

HARBOUR SECTION.

Lights, Buoys, and Beacons.—Replacement of the moorings securing No. 1 buoy in Apia Harbour is being undertaken. The old moorings have carried away, and new cable and anchors are on order.

Floating Plant.—Launches and coal and water lighters have been overhauled as required. The s.s. "Lady Roberts," employed mostly in maintaining communication with Matson Line vessels passing through Pago Pago and Suva, was despatched to Fiji for overhaul, and at the end of the year under review was running satisfactorily. The vessel is old, however, and there are indications that extensive repairs or replacement may be required within a comparatively short time.

Casualties.—During the year one locally-owned trading-launch was lost, fortunately without loss of life.

On the 29th November the scientific investigatory brigantine "Carnegie," at anchor in Apia Harbour, was totally destroyed by fire, resulting from an explosion which occurred during the loading of benzine fuel by the vessel's crew. It is regretted that the disaster involved the deaths of the master of the vessel and one member of the crew.

On the following day the s.s. "Trongate" which was in Apia Harbour, proceeded to Gardner Island, in the Phoenix Group, in response to SOS signals, and effected the rescue of the twenty-four survivors of the crew of thirty-five of the s.s. "Norwich City," which had been wrecked on the island on the evening of the 29th. A surf-boat and crew of Ellice, Niue, and Tokelau islanders were placed on board the "Trongate" by the Administration, and the bravery of these Natives in effecting communication with the survivors on shore in spite of heavy and shark-infested seas has been recognized by the award of medals by the Royal Humane Society.

OVERSEAS MERCHANT SHIPPING, PORT OF APIA, WESTERN SAMOA, FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st MARCH, 1929.

				Inwards (all Steam).			Outwards (all Steam).		
				Number of Vessels.	Tons.	Cargo.	Number of Vessels.	Tons.	Cargo.
June quarter, 1929	..	..	British Foreign	17	23,082	3,528	18	26,806	4,165
				1	3,759	60	1	3,759	1,034
				18	26,841	3,588	19	30,565	5,199
September quarter, 1929	..	..	British Foreign	16	17,903	2,306	18	18,046	4,603
				2	6,118	610	2	6,118	436
				18	24,021	2,916	20	24,164	5,039
December quarter, 1929	..	..	British Foreign	26	24,438	2,549	24	24,295	6,519
				2	3,471	1,170	2	3,471	..
				28	27,909	3,719	26	27,766	6,519
March quarter, 1930	..	..	British Foreign	19	19,971	3,559	20	20,023	3,742
				1	3,405	42	1	3,405	1,109
				20	23,376	3,601	21	23,428	4,851
Year ending 31st March, 1930	..	..	British Foreign	78	85,394	11,942	80	89,170	19,029
				6	16,753	1,882	6	16,753	2,579
				84	102,147	13,824	86	105,923	21,608

Also, in addition to the above : Inwards—3 British warships, 1 British Navy oil-tanker, 1 French warship, 4 American warships, 2 American yachts. Outwards—3 British warships, 1 British Navy oil-tanker, 1 French warship, 5 American warships, 2 American yachts.

LABOUR DEPARTMENT.

The labour situation was marked during the year by a strike of Chinese, which occurred in August. Approximately 350 men were involved. The strike was not connected with actual conditions of employment, but commenced through labourers of one clan or tong (locally known as the "Hoi Yin" men) objecting to the retention as foreman on one of the New Zealand Reparation Estates plantations of a "Taumun" man—a member of the other principal clan represented in Samoa. The Estates management had no justifiable reason for the removal of the foreman, and the strike continued for nearly three weeks. The situation culminated in a riot, which occurred at the