

KABBA PROVINCE.

P.W.D. REPORT FOR CALLENDAR YEAR 1949.

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

PROVINCIAL ENGINEERS:

Mr. W. Grant Executive Engineer Gde. I
1/1/49 - 13/5/49.

Mr. E. D. Walcot Executive Engineer
Grade IV, 13/5/49 - 18/11/49.

Mr. W. S. Adams Executive Engineer
Grade IV, 18/11/49 - 31/12/49.

INSPECTOR OF WORKS:

Mr. F. W. Wymer 1/1/49-20/6/49, at Lokoja

Mr. C. H. Thompson 20/6/49-31/12/49 "

Mr. J. L. Adams 13/3/49-31/12/49, Kampe.

2. ROADS AND BRIDGES:

SHINTAKU-ANKPA-BENUE BOUNDARY: This road was, as usual, closed for part of September and October owing to the temporary Odugbo Bridge and the Shintaku embankment being washed out.

KABBA-AIERE ROAD: Bridge Mile 10½ now being completed after hold up due to transport difficulties on steel.

OKENE-LOKOJA ROAD: Bridge Mile 1½ and the auxiliary culvert was completed on 30th June 1949.

3. EXTRAORDINARY WORKS:

(a) MARINE STAFF QUARTERS, LOKOJA: The original programme has now been increased to provide two roomed quarters as a minimum accommodation for 60 families and also 3 No. three roomed quarters. The programme at present is 75% complete which includes the completion of both Septic Tanks.

D. O'S HOUSE KABBA: Complete apart from sundry modifications to the sanitation.

(c) POST OFFICE & QUARTERS, KABBA: Completed apart from P & T. furniture still required.

(d) DIVISIONAL OFFICE, KABBA: Completed apart from the installation of a washbasin.

(e) POST OFFICE & QUARTERS, OKENE: Almost complete. Part of furniture being supplied by Regional Mechanical Engineer, Kaduna.

(f) NEW GOVERNMENT RESIDENTIAL AREA, LOKOJA:

New Residency is 80% complete and 1 No. A3 Quarters is up to wall plate level. Work on the second A3 Quarters which is scheduled for completion in the financial year 1949-50 has been postponed to enable the site and type of quarter to be decided.

(g) NEW WORKSHOPS - LOKOJA: Plans awaiting approval.

4. DEVELOPMENT WORKS:

EGBE-ISANLU-MAKATU ROAD: All culverts and bridges have now been completed apart from Kampe River Bridge which is near completion. All steel work, with the exception of the centre span, has been received.

(b) ETOBE-EJULE ROAD: Work on the Etobe-Ejule has been continuing and preliminary work on the Ejule-Akpanya road has commenced.

5. LOKOJA WATER SUPPLY: An outline scheme, based on the report of a Consulting Engineer appointed by the Crown Agents, is under consideration by the Director of Public Works. This scheme provides for a supply from the River Niger for the whole of Lokoja, with an alternative of a separate supply to the New Government Residential Area from Mount. Patti.

6. OKENE WATER SUPPLY: The raising of the Okene reservoir dam and spillway to increase the capacity of the reservoir is under consideration.

7. PROPOSED EXTENSION TO LOKOJA AERODROME: Plans for extending the Aerodrome runways have been abandoned following the decision by the Chief Secretary to the Government that Lokoja would not be included in the internal air services.

8. RIVER GAUGING: Levels and surface velocities have continued to be recorded throughout the year. A cross section of the river immediately below the confluence of the Niger and Benue was made in co-operation with the Marine Department in June 1949.

WSA/JCO:

W. Adams
PROVINCIAL ENGINEER, P.W.D.,
KABBA PROVINCE.

The Resident,
Kabba Province,
Lokoja/

9 DEC 1949
A
1949 Annual Report : Kabba
Province Part I.

No. 22/77.
5th December 1949,
Agric. Dept.,
Okene.

PP. 18-21

With reference to your No. 3063/1. of 29th October 1949, I forward herewith the annual report on the activities affecting the Agric. Dept. in the Western Kabba Province.

A.O. Ilorin,
D.O. Okene,
D.O. Kabba/

Copy for information please.

J. J. J. J.
Agric. Asst.

Agric. Asst.

The Resident,
Kabba Province,
Ilokoja/

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No. 22/78.

5th December 1949,
Agric. Dept.,
Okene.

Western Kabba Province : Annual
Report December 1949.

Staff : The staff of the Department in the Province consists as follows :-

One Agricultural Assistant Grade II in charge of the Province, One Agricultural Assistant Grade III in charge of Kabba and Yagba Divisions assisted by one Government Field Overseer stationed at Isanlu Makutu. There are other two Government Field Overseers, one in charge of Okene Dairy and the other is in charge of Koton Karfe Division. In addition to the above staff, 8 N.A. Agric. Assts. were working in the Province during the year.

2. Weather : The total annual rainfall for Okene and Kabba were as follows. Okene 50.16 inches with 4.70 inches above the previous year's total and Kabba 54.50 inches with 29.57 inches below the previous year's total rainfall.

3. Farm Crops : Farm crops were good throughout the province, except cotton crop which is poor in parts of Koton Karfe Division.

4. Export Crops : Benniseed. The total tonnage of benniseed purchased by the Firms this year for export was 592 tons compared with 281 tons for the previous year.

5. Castor Seed : This crop is mostly grown in Kabba Division it is the only cash crop grown by villagers in the South of Kabba town. The total amount purchased by the firm from the beginning of the year is 169 tons.

6. The total amount of seed cotton purchased and ginned by the B.C.G.A. Ilokoja was 1877 tons at 3½d per lb. Practically the whole cotton were bought from Loko Amagede and Rumasha on the other side of river Benue. All the cotton produced is used locally for local weaving.

7. Distribution of Seed : There was an increasing demand from farmers for various seeds for planting. The following seeds were distributed during the year :-

1 ton G' nut seed

15 tons cotton "

7 Cwt of rice seed

5 bags of sunflower

The sunflower seed was distributed among the selected farmers in Kabba and Koton Karfe Divisions.

8. Mixed Farms : The two unit farms at Kabba and Isanlu were converted to mixed farms early this year. The acreage of the farms were increased from 2 acres to 5 acres at Kabba and from 3 acres to 5 acres at Isanlu.

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The farmer at Isanlu has up to 10 animals which produced manure for the farm. An arrangement is on the way to purchase some herds of cattles say 6 for the farmer at Kabba. The Okene unit farm will be converted to mixed farm early next year, the farm will be shifted to a new site selected at Otete six miles away from Okene town. At present the mixed farmers at Kabba and Isanlu are being paid 10/- monthly and all the crops produced from the farms belong to them.

9. Manurial Demonstration Plots : $\frac{1}{3}$ of an acre plots were laid down near the cattle kraals at different places in the Igbirra Division. Each plot is subdivided into $\frac{1}{6}$ of an acre, one plot was manured to 8 tons F.Y.M. to the acre and the other unmanured, early maize, G' corn and soya beans were planted. The maize and the G' corn on the manure plots show a conspicuous difference over the crops on unmanured plots. The attention of the local farmers was called to the plots.

10. Miscellaneous Plots : Small quantities of Manna (Italian Millet), Tamba and Acha were planted on spare lands adjacent to Okene mixed farm for trial. The Acha and manna did very well at the early stage, the crops developed into heads, but before the grains were matured the birds ate all the grains. The Tamba was a complete failure.

11. Irish Potatoes : Okene. Irish potatoes were planted in July on a piece of land $\frac{1}{2}$ acre after the harvest of early maize near the cattle kraal at Gannana. The crop vegetated well, but due to water logged condition of the area, the yield fell below what was expected. 226 lbs were obtained from the plot and these came to 1130 lbs to the acre.

12. Kabba : $\frac{1}{2}$ an acre land was laid down for Irish potatoes near Kabba cattle kraal. The plot was manured to 8 tons to the acre and early maize was planted on the plot. The maize failed to ripe towards the end of June. In order to avoid late planting of the potatoes, half of the plot was harvested and the potatoes planted in the first week in July. The other half was planted early in August. The July cropping was far better than the August planting. The yield per $\frac{1}{2}$ an acre plot is 1067 lbs and the yield to the acre is 2134 lbs. The large tubers were sold at 4d per lb and the medium size were sold at 2d per lb.

13. Rice Multiplication Plots : One and half acres of swampland were planted with seed of G.E.B.24 from Abugi. The crop started well, but due to insufficient flood the crop was poor. The harvest will take place early in December.

14. Nurseries : There are at present four nurseries in the Province, and they are established in the following places :- Okene, Kabba, Isanlu, Koton Karfe and Egbe. Each of the nurseries is aiming at supplying the people of the area with citrus trees which they are lacking. Some of the nurseries had been long established and they are functioning well.

The table below shows the number of budded citrus trees etc. distributed during the year.

	Citrus trees	Palm trees	Cocoa	Coconuts	Kola nuts	Mangoes	Coffee
Okene	74	-	-	322	-	-	-
Kabba	350	171	-	186	98	22	25
K. Karfe	-	-	500	10	-	-	-
Isanlu	114	-	-	152	-	-	-

15. Dairies: Previously cream was been produced at Kabba and sent to Okene for butter making, at present a refrigerator was purchased by Kabba Dairy early this year. Now all the cream produced by the dairy is being made into butter there. The butter is being sold locally.

Okene continues to supply the U.A.C. Lokoja local people and travellers with butter. The table below shows the amount of milk, cream, and butter produced from Jan.- Nov. this year.

	Milk lbs	Cream lbs	Butter lbs
Okene	32793	314 1/2	1666.11
Kabba	10388	1069 1/2	358.4

16. Cattle: There are three Government bulls serving cows on the largest kraals in Igbirra Division. The fourth bull is being suffering from tryps since his arrival to Okene from Ilorin. The rest of the kraals, each is having a progeny of the improved bulls. At present there are 17 and 4 Fulanis milking and looking after the village cattle at Okene and Kabba respectively. They are paid by the N.As. At Isanlu and Egbe the N.A. is not responsible for the wages of the Fulanis. The Fulanis make use of the whole milk and receive monthly 2d per head of cattle in the kraal. The following table shows the total number of cattle in the Divisions from Jan to the end of November 1949.

	Male	Female
Okene	262	1094
Yagba	430	1470
Kabba	167	524
Koto	3	5

17. Market Prices: Due to the alteration in the method of taking market prices of local food stuffs in 1948, most of the commodities were cut out, for this reason it is not possible to get 1948 figures for those commodities to compare them with 1949 figures, only yams and G' corn are available.

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The table below shows the 1948 and 1949 average prices for 6 months
G' corn and yams for Okene, Kabba and Koton Karfe.

Commodity	Place	Year	
		1948	1949
		(Average price/lb) (average price per lb)	
Yams	Okene	4.6d	.9d
G' corn	"	2.6d	1.8d
Yams	Kabba	2.3d	.9d
G' corn	"	4.0d	2.4d
Yams	K. Karfe	2.5d	1.4d
G' corn	"	.6d	2.3d

At present the food situation is still normal, lorries from Southern Nigeria transporting food stuffs to the South have not yet started.

J. G. Gage
Agric. Asst.

A.O. Ilorin,
D.O. Okene,
D.O. Kabba/

Copy for information please.

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Agric. Asst.

Mr. Morgan

*P. Keep an eye on these reports
arrival from Div: the time is
getting short for the R. to submit
his consolidated report.*

C. Gage