

have been satisfactory and the facts of the particular case warrant it, then the Governor-General may, by warrant, grant the prisoner a release on probation, setting forth the terms of such probation. Only in very isolated cases are prisoners other than those serving life sentences released on probation.

## H. EDUCATIONAL ADVANCEMENT

### GENERAL

The long-range policy of education in Western Samoa is to raise the general level of citizenship to a point where self-government by the Samoans is possible.

The shorter-range policy of the Administration schools aims at fulfilling the immediate need of the community for local people sufficiently well educated to hold executive positions of varying importance in commerce or administration. The mission schools supplement this to an appreciable extent, but are generally more concerned with providing their own particular organizations with trained personnel.

With the exception of one small school maintained by a local plantation-owner for the children of his workers, there are no private schools in Samoa and no regulations are provided for their existence. No grants are made to the one mentioned above and its functions as an independent unit divorced from both Administration and Mission control.

### SCHOOLS AND CURRICULUM

#### *Government School System*

The Government school system comprises the following types of schools:—

(a) *Primary Schools*.—These schools form the base of the whole educational system. They provide a broad general course of six years' duration for children in the villages and are the equivalent of the elementary schools of other countries. Instruction is given in the vernacular, but the English language is taught as a subject.

(b) *Middle Schools*.—This type of school selects the best of the children after three years in the primary schools and provides them with a further five years' course. There are three of these schools, Avele, on Upolu, and Vaipouli, on Savai'i, being boys' schools, and Malifa (Apia) being a girls' school.

The function of these schools is to provide education to a higher level than that given by the village elementary schools. All instruction is in the English language and the general curriculum approximates that of the New Zealand primary schools.

The headmaster at Avele and the headmistress at Malifa are certificated New Zealand teachers and are assisted by a Samoan staff.

Pupils who leave these schools are in demand throughout Western Samoa to fill positions involving a certain amount of responsibility, and are to be found as traders, clerks, nurses, pastors in the Churches, and cadets in the Administration.

(c) *European Schools*.—There are two of these, one in Apia and the other at Aleisa, which provide a general elementary course of eight years' duration for those children who are European by birth or status. The Leifiifi School, in Apia, with a roll number of 624, is under the control of a New Zealand certificated headmaster, who is assisted by a staff of five certificated New Zealand teachers and seventeen uncertificated European teachers engaged locally. Aleisa, which serves an agricultural settlement eight miles from Apia, has a roll number of 100 and is staffed by a locally appointed headmaster and two local female assistants.

In both these schools, English is the medium of instruction. The curriculum approximates that of New Zealand primary schools, although the standard, owing to difficulties of language and environment, does not reach that of New Zealand.