

***Annual Departmental Reports relating to
African Countries prior to Independence***

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relating to
Nigeria and British Cameroons,
1887-1960

Introduction to the
microfilm collection
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David C. Dorward

Publication no. R97002

MICROFORM ACADEMIC PUBLISHERS

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1979

ISBN 07158 5190 X

First published in 1979

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Wakefield, West Yorkshire WF3 2AP, UK

www.microform.co.uk/academic

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Annual Departmental Reports relating to Nigeria and British Cameroons, 1887-1960

Introduction

The *Annual Departmental Reports relating to Nigeria and British Cameroons* is a complementary collection to the earlier microform collection of Annual Reports of the Governor, Blue Books, and Government Gazettes, entitled *Government Publications relating to Nigeria* (Microform Academic Publishers, 1975). For the purpose of organisation, the departmental collection has been divided under ten headings: Administration, Finance, Judicial and Police, Natural Resources, Social Services, Transport and Public Works, Communications and Post Office Savings, Commerce, Miscellaneous Nigeriana, and finally reports relating to the British Cameroons. Within each section, departmental series have been organised in chronological order, prefaced by selected extraordinary reports and sessional papers of particular relevance, and followed by related sub-collections. Specific bibliographic and historical information related to discrete collections, as well as more complete explanations of the functions and activities of departments where their titles are not self-explanatory, are given in the detailed departmental lists below.

In large measure the complications relating to the organisation of government departments and the publication of their annual reports arises from the complex historical and constitutional evolution of Nigeria. Nigeria was a "mixed dependency", created from the union of the Colony and Protectorate of Lagos with the Protectorate of Southern Nigeria (successor to the Niger Coast and Oil Rivers Protectorates) in 1906 and the subsequent amalgamation with the British Protectorate of Northern Nigeria in 1914 to form the Colony and Protectorate of Nigeria. As a result, separate parallel technical departments were often already established in the component polities at the time of amalgamation. Moreover Sir Frederick Lugard, who was responsible for the amalgamation in 1914, was biased in favour of Northern Nigerian institutions, had a mania for details and a congenital inability to delegate authority, preferring to centre decision-making in his own hands. Consequently, despite the political amalgamation of Nigeria, the Northern and Southern Provinces continued to maintain separate Agricultural, Education, Forestry, Land, Police and Prison Services until well into the 1920s when they amalgamated as part of the general policy of centralisation and increased efficiency instituted by Lugard's successor as Governor, Sir Hugh Clifford. While a counter-reaction led to a measure of administrative decentralisation in the late 1920s under Sir Graeme Thomson's governorship and the Southern Provinces were divided into the Eastern and Western Provinces in 1937, thus laying the foundation for the ultimate regional division of Nigeria, the technical departments were not fragmented once more until the 1950s. Under the so-called MacPherson Constitution of 1951, however, a measure of autonomy and local responsibility was delegated to the Regions with a consequent proliferation of regional technical departments and services. In addition, the period following the Second World War witnessed a profusion of new institutions as the colonial government was forced to respond to the mounting aspirations and vocal demands of the Nigerian populace and nationalist leaders and to increasing opposition to colonialism from abroad.

GROUP I ADMINISTRATION

While the Annual Reports of the Governor (reproduced in microfilm as part of the companion series of Government Publications relating to Nigeria, MAP, 1975) were produced for submission to Parliament, the administrative reports listed below were intended primarily for the information of the Governor and for limited distribution within the Nigerian Colonial Service and H.M. Government.

Reel 1	Lagos	
	District Political Reports	1899-1905
	Southern Nigeria	
	Egba District	1906, 1910
	Central Province	1906-1911
	Eastern Province	1906-1911
	Western Province	1906-1907
Reel 2	Nigeria	

Shortly after assuming the Governorship of Nigeria in 1925, Sir Graeme Thomson introduced a series of 'reforms' which tended to partially off-set the increased central control achieved by his predecessor, Sir Hugh Clifford, through the amalgamation of the various technical departments of Northern and Southern Nigeria and his creation of an efficient Central Secretariat. As a result, the Lieutenant-Governors of the Northern and Southern Provinces, as well as the Administrator of Lagos, were required to submit Annual Reports on the lines of the Governor's Annual Report, a reflection of their renewed measure of autonomy.

Report of the Administration of Lagos

1927-1938

	Northern Provinces	1926-1938
Reel 3	Southern Provinces	1926-1938

In 1937 the Southern Province was divided into the Eastern and Western Provinces. The following section is prefaced by:

	Reorganisation of the Southern Provinces	(SP46/1937)
	Annual Report for the Northern, Western and Eastern Provinces and Colony	1939-1946
Reel 4	Administrator-General	1949/50-1958/9

During the 1950's, Nigeria underwent a series of political and constitutional changes which were ultimately to lead to independence in 1960. Simultaneously, power and decision-making was increasingly regionalised, for instance the so-called MacPherson Constitution of 1951 made local government a regional responsibility. As a result, the three regions of Nigeria began producing their own Annual Reports and departmental reports, while the last Annual Report of the Governor to Parliament was that submitted for 1955.

	Northern Region	1951-1958
Reel 5	Northern Region Eastern Region	1959-1960 1956-1957
	Ministry of Internal Affairs Eastern Region Western Region	1959/60 1957
Reel 6	Public Services Commission Federal Government Eastern Region Northern Region Western Region	1954-1960 1954-1960 1954-1960 1956-1960

In addition, there are a number of sub-regional reports relating to administration which were produced at various times, their titles being self-explanatory.

Reel 7	Conference of Residents Northern Provinces	1926-1934 irregular
Reel 8	Conference of Chiefs Northern Provinces	1930-1941 irregular
Reel 9	Western Provinces Western Provinces, new series	1937-1945 1958-1959
Reel 10	Mid-West Advisory Council	1958/9-1959/60

The latter dealt with matters relating to the creation of the Mid-West State from part of what was formerly the Western Region.

	Lagos Town Council	1917-1937 irregular
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GROUP II FINANCE

Audits, Estimates and other financial reports provide a wealth of quantifiable information and statistics on the allocation of resources by and within the Colonial Government.

Reel 11	Audit of the Accounts Lagos Southern Nigeria	1904-1905 1906
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	Correspondence relating to the cost of the Colonial Audit Department	1912/3
	Nigeria and the Nigerian Railway	1928/9-1936/7
	Nigeria (excluding Railway)	1937/8-1959/60
Reel 12	Eastern Region	1952/3-1959/60
	Northern Region	1952/3-1959/60
	Western Region	1953/4-1958/9
Reel 13	Nigerian Railway, Motor Services and Colliery	1937/8-1947/8
	Nigerian Railway and Motor Services	1948/9-1955

"In anticipation of the establishment in November 1949, by direction of the Governor and with the approval of the Legislative Council of a Board of Management for the Nigerian Government Collieries, the Chief Accountant was authorised to state a case in favour of independence of accounting". (SP 20/1951)

	Government Collieries	1949/50
	Coal Corporation	1950/1-1954/5
Reel 14	Financial/Accountant General	
	Southern Nigeria	1906-1912
	Nigeria	1914-1918

Note in Public Record Office volume for 1913: "Governor-General unable to supply a copy of this report."

Reel 15	Nigeria	1919-1926/7
Reel 16	Nigeria	1927/8-1934/5
Reel 17	Nigeria	1935/6-1944/5
Reel 18	Nigeria	1945/6-1949/50
Reel 19	Nigeria	1950/1-1955/6
Reel 20	Nigeria	1956/7-1959/60
Reel 21	Eastern Region	
	Regional Treasurer	1952/3
	Accountant-General	1953/4-1959/60
	Public Accounts Committee	1952/3-1959
Reel 22	Northern Region	
	Regional Treasurer	1952/3
	Accountant-General	1953/4-1959/60
	Joint Standing Committee	1955-1956
Reel 23	Western Region	
	Regional Treasurer	1952/3-1953/4
	Accountant-General	1954/5-1959/60
	Public Accounts Committee	1952/3-1956/7
	Joint Standing Committee	1954/5-1958
Reel 24	Estimates	
	Ibadan Province	1908
	Nigeria (excluding Railway)	1936/7-1940/1
Reel 25	Nigeria (excluding Railway)	1946/7-1953/4
Reel 26	Nigeria (excluding Railway)	1954/5-1959/60

Reel 27	Secretary of State's Despatch approving the Estimates Railway	1934/5-1929/30 1936/7-1948/9
Reel 28	Railway	1949/50-1955/6
Reel 29	Eastern Region (including memo on Estimates) Supplementary	1953/5-1959/60 1958
Reel 30	Northern Region	1952/3-1953/4
Reel 31	Northern Region	1954/5-1955/6
Reel 32	Northern Region	1956/7
Reel 33	Northern Region	1957/8
Reel 34	Northern Region	1958/9
Reel 35	Northern Region Memo on Estimates	1952/3-1953/4
Reel 36	Western Region (including memo on Estimates)	1954/5-1959/60

In addition to central and regional government estimates, local Native Authority administrations were required to submit annual estimates of revenue and expenditure.

Reel 37	Native Authority Estimates Northern Provinces	1931/2-1933/4
Reel 38	Northern Provinces	1934/5-1937/8
Reel 39	Northern Provinces	1938/9-1943/4
Reel 40	Northern Provinces	1944/5-1945/6
Reel 41	Northern Provinces	1948/9-1949/50
Reel 42	Northern Provinces	1950/1-1951/2
Reel 43	Northern Provinces	1952/3-1953/4
Reel 44	Northern Provinces/Northern Region	1954/5-1955/6
Reel 45	Northern Region	1955/6-1956/7
Reel 46	Northern Region	1957/8
Reel 47	Northern Region	1958/9
Reel 48	Northern Region	1959/60
Reel 49	Northern Region	1959/60 cont.

Owing to the shortage of paper, Northern Region Native Authority Estimates for the years 1941/2-1942/3 and 1946/7-1947/8 were not printed.

	Memo on Estimates	1948/9-1959/60
	Native Administrations Financial Statements Northern and Southern Provinces	1929/30-1936/7
Reel 50	Southern Provinces	1931/2-1936/7

Reel 51	Southern Provinces Eastern Provinces	1937/8-1939/40 1940/1-1943/4
Reel 52	Eastern Region	1956/7-1959/60

In 1955 The Eastern Regional Government passed the Local Government Law of 1955 which brought them under the supervision and control of the Regional Minister of Internal Affairs, a measure designed to correct the defects, including the lack of adequate financial supervision, provided in the earlier Local Government Ordinance of 1950.

	Western Provinces	1939/40
Reel 53	Western Region	1950/1
Reel 54	Western Region	1951/2
Reel 55	Western Region	1953/4-1954/5
Reel 56	Western Region	1954/5 cont.-1955/6
Reel 57	Western Region	1956/7
Reel 58	Western Region	1956/7 cont.-1957/8
Reel 59	Western Region	1958/9

The latter Estimates were a product of the enactment by the Western Regional Government of the Local Government Law of 1952, an attempt by the Action Group government of Obafemi Awolowo to bring the British colonial system of Native Authorities under the control of elected government.

Reel 60	Inland Revenue Northern Nigeria, Taxation of the Natives (Col. Misc. No. 40) Lagos Tax Office Eastern Region Western Region	Feb 1907 1937/8-1938/9, 1953-1957/8 1956/7-1959/60 1957/8
	Accounts of quasi-commercial undertakings operated by Government by means of bank current accounts which were opened with grants of working capital	1943-1957 irregular

GROUP III JUDICIAL AND POLICE

The maintenance of "law and order" was regarded by the colonial government of Nigeria to be one of its principal functions. See also Armed Forces in Group IX Miscellaneous.

Reel 61	Police Lagos	1899-1900/1
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The report for 1900/1 includes an appendix "Return of charges for the year 1900, Police Magistrate's Court and Supreme Court".

	Lagos	1904-1905
	Southern Nigeria	1906-1913
	Northern and Southern Provinces	1914-1929

The report for 1923 includes an appendix "Policing of Lagos" SP3/1923.

On 1st April 1930, the Police Forces of the Northern and Southern Provinces were amalgamated to form an integrated Nigerian Police Force.

	Nigeria	1930-1938
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Reel 62	Nigeria	1945-1960
Reel 63	Prisons	
	Lagos	1900-1905
	Southern Nigeria	1906-1913
	Southern Provinces	1914-1937
	Northern Provinces	1914-1937

In 1938 the Prison Services of the Northern and Southern Provinces' were amalgamated to form the Nigerian Prison Department.

Reel 64	Nigeria	1938-1946
	Nigeria (Treatment of Offenders)	1947-1959/60

The report for 1956/7 includes a supplement "Native Authority Prisons – Northern Region".

Reel 65	Judiciary/Law	
	Southern Nigeria	
	Legal Department	1906-1907
	Criminal Statistics, Eastern, Western and Central Provinces	1906
	Police Magistrate's Court	1909-1913
	Nigeria	
	Police Magistrate's Court	1915/16-1937
	Supreme Court	1914-1925/6
	Western Region	
	Ministry of Justice and Local Government	1957/8

GROUP IV NATURAL RESOURCES

Reel 66	Agriculture	
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"...there should be rendered for publication in the Government Gazette, quarterly, to the Colonial Secretary, a brief account of work done, embodying acknowledgements of receipts into and issues from the station. " Memorandum by Governor Moloney, reprinted in Kew Bulletin, June 1888, p.151.

Lagos		
Botanic Gardens		1887-1900

On the directive of the Colonial Office, the Forestry Department assumed responsibility for the Botanical and Agricultural Department in the interest of economy. (Colonial Office to Governor MacGregor, 29 December, 1900, CO 879/65/635/208.)

Agricultural Supplements	1904
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Reel 67	Southern Nigeria	
	Botanic Gardens	1906
	Agricultural Department	1910-1913

For 1907 and 1909, see Forestry and Agricultural Department, under Southern Nigeria, Forestry Department Annual Reports.

In addition to the Agricultural Department, 1911 (SP 38/1912), see also Supplement to Agricultural Department, 1911 (SP 44/1912).

Agricultural Bulletins	1909-1912 irregular
Entomological Work	1909
Cotton Growing in Lagos Territory	1905, 1908/9
Moor Cotton Plantation	1907-1910
Southern Provinces	
Agricultural Department	1914-1921

Northern Provinces		
Agricultural Department		1914-1921

The Agricultural Departments of the Northern and Southern Provinces were merged to form a single Nigerian Agricultural Department in June 1921. At the same time a change was approved whereby much of the detail of the experimental work of the department and other matters of a similar nature were to be published in an Annual Bulletin.

	Nigeria	
	Agricultural Department	1921-1936
Reel 68	Agricultural Department	1937-1951/2
Reel 69	Agricultural Bulletin	1922-1927
Reel 70	Agricultural Bulletin	1928-1935
	Special Bulletin (<i>irregular</i>)	1924-1953

With the development of regional autonomy in the 1950s came a devolution of the technical departments to the regions, with the Central Agricultural Department being reformed in 1954 as an Agricultural Research Department.

Reel 71	Central Agricultural Department	1952/3-1953/4
	Agricultural Research Department	1954/5-1959/60
	Eastern Region	
	Agricultural Department	1952/3-1959/60
	Produce Inspection Service	1954/5-1959/60
Reel 72	Northern Region	
	Agricultural Department	1952/3-1959/60
	Samaru Research Station	1952/3
	Produce Inspection Service	1954/5, 1956/7
Reel 73	Western Region	
	Agricultural Department	1951/2-1958/9
	Cocoa Division	1953/4-1954/5
	Produce Inspection Service	1954/5-1955/6
Reel 74	Forestry	
	Lagos	1900/1-1904

*The first Forestry Officer, Cyril Puntch, was appointed in 1897, however African opposition forced the Government to withdraw the first Forestry Bill. (Governor McCallum to Colonial Office, 2 December, 1897, in C.W. Newbury, *British Policy Toward West Africa*, vol. II, Oxford, 1971, 544-6. See also, F.E.R. Leigh and T.B. Dawodu, *Report on Nigerian Forests*, 28 July 1897, *Ibid.*, 541-2.) The Lagos Forestry Department was not formed until 1900.*

	Southern Nigeria	
	Draft rules and proposal regarding Forest Legislation	1906
	Western Province	
	Report on Forestry	1906
	Forest Administration	1907
	Forestry and Agriculture	1909
	Report by the Conservator of Forests on his tour through Meko and Shaki Districts	1909
	Forestry	1910
	Report by the Conservator of Forests on his visit to Mamu Reserve	1911
	Forestry	1911-1913
	Northern Provinces	1915
	Southern Provinces	1915-1916
	Nigeria	1916-1943

(See *Land and Survey Department under the section on Survey Department, Annual Reports.*) Then, in 1947, the Land Department was reconstituted as a separate body, while during the 1950s separate Land Departments were established under the Eastern and Western Regional governments. For the Northern Region, see *Land and Survey Department under the section on Survey Department.* Finally, during the late 1940s and early 1950s a series of reports on land tenure were published.

Nigeria, Land	1948/9-1956/7
Eastern Region, Land	1956/7
Western Region, Land	1952/3
Reports on Land Tenure	
Benin Province	1948
Kano Province	1949
Niger Province	1949
Plateau Province	1949
Zaria Province	1949
Ondo Province	1952
Ijebu Province	1956

Reel 81	Survey	
	Southern Nigeria	1907-1910/11
	Nigeria	
	Survey	1914-1934
	Land and Survey	1935-1938, 1944/5, 1946/7

Reel 82	Survey	1947/8-1951/2, 1958/9
	Northern Region	1958/9 1952/3-1956/7
	Western Region	1952/3-1954/5

Mineral/Geological Survey

In 1903, (Sir) Wyndham R. Dunstan, Chemist and Director of the Imperial Institute (1903-1924), put forward a scheme for a mineral survey of Northern and Southern Nigeria. (Sir Ralph Moor to Colonial Office, 30 June 1903, CO 879/879/654.) The reports of the Imperial Institute were subsequently published as a series of Command Papers.

Southern Nigeria	
Report on the Results of the Mineral Survey	1906/7-1913

Though various publications relating to the Geological Survey of Nigeria were published from time to time thereafter, it was not until 1930 that the Geological Survey Department was established as a permanent body and commenced producing regular Annual Reports.

Reel 83	Nigeria	
	Geological Survey	1930-1959/60
Reel 84	Geological Survey Bulletin, Nos. 1-9	1921-1926
Reel 85	Geological Survey Bulletin, Nos. 10-18	1926-1948
Reel 86	Geological Survey Bulletin, Nos. 19-27	1949-1957
Reel 87	Geological Survey, Occasional Papers, Nos. 1-9	1925-1951
	Records of the Geological Survey, Nos. 1-6	1954-1959
	Oil Palm Research Station	1946/7

GROUP V SOCIAL SERVICES

Reel 88	Education
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In 1889 the Governor of Lagos sponsored a competitive exhibition of school work, the results of which were

published in the Government Gazette (see Government Publications relating to Nigeria, MAP, 1975), however from the end of the century it became the practice to publish the results as a separate report.

Competitive Exhibition of School Work	
Lagos	1899-1905
Southern Nigeria	1906-1912

By the end of the century the relationship between the colonial government and education bodies was becoming more formalised and their activities subject to official inspection. See also the Special Report by Henry Carr.

Henry Carr: Special Report on the Schools of Southern Nigeria	1900
Report on Schools	
Lagos	1899, 1902
Southern Nigeria (Western Province)	1905/6, 1908
Education Department	
Southern Nigeria	1906-1914
Southern Provinces	1915-1928
Northern Provinces	1913-1928

In 1929 the Education Departments of the Northern and Southern Provinces were amalgamated and the reports for the two separate departments for the year 1929 were issued under a single cover. In the 1950s control over education was regionalised, though the Federal Government continued to publish an overall summary and survey of education in Nigeria. In addition to the Annual Reports of the Department of Education a number of important official statements of education policy which were published as Sessional Papers in the 1940s are included.

Reel 89	Ten Year Educational Plan	1944
	Nigeria	
	Education	1929-1952/3
Reel 90	Education Summary	1955-1957
	Education Triennial Survey	1955-1957
	Education	1958-1960
	Digest of Statistics	1956-1960
	Eastern Region	1956-1960
	Northern Region	1951/2-1954/5

The last Annual Report of the Education Department of the Northern Region was published for 1954/5. For the next two years an Annual Summary was produced, "... in accordance with the recommendations of the Secretary of State for the Colonies...". (Annual Summary, 1955/6).

Annual Summary	1955/6
Western Region	1953/4-1958/9
Annual Abstract of Education Statistics	1953-1960

Reel 91 Medical and Sanitary

The Annual Reports of the Medical and Sanitary Department were often voluminous documents with numerous appendices, including the annual reports of subsidiary divisions such as the Hospital Laboratory Service, the Tsetse Investigation Service, the X-ray Department, the Government Dentist, etc., as well as interesting and unusual medical case histories.

See in addition the Annual Reports of the Chemical Laboratory, Government Analyst, the Medical Research Institute, the Registration of Births and Deaths, the Municipal Board of Health, Lagos, and those relating to Leprosy.

Lagos	1899-1905
Special report on district around Iwo	1905
Southern Nigeria	1905
Southern Nigeria – Eastern, Western and Central Provinces	1906

Reports for the Eastern, Western and Central Provinces were thereafter incorporated as appendices to the Southern Nigeria Medical and Sanitary Reports.

	Southern Nigeria	1908-1913
Reel 92	Northern Nigeria	1907-1913
	Southern Provinces	1914-1918
	Northern Provinces	1914-1918

During the period 1919 to 1921, the Medical and Sanitary Services of the Northern and Southern Provinces, "...to all intents and purposes separate services...", were reorganised to form an integrated department. The initial report covers the periods 1919 to 1921. Thereafter annual reports were issued. In 1930 the service was renamed the Medical and Health Department, subsequently altered to the Medical and Health Service in 1932 and finally abbreviated to the Medical Service in 1935.

During the 1950s Regional Medical Services were established, while the responsibilities of the Central Medical Service were confined to the Federal Territory of Lagos.

Reel 93	Nigeria	1919/21-1927
Reel 94	Nigeria	1928-1935
Reel 95	Nigeria	1936-1953/4
Reel 96	Federal Territory of Lagos	1955-1960
	Eastern Region	1957-1959
	Northern Region	1952/3-1960
Reel 97	Western Region	1952/3-1959

Registration of Births and Deaths

The Lagos Blue Books (see Government Publications relating to Nigeria, MAP, 1975) included entries under "Population Statistics, Marriage, Birth and Deaths", however a General Abstract of Registration subsequently came to be published separately under the General Registration Ordinance No. 9 of 1888. Such information was confined to a very limited section of the population, though official registration of birth and death came to have increasing importance with the growing application of English Common Law, particularly in the field of personal law.

Lagos	1893-1900/1
Southern Nigeria	1906-1907

Chemical Laboratory/Government Analyst

The Chemical Department/Government Analyst served as both a branch of the Medical Service and a police forensic section. While its reports were frequently published as appendices to the Annual Reports of the Medical and Sanitary Department, at others it was published separately.

Lagos	1900/1-1904
Southern Nigeria	1906, 1913
Nigeria	1927-1958/9

Reel 98	Medical Research Institute
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The establishment of the Medical Research Institute was the subject of considerable correspondence, published as Sessional Papers of the Lagos Legislative Council. On 1 April 1930 it was amalgamated with the Clinical Laboratories, the Dietetic Research Station and the Research Laboratory as one branch of the Medical Department, namely the Laboratory Service. Thereafter reports on the service were incorporated in those of the Medical and Health Service. See also Medical and Sanitary Report, Southern Nigeria, 1917 for the report of the Medical Research Institute.

Correspondence re establishment of Medical Research Institute	1907-1910
Southern Nigeria	1909-1911
Nigeria	1912-1929

Leprosy

With the exception of one year, 1906, the report on the Yaba Leper Asylum was included in that of the Medical and Sanitary Department. With the development of regional self-government, the Eastern Region established a special Leprosy Research Unit.

Southern Nigeria: Yaba Leper Asylum	1906
Eastern Region: Leprosy Research Unit, Uzuakoli	1957-1960

Municipal Board of Health, Lagos	1909-1916
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The Board was established as a result of the outbreak of Plague in West Africa in 1908.

Reel 99 Social Welfare

The Social Welfare Departments were a product of the process of decolonisation and government response to growing public pressure.

Nigeria	1947, 1949, 1954/5-1959/60
Eastern Region	
Social Welfare	1956/7-1957/8
Community Development	1956/7-1957/8
Northern Region	
Social Welfare	1953-1959/60
Library Division	1959-1960/1
Western Region	
Social Welfare	1953/4-1957/8
Housing Corporation	1958/9-1959/60
Public Relations/Information Service	

The establishment of the department by the colonial government was a response to increasing opposition to colonialism both within Africa and abroad, its propaganda reflecting the various shifts in official policy.

Nigeria: Public Relations Department	1946-1952/4
Nigeria: Federal Information Service	1954/5-1958/9

Reel 100 Development Boards and Corporations

The Lagos Executive Development Board was created in 1928 for the primary purpose of dealing with the redevelopment of a part of Lagos which, because of the overcrowded and unsanitary conditions, had been the occasion of Bubonic Plague. The reports thus deal with much of the 'slum clearance' in Lagos during the 1930s.

Lagos Executive Development Board	1929-1937/8
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With the end of the Second World War came a new emphasis on public relations and "development". On 14 May 1949 a Colonial Development Board was created under provisions of the Regional Development Ordinance (No. 14 of 1949) to perform the functions previously carried out in the Colony by the Local Development Board.

Report of the Lagos Town Planning Commission	1946
Nigeria Local Development Board	1947-1948
Colony Development Board	1949/50-1955/6
Lagos Executive Development Board	1955/6-1959/60

The reports on the General Progress of Development and Welfare Schemes dealt not only with schemes financed wholly or in part from the Colonial Development and Welfare Grants or loans but with the progress of the whole Development Programme; and the basis of the reports was therefore the Ten Year Plan of

Development and Welfare for Nigeria (SP 24 /1945). The section is prefaced by:

	A Ten Year Plan of Development and Welfare for Nigeria	1945
	A Revised Plan of Development and Welfare for Nigeria	1951
Reel 101	Nigeria	
	General Progress of Development and Welfare Schemes	1945/6-1952/3
	Federal Loans Board	1956/7-1959/60
Reel 102	Eastern Region	
	Development Board	1949/50-1953/4
	Production Development Board	1949/50-1953/4
	Development Corporation	1955/6-1959/60
	Northern Region	
	Development Board	1949/50-1955
	Production Development Board	1950/1-1955
	Development Corporation	1956-1959/60
Reel 103	Western Region	
	Development Board	1949/50-1954/5
	Finance Corporation	1955/6-1959/60
	Production Development Board	1949/50-1958/9
	Development Corporation	1959/60
Reel 104	Labour	

Established as part of the wartime mobilisation of Nigerian manpower and its deployment to the war effort.

	Nigeria	
	Labour	1940-1959/60
Reel 105	Department of Labour Quarterly Review	1947-1960
	Eastern Region	1956/7-1957/8

GROUP VI TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS

Reel 106	Public Works	
	Lagos	
	Engineering Department	1900/1-1904
	Public Works	1905
	Southern Nigeria	
	Public Works	1906-1911

Though a joint report of the Public Works Departments of the Northern and Southern Provinces was published for both 1913 and 1914, the departments were not amalgamated until 1920. Publication of the annual reports was suspended during the Second World War, however a typescript summary of departmental activities is available for the periods 1940-1943 and 1943/44.

	Northern and Southern Provinces	1913-1919
	Nigeria	1920/1-1938
Reel 107	Nigeria	1940-1959/60
Reel 108	Eastern Region	1956/7
	Northern Region	1953/4-1959/60
	Electricity	
	Nigeria	
	Electrical Branch, Public Works Department	1933-1936/7, 1945/6-1946/7

Publication of the Annual Reports of the Electricity Branch was suspended during the Second World War owing

to the paper shortage.

	Electricity Corporation	1951/2-1959/60
Reel 109	Harbour Lagos	1900/1
	Correspondence re Lagos Harbour Works	1907-1912
	Reports on Lagos Harbour Works	1923
	Nigeria	

The Nigerian Harbour Department was formed in 1927, "...evolving out of personnel and organisation of the temporary Harbour Works Department..."

	Harbour	1927-1936
	Port Engineering	1937-1938
	Marine	
	Lagos	
	Government Vessels	1900, 1903
	Marine	1904/5-1905
	Southern Nigeria	1907-1912
	Nigeria	1913-1928
Reel 110	Nigeria	1929-1954/5
Reel 111	Ports Authority	1955/6-1959/60

Inland Waterways

The Department became operational on 1st April 1957, its duties being to: (a) collect, compile and study hydrological data, production of river maps, etc., (b) maintain and improve river channels, ports and approaches, (c) control Inland Water Navigation, light buoyage, wrecks, and Government dockyards, (d) operate and maintain Government craft and ferries, and (e) survey all craft and examinations under the Shipping and Navigation Ordinance. This section is prefaced by:

	Statement of Policy.... for the establishment of an Inland Waterways Department	1956
	Inland Waterways	1957/8-1959/60

Reel 112 Road Transport

A Road Department, headed by a Supervisor of Roads, lasted for six years, from 1906 to 1911, at the end of which time it was absorbed by the Public Works Department, Nigeria.

	Southern Nigeria	
	Road Construction	1906-1907
	Motor Transport Service, Ibadan-Oyo	1906-1911
	Nigeria	

A Director of Transport was appointed on 1st April 1936, "...with the object of co-ordinating the development and directive policy of all forms of transport in Nigeria..."

	Report of Director of Transport	1936/7-1938
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During the 1950s the Statistics Department produced the following annual series:

	Motor Vehicle Statistics	1953-1959
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Reel 113 Railway and Collieries

By far the largest technical department, the Railway Department was rivalled only by the administrative service

in size of personnel, while its annual budget was deemed sufficient to warrant a separate audit from that of the general colonial budget. Its construction was a major undertaking (see, C. W. Newbury, British Policy Toward West Africa, vol. II, Oxford, 1971).

The Udi coal mines were so directly related to the Railway as to be regarded as an integral institution, even when they were administered separately.

	Lagos	
	Government Railway	1906-1911
	Interim Reports	1909-1912
	Nigeria	
	Railway	1912-1916
Reel 114	Railway	1917-1924/5
Reel 115	Railway and Udi Coalmines	1925/6-1931/2
Reel 116	Railway and Udi Coalmines	1932/3
	Government Railway and Colliery	1933/4-1936/7
	Government Railway	1937/8
Reel 117	Government Railway	1938/9-1948/9
Reel 118	Government Railway	1949/50-1955
	Railway Corporation	1955/6
Reel 119	Railway Corporation	1956/7-1959/60
	Colliery Department	1937/8-1950/1
	Coal Corporation	1951/2-1959/60
Reel 120	Aviation	
	Civil Aviation	1948/9-1958/9
	West African Airways Corporation	1946/7-1957/8

GROUP VII COMMUNICATIONS AND POST OFFICE SAVINGS

Reel 121	Telegraphs	
	Lagos	
	Telegraph Department	1904
	Southern Nigeria	
	Telegraph Department	1906-1913
	Telegraph Construction	1905-1907
	Postal Department	
	Lagos	1905
	Southern Nigeria	1906-1911
	Post Office Savings	

"In accordance with the provisions of Ordinance No. XXV of 1907, the Treasury Savings Bank was on the 1st January 1908 transferred to the Postal Department and from that date Savings Bank business which had hitherto been confined to the Lagos Territory only, was transacted at the Post Offices at Lagos, Badagry, Ibadan, Ijebu Ode, Epe, Forcados, Warri, Benin City, Sapele, Onitsha, Calabar, Opobo, Bonny, Brass and Degema." (Report on Lagos Savings Bank for the year ending 31 December 1907. Together with a Memorandum by the Postmaster General on the Transfer of the Treasury Savings Bank to the Postal Department on 1 January 1908.)

	Lagos	1899-1906
	Southern Nigeria	1907-1911
	Nigeria	1914-1915,
		1936/7-1959/60

Reel 122	Posts and Telegraphs and Post Office Savings Bank Southern Nigeria Nigeria	1912-1913 1914-1935
	Posts and Telegraphs Nigeria	1936-1959/60
Reel 123	Printing Southern Nigeria Nigeria Western Region	1907-1912 1917-1939 1957/8-1959/60

GROUP VIII COMMERCE

Reel 124	Customs and Trade Lagos Customs Trade Trade, Western District Southern Nigeria Customs Trade Trade Statistical Abstract Nigeria Trade Statistical Abstract	1899-1904 1905 1903 1909-1913 1906-1910 1911-1913 1914-1915
Reel 125	Trade Statistical Abstract	1916-1920
Reel 126	Customs	1921-1924
Reel 127	Customs	1925-1928
Reel 128	Customs	1929-1930
Reel 129	Trade	1931-1934
Reel 130	Trade	1935-1939
Reel 131	Trade	1940-1947
Reel 132	Trade	1948-1954
Reel 133	Trade Eastern Region Trade	1955-1960 1957/8
Reel 134	Nigeria Customs and Excise	1952/3-1953/4, 1958/9-1959/60
Reel 135	Statistics	

The Department of Statistics was established in 1949 to take over the reporting function of the Customs Department, issuing the Trade Report formerly published by the latter. Its annual report, a brief administrative statement, began with a thirteen page mimeographed leaflet covering the period from 1947 to 1951. It also published a Quarterly Digest of Statistics.

	Nigeria Statistics Department Digest of Statistics	1947-51-1957/8 1951-1956
Reel 136	Digest of Statistics	1957-1960

Reel 137 Government Coastal Agency

"In order to handle the stores imported through Apapa/Lagos by the departments of the Federal and Regional Governments of Nigeria, Native Authorities and certain quasi-government bodies, the Coastal Agency was inaugurated on the 1st October 1954. At that date Government stores became liable to Customs duty and the Coastal Agency undertook the work of preparing Customs entries, the payment of duties where necessary, the clearance of stores from the ports and their transport by road and railway to destination, the making of claims for damage and short landing, the clearance of air freight from Lagos airport, the outward shipment of goods sent abroad for repair or other purposes, the intermediate despatch of stores between the parts of Nigeria...." (Report of Government Coastal Agency, 1954-1956).

Nigeria 1954-56-1959/60

Reel 138 Co-operative Societies

The section is prefaced by:

Report on the Introduction of Co-operative Societies into Nigeria	1934
Nigeria	
Progress of Co-operation	1935/7-1946/7
Registrar of Co-operative Societies	1947/8-1959/60
Eastern Region	
Co-operative Department	1951/3-1956/7
Northern Region	
Co-operative Department	1951/2-1957/8
Western Region	
Co-operative Department	1951/2-1954-7

Reel 139 Marketing Boards

"During the war, the West African Produce Control Board in the United Kingdom became the responsible authority for the purchase and shipment of the main Nigerian export crops. The war-time arrangement lapsed when the Nigerian Produce Marketing Boards were established (the Cocoa Marketing Board in 1947, the Groundnut, Oil Palm Produce and Cotton Marketing Board in 1949). These new Nigerian authorities took over the assets of the West African Produce Control Board and, under their respective Ordinances, assumed exclusive responsibility for the marketing of the major Nigerian export crops. It was recognised that the operation of the marketing scheme of the four Boards would constitute a heavy responsibility and it early became evident that a special permanent organisation would be necessary to carry out the day to day work of the Boards. The Government of the day reached the conclusion that the best arrangement would be to create a new department especially concerned with marketing and exports to implement the policy of the Boards, to deal with marketing problems and to be a repository of information and expert advice on Nigerian export produce. " (Nigeria, House of Representatives, Statement on the Activities of the Department of Marketing and Export, SP 6/1953.) Section prefaced by same:

Statement on the Activities of the Department of Marketing and Export	1953
Nigeria	
Marketing and Export	1948/9-1958/9
Cocoa Marketing Board	1947/8-1953/4
Cotton Marketing Board	1949/50-1953/4

Reel 140	Groundnut Marketing Board	1949/50-1953/4
	Oil Palm Produce	
	Marketing Board	1949-1954
	Central Marketing Board	1955-1958

The Central Marketing Board was established in 1955, taking over the functions of the Cotton Marketing Board, the Oil Palm Produce Marketing Board and the Cocoa Marketing Board.

Reel 141	Eastern Regional Marketing Board	1954/5-1960
	Northern Regional Marketing Board	1954/5-1959/60

Reel 142	Western Regional Marketing Board	1954/5-1959/60
Reel 143	Commerce and Industries Nigeria Report of the Registrar of Companies	1932-1936

"The decision to set up a Department of Commerce and Industries was announced/or the Ten Year Plan of Development and Welfare in Nigeria, 1946 (SP 24/ 1945). The Department was to have two major sections, one for development and improvement of products for export and the other connected with domestic trade and the development of local industries. For some two and a half years following its inception in 1946 the Department continued to carry out responsibilities for export produce but toward the end of 1948 the section dealing with that side of the activities was transferred to form the nucleus of the new Department of Marketing and Export. At about the same time the Department of Commerce and Industries took over the work of the Supply Branch of the Nigerian Secretariat". (Nigeria, House of Representatives, Statement on the Activities of the Department of Commerce and Industries (SP 7/ 1953).

The initial report, dated 1946/7, only covers 1946, while the second covers the period 1 January 1947 to 31 March 1948. Moreover the report for 1949/50 is mistitled the 5th Annual Report and erroneously refers to the previous report as the Fourth Annual Report, whereas the report for 1947/1948 is the Third Annual Report and is so labelled.

	Statement on the Activities of the Department of Commerce and Industries	1953
	Commerce and Industries	1946/7-1959/60
	Handbook of Commerce and Industry	1952-1959 irregular
Reel 144	Eastern Region Ministry of Commerce Heavy Industries Secondary Industries	1958/9-1959/60 1957/8 1957/8
	Western Region Industries Department	1954/5-1955/6

Reel 145 Mines

The energies of the Mines Department were focused almost exclusively on the expatriate controlled tin mines of the Jos Plateau in Northern Nigeria. For information relating to the Udi coal mines, see under Railway in Group VI, Transport and Public Works.

Northern Provinces	1914-1919
Nigeria	1920-1958/9

GROUP IX MISCELLANEOUS

Reel 146	Armed Forces Lagos Hausa Force	1900/1
	Southern Nigeria Regiment	1906-1907
	Volunteer Force	1906-1907

The Southern Nigeria Volunteer Force composed of "educated Africans" was abolished by the Governor-General, Sir Frederick Lugard, in 1913. (Lugard to Colonial Office, 31 December 1913, CO 583 6/44563.)

Nigeria	
Regiment	1917
Naval Force	1957/8

Reel 147	Antiquities Service	1946-1958-62
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The Antiquities Service was established in 1946 as a separate section of Government under the auspices of the Education Department.

	Nigerian Record Office National Archives	1954/5 1957/8-1959/60
Reel 148	Report on the Blue Book	1914-1919
Reel 149	Nigerian Broadcasting Corporation	1956, 1958/9
Reel 150	Meteorological Observations	1924, 1947-1959/60
Reel 151	Public Officers' Guarantee Fund Southern Nigeria Northern Provinces Nigeria	1905/6-1912 1914-1915 1913-1936/7
Reel 152	Staff Lists Southern Nigeria	1905, 1907, 1909
Reel 153	Southern Nigeria	1910-1913
Reel 154	Nigeria	1914-1919, 1921-1926
Reel 155	Nigeria	1927-1930
Reel 156	Nigeria, Nos. 1-9	1931-1935
Reel 157	Nigeria, Nos. 10-25	1936-1947
Reel 158	Nigeria, Nos. 26-32	1948-1953
Reel 159	Nigeria, Nos. 33-34 Federation of Nigeria, Nos. 2-4	1953-1954 1956-1957
Reel 160	Federation of Nigeria, Nos. 5-8	1958-1960
Reel 161	Eastern Region	1955-1960
Reel 162	Northern Region Western Region	1955-1960 1956-1960

GROUP X BRITISH CAMEROONS

After the Anglo-French conquest of the German Kamerun during the First World War, the territory was re-partitioned by the colonial conquerors with the bulk of the former German colony going to France. The British sector consisted of two strips along the eastern Nigerian border, the northern section being administered more or less as part of the Northern Provinces of Nigeria, while the Southern Cameroons was governed as a quasi-autonomous Province attached to the Southern, subsequently the Eastern, Provinces of Nigeria.

The wartime re-partition of the Cameroons (Kamerun) was confirmed by the Paris Peace Treaties, though the conquered territories were declared 'Mandates' of the League of Nations (after the Second World War, the United Nations). This had little practical effect in terms of day-to-day administration, the supposed supervisory body being generally preoccupied with more pressing problems elsewhere. If anything, the Mandate's quasi-autonomous status combined with its peripheral geographical location tended to relegate it to a position of benign neglect until the mid-1950s when, as a part of the constitutional changes resulting in the devolution of power and decision-making to the regions, the Southern Cameroons acquired a measure of local self-government and the British belatedly began to promote a policy of 'development'. Under the provision of its mandate, H.M. Government was required to present an annual report for the League of Nations (later the United Nations). Informal and content the Annual Report for the Cameroons resembled the Governor's Annual Report for Nigeria and was presented under the signature of the Governor of Nigeria.

Reel 163	Reports on the British Sphere of the Cameroons	1920/1-1932
Reel 164	Reports on the British Sphere of the Cameroons	1933-1938

Reel 165	Reports on the British Sphere of the Cameroons	1947-1949
Reel 166	Reports on the British Sphere of the Cameroons	1950-1953
Reel 167	Reports on the British Sphere of the Cameroons	1954-1957
Reel 168	Reports on the British Sphere of the Cameroons Annual Report on Cameroon Province	1958-1959 1923
Reel 169	Report of Chief Accountant with Financial Statements Report of Accountant-General Report of the Principal Auditor on the Accounts Estimates	1955-1955/6 1956/7-1959/60 1954/5-1959/60 1955/6-1959/60
Reel 170	Agriculture Policy for Veterinary Services, SP1/1956	1954/5-1959 1956
Reel 171	Cameroons Development Corporation	1947-1960
Reel 172	Co-operative Department Marketing Board	1954-6-1958/9 1955-1960/61
Reel 173	Southern Cameroons Gazette	Oct 1954-Dec 1957
Reel 174	Southern Cameroons Gazette	Dec 1957-June 1960
Reel 175	Southern Cameroons Gazette	July 1960-Sept 1961