1955 which was implemented as rapidly as facilities and personnel were available. An abattoir was constructed at the Farm; the existing abattoir at Inarajan was reconditioned by local residents.

The Departments' store, extension division and nursery sell seeds, fertilizers, and trees at cost to farmers and gardeners. In 1953/54, Farm Advisors assisted the farmers in the selection and planting of 20,000 banana suckers and 1,000 cassava cuttings.

In 1954/55, 40 farmers and 2 fishermen received loans amounting to \$167,726 from the Guam Finance Agency. Previous loans numbered 128 and amounted to \$298,330.

The United States Department of Agriculture terminated its plant quarantine studies in Guam in February 1954. The most significant gains were (1) the development of a trained inspection force and (2) a striking drop in quarantine violations by a better informed public. Several potentially dangerous insects were recorded in Guam for the first time during 1953/54. Several dusts and sprays were developed and sold at cost; the introduction of beneficial insects to control harmful pests was continued.

The Department operated and maintained ten caterpillar type tractors on a Revolving Fund basis. Other equipment was also acquired and reconditioned, some of which was loaned to farmers.

In 1952/55, 613 rural youths became 4-H Club members and started approved projects. At demonstration farms, which were completed in 1953/54, modern farming methods are taught.

Farm extension services (1953/54)

Farm visits made	4,210
Home and office calls	417
Mass meetings	58
Pest control demonstrations	53
Livestock projects (commercial) started	12

FISHERIES

The catch of marine fish for 1954/55 was estimated at 376,000 pounds as compared to 405,000 pounds in 1953/54 and 375,000 pounds in 1952/53.

Tilapia mossambica, a fresh-to-brackish water pond fish popular in South-Eastern Asia, was introduced this year and is expected to augment the local food supply.

POWER

An agreement between the United States Departments of the Interior and the Navy was revised in October 1954 so as to permit control by the Government of Guam of the operation, maintenance and control of power distribution facilities. As of 30 June 1955, the Public Utilities Agency listed 5,224 water and 4,385 power consumers.

INDUSTRY

A company specializing in tank pipelines, plant piping, steel erection, general welding, and conduit construction opened a branch in Guam in 1954.

A ceramics and brick plant began operations in 1954. The Guam Finance and Development Agency granted a loan of \$20,000.

	<u>Production in 1954/55^{a/}</u>		
	No. of establishments	No. of employees	Annual production (value in thousands of U.S. dollars)
Building and construction	6	792	4,987
Brickcrete and ceramics	1	7	26
Bottling plants	2	93	891
Ice plants	2	10	80
Oxygen gas	2	9	46
Acetylene gas	1	2	12

a/ excluding military projects.

TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Air transport

Guam is served by Pan American Airways with eight regular flights weekly.

Sea-borne shipping

Shipments through the commercial port for the year 1954/55 totalled 173,207 revenue tons valued at \$30,036,984. Comparable figures for 1952/53 were 117,342 revenue tons valued at \$24,006,963, and for 1953/54 154,264 revenue tons valued at \$26,199,158.

Communications

In the year 1954/55 the Public Utilities Agency completed its installation of a modern telephone exchange system for the civilian population. There are 630 telephone connexions.

PUBLIC FINANCE

	1948/49	1952/53	1953/54	1954/55
	(thousands of U.S. dollars)			
Revenue	4,230	9,997	11,801	10,190
Expenditure	3,289	9,572	10,958	9,873
Principal categories of revenue				
Income taxes		7,533	9,049	7,154
Gross receipts taxes		863	1,040	1,228
Excise taxes		763	634	670
Principal categories of expenditure				
General government		1,572	1,295	1,219
Medical services		1,724	1,721	1,621
Education		1,739	1,899	2,152
Capital improvements		2,149	10,958	9,873

Assets and liabilities as at 30 June 1955 balanced at \$5,805,191 with a reserve of \$600,524.20 and an unappropriated surplus of \$2,504,834.65.

The tax system included income, real estate and business privilege taxes. Income tax rates for 1954 ranged from a minimum rate of 20 per cent on taxable net income under \$2,000 to a rate of 91 per cent on net income over \$300,000.

BANKING AND CREDIT

The Guam Savings and Loan Association capitalized at \$115,000, began operations on 7 July 1954.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE

	1948	1952/53	1953/54	1954/55
	(thousands of U.S. dollars)			
General imports	7,947	19,650	20,519	23,131
General exports	3,887 <u>a/</u>	3,057	4,429	4,597

a/ Consisting almost entirely of surplus military materials.

Direction of trade	1952/53	1953/54	1954/55
United States	(percentage of value)		
Imports	87.6	87.3	85.1
Exports	34.7	17.0	29.8
Japan			
Imports	6.9	7.3	6.1
Exports	6.5	25.6	25.6
Trust Territory			
Imports	3.3	1.5	1.9
Exports	56.6	55.2	39.4

S O C I A L C O N D I T I O N S

Labour and Employment

Government employees in 1953/54 numbered 1,817 and in 1954/55 2,132.

TOWN AND RURAL PLANNING AND HOUSING

The housing situation while far from being entirely satisfactory, is improving rapidly. Construction continued at a high rate during 1953/54 and 1954/55.

SOCIAL PROTECTION AND DEVELOPMENT

The administration of the workmen's compensation legislation became more effective in 1954/55. Proof of compliance was filed by 89 employers, an increase of 58 over 1953/54. Compensations paid amounted to \$38,182.18.

Prevention of crime and treatment of offenders

Crime statistics in 1954/55

	District Court	Island Court	Police Court	Juvenile Court
Cases filed	29	192	28	12
Convictions	24	171	26	12

The Criminal Division of the Department of Public Safety in 1954/55 arrested 456 adults and 85 juveniles for various crimes. The average prison population during 1954/55 was 42. A juvenile detention home was opened.

PUBLIC HEALTH

The Department of Medical Services controls the General Hospital, the Tuberculosis Hospital and the Public Health Division. A new post of "Chief Sanitation Unit" was created in 1955.

Expenditure

	1948/49	1952/53	1953/54	1954/55
		(thousands of U.S. dollars)		
Recurrent	454	1,735	1,721	1,621
Capital	...	1,429	...	...

Better housing and increased salaries have improved the recruitment of well-trained physicians. A recent petition has been approved to import 12 Filipino contract nurses. A refresher course for all public health nurses was conducted during the year.

Medical and health staff

	1948/49	1951/52		1952/53	
	Government	Govt.	Private	Govt.	Private
Physicians	5	11	3	13	4
Dentists	...	-	3	2	3
Registered nurses	10	46	-	54	-
Graduate nurses	20	41	-	44	-
Midwives	28	-	28	-	22
Sanitary inspectors	...	8	-	8	-
Laboratory and X-ray technicians	...	9	-	10	-
Pharmacist	...	1	-	1	-
Hospital attendants	39	53	-	58	-

Institutions

	1948/49		1951/52		1952/53	
	Number	Beds	Number	Beds	Number	Beds
Hospital	1	396	1	315	1	371
Dispensaries	...	-	15	-	16	-
Specialized unit	...	-	1	-	1	-
Mobile unit	...	-	1	-	1	-

Construction of the new Guam Memorial Hospital continues. The new 160 bed permanent tuberculosis hospital wing was completed in 1955 at a cost of \$1,402,293. In January 1955, the Legislature approved the conversion of the completed nursing school unit into a permanent general hospital wing for which an initial sum of \$800,000 was appropriated. The completed permanent buildings will serve as a community health centre including all facilities for public health service and preventive medicine. Two health units at Piti and Toto were opened during the year. The Public Health Division operates five clinics.

Vital statistics^{a/}

	1948/49	1952/53	1953/54	1954/55
Total births	1,343	1,365	1,939 b/	1,683
Birth rate per 1,000 population	31.61	41.60	49.8	...
Total deaths	323	237	219	187
Death rate per 1,000 population	12.42	7.4	6.6	...

a/ Excluding persons under military administration.

b/ Including 610 live births in U.S. Naval Hospital.

There were 36 infant deaths per 1,000 live births in 1954/55.

The major public health problems are tuberculosis, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, intestinal parasites and yaws. Mortality due to tuberculosis decreased from 8.44 to 7.3 per cent of all deaths in 1953/54.

In October 1953, a campaign in sanitation was initiated. Environmental sanitation and sanitation of food stores showed improvement but conditions in the smaller village stores are still very poor. In 1954/55, a total of 4,919 establishments were inspected.

A tuberculosis survey of the Island was initiated in 1954/55. Close co-ordination between the tuberculosis division, the public health division and the Guam Tuberculosis and Health Association has resulted in better detection chest surveys and more public health education. The school nursing programme comprising inspection by a school nurse and physical examination by a physician; school clinic, vision and hearing surveys and immunizations were carried out in all the schools.

In 1953, almost half of the babies born were delivered by midwives. In 1954, of a total of 1,427 live births, 934 were delivered at Guam Memorial Hospital. The public health nurses visit pre-natal and tuberculosis patients as well as new born babies and other cases. District nurses hold well-baby clinics and visit schools, while the public health midwives hold pre-natal clinics.

E D U C A T I O N A L C O N D I T I O N S

The Board of Education established attendance areas in 1953/54. Children are required to attend the schools located in their municipalities.

A visiting teacher programme for the prevention of maladjustments and behaviour problems among the school children was introduced in 1953/54. The Territory's public schools have been modernized. By 30 June 1955, a 12-classroom elementary school had been completed; another school was under construction. Adequate school facilities remain a serious problem.

Expenditure

	1948/49	1952/53	1953/54	1954/55
		(in thousands of U.S. dollars)		
Recurrent	798	1,739	1,899	2,152
Capital		487		1,151

E D U C A T I O N A L S Y S T E M

There are 21 public elementary schools and one junior high school with 6,711 pupils and 290 teachers. A campaign to encourage the use of English was carried out in village schools. Industrial arts was included in the curriculum and taught by locally-trained teachers.

The George Washington High School with 1,996 students and 72 teachers in 1954/55 offered new classes in agriculture, office practice, metal shop and electricity. On-the-job training was also available in these technical fields.

	<u>Schools</u>					
	1951/52		1952/53		1954/55	
	Publ.	Indep.	Publ.	Indep.	Publ.	Indep.
Primary	21	5	21	5	22	...
Secondary	1	1	1	2	1	...
Vocational	-	-	-	-	-	-
Higher education	1 <u>a/</u>	1 <u>b/</u>	1 <u>a/</u>	1 <u>b/</u>	1 <u>a/</u>	

	<u>Teachers</u>					
	1951/52		1952/53		1954/55	
	Publ.	Indep.	Publ.	Indep.	Publ.	Indep.
Primary	278	23	280	23	290	-
Secondary	61	12	57	12	72	...
Vocational	10	-	13	-	-	...
Higher education	9 <u>a/</u>	7 <u>b/</u>	7 <u>a/</u>	7 <u>b/</u>	8	

	<u>Pupils</u>					
	1951/52		1952/53		1954/55	
	Publ.	Indep.	Publ.	Indep.	Publ.	Indep.
Primary	7,796	1,069	8,159	1,273	8,722	
Secondary	1,229	331	1,604	324	1,996	
Vocational	198	-	456	-	-	
Higher education	190 <u>a/</u>	4 <u>b/</u>	240 <u>a/</u>	6 <u>b/</u>		

a/ Territorial College, including a two-year course for teachers.

b/ Father Duenas School, offering a two-year junior college course.

Since 1953-54 as a "community college", the Territorial College is providing any type of instruction which a group of people in the community may request and which can be given. It expanded its programme to include in addition to teacher-training the standard two-year college courses and increased the number of adult and vocational education classes. The adult education section of the former vocational school was placed under the administration of the College in 1953-54. Fifty-seven full-time and 225 part-time students were enrolled in 1954/55 and 293 during the summer.

The increasing number of local teachers returning from a training period in the United States, the growth of the Territorial College and the enforcement and application of a code of certification for teachers in public schools have led to an improvement in teaching as well as an upgrading of the qualifications of the teachers. About 80 per cent of the 362 teachers in public schools were hired locally, the remainder having been recruited in the United States.

As of 30 September 1953 sixty-three students had been granted Government scholarships and loan funds for courses in such fields as education, business administration, medicine and engineering.

ADULT EDUCATION

The Territorial College in 1954/55 opened afternoon classes for teachers and an expanded evening programme of college courses for servicemen and employees with daytime jobs. Four hundred eighty-three persons attended, 267 receiving certificates of completion in one or more courses.

CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS

The Nieves M. Flores Memorial Library became a separate department of the Government. Bookmobiles have been partially replaced by library stations. The library has a collection of 18,068 volumes. There are 2,964 registered borrowers. Military and school libraries serve their respective groups.

The Guam Museum was opened to the public in May 1954.

MASS COMMUNICATIONS

There are two weeklies and one newspaper issued week-days, and twelve permanent cinemas with an annual attendance of 300,000.

A radio transmitter broadcasts for 126 hours in the week. The number of radio receivers in 1954/55 totalled about 2,500.

HAWAII

Information for the fiscal year ending 30 June 1955 on the Territory of Hawaii was transmitted to the Secretary-General by the Government of the United States of America on 14 February 1956 in the form of the Annual Report of the Governor of Hawaii to the Secretary of the Interior. The following is a summary of the information under the headings of the Standard Form for the guidance of Members in the preparation of information to be transmitted under Article 73 (e). Account is also taken of information on the Territory transmitted by the Government of the United States in 1953 and 1954.

AREA

The area is 6,400 square miles (16,635 square kilometres)

POPULATION

The estimated civilian population was 465,325 in 1952 (1 July), 473,214 in 1953 (1 July), 491,756 in 1955 (1 January).

Ethnic Composition

	1 July 1952	per cent of total
Hawaiians and part Hawaiians	91,601	19.7
Caucasians	68,600	14.7
Chinese	32,052	6.9
Japanese	188,872	40.6
Filipinos	62,777	13.5
Others	<u>21,423</u>	<u>4.6</u>
Total	465,325	100.0

GOVERNMENT

The objectives of the administration are to: (1) obtain statehood; (2) develop Hawaii's economy; (3) further the use of land; (4) aid in labour relations; (5) promote the efficiency of the basic functions of government.

The administration continued in 1954-55 to promote statehood legislation in Congress. The Committee on Government Organization submitted its report to the Governor on 15 April 1955. It suggested that the Territory operate through seventeen major departments and four public corporations; all boards and commissions would operate under allied departments rather than directly under the Governor.

E C O N O M I C C O N D I T I O N S

Hawaii earned from outside sources \$US683 million during fiscal year 1954-55, \$US47 million more than it spent outside the Territory. The over-all decline of outside dollar income (\$33 million) as compared with 1953-54 was due largely to the reduction of defense expenditures in the Territory (\$US306 million as against \$US331 million). The major sources of Hawaii's income were: (1) Federal Government expenditures (armed forces, grants, etc.), \$US306 million; (2) exports (sugar, pineapple, etc.), \$US263 million; (3) services (tourists, air lines, etc.), \$US80 million. The major expenditures were: (1) goods imported, \$US370 million; and (2) payments to Federal Government (taxes, etc.), \$US152 million. An income of approximately \$US300 million is derived annually from the internal economy of the Territory.

The expansion of the economy to meet the demands of an ever increasing labour force and the production of more goods for export are the major economic problems.

Through the Industrial Research Advisory Council, the Territorial Planning Board, the Hawaii Irrigation Authority and other agencies, financial aid, scientific data and research studies have been made available. During 1955 the Legislature adopted several measures to further means of economic assistance in the development of agricultural resources and in encouraging new industries, including more liberal farm loans and the creation of an economic planning agency.

AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK

There was a slight decrease in the land area under cultivation, chiefly because of a 1,400 acre decrease in sugar cane plantings. Coffee acreage increased by 13 per cent; the acreage in fruits and vegetables continued to decrease. A new

diversified agricultural industry, passion fruit industry, has been created following a territorial research programme. Exports of papayas amounted to 1,853,000 pounds and were more than double that of 1953. Exports of fresh pineapple totalled 7,038,000 pounds, 45 per cent more than in 1953. In addition 258,000 pounds of ginger root and 167,000 pounds of lotus root were exported. Export of floral material to the continental United States amounted to 517,000 packages, 2,000 more than in 1953.

Principal crops

	Area (acres)				Production			
	1948	1952	1953	1954	1948	1952	1953	1954
Sugar	215,826	222,000	221,542	220,138	855,107	1,020,450	1,099,316	1,077,347
Pineapple	68,000	73,500	74,000	73,000	19,444	26,076	29,476	29,411
Coffee (green)	...	3,500	3,800	4,320	...	7,700	9,000	8,264

(canned, in thousand cases)
 (in thousand pounds)

Livestock and livestock products

Anaplasmosis in carrier animals constituted a major threat to the cattle industry in 1954-55. A tentative agreement was reached with the Agricultural Research Service of the United States Department of Agriculture to conduct an eradication programme and the Legislature passed an appropriation of \$US90,000 to this end for the 1955-57 biennium.

As compared to the previous year there was an increase in the production of livestock and livestock products in every category, except swine, as well as in the dollar value of livestock products. However, the dollar value of \$US24,763,000 was about \$US350,000 below the dollar value in 1952. The dollar value in 1948 was \$US18,614,000. Milk production of 40,705,000 quarts was slightly greater than in 1953 and the production of poultry meat increased 13 per cent to 924,000 birds and production of eggs increased 12 per cent to 194,600,000 cases.

FORESTRY

The acreage of public and private lands set aside as classified forest reserves amounted to 1,200,130 acres. A total of 49,511 trees were planted on 150.39 acres of land in the Molokai Forest Reserve during 1954-55. The Hawaii employment programme provided work for 591 previously unemployed, expending 25,922 man-days on fifty-three projects from 20 July 1954 to February 1955, at a cost of \$US 339,971.50.

FISHERIES

The total fish catch during the year was 20,523,375 pounds valued at \$US 3,653,359 to the fishermen. This was an increase of 9.2 per cent in weight above that of the previous year but accompanied by a slight decrease in value, due to the lowering in the prices of tuna.

POWER

The expansion of electric utilities on Oahu was realized with the addition of the Hawaiian Electric Company's new 40,000 kw. generator, increasing the total rated generating capacity to 237,000 kw. On the other islands, the Hilo Electric Light Company is expanding; the Maui Electric Company has created a Lanai Division and has taken over the distribution of power on Lanai on a public utility basis thereby replacing the Hawaiian Pineapple Company as the supplier of electricity on that island.

TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Roads

During the year construction contracts awarded by the Highway Department amounted to \$US 3,592,165.64. The Legislature enacted measures to increase highway financing; it voted an increase of one cent per gallon in the Territorial tax on liquid fuels and a \$US 50,000,000 gas tax bond issue to be approved by the United States Congress in 1956. A Federal law makes available to the Territory an additional \$US 700,000 per year in Federal-aid money, providing Hawaii can match this sum. The total expenditure for highways for the fiscal year ending 30 June 1955 amounted to \$US 9,467,928.

Air transport

During the year Honolulu International Airport handled 213,659 aircraft operations, representing a decrease of 16.3 per cent from the previous year; overseas passenger traffic totalled 255,421, representing an increase of 24.1 per cent. Seventy-six per cent of the mainland United States visitors arrived by air. Inter-island passenger traffic rose to 587,016, an increase of 2.9 per cent. Airports construction contracts awarded during the year amounted to \$US263,717.01. A new International Airport building is being planned for Honolulu at a cost of \$US4,500,000.

Sea-borne shipping

A new terminal with a total storage area of 353,700 square feet, was constructed at a cost of \$US5,420,000 and opened on 22 May 1955.

	1947-48	1952-53	1953-54	1954-55
<u>Overseas shipping activities:</u>				
Number of vessels	1,334	1,749	1,692	1,638
Inward cargo (tons)	1,548,894	3,153,397	3,184,509	3,178,019
Outward cargo (tons)	1,546,586	2,094,537	2,227,967	2,223,612
Passenger arrivals	...	22,952	26,082	26,353

Public finance

In 1948, revenue receipts amounted to US\$61,057,064.78 and governmental cost payments to \$US53,814,627.02. In 1952, comparative figures were \$US78,416,290.56 and \$US77,850,967.71 respectively.^{1/} For the fiscal year ended 30 June 1955, the cost of operating the territorial government was \$US107,961,025, the sources of this sum being \$US62,653,789 from general fund, \$US35,994,440 from special funds and \$US9,312,796 from bond fund. During the last two fiscal years, departments implemented the legislative decision that an estimated \$US3,000,000 savings be made by not filling vacant positions without the approval of the Governor, and at the end of fiscal year ended 30 June 1955 there were 449 vacant positions.

^{1/} Territory of Hawaii: Report of the Auditor, Territory of Hawaii, to the Governor of Hawaii and the 1953 Legislature of Hawaii, Hawaii, p.91.

Trade

Imports and exports are chiefly from and to the mainland United States. The major exports are sugar, pineapple and coffee; foodstuff, raw materials, automobiles, drugs, cigarettes, are the main imports.

	1952-53	1953-54	1954-55
	(in million US dollars)		
Imports	349	403	370
Exports	240	266	263

S O C I A L C O N D I T I O N S

LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT

The labour department includes the Bureau of Employment Security, the Bureau of Labor Law Enforcement, the Bureau of Workmen's Compensation, the Bureau of Research and Statistics, the Apprenticeship Division.

Total employment averaged 186,440 in 1955 as compared with 185,740 in 1954, and reached the highest employment level in any postwar year. Unemployment decreased in 1955 by approximately 2 per cent. Among the factors which stimulated this employment expansion were: the Hawaii employment programme sponsored by the Territorial government; and the expanded tourist trade.

Annual wages paid to industrial workers during the calendar year 1954 totalled \$US 302,153,969, a gain of \$US 662,500 over 1953. The average weekly wage increased from \$US 57.85 to \$US 58.54.

The Bureau of Labor Law Enforcement inspected 1,797 business establishments employing a total of 37,241 employees. Back-wages totalling \$US 48,955.80 were recovered. An Act, which takes effect on 1 July 1955, increased the minimum wage in the city and county of Honolulu from 65 to 75 cents an hour and in the counties of Hawaii, Maui and Kauai from 55 to 65 cents an hour. An amendment to the workmen's compensation law increased maximum benefits to injured workers or their dependants in case of accidental death, reduced the waiting period in temporary total disability cases from five to two days, and provided free choice of doctors to the injured employee.

Work stoppages and the number of employees involved in labour disputes were almost identical in 1954 and 1955 although the number of man-days idle was greater. Of the 41,000 man-days lost due to labour disputes, approximately 86 per cent were attributed to two strikes in the sugar industry.

The Commission on Children and Youth, in January 1955, published a report containing proposals to improve Vocational Training and was active in supporting legislation for the expansion of vocational education facilities.

STANDARD OF LIVING

In March 1955 the cost of living index reached the highest peak since 1943. Retail food prices were primarily responsible for the rise as is shown in the following table:

	June 1948	June 1953	June 1954	March 1955
	(Honolulu 15 March 1943 = 100)			
All items	...	140.4	140.9	143.6
Food	143.2	151.4	150.7	156.3

Personal income received by Hawaii's residents in 1953 amounted to \$US889 million, 3 per cent above the 1952 total of \$US864 million. Per capita personal income of \$US1,740 in 1953 represented an all-time high.

TOWN AND RURAL PLANNING AND HOUSING

The housing situation on Oahu which has been critical since the start of World War II had somewhat improved at the beginning of the fiscal year. New difficulties were experienced in the latter part of 1954 and there was an increased number of cases in which restrictions as to race and number of children were imposed in offers to rent housing. Comparative figures on applications for construction to the Hawaiian Homes Commission on Oahu for 1954 and 1955 fiscal years are as follows:

<u>Applications</u>	1 July 1953 to 30 June 1954	1 July 1954 to 30 June 1955
Active - carried forward from previous year	1,708	994
Receive during the year	4,733	3,589
Total processed during the year	<u>6,441</u>	<u>4,583</u>
Active on 30 June	994	976

During the fiscal year, the Hawaiian Homes Commission approved loans totalling \$191,561 for new construction or repairs of homes.

SOCIAL SECURITY AND WELFARE

Social Security

Unemployment insurance benefits fell from \$3,615,832 in 1954 to \$3,255,514 in 1955.

The Employee's Retirement System of the Territory had a membership of 18,006 as of 30 June 1954, and of 18,708 as of 30 June 1955. Beneficiaries on its payrolls numbered 1,199 as of 30 June 1954, and 1,257 as of 30 June 1955; the total amounts paid were respectively \$US1,044,656.14 and \$US1,145,783.98.

There were about 350,000 Social Security card holders in 1955.

Social Welfare

An administrative survey of the Department of Public Welfare was conducted and recommendations contained in the report were adopted effective 1 July 1955 and will be put into effect in the new fiscal year to further strengthen the administration and to bring about the best possible service to the people at the lowest cost.

The number of persons receiving financial help from the department averaged 19,526 monthly, compared to a monthly average of 16,479 in 1954.

Public welfare expenditures

	1951-52	1952-53	1953-54	1954-55
	(in thousands of US dollars)			
Assistance payment	6,470	6,243	5,426	6,664
Administration	972	946	953	919
Total	<u>7,442</u>	<u>7,189</u>	<u>6,379</u>	<u>7,583</u>
Federal share: amount	2,873	3,164	3,154	3,446
(percentage)	(38.6)	(44.0)	(49.4)	(45.4)
Net Territorial	4,569	4,025	3,225	4,137

Over \$US20 million of Federal funds and property directly benefiting over 31,000 inhabitants were spent or made available under programmes of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare in 1954-55 as compared to over

\$US15 million in 1954 and to over \$US12,500,000 in 1953. Distribution of Federal funds included \$US10,668,707 with 18,130 beneficiaries of old-age and survivors insurance in 1955 compared to \$US6,838,196 and 16,094 beneficiaries in 1954 and \$US5,450,000 and 13,500 beneficiaries in 1953.

Prevention of crime and treatment of offenders

During the past eight years, the Territory's prison system has undergone a great change in philosophy, in prison procedures, in organization.

The policy has been to convert the institution as quickly as possible from a strictly custodial prison to one equipped to provide correctional treatment as well. An Administrative Guide for the Hawaii Prison System was published in 1954. Much has been done to develop community activities within the institution (general education, technical training, recreational programmes), and to enlist the co-operation of voluntary agencies in this field. In 1954, the Division of Homeplacement carried on its programme without filling all available positions, and the Board of Paroles and Pardons aparoled 153 prisoners and discharged 143.^{2/}

Prison population (30 June)

<u>1948</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1954</u>	<u>1955</u>
592 a/	636	602	590

a/ Including 52 Federal and military prisoners.

PUBLIC HEALTH

Measles was the only communicable disease which reached epidemic proportions in 1954-55.

The Board of Health in February 1955 created a Division of Mental Health. The Department of Health was given the responsibility of administering the polio vaccine programme for Hawaii and 5,486 children have already been vaccinated. A sanitation education was extended to many school children who assist in the preparation and the serving of food in the school cafeterias. A tetanus immunization campaign lasted two months; immunization of infants and children is almost 100 per cent complete and approximately 50,000 adults were immunized.

2/ Hawaii: Annual Report of the Department of Institutions. Fiscal year ended 30 June 1954, pp. 15-27.

Deaths from communicable diseases decreased from 1,065 in 1934 to 587 in 1944, and to 154 in 1954.

The expenditure for public health of the territorial government for the fiscal year ended 30 June 1955 amounted to \$US3,496,027.

Vital statistics a/

	1952	1953	1954
Total births	15,618	16,130	16,191
Birth rate per 1,000 population	33.6	33.6	33.7
Deaths under 1 year	331	338	363
Infant mortality per 1,000 live births	21.2	21.0	22.4
Total deaths	2,831	2,849	2,934
Death rate per 1,000 population	6.1	6.0	6.1

a/ Territory of Hawaii: Department of Health, Annual Report, Statistical Supplement 1952, 1953, 1954.

E D U C A T I O N A L C O N D I T I O N S

Education is free and compulsory from 6 to 16 years of age.

A teacher exchange programme whereby public school teachers from Hawaii exchange positions for a year in the various States of the United States has been operating for a number of years. For the year 1955-56, forty-four exchanges have been arranged.

The enrolment in the public schools continued to increase. At the University of Hawaii it is expected to increase by more than 50 per cent ten years hence. The 1955 legislature made provision for new constructions and improvements at the University.

Expenditure

For the year ending 30 June 1955 the operating expenditure for public schools, exclusive of capital outlay, amounted to \$US25,070,972 compared with \$US17,679,711 for the year ending 30 June 1952. The yearly pupil per capita cost was \$US234.39 in 1954-55. The university's budget totalled \$US4,642,735 in 1954-55 and \$US4,029,541 in 1951-52.

Federal funds for the construction of school buildings received during the past year amounted to \$US1,387,624 as compared with \$US700,803 received for the year 1952-53. Federal funds included in the university's budget during the same periods were \$US424,594 and \$US410,279 respectively.

EDUCATION SYSTEM

The public school system in the Territory comprises three categories:

- (1) Kindergarten;
- (2) Grades from first to twelve inclusive;
- (3) Special.

Continued efforts were made to interest the public in the activities of the Territorial Division of Instruction as evidenced by the attendance at annual curriculum conference; the economic education activities on all islands; and the participation of community organizations in developing in-service activities.

The University of Hawaii includes five colleges: Arts and Sciences; Applied Science; Teachers; Agriculture; Business Administration.

Schools, teachers and pupils

The total enrolment in the public schools of the Territory was 113,544 in December 1954. In December 1953, the comparable figure was 106,464, in December 1952, 101,321. This increase is expected to continue for some time.

The University of Hawaii registration for the academic year was 6,342, including the Honolulu campus, the Hilo branch, and the extension division centres. In previous years the registration was: 5,008 in December 1951; 5,089 in the academic year 1952-53; 5,967 in the academic year 1953-54.

ADULT EDUCATION

From 1 July 1953, the Division of Adult Education conducted the adult education programme under a new law (Act 130) which provides inter alia a more equitable basis of tuition fees, and the division was able to provide more efficient programme for nearly all adults throughout the Territory who desired to pursue their education. An added section on naturalization training gave direct authorization for instruction to aliens applying for citizenship.

During 1953-54 naturalization classes numbered 110 with an enrolment of 1,868. Textbooks were provided free by the United States Immigration and Naturalization Service. Fifty-nine adults were enrolled at the Veterans' School. Adults have been assisted in qualifying for diplomas: twenty-one Grammar School diplomas were presented and 378 high school certificates were granted. Assistance has also been given to the military forces in the Territory by providing classes and instructors. Other activities included reading workshops, community contacts, demonstration lessons.^{3/}

CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS

During the past year the Library of Hawaii circulated a total of 1,325,257 books, magazines and pamphlets. In addition 13,895 records and 5,566 films were borrowed by library patrons, making a grand total of 1,344,718 individual loans for the year, a gain of 75,807 over 1953-54. Seven branch libraries, twenty deposit stations extended the service of the Library to various communities; a bookmobile visited twenty-five rural schools on a three-week basis throughout the school year and loaned a total of 101,962 books.

During the year Kauai Public Library loaned 238,800 books; Maui County Free Library, 286,149 books; Hawaii County Library, 428,247 books, periodicals and other materials.

^{3/} Hawaii: Annual Report, Department of Public Instruction, June 30, 1954,
pp. 8-12.

NEW HEBRIDES

Information for the year ending 31 December 1954 on the New Hebrides was transmitted to the Secretary-General by the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on 1 July 1955, and by the Government of France on 27 July 1955. The following is a summary of the information under the headings of the Standard Form for the guidance of Members in the preparation of information to be transmitted under Article 73e.

AREA

18,000 square kilometres (6,950 square miles).

POPULATION

According to census figures the indigenous population in 1951 was 41,872. On 31 December 1954 the total indigenous population, including the inhabitants of isolated villages not included in the census of 1951, was estimated at 48,000.^{1/}

In 1951 the composition of the non-indigenous population was as follows:

	<u>Men</u>	<u>Women</u>	<u>Children</u>	<u>Total</u>
French nationals	460	305	545	1,310
Vietnamese	814	199	895	1,908
French optants	<u>1</u>	<u>51</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>52</u>
Total French <u>ressortisants</u>	1,275	555	1,440	3,270
British nationals and <u>ressortisants</u> other than Asians	136	107	106	349
Asians	26	10	34	70
British Protected Persons	<u>13</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>10</u>	- <u>28</u>
Total British <u>ressortisants</u>	175	122	150	447

On 31 December 1954, the non-indigenous population was estimated to be 4,120, of whom 501 were British nationals, or under British jurisdiction.^{2/}

^{1/} Colonial Reports, New Hebrides for the years 1953 and 1954, London, H.M.S.O., 1955, pp.3-4.

^{2/} Ibid.

ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

In spite of some encouraging signs of diversification (fisheries, mining), the archipelago's economy continues to be based on the production of copra, which is affected by the manpower problem, the economic and social development of the indigenous population, and their increasing spirit of independence. In spite of a policy of high wages, the number of indigenous workers is inadequate and it is therefore necessary to import labour.

Exports amounted to 27,730 tons, a slight increase over 1953 (26,233 tons) and 1952 (23,036 tons), while imports were only 17,700 tons (as against 51,124 tons in 1951). The price of copra has continued to decline, the average quotation in 1954 being not more than 8.180 CFP francs^{3/} per ton. The archipelago's growers are turning increasingly to the production of cocoa and coffee, the prices of which are remunerative, to protect themselves against the risks involved in the exclusive cultivation of the coconut palm.

AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK

The former French national agricultural service became a Condominium service on 1 January 1952. Its personnel consists of a French engineer from the staff of the French Overseas Agricultural Services and a locally recruited agricultural agent. It had a budget of 2,134,000 CFP francs in 1952, and 2,310,268 CFP francs in 1954. Under the 1952 budget the sum of 1,380,000 CFP francs was provided for the establishment of an experimental agricultural station to plant tree nurseries and improve the quality of livestock. The object was to replace old or diseased trees with selected saplings and to revive neglected crops (cocoa, coffee).

On 31 December 1954, there were 60,000 hectares of land under cultivation and 700,000 hectares of unused cultivable land.

^{3/} 1 CFP franc = 5.50 French francs; £ sterling 1 = 178 CFP francs;
£A1 = 142.40 CFP francs, US\$1 = 63.53 CFP francs.

Principal crops

	Area (hectares)			Production (marketed) (tons)		
	1952	1953	1954	1952	1953	1954
	Copra	50,000	51,000	51,000	21,136	22,653	23,544
Cocoa	2,000	2,000	2,000	775	888	735
Coffee	300	400	400	89	231	163

Livestock

Animal husbandry is quite extensive; wild herds exist in the bush. A bull and a heifer of the Allewara breed were imported from Australia in 1954. The use of these animals for breeding purposes will help to improve production (milk and meat). Recently several types of ground cover which can be used for pasture have been introduced.

The livestock of the archipelago consists of approximately 45,000 cattle, 5,000 sheep, 50,000 pigs, 3,000 horses and 5,000 goats.

Livestock products

	1948	<u>Exports</u>		1954
		1952	1953	
		(tons)		
Hides and skins	32	34	40	40

FORESTRY

Twenty-five per cent of the land is wooded but stands are generally small and only a few of them can be called forests.

Principal forest products

	<u>Exports</u>	
	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>
	(tons)	
Sandalwood	35	65
Kauri wood	87	505

FISHERIES

There is at present no fisheries industry. An Espiritu Santo trader was recently authorized to organize a fisheries industry equipped with refrigerating plant.

MINING

There are as yet no mining regulations. Mining legislation will probably be promulgated in the near future as the French and United Kingdom Governments have reached a measure of agreement on the matter.

Financial groups have shown great interest in the archipelago mineral deposits; the Compagnie Francaise des Phosphates d'Océanie has sent out a geologist and a prospector to study these deposits.

POWER

The electric power plant's production in 1954 was 145,000 kWh (128,000 in 1949, and 133,000 in 1952 and 1953).

TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATION

	<u>Roads</u>		
	1952	1953	1954
	(kilometres)		
All-weather roads	269 ^{a/}	211	211
Dry-weather roads	256	268	268

a/ Including 62 kilometres of asphalt or macadamized roads.

Air transport

The air installations in the archipelago are (1) the Vila-Bauer airfield, (2) the Vila seaplane base and (3) the Santo-Luganville airfield.

Commercial air traffic

<u>Airfields</u>	<u>No. of Aircraft</u>		<u>Passengers</u>		<u>Freight (tons)</u>	
	Arrivals	Departures	Arrivals	Departures	Arrivals	Departures
<u>Vila</u>						
1949	52	52	357	465	8,327	2,901
1952	108	108	1,240	1,274	16,084	8,189
1953	110	110	1,218	1,197	19,796	8,432
1954	105	105	1,242	1,260	7,290	15,210
<u>Santo</u>						
1954	53	53	1,241	1,115	5,150	19,510

Inter-island

Sixty-two vessels, ranging in size from 2 to 40 tons, are engaged in inter-island trade.

Sea-borne shipping

	<u>1949</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1954</u>
Number of vessels entered	66	66	58	60
Net tonnage (in thousands of tons)	100.7	129.5	136.9	150.28
Number of passengers (arrivals)	...	250	330	340
Cargo unloaded (tons)	16.2	33.9	17.1	17.75
Cargo loaded (tons)	24.7	23	26.2	27.73

Communications

	<u>1948</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1954</u>
Post Offices	...	4	4
Telegraph offices	...	21	21
Telephone exchanges	...	2	2
Telephones	...	160	160
Telephone subscribers	70	106	...
Teleradio stations	10	37	37

PUBLIC FINANCE

There are three administrations in the Condominium, each with its own finances: the French administration under the French Resident Commissioner, the British administration under the British Resident Commissioner, and the Condominium administration under both Resident Commissioners.

	<u>Revenue and expenditure</u>			
	<u>1948</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1954</u>
<u>French budget (in thousands of CFP francs)</u>				
Revenue	15,490 _a /	25,002	29,235	27,667 _a /
Expenditure	14,630 _a /	24,876	28,375	28,367 _a /
Capital expenditure	...	...	533	700 _a /
<u>British budget (in £A)</u>				
Revenue	...	3,312	2,187	2,920 _a /
Expenditure	...	45,242	52,452	65,591 _a /
<u>Condominium budget (in £ sterling)</u>				
Revenue	96,440 _a /	302,208	231,325	338,000 _a /
Expenditure	83,691 _a /	402,414	282,704 _a /	347,000 _a /

a/ Estimates

Roughly half of the French budget is financed from local revenue, and half from a grant from metropolitan France. The chief sources of local revenue are fees for certificates of origin and registration fees.

The revenue in the British budget is derived mainly from the tax on income and from fines, fees and licences.

The Condominium budget is drawn up annually by the two Resident Commissioners. Ninety per cent of the revenue is derived from duties and fees on imports and exports. In the 1954 budget import duties were estimated at £ sterling 175,000 and export duties at £ sterling 100,500. Expenditure estimates included £ sterling 56,439 for public works and £ sterling 37,671 for the medical service.

BANKING AND CREDIT

The currency in circulation consists of (1) French Pacific Colonies franc banknotes (CFP francs) issued by the Bank of Indochina, and (2) Australian pound banknotes. The only small coinage is Australian, in silver and copper.

There is a branch of the Bank of Indochina and an agency of the Commonwealth Savings Bank of Australia at Vila. A system of credit has developed in which trading firms permit settlers to buy on credit and the settlers are then committed to make their purchases from, and to sell their copra to, those firms.

In local transactions CFP francs and Australian pounds are exchanged freely. For other currency zones (the dollar zone in particular) there is a Condominium foreign exchange control.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE

Import duties are ad valorem for most goods and range from 5 to 30 per cent. Export duties are generally ad valorem, the value being fixed from time to time by the export goods evaluation committee.

Essential goods (fertilizer, rice and other grains, medical equipment and supplies, furniture and school supplies, etc.) are free of import duty.

Imports and Exports

	1948	1952	1953	1954
	(in millions of Francs CFP)			
Imports	104	302	185	204
Exports	300	238	293	296

Principal imported goods

Rice	6	25	17	18
Petroleum products	11	20	15	17
Beverages	1	15	12	11
Flour	6	8	6	4

Imports and Exports (continued)

	1948	1952	1953	1954
	(in millions of francs CFP)			
<u>Principal exported goods</u>				
Copra	279	196	247	232
Cocoa	18	30	33	48
Coffee	1	5	8	7

Sources of Imports and Direction of Exports

	1948	1952	1953	1954
	(in millions of francs CFP)			
<u>Principal suppliers</u>				
France	16	61	27	27
North Africa	-	-	8	15
United Kingdom	3	35	17	34
Australia	59	-	-	-
Australia and New Zealand	-	163	121	120
United States of America	22	19	4	3
<u>Principal purchasers</u>				
France	283	220	280	280
Australia	12	13	8	12
United States of America	5	-	-	-

S O C I A L C O N D I T I O N S

The indigenous inhabitants of the New Hebrides enjoy a special status which safeguards their position and precludes the two co-signatories of the Protocol from considering them as nationals of either Government and from conferring British or French nationality upon them. They also enjoy freedom from taxation, statute labour and military conscription.

LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT CONDITIONS

Although the population of the archipelago comprises 48,800 indigenous inhabitants and a few thousand Asians and Europeans, the labour force is inadequate to ensure the country's development.

	<u>Wage-earners</u>		
	1952	1953	1954
Government-employed	375	377	391
Privately-employed	<u>5,404</u>	<u>5,411</u>	<u>5,163</u>
Total	5,779	5,788	5,554

Principal categories of wage-earners

Agriculture and animal husbandry	4,138	4,144	4,149
Trade and banks	448	450	461
Domestic servants	221	221	230
Building	157	155	162

Wages

Monthly wages of the indigenous inhabitants^{4/}

	1948	1951	1954
	(in Australian Pounds)		
Plantation labour	2 - 12	5 - 14	9 - 17
Domestic servants	1/10 - 7	3 - 10	8 - 12
Seamen	8 - 15	8 - 15	10 - 15
Trade employees	8 - 15	10 - 18	10 - 15
Public Works employees	17	12	10 - 15

In 1953 wages were about 25 per cent higher than in 1951. In 1954 daily wages in the principal urban centres were 120 CFP francs a day plus lodging, and 84 CFP francs a day plus food and lodging in the principal agricultural areas.^{5/}

^{4/} Information transmitted by the United Kingdom.

^{5/} Information transmitted by France.

Migrant labour

The number of Vietnamese fell to 1,969 including children in 1952 as a result of successive repatriations. Practically all of them are job-workers.

In 1951, 181 workers (68 Oceanians, 33 Europeans, 32 Asians, 30 Polynesians and 18 Melanesians) immigrated into the New Hebrides and 69 workers emigrated. In 1952, 256 workers (188 Oceanians, 27 Europeans, 27 Melanesians and 14 Asians) immigrated and 177 (154 Asians and 23 indigenous inhabitants) emigrated.

Trade Unions

There are four occupational organizations in the New Hebrides: 1. the New Hebrides Agricultural Union, with headquarters at Vila, an employers' association consisting of French and British settlers and merchants; 2. the New Hebrides Plantation Owners' Association, an employers' association consisting of settlers and merchants of Santo, established in 1951 following a split in the New Hebrides Agricultural Trade Union; 3. the Union of French and British Civil Servants of the Condominium of the New Hebrides; 4. The Vietnamese Workers' Trade Union.

Labour Disputes

	1952	1953	1954
Number of individual disputes	38	38	32
Number of collective disputes	-	2	1
Number of workers affected by collective disputes	-	27	34
Number of worker-days lost	23	-	10

Vocational Training

In 1954, 23 students, compared with 42 in 1952 and in 1953, were sent from the New Hebrides to the Nouville School in New Caledonia to receive general and technical training (woodwork and metalwork). The cost of their training is defrayed by the French budget, the Condominium, a few employers, plantation owners, trading concerns and civil associations. Some students who have received scholarships are attending the vocational, business and domestic training school at Nouméa (New Caledonia).

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES

A Consumers' and Agricultural Co-operative has been established at Luganville (Santo Island). Its purpose is to purchase goods in bulk for resale to its members and to sell the agricultural produce of its members who number about ten.

STANDARD OF LIVING

Variations in the cost of living have been calculated in terms of an average family budget, with a basic index of 100 for the years 1938-1939.

<u>Cost of living index</u>				
1941	1948	1950	1951	1952
122	254	338	388	437

TOWN AND RURAL PLANNING AND HOUSING

Housing construction, which was interrupted during the war years, has been resumed since 1948, particularly at Vila and Santo.

A town-planning commission consisting of Condominium government officials (surveyors and draftsmen) was established in 1951 to prepare development plans for Vila. With respect to indigenous housing, French and British representatives from the four administrative districts of the Archipelago, assisted by the Catholic and Presbyterian missions, are training the indigenous inhabitants in building methods which meet adequate standards of health and sanitation.

SOCIAL SECURITY AND WELFARE

Indigenous inhabitants are treated free of charge at the Condominium's hospital units; an appropriation of £17,500 has been included for this purpose in the 1954 budget.

A woman in employment receives 2 to 3 weeks' maternity leave before confinement in a hospital unit at the employer's expense and she has 3 to 4 weeks' convalescence after delivery.

The Condominium administration maintains a centre for the free hospitalization of mental and tubercular patients.

The relief of the aged and infirm among the indigenous inhabitants is not a problem in practice as they generally remain with their tribes. Some are looked after by the missions.

Social welfare work is chiefly under the auspices of the missions which are subsidized to some extent out of the French and British national budgets.

PREVENTION OF CRIME AND TREATMENT OF OFFENDERS

Statistics of judgements rendered by the Joint Court in penal matters

	1950	1952	1953	1954
Number of judgements	20	12	13	12
Number of persons tried	25	20	21	27
. appeal	1	1	-	2
review	15	14	4	3
Number of defendants acquitted	1	11	2	12

Number of persons held in penal establishments

	1950	1952	1953	1954
Number of persons sentenced during the year	65	24	25	78
Classified by length of prison term to be served				
less than one year	63	20	25	66
one to five years	2	4	-	4
over five years	-	-	-	8

PUBLIC HEALTH

Hygiene and public health in the Condominium are under the control of the Condominium Public Health Service to which the services of the following are available: the British National Medical Service, the French National Medical Service, the sanitary squads of the Condominium Public Health Service and public health facilities established by the missions.

Public Health Expenditure

	1948	1952	1953	1954
French budget (in thousands of CFP francs)	3,570	7,880	9,101	9,661
British budget (£A)	5,442	6,918	4,629	9,594
Subsidies to missions (£A)	-	-	12,018	5,366
Condominium budget (£ stg.)	8,245	36,107	55,761	51,324

The expenditure of missionary and philanthropical organizations is not known. Public Works expenditures in 1953 for public health works (water supply) were £8,145.

Medical and Auxiliary Staff

	1952		1953		1954	
	Gov.	Miss.	Gov.	Miss.	Gov.	Miss.
Registered physicians	5	3	5	3	5	2
Medical assistants	4	1	5	2	5	2
Nurses						
of senior training	14	7	14	10	14	10
certificated	-	-	-	-	-	18
partially trained	-	-	-	-	-	156
Midwives						
of senior training	1	-	1	-	1	-
certificated	-	1	-	1	-	1
partially trained	-	8	-	-	-	-
Sanitary inspectors	2	-	2	-	2	-
Assistant dental practitioner	-	1	-	1	-	1

Two male nurses of senior training worked during the 1952-1954 period.

	<u>Institutions</u>							
	Number				Number of beds			
	1948	1952	1953	1954	1948	1952	1953	1954
<u>General medical establishments</u>								
General hospitals	5	5	5	5	263	240	236	236
Cottage hospitals	-	2	3	3	-	47	81	81
Dispensaries with beds	-	2	2	2	-	10	10	10
Dispensaries, out-patient	2	20	20	20	-	-	-	-
<u>Special establishments</u>								
Leprosarium	-	1	1	1	-	-	17	17
Psychiatric centres	-	1	1	1	-	-	10	10

Vital Statistics

As there is no civil registration system statistics cannot be supplied. The population trend is believed to be slightly upward.

Principal causes of death

Pulmonary tuberculosis and other pulmonary complaints take a heavy toll among the indigenous inhabitants. Next in order of importance is malaria, but its incidence is being greatly reduced thanks to chemoprophylaxis and the larvicidal campaign. Maternal mortality is small.

A leprosy survey has been made by the New Zealand Lepers Trust Board. The Administration proposes to buy land on an island near Santo as a site for a leprosarium to house the 111 registered lepers. With respect to tuberculosis control, plans for a BCG vaccination campaign were prepared in 1953.

E D U C A T I O N A L C O N D I T I O N S

Each of the co-sovereign Powers subsidizes its own national education system. The French public schools are free and open to all but education is not compulsory. The fact that the islands and villages are very widely scattered is a major obstacle.

The Condominium Budget for 1955 provides for an appropriation of £14,000 under the new heading of "Education". While a joint educational system will not

be established for the time being, it has been agreed that each national system will appoint an inspector of schools who might, at some later stage, propose a merger of existing organizations and draw up the main lines of a Condominium educational system.

	<u>Expenditure</u>			
<u>French budget:</u>	1953		1954	
	(in thousands of CFP francs)			
Operation	3,586		3,852	
Equipment	<u>800</u>		<u>600</u>	
Total	4,386		4,452	
<u>British budget:</u>	1951	1952	1953	1954
	£stg.	£stg.	£A	£stg.
Annual subsidies	378	344	500	400
Grants-in-aid, special subsidies	<u>440</u>	<u>200</u>	<u>4,550</u>	<u>1,200</u>
Total	818	544	5,050	1,600

SCHOOL SYSTEMS

French system

Elementary education in French is given in the four public schools, and in either French or an indigenous dialect in the Catholic mission schools. These schools admit children between the ages of five and fourteen. The programme is that of the preparatory and elementary classes in the metropolitan country adapted to local conditions.

Primary education is given at the public and Catholic schools at Vila, and at the Second Channel Catholic School. These schools prepare students for the primary school certificate and for the secondary school entrance examination.

Any child four years of age may enter the kindergarten sections. The programme are the same as in France but adapted to local conditions. The older children are given instruction about the United Nations.

A mixed continuation course attached to the public school is provided at Vila. Pupils who pass the entrance examination receive a "short, modern secondary course" leading to the first cycle elementary certificate. The textbooks and syllabuses

are then used in metropolitan France. The United Nations Charter is studied in the third class. Pupils awarded scholarships receive a modern or classical secondary education at the La Pérouse secondary school at Nouméa (New Caledonia).

There is no technical school in the New Hebrides. Twenty-three indigenous students were sent to the Nouville school (New Caledonia) to receive general and technical training (woodwork-metalwork).

British system

The British National Administration has built a primary school for children of all races, and subsidizes a primary school for indigenous children run by the Presbyterian Mission. This Mission has also opened a High School where it is hoped to give a higher general education to the indigenous children. There are also a number of elementary primary schools in the islands, each under the guidance of a missionary. These schools are supported entirely by the indigenous inhabitants. The Melanesian Mission operates separate primary schools for boys and girls and a mixed primary school. Promising boys are sent to the Solomon Islands for secondary education. The Churches of Christ and the Seventh Day Adventist also run primary schools for indigenous children. Students from these British Mission schools are the chief source from which indigenous clerks, wireless operators, teachers and assistant nurses are drawn as well as future students for the institutions of higher education in the Fiji Islands. The British school follows the same syllabus as the Australian primary schools. The syllabuses of the Mission schools are prepared by the teachers to meet the special needs of the school. Gifted indigenous children have an opportunity of continuing their education in the Fiji and Solomon Islands.

Number of Schools

There are four French public primary schools, one of which also offers the first cycle of secondary education, and a British public primary school.

There are also a number of private schools, both subsidized and non-subsidized, run by missionaries or laymen. With respect to the French Administration, for example, there were twenty-two non-subsidized private primary schools in 1952. In 1953 there was a private primary school with seven classes at Vila. In 1954

there was a private primary school. The British Administration subsidizes a primary school for British children and a Presbyterian primary school for indigenous children.

Number of Pupils (French Administration)

	1952		1953		1954	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Public schools						
Primary schools	290	90	292	98	261	113
Secondary course, first cycle	3	4	6	7	-	-
Private schools						
Primary and village	720	630	-	-	-	-

Scholarship students outside the Territory
 (French Administration)

	On 1 January			1954
	1953		Total	
	Boys	Girls	Total	
Secondary education	4	5	9	9
Technical education	-	-	42	23
Higher education (Faculties)	-	1	1	1
Total			52	33

Teachers (French Administration)

The number of teachers in the French public school system rose from 4 in 1948 to 5 in 1950, 6 in 1952 and 13 in 1954.

Schools, pupils and teachers (British Administration)

	1949	1950	1951	1954
<u>Schools</u>				
British	1	1	1	1
British Missionary	20	22	-	-
<u>Pupils</u>				
British	24	24	16	16
Melanesian	756	797	1,984	2,200
<u>Teachers</u>				
European	15	16	11	13
Indigenous	34	32	84	102

ADULT EDUCATION

The French Administration instituted evening courses in 1954 on the suggestion of an indigenous chief who wanted to attend classes in French. At present the chiefs and sub-chiefs of four villages in the Vila area are regularly taking French lessons twice a week.

CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS

The public library of the office of the French Resident lends books to its members. A school library lends books free of charge to public school pupils. A teacher's library is at the disposal of public school teachers.

MASS COMMUNICATIONS

There is a monthly publication for children printed in French by pupils of the Vila public school. The Santo Catholic mission publishes a monthly mimeographed magazine. There are three cinemas in the Territory. Performances have been given by an amateur dramatic company. The French budget subsidizes the broadcasting station "La Voix de la France dans le Pacifique" at Nouméa which broadcasts messages, communiques, etc. There are about 200 wireless receiving sets in the Archipelago. Transmitting and receiving sets installed in the islands provide communications with Vila.

PITCAIRN ISLAND

The area is 2 square miles (5 square kilometres). The population is 125, as compared to 138 in 1948.

E C O N O M I C C O N D I T I O N S

The land is held individually by the islanders, with the exception of about one acre held by the government for a school building.

	<u>Livestock</u>			
	1948	1952	1953	1954
Goats	213	260	177	216
Fowl	735	617	387	786

There are no pests or plant- or animal diseases of importance. A colony of parasites was introduced during 1953 to control the green vegetable bug (*Nazara vividula*).

A number of new fruits have been introduced. Timber supplies are seriously depleted. A planting campaign is being undertaken.

The annual catch of fish is about 2,000 lbs. Fishing craft consist of 20-foot dug-outs or canoes. The families make baskets and carved wooden objects for sale.

Cargo and mail are carried by ships plying between New Zealand and the United Kingdom. Forty-eight ships called in 1948. There is a radio service to New Zealand and Fiji.

There is no budgeting system. The Island accounts are maintained on a receipts and payments system. Receipts amounted to £F3,935 in 1952 and £F10,654 in 1953, while corresponding payments figures were £F5,162 and £F7,228.^{1/}

^{1/} £F111 = £ sterling 100 = \$US278.61.

The sale of stamps is the main source of revenue (£F8,944.10.10). There is no taxation except for an annual fee of 1s.0d. on firearms.

S O C I A L C O N D I T I O N S

There are no race or cultural problems. Men and women have the same status.

Communal work is done under the direction of the Internal Committee of the Island Council. Some communal work is paid for from community funds. Otherwise, the population is self-employed.

The Island has one prison. No crime was reported in 1954.

A daily clinic is held by two Australian-trained nurses, both of whom act as midwives; two partially trained assistants help them. Occasionally, doctors from visiting yachts or research vessels spend short periods on the island and carry out the medical work that is beyond the ability of the Islanders. Expenditure on public health amounted to £F718 in 1952 and £F554 in 1953.

A medical examination by a medical officer in 1950 revealed cases of pulmonary tuberculosis and venereal disease. No evidence of any filariasis or other mosquito borne diseases was found. Conjunctivitis and bad teeth are general. Diet is comprehensive but there is a deficiency of calcium and fat soluble vitamin A.

Vital statistics

	1948	1952	1953	1954
Total births	-	3	5	3
Total deaths	2	2	1	2
Death rate per 1,000 population	14	14	7	14.7

E D U C A T I O N A L C O N D I T I O N S

There is free primary education. A teacher is seconded from the New Zealand Educational Service; he has the co-operation of a popularly elected school committee. Educational facilities are financed entirely from Island revenue. Expenditure for education amounted to £F600 in 1948, £F1,589 in 1952, and £F2,024 in 1953.

Children attend school from the age of five to fifteen. Textbooks are those used in New Zealand and Australia. The number of children of school age in 1954 was 20. A new school and community centre was completed during 1950 at a cost of £F13,513. Courses are given in simple arts and crafts. Selected students may take nursing and radio courses abroad.

A film strip projector was purchased during the year.

Adult education classes are held. There is a public library containing some eight hundred books.

SOLOMON ISLANDS

Information for the year ending 31 December 1954 on the British Solomon Islands Protectorate was transmitted to the Secretary-General by the Government of the United Kingdom on 11 July 1955. The following is a summary of the information under the headings of the Standard Form for the guidance of Members in the preparation of information to be transmitted under Article 73 e.

AREA

Approximately 11,500 square miles (29,785 square kilometres).

POPULATION

The vast majority of the people are Melanesians. About half of them live on the island of Malaita. A few thousand Polynesians live on small islands or atolls.

The last census, conducted in 1931, gave a total population figure of 91,409.

Composition of the population

	1948 a/	1952 b/ (mid-year estimate)	1954 c/
Melanesians	85,000	94,000	94,000
Polynesians	4,000	4,350	4,350
Europeans	...	438	590
Chinese	...	220	250
Other Asians	...	10	10
		<u>99,018</u>	<u>99,200</u>

a/ Annual Report on the British Solomon Islands for the year 1948, p. 5.

b/ Reports on the British Solomon Islands for the years 1951 and 1952, p. 10.

c/ Ibid., 1953 and 1954, p. 10.

E C O N O M I C C O N D I T I O N S

The economy of the Territory depends almost entirely upon the production of copra. The rehabilitation of this industry has been one of the main tasks of the post-war era. More than two-thirds of the pre-war figure of 64,000 acres of coconut plantations are at present being worked. The remaining areas are gradually being brought into production. The pre-war production rate was almost reached in 1954.

The Copra Board, established in 1953, buys all the copra produced except the quantity exported by Lever's Pacific Plantations. All copra purchased by the Board (16,993 long tons in 1954) is sold to the United Kingdom Ministry of Food, and that exported by Pacific Plantations is sold in Australia.

AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK

The staff of the Department of Agriculture consisted in 1954 of one senior agricultural officer, three agricultural officers, and seventeen assistants. The estimated budget of the Department for 1954 was £A21,213, including £A5,926 for Colonial Development and Welfare Schemes.^{1/}

Agricultural policy was reviewed in 1954. The principal objectives proposed were: (a) improvement of the management of coconut groves and drying, storage and grading of copra for export; (b) establishment of cocoa as a cash crop; (c) implementation of a rice research scheme and further development of rice production; (d) maintenance of a district agricultural station near Honiara and (e) encouragement of the re-stocking of plantations with cattle.

Principal crops

	1948	1952	1953 ^{a/}	1954 ^{a/}
		(long tons)		
Production of copra	4,450	12,599	16,488	19,022

^{a/} Exports.

^{1/} £A1 = £ sterling 15s.10 1/2d. = US\$2.24.

Livestock

Cattle are increasing slowly and poultry rapidly. The cattle and a small number of horses are kept mainly on coconut plantations. Most islands have domestic and wild pigs.

FORESTRY

A small Forest Department began its work in late 1952 when an officer was seconded to the Territory as chief forest officer. In 1953 an assistant conservator of forests was appointed. The estimated budget of the Department in 1954 amounted to £A5,431 paid for from Colonial Development and Welfare funds.

The exports of timber amounted in superficial feet to 1,181,289 in 1949;^{2/} over three million in 1952; over two and a half million in 1953; and over four million in 1954.

FISHERIES

Coastal sea fishing by individuals for their own needs is the only fishing practised.

MINING, POWER AND INDUSTRY

A geological survey is being carried out by a senior geologist and two geologists.

At Honiara power is produced and distributed by the Public Works Department. At district stations electricity is provided from government plants and elsewhere there are small private plants. There are at Honiara three 200 KVA diesel generating plants and one 90 KVA caterpillar plant.

There are small saw mills, a boat building yard, marine and automobile repair shops and numerous copra driers. During 1954 an aerated water and fruit juice cordial factory was opened at Honiara; its output was 11,776 gallons.

^{2/} Report on the British Solomon Islands for the years 1949 and 1950, p. 22.

TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Roads

Seventy-eight motor-cars and motor-cycles were registered in 1952; 116 in 1953; ninety-three in 1954. Eleven trucks were registered in 1952; forty-five in 1953; thirty-three in 1954.

Railways

A small railway has been built at Tenaru (Guadalcanal) for the carriage of logs.

Air transport

Qantas Empire Airways operate an air service between Sydney and Honiara via New Guinea.

	1952	1953	1954
Number of craft landed	41	44	42
Number of passengers set down	370	586	404
Number of passengers picked up	326	555	449
Freight set down (kilos)	6,603	12,307	4,848
Freight picked up (kilos)	721	1,857	1,491

Sea-borne shipping

	1952	1953	1954
Vessels arrived	57	28	48
Inward passengers	88	105	214
Outward passengers	100	129	159
Inward freight (long tons)	...	10,887	14,366

PUBLIC FINANCE

Periodic budget deficits are met by grants-in-aid from the Government of the United Kingdom.

Local (Native) government finance is centrally controlled. The estimates of Native Councils are prepared by these Councils, with the assistance and advice of district commissioners, and submitted to the High Commissioner for approval.

Revenue and Expenditure

	1947/48	1952 <u>a/</u>	1953 <u>b/</u>	1954 <u>b/</u>
	(in Australian pounds)			
<u>Revenue</u>				
Ordinary	50,902	472,081	519,200	522,143
Extraordinary	-	-	12,000	40,500
Grants from United Kingdom Government and transfers from surplus balances	-	30,919	125,834	13,575
Colonial Development and Welfare grants	93,500	45,000	60,000	149,860
Trade scheme	50,000	-	-	-
Total	194,402	548,000	717,034	726,078
<u>Expenditure</u>				
Recurrent	284,851	442,290	484,018	481,050
Extraordinary works	23,959	13,150	159,966	105,328
Special rehabilitation	218,534	63,983	13,050	44,700
Colonial Development and Welfare	93,500	45,000	60,000	95,000
Trade scheme	50,000	-	-	-
Total	670,844	564,423	717,034	726,078

a/ Estimates.

b/ Revised estimates.

Customs duties are the main source of revenue. Income tax is levied at rates varying from 1s.3d. in the pound to 6s.3d. according to the income. A surcharge is levied on higher incomes. Company taxation runs from 4 1/2d. per pound to 7 1/2 per cent on chargeable income.

There is a residential tax of £A2 a year on every non-indigenous adult male resident in the Territory on the 1st January of each year.

A Native tax is levied on each able-bodied adult indigenous male and varies from 5s. to £A2 per year according to the district in which the taxpayer lives or works, with exemptions in some of the remote outlying islands. Where a Native Council has been established the proceeds of the tax are credited to the revenue of the council.

BANKING AND CREDIT

A branch of the Commonwealth Trading Bank of Australia is located at Honiara. There are five Commonwealth Savings Bank Agencies on various islands.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE

The Government acts as importer and wholesale and retail trader as well as the principal agent of the Copra Board in the export of copra. The policy is for the Government to withdraw from commercial activities.

	1952	1953	1954
	(in thousands of Australian pounds)		
Imports	1,087	1,056	1,202
Exports	1,506	1,577	1,894
<u>Principal imports</u>			
Rice	130	99	148
Meat	59	62	86
Biscuits	39	32	54
<u>Principal exports</u>			
Copra	973	1,333	1,623
Brass and metal scraps	434	113	3
Timber	73	25 <u>a/</u>	44 <u>b/</u>
Trocas and green snail shell	26	107	200

a/ Not including an additional 1,550,161 super feet, the value of which is not known.

b/ Not including £A26,007 worth of timber, due to delayed advice.

	<u>Direction of trade</u>		
	1952	1953	1954
	(percentage of value)		
Origin of imports			
Australia	56.3	58.4	58.7
United Kingdom	16.8	15.1	13.1
Destination of exports			
Australia	28.7	28.0	28.8
United Kingdom	48.7	69.8	65.0

S O C I A L C O N D I T I O N S

There are no race or cultural problems. The status of women is changing under the influence of the attention given by Government and missions to women's education.

LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT

Labour policy aims at the protection and training of workers. It also endeavours to improve conditions and hours of work as well as housing and health conditions.

There is a labour officer whose functions include the inspection of places of employment, the prevention and settlement of labour disputes and the administration of labour legislation. Assistance in the management of labour is also given on request.

Unemployment is non-existent, the demand for labour exceeding the supply.

Number of wage-earners

	1948	1952	1953 Dec.	1954 Dec.
Copra industry	650 <u>a/</u>	2,165	2,294	2,500
Other employment, including Government workers	<u>...</u>	<u>1,932</u>	<u>1,919</u>	<u>1,840</u>
Total	...	4,097	4,213	4,340

a/ Not including a few indentured workers.

Monthly wages

	1948	1952 (in Australian pounds)	1953	1954
Seamen	2 to 2.10	4 to 15 <u>a/</u>	3 to 15 <u>a/</u>	3 to 15 <u>a/</u>
Artisans	6 to 24.10	6 to 18.6.8	6 to 20	6 to 20
Unskilled workers	2	2 to 2.10	2 to 2.10	2 to 2.10
Domestic servants	1.5 to 4	1 to 2.10	2 to 8.10	2 to 5
Clerks, dressers, etc.	6 to 21.13.4	6 to 20	6 to 20	6 to 20

a/ Including officers.

Free medical care is usually provided, sometimes with free quarters; in a number of instances a cost-of-living allowance is paid.

The Labour Regulation lays down a maximum working week of fifty hours; in practice the average hours of work do not exceed forty-five.

Workers' and employers' organizations

No trade unions or employers' organizations have as yet been formed. The labour officer and administrative officers arbitrate or conciliate in case of labour disputes. The number of man-days lost due to labour disputes in 1954 was negligible.

Vocational training

Arrangements are being made to provide vocational training at Honiara. A few persons are employed as apprentices. Some vocational training is given in mission schools.

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES

A Colonial Development and Welfare Scheme provides funds for a Co-operative Societies officer and subordinate staff. No societies have yet been registered.

COST-OF-LIVING INDEX

The European index at 31 December 1954 was 141; this index is a weighted retail price index with 1950 as base year. The Native Index was 28.53; it is a retail price index weighted for a consumption basket for a man and his wife with 1950 as base year. There was a small decrease in the cost of living during the year.

TOWN AND RURAL PLANNING AND HOUSING

In view of the steady growth of Honiara, a Town Planning Regulation was enacted in 1954. In June 1954 a Town Planning Board was constituted, its main function being the zoning of township areas. There is also a Township Advisory Board which makes recommendations to the Government on individual applications for sites and leases. In Honiara most of the dwellings have been built by the Government and are of timber, fibre-cement, concrete-block and iron construction. In the out-stations leaf houses are still being built. A number of private buildings, including stores, were also constructed in Honiara and in the districts.

SOCIAL SECURITY AND WELFARE

There is no social insurance. However, free medical attention is provided for the indigenous population and the Workmen's Compensation Regulation 1952, provides compensation in the case of industrial accidents. In general, the clan or extended family group is responsible for the care of the old, infirm and disabled among the Solomon Islanders. The Government Medical Department and Missions provide care and treatment of maternity cases.

PREVENTION OF CRIME AND TREATMENT OF OFFENDERS

Crime statistics

	Number of convictions			
	1948	1952	1953	1954
Offences against the person	45	60	105	69
Offences against property	65	64	75	133
Other offences	<u>1,737</u>	<u>350</u>	<u>192</u>	<u>172</u>
Total	1,847	474	372	374

Juvenile delinquency is not a serious problem in the Territory; conditions are such that there is no great need to have recourse to probation methods.

Sentences

In 1954 there were two death sentences.

Prison population^{a/}

Date	Long term	Short term	Total
1 January 1951	93	115	208
31 December 1951	91	98	189
31 December 1952	85	58	143
1 January 1953	45	57	102
31 December 1953	62	50	112
31 December 1954	53	47	100

^{a/} United Kingdom: Report on the British Solomon Islands for the years 1951 and 1952, London, H.M.S.O, p.34, and Ibid., for 1953 and 1954, London, H.M.S.O., p. 36.

Long term prison sentences (exceeding six months) are normally served in the Central Prison; short terms usually in district prisons.

Institutions

The superintendent of police is also superintendent of prisons, and supervises the Central Prison at Honiara. Administrative officers are in charge of district prisons. A Board of Visitors was established in 1954 and consists of the Judicial Commissioner (chairman), a member of the missionary society and one Solomon Islander.

PUBLIC HEALTH

The Medical Department is responsible for public health and sanitation.

Estimated expenditure

	1948/49	1952	1953	1954
	(in thousands of Australian pounds)			
Recurrent expenditure	54	69	77	79
Capital expenditure	59 <u>a/</u>	108 <u>b/</u>	106 <u>b/</u>	46 <u>b/</u>
Subsidies to Missions	...	...	3	3
Drugs and dressings to non-government institutions and medical workers	...	...	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>
Total			189	131

a/ Grant-in-aid from the Metropolitan Government.

b/ Colonial Development and Welfare grants.

Government medical and health staff

	1952	1953	1954
Medical officers	4	4	4
Assistant medical practitioners	8	9	8
Nursing sisters	4	3	3
Dressers	83	87	66
Native nurses	...	...	5

Institutions

The Central Hospital at Honiara provides general treatment, surgical, X-ray and laboratory services.

There were 1,643 in-patients in 1952; 1,519 in 1953 and 819 in 1954.

The Government also maintains three district hospitals. Admissions for treatment numbered 2,055 in 1952 (not including 621 in-patients at district medical centres); 1,777 in 1953 and 2,123 in 1954. Missionary societies were also engaged in medical work; the daily average number of in-patients was 179 in 1952 and 160 in 1953.

In the Leprosarium at Tetera, Guadalcanal, the daily average of in-patients amounted to 49 in 1952; 72.6 in 1953 and 84.3 in 1954. The staff of the Leprosarium comprised three nursing sisters of the Marist Mission.

At the Central Hospital a training course is given for dressers and on Malaita a nurses' training centre is conducted by the mission.

There were no major epidemics of infectious diseases; minor epidemics of bacillary dysentery, chicken-pox and measles occurred in some districts. There were no nutritional deficiency diseases.

The principal causes of adult deaths were tuberculosis, malaria and pneumonia and of infant deaths, mainly pneumonia and gastro-enteritis.

During 1953 and 1954 three (small scale) yaws campaigns were started in selected areas, covering about 5,000 people. During the latter part of 1954 a Fijian assistant medical practitioner arrived to carry out a tuberculosis survey and 3,534 people had been tested by the end of the year.

E D U C A T I O N A L C O N D I T I O N S

Until recently education has been almost entirely in the hands of the missionary societies. Since the war, the Government has taken measures to raise the general standard of education. There has been an increase in literacy arising

from a greater number of schools, increased school attendances, and a more widespread dissemination of education. Education is not compulsory. No fees are paid in schools for indigenous pupils.

The Education Department is administered by a senior education officer, assisted by educational and clerical staff. Some native councils supply school equipment and encourage the construction of schools by communal effort. The department works in close co-operation with the missions and subsidizes and inspects schools. The larger Government and mission schools employ expatriate education officers, assisted by locally recruited staff. The smaller schools are staffed entirely by local teachers.

Expenditure

	1952	1953	1954
	(in Australian pounds)		
Recurrent expenditure	5,759	14,075	8,464
Capital expenditure	200	-	80
Colonial Development and Welfare grants	8,333	13,884	12,154
Subsidies to Mission schools	6,000	6,000	6,000
Subsidies to Chinese schools	200	66	40

Statistics of expenditure by local authorities and by non-government organizations on education are not available.

EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM

Village or pre-primary schools exist in mission stations and in most of the accessible villages. The vernacular is used as the language of instruction.

District or primary schools maintained by the Government or by Native Councils serve groups of villages. The pupils at these schools generally vary between about nine and fourteen years. In some of the schools the vernacular is used as a medium of instruction. Two primary schools in Honiara serve non-indigenous pupils; one for European children, the number enrolled in 1954 being thirty-three (27 in 1953), and the other for Chinese children with forty-seven pupils (37 in 1953).

Secondary (higher primary) schools include the King George VI School in Malaita (Government school) and certain mission senior schools. Pupils' ages at

these schools generally vary between about thirteen and nineteen. The curricula include mathematics, history, geography, agriculture, elementary science, hygiene, arts and crafts. English is the language of instruction at the King George VI School.

Plans were submitted and a site selected for a Teacher and Vocational Training Centre near Honiara.

Most missions include teacher training instruction in their senior schools. A certain amount of elementary secular instruction is provided in the leprosaria.

A new Education Regulation was enacted in September 1954.

ADULT EDUCATION

District News Letters, mission magazines and periodicals from the United Kingdom are distributed, Assistance is being sought from the South Pacific Commission to provide suitable reading material. A literacy adviser of the South Pacific Commission, visited the Territory in June 1954.

YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS

A branch of the Boy Scouts Association was established during the year and three patrols of boy scouts and two of wolf cubs were formed.

CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS

The British Red Cross Society has a lending library with some 2,000 books. A museum was formed in 1952 and housed in its own building in 1953. A British Solomon Islands Society was formed in 1951 for the study of all matters concerning the Territory and other islands of the Pacific.

MASS COMMUNICATIONS

Missionary societies publish small periodicals of the parish magazine type in English or vernaculars. District commissioners issue monthly newsletters for news of local interest. A cinema was built at Honiara in 1954. Films provided by the

Central Office of Information, London, are shown weekly in Honiara and are loaned to Missions, schools and district stations. Three new 16 mm. cineprojectors were bought in 1954 for use on district stations and by district commissioners on tour. Some Government departments, missions and plantations also have cineprojectors. The British Solomon Islands Broadcasting Service, inaugurated in 1952, transmits for one hour daily except Sundays. The service provides once a week a special programme for Solomon Islanders. A Colonial Advisory Broadcasting engineer visited the Territory late in 1954. During the year 191 wireless receiving licences were issued.
