



Seventeenth sessionINFORMATION FROM NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES: SUMMARIES OF
INFORMATION TRANSMITTED UNDER ARTICLE 73 e OF THE CHARTER OF
THE UNITED NATIONS

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

PACIFIC TERRITORIES

Pitcairn IslandPreface

In accordance with General Assembly resolution 218 (III) of 3 November 1948, the Secretary-General submits to the General Assembly, at its seventeenth session,^{1/} a full summary of information for the year 1960 on the Territory of Pitcairn.

The summary is based on information transmitted to the Secretary-General by the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in accordance with Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations. The last volume of full summaries was incorporated in the ten-year Progress Report (1947-1957).^{2/}

Information on the Territory of Pitcairn for the year 1960^{3/} was transmitted to the Secretary-General by the United Kingdom Mission to the United Nations on 14 July 1961.

^{1/} In accordance with General Assembly resolution 1700 (XVI) of 19 December 1961, this information is also submitted to the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories.

^{2/} United Nations: Progress of the Non-Self-Governing Territories under the Charter (Sales No.: 60.VI.B.1, vol. 5).

^{3/} Supplementary statistical information for the years 1958 and 1959 was issued as follows: 1958: A/4367; 1959: A/4758.

PITCAIRN ISLAND

AREA AND POPULATION

The area is approximately two square miles (5.18 square kilometres). The population was 146 at the end of 1959 and 148 at the end of 1960.

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

The community meets its basic needs from the soil, the sea and private trading.

An agricultural extension assistant, trained in Fiji, joined the government staff in 1960. His primary duties are to demonstrate improved methods of subsistence farming, encourage control of soil erosion and teach practical gardening.

The land area has been classified as follows:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| Adamstown Settlement | 60 acres |
| Gardens, arable farming | 272 acres |
| Tree crops | 302 acres |
| Forests | <u>484 acres</u> |

Total 1,118 acres

The islanders keep about 200 goats and 500 poultry.

Subsistence fishing is the main occupation of the inhabitants. Baskets and curios are sold to passengers on passing ships.

Timber resources have been depleted through indiscriminate use. Reafforestation is planned and a nursery has been established. Legislation has been introduced to control the goats.

Ships plying between New Zealand and the United Kingdom made forty-six calls in 1960.

Improvements to the sea approaches and reconstruction of the radio station were begun during the year 1960 with financial assistance from the United Kingdom.

PUBLIC FINANCE

Revenue and expenditure (pounds) a/

| | <u>1958/1959</u> ^{b/} | <u>1959/1960</u> | <u>1960/1961</u> |
|---|--------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Revenue | 12,114 | 5,503 | 7,451 |
| Expenditure | 11,416 | 9,223 | 8,821 |
| Main heads of revenue: | | | |
| Sale of stamps | 9,087 | 2,300 | 3,072 |
| Interest and dividends | 2,873 | 2,146 | 2,008 |
| Colonial development and welfare funds | ... | ... | 2,343 |
| Main heads of expenditure: | | | |
| Education | 2,230 | 3,241 | 2,681 |
| Medical | 358 | 871 | 333 |
| Postal | 2,624 | 689 | 273 |
| Public Works | 1,096 | 1,013 | 637 |

a/ The local currencies are the pound sterling and the New Zealand pound, which are equal in value.

b/ Represents a 15 month period; the financial year ends 31 March.

Assets at the end of the financial year were as follows: cash £2,314; investments £52,561 and sundries £165.

TRADE

Imports (tons)

| | <u>1958</u> | <u>1959</u> | <u>1960</u> |
|-------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Cereals | 10.5 | 9.5 | 1.03 |
| Meat | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.40 |
| Fats | 1.3 | 1.5 | 1.52 |
| Sugar | 3 | 3 | 1.06 |
| Milk | ... | ... | 0.95 |

A total of 255 cases of oranges, 77 cases of bananas and 182 baskets of other fruits were sold privately to ships.

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

The inhabitants are self-employed and allowances are paid to those who are members of the local government. The casual rate of pay for work for the local administration was 2s.6d. an hour.

The Seventh Day Adventist Church and the Government jointly run a clinic, with the Government supplying the drugs and equipment. If medical treatment is necessary in New Zealand, compassionate grants or loans may be obtained from public funds.

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 attendance is compulsory for all children between the ages of 6 and 16. The roll at the only school on the island comprised 14 boys and 22 girls in 1960. An education officer, seconded for a two-year tour of duty from the New Zealand Department of Education, teaches at the school.

Post-primary education is conducted by correspondence courses arranged through the New Zealand Department of Education.

Film programmes for the population are arranged by the education officer.
The Territory has a public library.
