

KANBA PROVINCE ANNUAL REPORT, 1948.

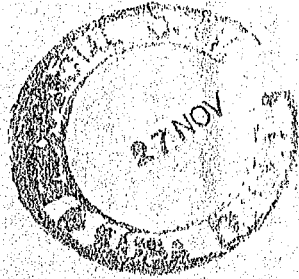
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No. 889/29/40

Marine Department,
Lokoja, Nigeria.
27 November 1948.

The Resident,
Kabba Province,
L o k o j a.

Kabba Province: Annual Report, 1948.

W With reference to your memo No.2896/ of 20th instant,
I attach herewith notes in respect of the above mentioned report,
please.

J. Thornton
Divisional Marine Officer.

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Marine Department.

Notes on Departmental Activities during 1948.

- Intenance of Craft:- The two Diesel Engined Launches "Heron" and "Hornbill" with the two Motor Car Barges and eleven poling barges which are based on this Division were maintained in serviceable order
- Shanahan :- This ferry was slipped and overhauled in Lokoja during November 1948. This vessel operates Onitsha - Asaba ferry.
- Storage of Grain:- Grain is being stored at the request of the Resident.
- Meteorological Observation:- Four observers are attached to this station for the purpose of making day and night Meteorological observation, and telegraphing their results to Ikeja.
- Petrol:- This establishment undertakes on behalf of the Public Works Department the sale of petrol to other Departments.
- Lower Niger River:- The lowest reading of the river gauge at Lokoja was 3 feet 9 inches on 16th April and the highest on the 2nd October when it was 34 feet 8 inches.
- Buoyage of the Rocky Section of the Niger:- The Rocky Section extends sixteen miles down river from Lokoja and the navigable channel was adequately buoyed by this department throughout the year.
- P.B.8:- Has been replated and has since left this Division.
- Development:- Work on new Platers Shed has been completed. Dockyard surveyed for building of Revetment. New four cylinder Diesel Engine installed for Dockyard plant. Office extension completed.
- African Staff:- Clerks Four
Messenger One
Deck Ratings Twenty
Artisan and Skilled Labourers Thirty-seven.

See from p. 2

S. Thornton
Divisional Marine Officer.

Resident, ✓
Kabba Province,
Lokoja.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1948: FOREST DEPARTMENT
YOUR NO. 2896/ of 20/11/48.

No. 432/3
Forest Office,
Kabba Province,
Lokoja; 26/11/48.

Mr T.N. Wardrop, Assistant Conservator of Forests, was posted to Kabba Province as Provincial Forest Officer on 29th April, 1948; since the last Senior Service Officer was posted in 1944 the Province had been under the supervision of the Conservator of Forests, South-Central Circle, Owo, who had not the time to give it the attention it required. The Province has now reverted to North-West Circle with Headquarters at Zaria.

2. Government Junior Service staff has been increased from 1 Clerk, 1 Clerical Assistant and 2 Forest Guards to 3 Clerks, 1 Clerical Assistant, 2 Forest Assistants, 1 Forester and 2 Forest Guards, which is still below the establishment authorised by the Forest Administration Plan but will enable arrears of field work and office records to be overcome reasonably quickly.

3. Native Administration Field Staff establishments show no increases. There are 3 vacancies in the Igala Division and 1 in Igbirra Division for Forest Guards and Kabba and Yagba N.A.s reduced their cadre by 3 and 2 respectively as an economy measure in 1947. It is not proposed to fill these vacancies until better training facilities can be organised.

4. Kabba Division: The Olle Reserve has been inspected to investigate the request of Igbo village that they should be allowed to move into the Reserve on condition that the area of escarpment forest surrounding their ^{present} village may be reserved; a ~~proposal~~ ^{proposal} will be ~~submitted~~ ^{presented} submitted to the Native Authority to permit of this being done. This reserve contains the best block of high forest in the Division and, if a proposal to establish mobile sawmill for the whole Province proves abortive, it is possible that a scheme to establish a more permanent type of mill in this area may be reconsidered.

5. The Oinyi Reserve was inspected, and also the Aghaja Plateau Reserve where farming land will have to be excised.

6. Consideration is being given to the matter of ensuring adequate fuel supplies for Kabba town, possibly by rehabilitating land impoverished by bad farming; adequate grazing for the herd of cattle now using the area will be assured.

7. The Yagba District has a most inadequate Forest Estate and it is hoped that the West Yagba N.A. will agree to the constitution of a Reserve near Ooba and that each village will select an area for its own Communal Forestry Area.

8. Koton Karifi Division: The Swamp Forest Reserve was inspected and villages lying between it and the Gbedege Reserve have been granted farming enclaves; the position will be legalised by excising a large area of forest and grass-swamp.

9. The village of Gbongboro in Gbedege Reserve wishes to leave the area enclaved for it and this has received the approval of the Native Authority; farming land in the Swamp Forest Reserve has been demarcated for them.

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10. 6 areas have been surveyed at Koton Karifi, Abaji, Gerinya, Gugu Kasa and Tawari with a view to constitution as Communal Forestry Areas; they all contain crops of Teak, etc, planted about 1925, much of which has been exploited and it is advisable that this cutting should be placed on a sunder basis to ensure a sustained yield.

11. A tour was made to the Kakanda Hills Reserve in August but too much ground was under water to allow of detailed inspection.

12. Igbirra Division. The soil in the Okene Waterworks Fuel Plantation Reserve, the Catchment Area Reserve and the Ofete Reserve is so impoverished by over-farming in the past that it has not proved possible to complete the planting programme as laid down about 10 years ago and a new Working Plan for each will have to be written. A few cords of firewood were cut in Compartment I of the first-named plantation for the use of the Waterworks Pumping-station.

13. Several areas have been proposed for Communal Forestry Areas and they will be surveyed and constituted as soon as possible.

14. An area in the south-east of the Osara Reserve has been demarcated and, together with an area demarcated some years ago in the north-east, will be excised from the Reserve, the boundaries of which require re-describing in greater detail.

15. The Ajaokuta Reserve has been inspected and over-grown cut-lines re-opened.

16. Igala Division : The Mozum Reserve has been inspected and some 620 farmers have been given permits to make rice farms. Recommendations will be made as to the advisability of excising this area after further study of information supplied by aerial photographs.

17. The Forest Estate in this Division is far too small for future needs and a reconnaissance will be undertaken before the end of the year with a view to taking further steps to constitute reserves which have been proposed for many years. The acquisition of the Forest Estate is divided into three Phases and Phase II (Constitution) must be completed before Phase III (Consolidation) continues

A. W. Maudslayi
PROVINCIAL FOREST OFFICER

See from 1/4

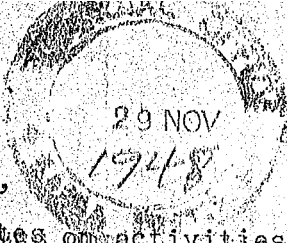
No. 432/4
Lokoja; 26/11/48.

Copy to
CP/N-W Circle, Zaria,
District Officer, Igala,
" " Igbirra,
" " Kabba
" W Koton Karifi.

For information

PROVINCIAL FOREST OFFICER

No. G. 2/452.
Oxene, 26th November, 1948.



The Resident,
Kabba Province,
Lokoja.

Notes on activities of Education
Department Kabba Province, 1948.

17-8 Your No. 2896/ of 20th November, 1948. I enclose Notes,
which I trust will prove suitable.

Ag. Provincial Education Officer,
Kabba Province.

JEF/MKA.

Igala Division.

The spread of N.A. education continues and five new Elementary schools were opened during the year. The quality of the staff in these schools is good, as expansion by the N.A. is related to the supply of trained teachers from Kabba Province Elementary Training Centre. Consequently, the proportion of untrained teachers is low, and the Division is in process of being covered with an efficient system of N.A. schools. The only N.A. Senior Primary school, which is a boarding institution, is at Dekina, fairly centrally situated.

2. It is hoped in the near future to set up an Education Committee for the Division, on which both Missions and Native Administrations will be represented. In this way, it will be more possible to correlate Voluntary Agency and N.A. development into a cohesive whole, a development which is implicit in the new Grants-in-Aid regulations.

Kabba Division.

There has been little expansion of Mission education during the year. Efforts of the Department have been concentrated on improving the quality of the Community Schools, which the people fully support. Staff should be greatly improved by the posting of 6 trained teachers from Kabba Province Elementary Training Centre in January, 1949. At the end of the year, the Native Administration is taking over the 6 Community Schools, so that Management is centralized and development systematized. For this to be carried out, a Native Administration Visiting Teacher is necessary and it is hoped, if the necessary approval is given, to recruit a teacher for this purpose in 1949. When the schools are taken over by the Native Administration, they become eligible for Government Grants, and local interest will be continued through the agency of local committees.

2. As mentioned last year, the great need in the Division is more trained teachers. However, the solution is in sight of the problem whereby the material was available but the funds for training were not. The new grants-in-aid regulations give a greatly increased grant to Training Institutions. This will mean a reduction in fees of Kabba Province Elementary Training Centre so that more vacancies can be allotted to Kabba Division.

Koton Karfe Division.

I have little to add to what was said last year, except that the demand for literacy seems to be making some headway.

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Igbirra Division.

One new school in the Division at Gaminana was opened this year. Plans are in an advanced stage for the opening of another at Obehira. The people are very enthusiastic and are doing most of the building work themselves under the supervision of N.A. staff. The N.A. is also helping with teaching staff and ~~also~~ posting trained teachers to the school when it is open. This school will absorb the present Junior Primary mission school which has never been efficient owing to the lack of good staff, which the mission never seemed willing to post there.

Middle School:

The tone of the Middle School has changed considerably for the better since last year. It is probable that the drastic action taken last year is now bearing fruit. Discipline is also stricter than it was.

Elementary Training Centre:

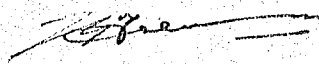
The Elementary Training Centre had a satisfactory year and results were well up to average. The quality of the training has improved this year, consequent upon the formulation of a new syllabus in line with the revised certificate examination. This enables the staff to concentrate much more on teaching the students how to teach the school subjects and less on mere academic work.

It is still difficult, however, to awaken any interest either in Elementary Training Centre students or Middle School boys, in anything which does not bear directly on their examinations, but this will, doubtless, correct itself in time as the country develops, educationally and otherwise, and the quality of the intakes rises.

Mission Education.

During the year there has been no large scale expansion of Mission education. The efforts of the Department have been concentrated on persuading the Missions to improve the quality of their existing schools before further expansion. Many more schools will be assisted next year as a result of the new regulations, and it is to be hoped that staff and efficiency will be, thereby, improved.

JEF/MKA.


Ag. Provincial Education Officer,
Kabba Province.

See from A. G.

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NO. 1004 / 41.
Public Works Department,
Lokoja, Nigeria.
29th. November, 1948.

The Resident,
Kabba Province,
L O K O J A.



ANNUAL REPORT- 1948.

10-10-11

With reference to your No. 2896/ dated 20th. November, 1948, the required notes are attached.

Provincial Engineer, P.W.D.,
Kabba Province.

WG/JCO:

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W.D.
pm