

## POLICE AND PRISONS DEPARTMENT.

## ESTABLISHMENT.

Reductions in the European personnel have been continued throughout the year. On 31st March, 1931, the European strength in all ranks was thirty-seven, on 31st December, 1931, it was thirty, and on 31st March, 1932, it was twenty-two.

The Native Police Force, including warders (but excluding messengers and clerks), numbered thirty-eight at the end of the year.

The six posts in outer districts have functioned normally; the mobile patrol mentioned in the report of last year was discontinued as from the end of November, 1930.

## PRISONS.

On 1st April, 1931, the total number of prisoners in gaol was 98. During the year 412 prisoners were received and 431 discharged, leaving 79 in custody at the end of March, 1932.

The number of mental patients on 31st March, 1932, was seven.

## GENERAL.

There has been a general decline in criminal offences, which may be classified approximately as follows :—

	1930-31.	1931-32.
Serious crimes .. .. .	179	134
Breaches of measures affecting native affairs .. .	770	129
Lesser offences .. .	529	724
	<u>1,478</u>	<u>987</u>

The principal increases have been—theft and trespass, largely in connection with removals of food-stuffs from plantations; wilful mischief connected also with removal of beef from plantations; and affrays, being domestic quarrels in villages.

Police activities have been facilitated by the passing of the Road Traffic Ordinance, 1931, the Shopping Hours Ordinance, 1931, and the General Laws Ordinance, 1931, all being revised consolidations of previously existing law.

The warrants held for execution on 31st March, 1931, were: for arrest, 153; for commitment, 86; and on 31st March, 1932, the numbers were 97 and 55 respectively.

There were 310 licensed motor-vehicles in the Territory at the end of the year.

## CUSTOMS AND MARINE DEPARTMENT.

## TRADE STATISTICS.

There was a sharp decline in the trade of the Territory in 1931, the total trade for the calendar year having been £359,397, as compared with an average of £635,491 over the preceding five years. In the following table imports and exports are set out by quarters :—

Quarter ended	Exports.								Imports.	Total Trade.
	Copra.		Cacao.		Bananas.		Other.	Total Value.		
	Tons.	Value.	Tons.	Value.	Cases.	Value.	Value.			
		£		£		£	£	£	£	£
31st March, 1931 ..	2,739	26,557	170	8,897	18,736	8,661	2,369	46,484	41,445	87,929
30th June, 1931 ..	2,355	24,218	157	8,107	6,630	3,067	6,535*	41,927	47,216	89,143
30th September, 1931	2,060	19,900	20	1,362	20,224	9,114	1,153†	31,529	34,410	65,939
31st December, 1931	3,908	38,545	273	16,918	39,641	18,180	864	74,507	41,879	116,386
31st March, 1932 ..	2,475	24,654	158	10,079	13,758	4,127	964	39,824	33,194	73,018
Totals for calendar year 1930	12,285	166,221	1,007	61,294	95,867	44,259	12,741	284,515	275,355	559,870
Totals for calendar year 1931	11,062	109,220	620	35,284	85,231	39,022	10,921	194,447	164,950	359,397

\* Includes specie (silver coin), £5,100.

† Includes specie (silver coin), £100.

The fluctuation in quarterly figures is caused by non-regular arrivals and departures of overseas vessels.