KABBA PROVINCE ANNUAL REPORT, 1951.

I N D E X.

RBB.

Ref:No.9/Vol.III/281.

The Nigeria Police,
Lokoja. 6th December, 1951.

The Resident,
Kabba Province,
koja.

Annual Report, 1951.
Ref: your 3270/3 of 23/11/51.

During the year under review there have been two officers in charge of the detachment - Mr. G.Mc.Garry until 24.9.51 when he handed over to Mr. G.A. Kirwan.

2. Strength.

Rank and File	67
Sub-Inspector General Duties Branch	1
" " Clerical " "	1
1c/constable " " "	1
Superior Police Officer	1

of these 1 N.C.O. and 6 men are stationed at Idah.

3. Crime: There has been little major crime during the period under review with perhaps the exception of a case of murder at Koton Karifi in which the accused was condemned to death and a case of manslaughter at Okene, accused sentenced to 15 years I.H.L.

4. On the whole a total of 75 criminal cases have been reported since January 1951 of which 9 have been refused as being trivial or frivolous and 5 transferred to the Native Authority.

5. Of the 61 true cases reported 40 have been prosecuted and convictions obtained in 32; 8 acquitted and 9 are awaiting trial and 12 under investigation.

6. A total of 24 motor traffic cases have been reported. 10 have been prosecuted and convictions obtained in 8 and 2 acquitted. 14 are awaiting trial.

	Criminal	Motor Traffic.
True Cases 1950	77	96
" " 1951	61	24

7. Motor Licensing: There has been considerably more work done in the inspection of Motor Vehicles and testing of drivers. A total sum of £3739.10.6d has been collected during the period 1st January to 30th November, 1951.

8. Couses: 1 N.C.O. and 7 men have attended a course of instruction for 5 month at the Refresher Course School, Kaduna during the period under review.

9. A riot broke out in Okene on 8th September, 1951. About 35 persons were injured and 36 cycles were destroyed. It is thought that the riot took place as a result of the Igbirra Tribal Union gaining a clear majority over the Igbirra Progressive Union in the elections. Most of the property destroyed was owned by supporters of the Igbirra Tribal Union.

The Igbirra Native Authority Police who where present at the time of the riot made no arrests. A shor-t time later a party of Nigeria Police, under the command of a Superior Police Officer, arrived in Okene and prevented a recurrence of the rioting.

N.A.Police Kabba Province: The four N.A. Police Forces continue to receive advice on the best known methods of dealing with the prevention and detection of crime.

Asst. Supt. of Police
Kabba Province.

AU/Warner.

No.432/53.

Office of
The Provincial Forest Officer,
Kabba Province,
Lokoja, 11th December, 1951.

The Resident,
Kabba Province,
Lokoja.

Annual Report 1951.

With reference to your savingram No.3270/3 of the 23rd ultimo, I append herewith the notes as requested.

2. Forestry:-

(1) Progress has been made during the year both in new reservation and the consolidation of reserves though it is improbable that this will be shown in official returns during the current year. Thus in the case of the West Yagba N.A. Forest Reserve No.1 (Ogbe Forests), final survey and inquiry have been completed and the Draft Order and Map are now being subjected to checking prior to gazettement. The Olle Reserve has been redemarcated and the rights redefined after inquiry and the revised Draft Order is now being subjected to the same process. In the Itama Reserve, a great bone of contention, considerable progress had been made by the end of the year in a detailed survey of farms and fallows prior to consolidation.

(2) The production of sawn timber continues to increase in the Kabba and Igala Divisions and this is reflected in the revenue returns. In the latter it is confined almost entirely to the placing of P.W.D. contracts for development work within the Province, but from the Kabba Division there is believed to be a considerable export of Iroko to the Western Region. Proposals for the establishment of a private sawmill at Kabba with the aid of the Development Loans Board is held up pending our assurance that adequate timber is available for its full-time working.

(3) Energetic weeding out and training of N.A. staff in the two Divisions so far extensively toured have borne fruit in greater efficiency, and a spectacular increase in both prosecutions and revenue. The Kabba, Yagba, and Igala N.As have benefited from this by the acquisition of illegally felled, and judicially confiscated timber, valued at £350, £100, and £25 respectively. There has also been a considerable increase in revenue from Court fines. The Departmental technical staff have been in[illegible]d in the us[illegible] survey computation and t[illegible]s a greate[illegible]ge of security regarding t[illegible] prepared.

(4) [illegible]sting results have been obtained at Okene fro[illegible] trenching of night soil [illegible]

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(5) Financial results for the year 1951, are as follows:-

Govt. Expenditure.

Jan. - Oct.	inclusive	actual	3,576
Nov. - Dec.	"	estimated	714
		Total	£4,290

N. A. Expenditure.

Jan. - Oct.	inclusive	actual	1,682
Nov. - Dec.	"	estimated	310
		Total	£1,992

Govt. Remenue.

Jan - Oct.	inclusive	actual	38
Nov. - Dec.	"	estimated	8
		Total	£ 46

N.A. Revenue.

Jan. - Oct.	inclusive	actual	2,719
Nov. - Dec.	"	estimated	1,130
		Total	£3,849

The above figures for N.A. revenue included in the November - December estimate payment for some £350 worth of confiscated timber handed over to P.W.D. but not yet accounted. Thus for the first time in many years N.A. Forestry revenue is likely to exceed expenditure by almost 100% and this should prove a great encouragement to N.As. That this is largely due to the tightening up of control is evidenced by the fact that whereas the monthly average revenue for the Kabba districts from April/to March 1951 was approximately £40, in April 1951, following the arrest of the N.A. Forester on a charge, revenue leapt to £269 for the month.

/ 1950

PROVINCIAL FOREST OFFICER.
(DRAFT OF MR. T.F.BETTS : S.A.C.F.)

DOE.

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KABBA PROVINCE.

P.W.D. REPORT FOR CALLENDAR YEAR 1951.

1. P.W.D.STAFF (SENIOR SERVICE).

Provincial Engineer :	W.S.Adams	4/11/49 to	8/5/51.
	W.E.Wood	23/4/51 to	6/11/51.
	K.C.W.James	6/11/51 to	31/12/51.
Inspectors of Works :	R.D.Jones	11/9/50 to	18/8/51.
	C.Whitehead	15/3/51 to	31/12/51
	T.J.P.Davies	24/4/51 to	31/12/51
	A.L.Fox	2/10/51 to	31/12/51.

2. ROADS & BRIDGES:

(a) Route No.257: Shintaku-Ankpa-Benue Boundary.
Road closed intermitantly during rains owing to failure of Odugbo bridge and failure of causeway at Shintaku.

(b) Route No.157: Kabba-Aire: No further progress on bridge at Mile 10½, but it is hoped to complete this work in the near future.

(c) Lokoja-Jamata-Abuji Road: Estimates submitted for the reopening of this road.

3. EXTRAORDINARY WORKS:

(a) Marine Staff Quarters: Very little work has been done and the social hall, watersupply and sports ground are still outstanding.

(b) New G.R.A.,Lokoja: The two A3 quarters started during the previous year are now virtually completed. Minor items of work at the Residency are in hand.

(c) Three A3 Quarters,Lokoja: These work are all in hand - it is hoped to complete two quarters by March 1951.

(d) Extension of Services G.R.A.,Lokoja: Three planting and layout of roads in progress.

(e) New Workshops,Lokoja: Completed.

(f) Catering Rest House,Lokoja: Central block 65% complete.

(g) Divisional Headquarters Igala,Idah: Work on Junior Service Staff quarters in hand. Senior Service Quarters (3No.A3's) being let out to contract.

4. DEVELOPMENT WORKS:

(a) New Hospital Lokoja: Work progressed satisfactorily. Project about 60% complete.

(b) Women's Elementary Training Centre,Kabba: Work progressed satisfactorily, and should be completed by M[illegible]l, apart from minor items. Now about 60% co[illegible]

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ADULT LITERACY.

This year ,for the first time,Adult Literacy campaigns were started on a large scale in the Province. Schemes have been started in three out of the four Divisions.

In Igala Division there is a fully-sponsored N.A. scheme with three full - time paid organisers and the part - time instructors are also paid by the N.A. By the beginning of December 73 classes had been started teaching Igala in all except one class where Hausa was being taught. An Igala primer has been prepared and 15,000 copies have been bought by the N.A. for resale to the public. A Literature Committee is preparing further easy readers. A Nupe primer has been prepared and is at present under consideration by the Committee.

In Kabba Division classes have been started through local initiative. When a Village wants a class they appoint a Literacy Committee which starts the local class. It chooses the Teacher, fixes his salary and fees for those attending and orders books for the class through the N.A? The exact number of classes is not known but there are at least seventeen. Yoruba is the language taught and books are obtained from Ibadan. The first exams for the Literacy Certificates in Yoruba were held at four centres in September and out of the 101 who sat 76 passed including the Obaro of Kabba and Chief D.B.Allah of Aiyetoro.

In Koton Karifi Division the scheme in Koton Karifi N.A. itself is partly N.A. partly local effort. The N.A. pay a full time Organiser and offer to pay half the Instructor's allowance for each class. The language taught is Hausa and the Gaskiya publications are those used. Twenty three classes have been opened with over 700 people attending. In Kakanda,KUpa and Eggan Districts five classes with over 120 people attending have been started. There is no Organiser and the Instructors are paid by those attending the classes. Hausa is the language taught.

In Lokoja Town classes are still being run by two of the local Progressive Societies with fluctuating attendances. Here the languages taught are English and Hausa.

RICE DEVELOPMENTS.

A survey of the rice growing areas on both banks of the Niger in Kakanda Kupa Eggan,Koton Karifi and Aworo was made early in the year. As a result Deep Water Rice was introduced for the first time and has grown very well on two plots in K.K.E. and has grown satisfactorily on one plot and failed on another in K.K. Local farmers and fishermen have welcomed it and a large order for seed to be planted next has has been placed. Next year Deep Water Rice will also be introduced to Igala Division along the flood plain of the Benue where areas have been under observation this year for collecting water depths.

An Irrigation Engineer from Bida visited K.K.E. and K.K. in late July early August to see if any of the areas were suitable for large scale or small scale irrigation. In K.K.E. one large area was considered to be suitable if water from the Kampe River was used. He is trying to obtain air photos of the area. Several small schemes of from 100 to 300 acres are under consideration in K.K. One of these was seen by the Irrigation Engineer who considered it excellent.

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(for Resident)

There are in this Province 61 Native Administration Junior Primary Schools; 84 Voluntary Agency Junior Primary Schools; 14 Senior Primary Schools; 2 Native Administration Middle Schools; 1 Voluntary Agency Secondary School and 1 Native Administra[illegible] Elementary Training Centre.

2. These schools are now better staffed than in the past and the supply of Higher Elementary and Elementary Certificated teachers is certain. It is probable that next year there will be Higher Elementary teachers in Mission Schools teaching classes below the standard for which they are qualified to work.

3. Ex-patriate teaching staff are posted to Okene Elementary Training Centre Okene Middle School and Dekina Middle School. Seven are engaged in full-time teaching in Native Administration Schools.

4. The Middle School in Okene, serves Igbirra, Lokoja, Kabba and Yagba Native Administrations. The Second Middle School at Dekina serves Koton Karifi, Bassa-Komo and Igala Native Administrations. The Finances of Igbirra Native Administration to which the Okene Middle School estimates are tied are such that the stringent economies have had to be made in next year's estimates and this school will become a comparatively small affair of some 80 boys.

5. The new Igala Middle School, which was opened in January has made a good start in the old Dekina Senior Primary School buildings.

6. The Sudan Interior Mission Secondary School was opened at Egbe this year and will provide Secondary Education for the S.I.M. pupils of Ilorin and Kabba Provinces. If this school accepts a Government grant its field of selection will have to be widened.

7. The Okene Elementary Training Centre, the only teacher training Institution in the Province, supplies teachers for the Voluntary Agency and Native Administrations of Ilorin, Kabba and Benue Provinces. The number~~s~~ presenting themselves for admission each year ~~are~~ is in the region of three hundred in spite of this a number of indifferent students slip past the selection Committee.

8. Inspite of an adequate, or almost adequate, supply of trained teachers the general standard over the whole province is ~~an almost invariable and~~ depressingly ~~static mediocrity~~ mediocre. The fault is partly with the teachers, not because they shirk their duties, many work hard and well, but because they lack that essential spark of enthusiasm and inspiration which alone can raise education above a hum drum round of reading, writing and arithmetic.

9. There is a wide spread and gratifying belief among the people that schooling is an essential preliminary to life today. The public demands schools and is prepared to finance the building of large and expensive schools. The people of Ife-Yagba have just completed the rebuilding of their N.A. Community school using stone and "pan" in place of the usual mud. The buildings consists of two blocks of six class rooms and no outside financial assistance was given of any kind.

...../ Unfortunately

Unfortunately the public does not extend its interest to what goes on in the class room and accepts second rate efforts as pure gold. To the average parent a good grounding in English and Arithmetic is all that is essential, and the teacher, who limits his work to these subjects, comes under no parental criticism. A realization by the public that more than this is required would go a long way to improving the work of the teachers, who could not long disregard public opinion.

11. The indifference of the public to the technical competence and personality of the teachers is found in the highest places and all too often half measures are attempted where really strong action is required.

12. It would be wrong to suggest that all schools and all teachers are indifferent. This Province has its better schools where the man in charge has risen above the circumstances which keep the others down. At Ojoku in Igala Division the N.A. School run by Mr. P.N. Dibo has come as near to perfection as any school of this type, anywhere.

P. Graham

Provincial Education Officer,
Kabba Province.

CG/SE ::

Summary of work performed by the Labour Officer, Minna in the Kabba Province during the year 1951.

1. Industrial Establishments

The Marine Dockyard and Workshops, Lokoja were inspected during the year. 69 Workers were employed at the time of inspection, comprising 40 shore dockyard ratings, 4 engine drivers and 25 launch crews and beach ratings. Messrs John Holt & Co (Liverpool) Ltd. Idah also came in for inspection and were employing at the time of inspection, 19 casual and permanent workers.

2. Industrial Dispute

During the course of the Labour Officer's visit to Idah, it was learnt that the U.A.C. workers, Idah went on strike in December 1950, apparently on the instruction of the headquarters of the union in Lagos. The strikers who numbered about 23, were all paid off; one or two were subsequently re-employed. About 25 casaul labourers employed by Messrs John Holt & Co (Liverpool)Ltd, Idah went on strike on 18.4.51, as a result of the alleged failure of the management to meet their demands for higher wages. The strikers later however resolved their differences with the management and resumed duty on 19.9.51.

3. Resettlement

Consequent upon my visit to Idah, the Registration Office at Idah was closed down and its documents and staff transferred to Minna office.

4. Visits and Discussions

Visits were paid to Idah in connection with the Registration Office there and Lokoja, in the course of which discussions were held with the Administration on the general conditions of labour. Baring the disputes as reported in paragraph 2, there appeared to be a general feeling of satisfaction amongst the workers. It was, however, observed when the local markets were visited, that the prices of a number of commodities in the area were high, thus creating the basis of occasional complaints from workers. This problem was discussed with the Administration which incidentally was fully aware of and keen on remedying the position. Other matters of interest relating to the further employment of labour were also discussed.

LABOUR OFFICER.