

7. CONCRETE CISTERNS.

Tafutafoe, Savai'i.—A 12,000-gallon reinforced-concrete cistern was completed. Similar circular reinforced-concrete cisterns, all of 12,000-gallons capacity, have been constructed at the following villages in the Island of Manono: Faleu, Salua, Apai, Lepuai.

8. IMPROVEMENT OF PASSAGES.

Upolu.—This work was prosecuted with vigour until there occurred an unfortunate accident in which the foreman in charge was killed by an explosion of gelignite.

The following passages and channels received attention during the year: Puipaa, Faleula, Vaitele, Malua, Le Auva'a, Saanapu, Siimu, Samatau No. 1, Samatau No. 2, Siafaga to Falelatai, Matautu, Savaia, Vaice.

A large number of pins were installed in the channels inside the reef between Vailele and Mulifanua.

9. WORKSHOPS.

Joinery-shop, blacksmiths' shop, shipwrights' shop, garage, and mechanical workshop were carried on continuously until the 1st October, when, on account of reduction in public-works activities, the shipwrights' and mechanical workshop were handed over to the Crown Estates. The joinery-shop is still carried on in a minor way.

10. STREET-CLEANING, CLEANING GOVERNMENT GROUNDS.

Sanitation, Street-lighting, and Rubbish collection.—The above services in the Town of Apia have all been carried on continuously during the year by the Department.

11. SURVEYS.

A preliminary survey for a hydro-electric scheme for the Town of Apia has been carried out.

New Wharf, Apia.—The construction of a small wharf near the Customs sheds is under consideration, and preliminary plans have been prepared.

12. STAFF.

Further reductions have taken place during the year, the number of the classified staff at the beginning and end of the year being twelve and eight respectively.

CHINESE DEPARTMENT.

The number of Chinese labourers in Samoa at the 31st March, 1923, was 1,328, as against 1,591 at the end of the previous year, 255 having been repatriated and 8 died during the year. In the case of those who died leaving relatives in China, compensation equivalent to one year's wages was remitted to the latter through the Chinese Consul.

On the plantations the task-work system continues to be followed as far as practicable, and appears to give satisfaction to the labourers, as they are thus free to attend to their own affairs as soon as the standard task has been completed, instead of being compelled to work for a specified number of hours each day.

The relations existing between the Chinese Consul and the Administration during the past year have been most cordial, which would indicate that the Consul appreciates that the Administration honestly endeavours to deal fairly by the labourers.

RETURN OF LABOURERS REPORTING TO THE CHINESE DEPARTMENT DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1923.

Reason.	April-June.	July-September.	October-December.	January-March.	Total.
Medical examination	130	213	209	17	569
Complaint by employer	263	324	270	180	1,037
Complaint by labourer	35	58	98	85	276
To sign contract	9	5	1	8	23
Sent by employer—no complaint	71	92	49	28	240
Wanted by police	1	19	5	25	50
Seeking new employment	175	203	135	31	544
Wanted by Commissioner	40	21	29	21	111
Discharged from hospital	110	54	17	8	189
Discharged from custody of police	102	152	167	129	550
Repatriation affairs	91	20	69	25	205
Remittances .. .. .	..	..	10	2	12
Deferred pay .. .. .	..	..	18	29	47
Private affairs	75	112	201	60	448
Left work without permission	91	179	154	46	470
Totals	1,193	1,452	1,432	694	4,771