

CONTINUATION CLASSES.

Classes for the teaching of the English language to Samoans, and also classes for instruction in the Samoan language and customs, for white residents, were begun lately. In each case more than thirty enrolled themselves, and the attendance has been well maintained. Practically all those attending the classes are officials (white and Native Samoan) of the Administration. Further classes will be established almost immediately, the next to be brought into operation being those for the teaching of typewriting and shorthand.

SCHOLARSHIPS.

Arrangements are being made for the selection of four Samoan boys to be sent to St. Stephen's School, Auckland, for a period of three years for further education. In accordance with these arrangements, the scholarships in the first instance will be allotted thus: one each to the three principal missions, and one to the Government schools, Apia.

POSTAL DEPARTMENT.

The Postmaster, reporting on the 2nd April for the year 1920-21, says:—

"*Post Office.*—As no complete records have been taken it is not possible to give the exact figures, but it is estimated that the number of articles delivered in Samoa during the year was as follows: Letters and letter-cards, 91,728; other articles, 47,712; total, 139,440. Registered letters delivered numbered 2,462, and parcels 2,579, on which Customs duty to the amount of £785 6s. 9d. was collected. Letters, &c., posted during the year were as under: Letters and letter-cards, 49,616; other articles, 13,308: total, 62,924. Registered letters posted numbered 3,348, and parcels 737.

"*Stamps.*—The New Zealand special series of 'Victory' stamps, overprinted 'Samoa,' were brought into use in May last, but, with the exception of the 6d. and 1s. values, these are now exhausted. The denominations of stamps now in use are as follows: $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d., 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 2d., 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 3d., 6d., 1s., 2s., 2s. 6d., 5s., 10s., £1, and £2. Stamp-sales during the year amounted to £3,048 16s. 7d.

"*Buildings.*—Extensive alterations and additions have been made during the year, providing greater accommodation at the counter and mail-room, a new telephone exchange, and lineman's workshop.

"*Money-orders.*—The money-orders issued numbered 1,252, for a total of £10,348 10s., and those paid 183, for a total of £1,118 17s. 8d. The commission on money-orders issued amounted to £149 16s. 10d.

"*Postal Notes.*—Postal notes to the value of £681 8s. 11d. were sold, and £57 19s. 7d. paid. The amount of British postal orders sold was £278 10s. 7d., and £77 15s. 6d. paid.

"*Savings-bank.*—The Western Samoa Post Office Savings-bank was inaugurated on the 16th July, and is showing very satisfactory results. The excess of deposits over withdrawals amounted to £21,334 19s. 6d., and in addition to this there was credited to depositors' accounts an amount of £313 15s. 1d. as interest, leaving a total balance of credit of depositors of £21,648 14s. 7d. Two hundred and forty-three accounts were opened and thirty-two closed, leaving 211 still in operation at the end of the year. Deposits numbered 788, to the total of £30,199 12s. 11d., and withdrawals 246, amounting to £8,864 13s. 5d.

"*Work performed for other Departments.*—Among the many branches of work undertaken during the year for other Departments, including the New Zealand Post and Telegraph Department, those deserving of special mention are the Customs duty collected, of a total amount of £785 6s. 9d., and wireless traffic to the value of £2,442 11s. 8d. The amount received for Government insurance reached a total of £55 14s. 1d.; superannuation, £301 1s. 11d.; and savings-bank deposits on account of New Zealand, £4,681 14s. 1d. Miscellaneous receipts on behalf of New Zealand amounted to £31 18s. 10d., and miscellaneous payments to £1,855 17s. 11d. For the Pensions Department the sum of £486 3s. 9d. was paid. Among the items which do not bulk largely with regard to amount, but involve numerous transactions, may be mentioned the sale of *Gazettes* and Ordinances, to the value of £7 9s. 9d.; fumigation fees, £1 0s. 3d.; and registration of births, £2 17s. 6d.

"*Telephones.*—The telephone revenue shows a small increase. Subscribers now number ninety-seven, with others to be added when the new exchange board is installed. The total receipts, including toll communications, amounted to £1,150 2s. 7d., being an increase of £67 5s. 10d. on the previous year.

"*Private Boxes.*—The private-box accommodation has been increased from sixty to ninety-five boxes, of which seventy-four are at present in use. Rental received amounted to £76 16s. 2d., as against the previous year's £66 11s. 5d."

On the 31st August, 1921, the amount standing to the credit of depositors in the Post Office Savings-bank amounted to £26,982 1s. 8d. Of this £20,592 was invested in New Zealand, and £5,124 16s. 4d. has been remitted to New Zealand for investment, leaving a balance of £1,265 5s. 4d. in hand on the 31st August.

RADIO STATION.

In reporting for the period 1st April, 1920, to 31st March, 1921, the Superintendent says:—

"I have pleasure in reporting that the working of the Apia Radio Station has been carried on efficiently during the year, and communication with Tahiti, Rarotonga, New Zealand, Suva, Tutuila, Tonga, also ship stations, has been maintained regularly, excepting on a few rare occasions when atmospherics have been unusually severe and it has not been possible to work through them.

"As will be seen from the accompanying details of traffic transacted, about half of the volume of work handled is made up of transmit messages, this station being an important one for the purpose of relaying traffic between New Zealand and the other islands whose low power does not permit of direct working.

"Between the hours of 8 a.m. and midnight the station is kept practically fully engaged on routine work. At all times when not engaged with other shore stations a listening service is maintained on a 600-metre wave-length for the convenience of vessels at sea."