

Geneva, August 25th, 1930.

LEAGUE OF NATIONS

G R E E C E

**TWENTY-SEVENTH QUARTERLY REPORT
OF THE REFUGEE SETTLEMENT COMMISSION**

1.

Athens, August 21st, 1930.

The twenty-six quarterly reports which we have published regularly since February 1924 have duly recorded all the facts of any importance which have marked the course of the Refugee Settlement Commission's activity; they have supplied statistics and information on the nature of its operations. A work published by the League of Nations in 1926, entitled *The Establishment of the Refugees in Greece*, set forth methodically and subject by subject all that the previous reports had given in instalments. It also contained details and considerations for which there was no room in those reports, and thus gave a complete picture of what the establishment of the refugees had been up to that date.

The present quarterly report does not duplicate the contents of the preceding ones, nor of the League of Nations' work. It is neither a recapitulation nor a summary. On many special subjects it will rather have the character of a conclusion, and will supply some supplementary elements of appreciation to those who have followed the Refugee Settlement Commission during the seven years of its existence, and would like to form an opinion of its work and know how far it has been able to fulfil the purpose which it set before it.

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Here we wish to reproduce the introduction to the first of our quarterly reports, that of February 1924:

"The Refugee Settlement Commission is charged with the settlement in Greece of the refugees upon lands assigned to it, or otherwise in productive work. Its work concerns the settlement of a number approximating to one million souls—Greek and Armenians who have fled or been evacuated from the territories of the Ottoman Empire. The larger part of these refugees began to arrive in Greece about eighteen months ago; but the influx, although greatly diminished, is continuing to a certain extent. It is estimated that there are still about 150,000 Greeks to come, chiefly from the shores of the Black Sea (Pontos) and Cilicia.

"The Commission has been promised by the Greek Government an area of land of not less than 500,000 hectares, of a suitable character for the settlement of the refugees. This land was to be given free of charge and unencumbered, and will serve two purposes: (1) as land for the refugees to settle upon and to cultivate for the purpose of becoming self-supporting citizens of Greece, and (2) as a guarantee of the loan which the Commission is administering.

"The task of the Commission is therefore twofold. On the one hand, it has to utilise the funds at its disposal in the most efficient manner possible for the settlement of the refugees in productive work; and, secondly, it has to ensure that the guarantees provided for in the Protocol are made over to it, in compliance with the conditions there stated; and that the expenditure incurred is so arranged that eventual repayment of the loan can be secured.

"The Commission assembled at Salonica on November 11th, 1923, and took the opportunity, while at the headquarters of the settlement work in Macedonia, to inspect the organisation in being and the work done by the Greek Government in that province. Macedonia is the district in which the great bulk of the refugees will be settled, because it is potentially one of the most fertile districts in Greece. It contains large areas of uncultivated but cultivable lands, and has a large number of Turkish inhabitants who,



under the terms of the Convention for the Exchange of Populations (Lausanne Treaty), are being removed to Turkey. Their departure leaves a large area of arable land and the houses thereon available for the settlement of the incoming refugees. The Commission examined the existing machinery by which the Greek Government had dealt with the settlement of the refugees upon these evacuated lands and such other lands which for various reasons can be occupied by refugees. They also inspected a number of settlements where refugees have already been installed, investigated the distribution of building materials, seed grain, agricultural implements, etc., and visited various charitable institutions organised for the assistance of the refugees. They traversed portions of the Vardar region and obtained a general idea of the conditions prevailing; inspected the completed houses and those in course of construction in different villages, and saw the refugee camps where the new arrivals are sheltered. The Commission took the opportunity of consulting the officials charged with this work, and also interviewed a number of the leading inhabitants who, for philanthropic or business reasons, were interested in the question.

"From Salonica, the Commission proceeded to Athens, where it came in contact with the Ministers and Ministries concerned with the settlement question. The Commission was at once approached by a number of Greeks with various schemes for dealing with the problem, either as a whole or in part, and many of the suggestions made were found helpful and practical.

"The Greek Government promulgated on December 17th, 1923, a Legislative Decree assuring the Commission the necessary powers, in conformity with Article I of the Protocol.

"In order to prevent the deterioration of the partially constructed houses and to save the approaching sowing season and to utilise the materials already ordered for the work of new buildings, the Commission promptly determined to arrange to continue all works then being carried on by the Government and to assume an eventual liability for the materials ordered under the existing contracts.

"It was obviously unnecessary to make an entirely fresh start; and, indeed, from what it had already seen, the Commission was of the opinion that the greater part of the machinery in being could be usefully taken over and could continue to function under the ægis of the Commission. It is impressed by the successful work already accomplished by the Government, through this agency, for the establishment of the refugees; and it desires to emphasise the opinion that the Greek Government and the Greek people have grappled with this colossal problem in a manner worthy of the highest praise. The Commission therefore arranged to assume the responsibility in respect of the payment for materials (timber and other building materials, seed, wheat, ploughs, etc.) which had been ordered by the Greek Government, but which had not yet arrived or been paid for, subject to the condition that only so much of these materials as could be utilised on lands or property which would later be made over to it, with a clean title, would be paid for by the Commission. These conditions were accepted by the Greek Government and by the National Bank of Greece, which latter guaranteed to advance the sum required for this purpose—namely, £160,000—and to recover later such portion of this expenditure as might be approved by the Commission. This enabled the continuity of the work in hand to be kept up, and at the same time safeguarded the Commission from undertaking any liability in respect of expenditure on lands which will not become the property of the Commission, or any other liability not specifically covered by the terms of the Protocol."

What strikes one in re-reading the above is that the Commission has never departed from the broad lines of the programme sketched therein, subject only to minor modifications as circumstances required. The Members of the Council who met at Salonica took an accurate view of what had to be done, and to say this is no faint praise. The agitation created in the country by the arrival of the refugees, and the resulting confusion of ideas and opinions, might have affected the independence of judgment of the Council; the novelty and complexity of the problem might have given rise to doubts and hesitations in its mind, and disposed it rather to adopt half-measures, on which it would have been easier to go back, than to decide on a general and complete solution, committing the Commission to a course which it could not have abandoned without re-opening the whole question of establishment.

* * *

If, however, the merit of having chosen this course belongs to the Council of the Refugee Settlement Commission, that of having pointed it out and prepared for it belongs to the Hellenic Government. The extract which we have just reproduced shows that the idea and the word colonisation, and the first steps towards its realisation, precede the creation of the Commission. They are due to the Government services which had decided on the possibility of uniting the two problems which then preoccupied Greece—namely, the future of the refugees and the development of the territories annexed since 1912.

Here it is of interest to recall the total sum of the expenses of all kinds which have burdened the finances of Greece on account of the establishment of the refugees:

1. From 1922 to the end of 1930, the housing, maintenance, public health, movements of population and transport, orphanages, colonisation by the State, Service of Exchange of Populations, etc., will have cost about three milliards of drachmas—that is, taking into account

the fluctuations of exchange, about ten million pounds sterling. These sums have figured in the budgets and have been covered by the ordinary receipts.

2. On the other hand, the annual charges for the foreign and internal loans appropriated for the establishment of the refugees amount :

For the service (in gold) of the foreign debt to about	£ 1,144,000
For the service (in drachmas) of the internal debt (compensation bonds) to about	1,744,000
	£2,888,000 ¹

* * *

In a country where all classes of the population are strongly affected by questions of general interest, so burning a question as that of the establishment of the refugees could not fail to supply matter for ample discussions. The Refugee Settlement Commission has often been commended, and the Press, native as well as refugee, has generally followed our work with sympathy. It has shown that it realised the difficulties we had to encounter and that it appreciated the results which have been obtained by degrees. Criticisms have been advanced with moderation, when they were inspired by good faith and arose from differences of opinion with regard to facts. There were others of which this cannot be said.

2.

ORGANISATION OF SERVICES OF THE REFUGEE SETTLEMENT COMMISSION.

The Protocol of Geneva regarding the creation of the Autonomous Office for the establishment of refugees in Greece was ratified by the Legislative Decree of October 13th, 1923. A second Legislative Decree made regulations for the manner in which the Office was to perform its functions.

The transfer to the Refugee Settlement Commission of the powers relating to the establishment of refugees which had until then been exercised by certain services of the Ministries of Agriculture, Public Assistance and Public Health, and by the competent councils attached to those departments, was decided in conformity with those decrees.

In order to simplify and facilitate the work, these services were detached from their Ministries and placed under the jurisdiction of the Commission, while retaining their functions. The services thus handed over were the following.

By the Ministry of Agriculture:

1. The Section of Colonisation;
2. The Directorate-General of Colonisation of Macedonia;
3. The Directorate of Colonisation of Thrace;
4. The Colonisation Bureaux of Epirus, Attica and Bœotia, Etolia and Acarnania and Crete.

By the Ministries of Public Assistance and Public Health:

1. The Housing Section;
2. The Technical Section of the *Caisse d'Assistance*.

At the moment of the transfer of these services to the Refugee Settlement Commission (in January 1924), their staffs numbered 748 employees.

At the same time, the National Bank of Greece detached and handed over to the Refugee Settlement Commission a certain number of employees who organised the financial services of the Office.

* * *

As stated in the preceding paragraph, the Refugee Settlement Commission has not sought to alter the distribution of the work as it had been established between these different services. But, as the need first was felt, it has: (1) increased the original staffs, (2) created fresh services, and (3) encouraged decentralisation as far as possible. The organisation of the Refugee Settlement Commission services early took its final shape. They were grouped under five independent Directorates, namely:

Three Directorates of Colonisation:

1. The Directorate-General of Colonisation of Macedonia;
2. The Directorate of Colonisation of Thrace (which, as has been seen, already existed and formed part of the services transferred by the Ministry of Agriculture);
3. The Directorate of Colonisation of Old Greece, Epirus and the Islands. (The nucleus of this Directorate was formed by the Colonisation Bureaux of Attica and Bœotia, Etolia and Acarnania, Epirus and Crete.)

The Directorate of Urban Establishment (under which were originally re-grouped all the services transferred by the Ministry of Public Assistance and Public Health).

Finally, the Directorate of Finance.

¹ According to figures supplied by the Accounts Department of the State and quoted by M. Venizelos in his speech in the Chamber of June 26th, 1930.

I. CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION.

The three last of these five Directorates were established at the headquarters at Athens, where also several sections of the administrative machine were at work directly under the Council—namely: (1) the Inspectorate-General; (2) the Secretariat of the Council; (3) the Personnel Section; (4) the Registry and Despatch Section; (5) the Supply Section; (6) the Office of the Legal Adviser; (7) the Arts and Crafts Office.

The Directorate-General of Colonisation of Macedonia and the Directorate of Colonisation of Thrace had their headquarters respectively at Salonica and Comotini.

We shall not enumerate all the sections and offices among which the work was distributed at the headquarters of the Directorates. The principal divisions under which the staff was classed were the following: (1) Administration; (2) Agriculture; (3) Civil Engineering; (4) Cadastral Survey; (5) Public Health; (6) Accounts.

II. LOCAL ADMINISTRATION.

1. Colonisation.

The jurisdiction of each Directorate of Colonisation was subdivided into districts, each of which was placed under a colonisation bureau. At the head of these bureaux an agronome was always placed, having under his orders administrative agents, accountants and specialists. The strength varied with the number of colonies placed under the jurisdiction of the bureau and the agricultural activity of the district. The following is the list of the colonisation bureaux:

I. <i>Macedonia</i> :	1. Salonica	9. Yanizza
	2. Langada	10. Axioupolis
	3. Pieria	11. Chalcidice
	4. Kilgis	12. Sintique
	5. Florina	13. Serres
	6. Castoria	14. Edessa
	7. Eordaca	15. Cozani
	8. Verria	

(Cozani, the centre of colonisation for Western Macedonia, had also under its jurisdiction an office of technical inspection and the topographical service of Western Macedonia.)

II. <i>Thrace</i> :	1. Comotini	5. Xanthi
	2. Alexandroupolis	6. Drama
	3. Orestias	7. Cavalla
	4. Didymoteichon	

III. *Old Greece, Epirus and the Islands*:

Inspection of colonisation in Crete, including the four colonisation bureaux of Heracleion, Canea, Rethymno and Lassithi.
Colonisation bureaux:

1. Attica-Bœotia	8. Volo
2. Eubœa	9. Larissa
3. Etolia-Acarmania	10. Lemnos
4. Preveza	11. Carditza
5. Jannina	12. Lamia
6. Achaïa-Elis	13. Paramythia
7. Argos	14. Mytilene

2. Urban Establishment.

The urban quarters were and are still being built under the direction of an engineer provided with the necessary assistants. When building is completed and the refugee families have been settled in the houses, a superintendent is placed in charge of the administration of the quarter. In the large quarters of Athens, Piræus, etc., this superintendent has under his orders a certain number of employees for police duties in the buildings, for public utility services, and for the collection of debts. (For the number of urban quarters, see below, Chapter 4.)

* * *

The relative importance of the staff of each Directorate has been almost invariably as follows:

	Per cent
Headquarters at Athens	10
Colonisation:	
Directorate-General of	
Macedonia	50
Directorate of Thrace	20
Directorate of Old Greece.	10
	80
Urban Establishment	10

Movement of Staff.

	Employees
End of 1924	784
Years 1925 (end of)	1,822
1926	1,829
1927	1,755
1928	2,042
1929 (first quarter)	2,003
1930 (beginning of)	1,416

From the second quarter of 1929, the strength diminished rapidly. Whole services were transferred to the State and many dismissals took place among the remaining staff.

Strength of Staff at the End of the First Quarter of 1929.

Classes of employees	Directorate- Head- quarters ¹	Directorate General of Macedonia	Directorate of Thrace	Urban of Old Greece	Establish- ment	Total
Administration	86	211	95	38	32	462
Accounts	59	196	67	38	20	380
Technical services	23	95	35	23	82	258
Agronomes	5	130	55	54	—	244
Public health	1	112	18	2	—	133
Veterinary	—	17	1	8	—	26
Chauffeurs	1	4	2	1	4	12
Well-sinkers	—	22	4	16	—	42
Collectors	—	—	—	2	13	15
Legal advisers	1	2	3	—	—	6
Office-keepers	27	65	30	16	20	158
Topographers	22	112	84	—	—	218
Road-menders	—	—	4	—	—	4
Store-keepers	—	28	—	—	—	28
Telephonists	1	1	—	—	—	2
Tobacco cultivators	—	15	—	—	—	15
	226	1,010	398	198	171	2,003

3.

BALANCE-SHEET OF THE COLONISATION (END OF 1929).

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL OF MACEDONIA.

Credits placed at the disposal of the Director-General of Colonisation in Macedonia for colonisation purposes and their employment from January 1st, 1924, to December 31st, 1929:

<i>Cattle:</i>	In drachmas	
Ploughing animals (oxen, buffaloes and horses)	365,607,399	
Pack animals (mules and donkeys)	5,813,503	
Breeding-stock (large and small)	63,714,282	
		435,135,184
<i>Houses:</i>		
New buildings	498,360,339	
Reconstructions	126,614,277	
Repairs	3,000,587	
		627,975,203
<i>Agricultural implements:</i>		
Ploughs, threshing-machines, carts, etc.		86,148,413
<i>Advances to cultivators:</i>		
Loans for maintenance	238,495,876	
Seed	124,450,339	
Forage	69,398,174	
		432,344,389
<i>Advances to artisans</i>		99,293,161
		1,680,896,350
<i>Carried forward</i>		

¹ Including Directorate of Colonisation of Old Greece, Financial Services, Sections of Supply, Personnel, Registry of Archives and Directorate of Urban Establishment.

	In drachmas
<i>Brought forward</i>	1,680,896,350
<i>Cadastral survey:</i>	
Topographical work	37,230,646
Distribution	800,000
Valuation of lands and houses	4,916,539
	42,947,185
<i>Works of general utility:</i>	
1. Communications (roads, landing-stages, etc.)	4,499,622
2. Lands:	
Irrigation	11,141,902
Embankments.	2,671,138
Water supply	73,740,458
3. Industry: Carpet factories	2,366,043
4. Agriculture:	
Stud farms	9,031,852
Agricultural improvements	17,106,613
Motoculture	25,404,916
Agricultural research	846,450
Manures	2,682,670
Agricultural machinery	3,172,232
5. Schools	710,500
	153,374,396
<i>Public health</i>	1,877,217,931
<i>Cost of administration:</i>	
Salaries	184,756,217
Travelling expenses	42,788,658
Office expenses, printing and sundries (lighting, heating, rent)	42,752,121
	270,296,996
<i>Transport</i>	147,845,882
<i>Maintenance of cattle</i>	5,712,990
<i>Sundries</i>	67,287,472
	2,405,098,463

These credits have all been appropriated as intended.

On January 1st, 1930, there remained an unappropriated sum of 53,217,566 drachmas.

DIRECTORATE OF THRACE.

Credits placed at the disposal of the Director of Colonisation in Thrace for colonisation purposes and their employment from January 1st, 1924, to December 31st, 1929.

Balance-Sheet for Thrace up to December 31st, 1929.

<i>Cattle:</i>	In drachmas
Ploughing animals	19,874,967
Pack animals	11,613,233
Breeding-stock	37,973,064
	69,461,264
<i>Houses</i>	91,488,231
<i>Agricultural implements</i>	18,414,118
<i>Advances to cultivators:</i>	
Loans for maintenance	13,711,234
Seed	10,809,263
Forage	4,071,357
	28,591,854
<i>Advances to artisans</i>	1,577,455
<i>Cadastral survey</i>	11,702,778
	221,235,700
	<i>Carried forward</i>

Works of general utility:

Brought forward

	In Drachmas	
	221,235,700	
1. Communications	37,592,974	
2. Lands: Irrigation	470,000	
Water supply	16,038,096	
3. Industry: Carpets	122,737	
Textile industries	150,000	
4. Agriculture:		
Stud farms	3,510,139	
Agricultural improvements	3,627,729	
Motoculture	40,925	
Agricultural research	22,117	
Manure	380,091	
Machinery	3,459,082	
Vineyard cultivation	6,028,984	
Arboriculture	896,351	
Sericulture	240,627	
Beekeeping	1,414,026	
Victims of floods	5,882,130	
Meteorological stations	6,600	
<i>Schools</i>		79,882,608
		21,500
<i>Public Health</i>	2,772,695	
<i>Quinine</i>	1,534,271	
		4,306,966
<i>Cost of Administration:</i>		
Salaries	32,213,699	
Travelling expenses	5,056,205	
Office expenses, etc.	4,811,630	
		42,081,534
<i>Transport</i>		16,148,251
<i>Sundries</i>		21,428,510
Total		385,105,069

On January 1st, 1930, there remained an unappropriated sum of 3,468,524 drachmas.

DIRECTORATE OF OLD GREECE, EPIRUS AND THE ISLANDS.

Credits which have been placed at the disposal of this Directorate for colonisation and their employment (from January 1st, 1924, to December 31st, 1929):

Cattle:

In drachmas

Ploughing and pack animals, breeding-stock	54,547,826
Houses	269,971,114
Agricultural implements	17,602,021
Advances to cultivators	56,811,935
Advances to artisans	11,223,550
Cadastral survey.	2,928,779
Works of general utility	31,862,153
Public health	893,035
Administrative expenses	39,844,921
Transport	1,547,826
Sundries	15,665,758
Total	502,898,918

Of this total, the sum of 28,273,921 drachmas remained unappropriated on January 1st, 1930.

Observations on the Above Tables.

COLONISATION.

The essential feature of the colonisation of Greece by the refugees has been the substitution of intensive cultivation for extensive cultivation. Almost everywhere else, the immigrants arriving in a country to be colonised have been able to cultivate on a large scale, and thus to make up by the extent of the land at their disposal for their lack of experience and of capital. In Greece, the contrary has been the case. Two essential facts, the small size of the holding and

the poverty of the colonists, have made labour the principal element of production. There was no alternative. Intensive cultivation imposed itself, and, in order to organise it, it has been necessary to re-educate the refugees, amongst whom the professional agriculturists themselves were ill-prepared for this system of exploitation. The cultivator had to be converted into a specialist, either by adapting the faculties he possessed to his surroundings or by developing faculties in him to suit those surroundings.

1. *The Size of the Holdings.*

This, of course, varies considerably with the fertility of the land, the quality and value of the produce, and the number of families in a given district.

As a general rule, the holding, if well cultivated, can maintain a family.

In Thrace, its area is from 20 to 60 stremmas.¹

In the valley of the Maritza, where the land is fertile, it does not exceed 15 stremmas.

In Macedonia, in the tobacco districts, it runs from 9 to 20 stremmas.

In all the rest of Macedonia, the holding is of 20 to 60 stremmas of cultivable land, not including pastures.

In Old Greece, it varies from 10 stremmas (at Néa Kios, near Argos, in the Peloponnesus—market gardens and orchards) to 80 and 120 stremmas (in Thessaly—cereals). The average is 30 stremmas.

Finally, in Crete, where subdivision has been carried to its limit, a holding is subdivided generally as follows: 11 to 15 stremmas of fields (exceptionally 30 stremmas near Candia, where old pastures have been converted into arable land); 40 to 140 olive trees, $\frac{1}{2}$ to $1\frac{1}{2}$ stremmas of vegetable garden and $\frac{1}{2}$ to $1\frac{1}{2}$ stremmas of vineyard (for the most part, Sultana grape).

2. *Methods of Cultivation.*

The generalisation of intensive cultivation has had the following results:

1. The abolition of fallow lands.
2. The introduction of the cultivation of leguminous and forage plants.
3. The introduction of early cereal crops giving large returns.²

Then comes the impulsion given:

4. To arboriculture, to which the soil of Greece is favourable. The Refugee Settlement Commission has done a great deal to develop this branch of agricultural production. Nursery gardens have been multiplied and demonstration plots have introduced new varieties.

5. To vine cultivation. Table I, given below, shows that the diminution in vine cultivation in the old provinces has been made up by the increase of vineyards in the colonised provinces.

In Macedonia, the vine had always prospered; it had disappeared owing to the phylloxera, and, in spite of the efforts of the Government to restore the vineyards with American vine-stocks, the peasants had proved distrustful. The Refugee Settlement Commission founded colonies expressly for vine cultivation in the districts of Salonica, Kilikis, Verria and Yanizza.

We have frequently drawn attention to the success of the cultivation of the sultana grape in Old Greece; 7,000 stremmas (of which 6,000 in Crete) are in full bearing.

The refugees have proved excellent vine-growers. They have introduced improved methods of pruning and manipulation. Their example has been followed by the natives.

6. To the cultivation of tobacco. As in the cultivation of the vine, the refugees have shown special skill in that of tobacco. For the results, we refer you again to Table I.³

7. To the cultivation of the olive. It is curious that, on their arrival, the refugees had very little knowledge of this cultivation. In Old Greece, where nearly 500,000 olive trees were distributed to them, their ignorance induced them to uproot them and replace them by vines or tobacco. It was found necessary to form squads to teach them how to prune and care for the trees, and the Refugee Settlement Commission went so far as to pay them for following this course of instruction. This propaganda has been carried on in 1930 by the Ministry of Agriculture, to which these services have been attached since the beginning of the year.

3. *Live-stock.*⁴

We do not possess an accurate census of the animals distributed by the Refugee Settlement Commission. They are only recorded in the refugee's personal account book. The breaking-up of uncultivated land and the agricultural development of all the available areas have reduced the nomad stock-breeding by one-half. This reduction is made up by the progress of domestic stock-breeding. The great difficulty in this department was due to the fact that a very large number of families to whom animals had to be entrusted lacked the experience necessary for their management. In spite of this, it will be seen in one of the accompanying tables how encouraging the results have been.

¹ A stremma = 0.247 acre.

² See reports on Canberra wheat of August and November 1929.

³ See Report No. 19, August 1928.

⁴ For the special care given to the breeding of live-stock, the introduction of improved breeds, the increase in the head of cattle, the creation of stud forms and breeding stations see Reports Nos. 19 and 24 (August 1928 and November 1929).

4. Results.

The simplest way of setting forth the results obtained by these methods would have been to show in a general table the agricultural work accomplished by the refugees up to date.

This would have been easy if motives of economy had not obliged us to close our Statistical Office, which only continued to operate until July 1929. Its bulletins frequently figured in our previous quarterly reports.

It is possible, up to a certain point, to make up for the want of a general statistical table of the work of the refugees by Government statistical tables and by the information furnished by our services on special subjects. We only give the three following tables.

The following figures are supplied by the *Annual Agricultural Statistics of Greece for 1928* (published by the Ministry of National Economy, Statistical Directorate).

From 1923 to 1928, the cultivated area of the whole territory has gradually and continuously increased from 12,690,281 to 15,901,488 stremmas, an increase of 3,211,207 stremmas, or 25 per cent of the area cultivated in 1923.

Macedonia and Thrace account for 2,319,002 and 634,221—in all, 2,953,223 stremmas, against 257,984 stremmas in all the rest of Greece.

The increase is chiefly due to the cultivation of cereals.

Cultivation of wheat:

	All Greece Stremmas	Macedonia Stremmas	Thrace Stremmas
1928	5,380,403	1,323,102	320,495
1923	4,300,145	635,106	142,942
Increase . . .	1,080,258	687,996	177,553
		865,549	

Cultivation of barley:

	All Greece Stremmas	Macedonia Stremmas	Thrace Stremmas
1928	2,019,436	727,457	232,774
1923	1,468,376	286,023	84,019
Increase . . .	551,060	441,434	148,755
		590,189	

Cultivation of maize:

	All Greece Stremmas	Macedonia Stremmas	Thrace Stremmas
1928	1,834,198	568,852	223,578
1923	1,542,000	340,524	147,705
Increase . . .	292,198	228,328	75,873
		304,201	

Cultivation of rye:

	All Greece Stremmas	Macedonia Stremmas	Thrace Stremmas
1928	552,647	366,099	105,169
1923	225,422	139,977	17,232
Increase . . .	327,225	226,122	87,937
		314,059	

Wine grapes. — The cultivated area has decreased without sudden fluctuations from 1,272,126 stremmas in 1923 to 1,215,871.

The fact is that, omitting the Peloponnesus, which remains stationary, and Thrace, where the production is insignificant, the wine-producing provinces of Old Greece are reducing their vineyards.

The area has decreased:

	Stremmas
In the Ægean Islands by	17,659
In the Ionian Islands by	41,686
In the Cyclades Islands by	18,179
In Continental Greece and Eubœa	139,052
	216,576

On the other hand, it has increased:

	Stremmas
In Macedonia by	54,642
In Epirus by	16,306
In Thessaly by	43,633
In Crete by	50,742
	165,323

Cultivation of Tobacco:

	All Greece Stremmas	Macedonia Stremmas	Thrace Stremmas
1928	930,765	471,863	120,089
1923	615,636	184,418	64,296
Increase . . .	315,129	287,445	55,793
		343,238	

Cattle and implements procured by the refugees of Macedonia at their own expense at the time of the last census, end of December 1928 (the districts of Drama and Cavalla are not included):

Large animals:

Horned cattle	114,242
Horses	10,110
Mules	780
Donkeys	24,813

making about two head of large animals per family.

Small animals:

About five head of small animals (sheep and goats) per family.

<i>Wagons and carts</i>	13,391
<i>Ploughs</i>	19,773
<i>Agricultural implements</i>	21,000

(Without reckoning reaping and threshing machines, mechanical ploughs, etc.)

Old Greece. — Progress of Annual Cultivation by the Refugees.

Years	Areas cultivated Stremmas	Production Kilograms
1924-25	41,391	604,160
1925-26	159,100	13,208,371
1926-27	161,594	13,666,503
1927-28	196,365	15,436,182 ¹

AGRICULTURAL HOUSING.

1. *Thrace and Macedonia.*

	Macedonia	Thrace (including Drama and Cavalla)
Families established	87,084	42,687
Houses of exchangeable Turks or Bulgarians . .	34,222	25,683
Houses built by Government, 1922 to 1924 . .	10,313	3,174
By the Refugee Settlement Commission, Sommer- feld Houses	9,228	445
By the Refugee Settlement Commission, directly from 1925 to end of 1929	21,015	10,982
To be built by the Refugee Settlement Commis- sion (credits granted)	634	209
Total	76,412	40,493
Supplementary houses which it would be neces- sary to build and for which credits are lacking	8,825	3,300

In this table, there are some figures with regard to the accuracy of which some reserves should be made.

Houses which belonged to exchangeable Turks or Bulgarians. — These houses often had out-buildings, such as stables, barns and storehouses, more or less apart from the principal construction. It is sometimes difficult to know whether one has to do with one or two constructions, or even

¹ See on colonisation:
 Stage reached in colonisation, see Report No. 19 (August 1928).
 Cost price and general expenses, see Report No. 21 (February 1929).
 Especially, the impressions of Sir John Campbell and the reflections which accompany them, see Report No. 24 (November 1929).
 On the colonisation in Old Greece, Epirus and other Islands, see Report No. 19 (August 1928).

with three. This depends generally on the number of families occupying them, and one knows that this number cannot always be considered as invariable.

On the other hand, it happens that a single house has been divided by internal partitions between two families inhabiting it, and that it has been regarded as constituting two houses.

Houses built from 1922 to 1924. — Here, again, the number cannot be quite accurate. These houses were built either by the Colonisation Service before the services of the Refugee Settlement Commission got to work, or by the latter before it had organised its services, and when it was only carrying on the system followed until then by the State.

This system consisted in giving the refugees materials in small quantities and an unimportant sum of money not exceeding 5,000 to 6,000 drachmas. The labour was to be supplied by the refugees themselves, at least to a large extent. This produced good results in Thrace. The Macedonian clay only gives an inferior quality of *pisé*, and many refugees only built houses of no lasting quality. Consequently, a certain number of these houses have disappeared, others have been built to the construction of which the Refugee Settlement Commission has not contributed at all, and the figures in the column cannot be absolutely accurate.

Houses built by the Refugee Settlement Commission. — The figures the accuracy of which can be guaranteed are those of the Sommerfeld houses, and those of the houses constructed by the Refugee Settlement Commission from 1925 to 1929.

Future needs. — The figures of the column relating to agricultural houses which it will be necessary to build are the result of an enquiry made on the spot and correspond almost with the real requirements. One knows that it cannot remain invariable, and that it is always liable to more or less variations.

2. Old Greece, Epirus and the Islands.

(a) Houses of exchangeables <i>repaired</i>	3,981
(b) Houses built by the Refugee Settlement Commission . .	10,048

In several colonies, it has happened that a family has been given two houses when the number of persons in the family was too great.

In Crete, it has also happened that a single family has been lodged in two Moslem houses. This is why, in Crete, the number of houses is somewhat greater than the number of families established.

As for the houses built by the Refugee Settlement Commission, we tried at first, as in Macedonia and Thrace, to have them built by the refugees themselves. For this purpose, we gave them a credit of 15,000 drachmas per family, but the results did not come up to our expectations. It became necessary to adopt the system of building by contractors under the superintendence of our technical service.¹

CADASTRAL SURVEY. (See below, Chapter 5.)

Water Supply of Colonies.

Under the terms of the law for the organisation of the technical services of the Ministry of Agriculture, the hydraulic services of the Refugee Settlement Commission were transferred to the Ministry of Agriculture at the end of the first six months of 1930. The Refugee Settlement Commission also placed at the disposal of the Ministry a sum of 7,500,000 drachmas, representing the balance of the credits voted by the Refugee Settlement Commission for the execution of hydraulic works.

See Report No. 24 (November 1929) for what has been done by the Refugee Settlement Commission until the end of 1929.

PUBLIC HEALTH (Thrace and Macedonia).

We have no accurate statistical information on the first two years which followed the immigration (1923 and 1924), in the course of which the death rate caused by privations and sickness was very high. At that time, three deaths were reckoned for every birth. Some colonies lost a fifth of their inhabitants.

In order to record an improvement, one must come on to June 1925. It was then that fifty rural dispensaries of the Refugee Settlement Commission began to operate. They were directed by doctors, provided with drug stores and with smaller surgical and obstetrical instruments. Later, there were added to this number nine new dispensaries, a hospital and a bacteriological laboratory.²

These dispensaries, situated in the most unhealthy districts of Macedonia and Thrace, were under the Refugee Settlement Commission from 1925 to 1929. From that year, they were placed under the Ministry of Public Health.

¹ See Report No. 9 (February 1926) for cost price of agricultural and urban houses.

Report No. 23 (August 1929) for number and valuation of Turkish and Bulgarian houses.

Report No. 24 (November 1929) for agricultural housing in general.

² See map annexed to Report No. 14 (May 1927) showing the organisation of the sanitary service in Macedonia.



Their chief service was the organisation of the anti-malaria campaign.¹ More than half of the 489,281 cases which they had to treat were due to malaria; this figure represents one-third of the population of the districts dependent on the dispensaries.

They distributed 8,500 kilograms of cachets and 912,501 tubes of quinine. Some dispensaries also successfully employed Schweinfurth green.

Three thousand eight hundred cases of tuberculosis were treated with Calmette-Guerin serum (BCG).

The dispensaries also recorded the state of alcoholism in Thrace and Macedonia.

The bacteriological laboratory has done excellent service. It prepared 150,000 tubes of vaccine and 50,000 tubes of antityphic serums.

Pamphlets and publications on health subjects—prevention or treatment—were distributed in thousands in the colonies and schools.

MOTOCULTURE (FROM 1924 TO END OF 1929).

Up to the transfer of this service to the State, the following lands were broken up or cultivated with mechanical ploughs:

Ordinary ploughing	155,640	stremmas,	equivalent to	155,640	stremmas normal		
(15 to 19 cm.)							
Medium ploughing	46,169	„	„	92,338	„	„	
(20 to 29 cm.)							
Deep ploughing	68,346	„	„	205,038	„	„	
(30 to 45 cm.)							
Total	270,155	„	„	453,016	„	„	

The general cost price per normal stremma has been 70 drachmas—*i.e.*, very advantageous. Remarkable results have been obtained in cultivation.²

4.

BALANCE-SHEET OF URBAN ESTABLISHMENT.

(END OF 1929.)

URBAN DIRECTORATE.

Quarters	Sums expended Drachmas	Liabilities Drachmas	Total Drachmas
Old Greece and Islands	474,162,389	98,357,328	572,519,717
Macedonia	91,752,073	29,900,804	121,652,877
Thrace	183,741,672	19,374,084	203,115,756
Total	749,656,134	147,632,216	897,288,350

In this total of 897,288,350 drachmas are included 98,885,818 drachmas spent by the *Caisse d'Assistance* of the refugees in the urban quarters, which were only handed over later to the Refugee Settlement Commission.

The total sum expended by the Refugee Settlement Commission is therefore reduced to 798,402,532 drachmas.

The number of houses built or building is as follows:

	Quarters	Houses
Continental Greece	26	14,857
Peloponnesus	12	1,232
Islands	14	1,086
Macedonia	41	3,953
Thrace	32	6,215
	125	27,343

Distribution of the sums expended from the point of view of the purposes to which they were appropriated:

	Drachmas
Building	762,695,100
Works of general utility	71,783,068
Maintenance, administration, cadastral survey and salaries of technical staff	62,810,184
	897,288,352

* * *

¹ See map of malaria in Macedonia annexed to Report No. 14 (May 1927).

² For further details, see Report No. 23 (August 1929).

Nothing need be said with regard to the urban establishment. The subject has been exhausted in the reports already published.¹

5.

LEGAL STATUS OF REFUGEE PROPERTIES.

I. AGRICULTURAL REFUGEES.

The Convention of Liquidation, the text of which we have published, settles everything concerning the properties of the agricultural refugees, as well as their debts and credits. It was only possible to take these definite decisions because a long preparatory study had made it certain that their application would now be easy and that it could be carried out in a comparatively brief period.

This preparatory study bore on the three following points:

1. The cadastral survey;
2. The valuation of the lands;
3. The set-off of the debts.

1. *Cadastral survey.* — The work of the survey is advancing.²

The areas distributed in the whole of the country amounted in February 1930 to 3,394,062 stremmas (see Report No. 25, February 1930).

On that date there were:

	Areas surveyed Stremmas	Areas distributed Stremmas
In Macedonia (to the Nestos)	10,260,000	3,160,000
In Thrace	1,336,000	64,062
In Old Greece, Epirus and the Islands	300,000,	170,000
Total	11,896,000	3,394,062

On August 1st, 1930, these figures must be altered as follows:

	Areas surveyed Stremmas	Areas distributed Stremmas
In Macedonia (to the Nestos)	10,671,000	3,781,000
In Thrace	1,470,000	135,000
In Old Greece, Epirus and the Islands	470,260	197,470
Total	12,611,260	4,113,470

2. *Valuation of lands.* — The valuation of the small patches of which the holding of each refugee is made up can only be made when the survey is complete and when, consequently, the area of each holding is known exactly.

However, it is possible to make an approximate valuation of the grand total of the lands handed over by the State to the Refugee Settlement Commission.

In Thrace and Macedonia, the area of the cultivated and cultivable lands which have been distributed to the refugees is about 4,800,000 stremmas (without pasture lands).

In Old Greece, Epirus and the Islands, the area of the cultivated and cultivable lands is 552,802 stremmas, of which 437,333 stremmas are cultivated and 115,469 stremmas cultivable. (In this total are not included 85,811 stremmas of pastures handed over to the communes, 5,648 stremmas of sultana vineyards and 436,831 olive and other fruit trees.)

The Convention of Liquidation (Articles 9, 11, 6) lays down the limits between which the mean value of the stremma must be fixed. A subsequent Agreement between the Greek Government and the Commission fixed the general mean value at 400 drachmas. The market value of the lands already established by the Commission's services will have to be more or less largely reduced, according to the districts and the quality of the land, in order to bring the general mean value of the stremma to 400 drachmas.

¹ We are referring specially to:

- (1) Reports Nos. 1 and 2 (February and May 1924) on the circumstances which induced the Refugee Settlement Commission to undertake a portion of the urban establishment.
- (2) Reports Nos. 7, 8, 11 and 12 (August and November 1925, August and November 1926) on the sale and lease of lands and houses.
- (3) Reports Nos. 15 and 16 (August and November 1927), with tables, on the census of urban refugees.
- (4) Report No. 19 (August 1928) on types and cost of housing.
- (5) Report No. 24 (November 1929) on what remains to be done for urban establishment after the liquidation of the Refugee Settlement Commission.

² See plans annexed to this Report.

3. *Set-off of debts.* — The Refugee Settlement Commission has collaborated with the State in establishing the account for working out the set-off of the debts of the agricultural refugees to the Refugee Settlement Commission or the State against the indemnities which they should receive for their properties abandoned in Turkey.

The Refugee Settlement Commission undertook:

1. To ascertain which of the cultivators whom it has established are those who, according to the decisions of the Commissions of Indemnification, are entitled to an indemnity.
2. To settle the set-off between the debit and credit accounts of the refugee.

The State undertook to ascertain the credit account and to inform the Refugee Settlement Commission officially of it so that the latter may proceed to calculate the set-off.

For this purpose, the Refugee Settlement Commission had to create a special service, which was attached to that for the collection of debts. A general list was drawn up and published of all the agricultural refugees established to any extent, whether by the State or by the Refugee Settlement Commission. This record, which is in nine volumes gr. 4to of 7,800 pages, includes about 250,000 names. (In this number are included all agriculturists, whether entitled or not entitled to an indemnity, the emigrants from Bulgaria, the Hellenic subjects, and, finally, the sons and daughters filing claims independently of those of the head of their family.)

Up to date, our services have worked out the credit accounts of 80,000 refugees. The total of their indemnities amounts to £4,449,000.

The grand total of the indemnities to be paid to the 145,000 exchangeable refugees from Turkey will most probably amount to the sum of £8,500,000.¹

II. DEBTS OF THE URBAN REFUGEES.

The debts of the urban refugees to the Refugee Settlement Commission are far from raising questions as complicated as those of the agriculturists, for the following reasons:

- (1) The establishment of the cadastral survey of the urban quarters is an easy operation.
- (2) The urban refugees are generally only debited with the value of the building and that of the ground transferred to them by the Refugee Settlement Commission. Where they have built their own houses, the value of the building is replaced by the advances which they have received for that purpose. Finally,
- (3) There is no set-off between these debts and any credit account.

The value of the house represents the value of the materials and of the labour employed.

The value of the ground includes: (1) an initial price fixed by the Commission and (2) the general expenses of the quarter distributed per square metre of the usable area. These expenses include:

- (a) The expenditure for works of general utility (roads, water supply, schools, etc.);
- (b) The salaries of the staff employed on these works;
- (c) The insurance premiums on buildings, cost of cadastral survey, etc.

At the end of 1930, the total debt of the urban refugees to the Refugee Settlement Commission will be approximately as follows:

1. Buildings (see page 12) and expenses of general utility:	
(a) By the Refugee Settlement Commission	Drachmas 818,609,426
(b) By the <i>Caisse d'assistance</i>	99,827,492 ²
2. Initial value of 27,343 building sites averaging 150 square metres at an average price of 10 drachmas per square metre.	41,014,500
Total	959,451,418

The Greek Government is now studying the methods whereby it could extend to the urban refugees the measures which it has recently adopted in favour of the agriculturists (reduction of the rate of interest from 8 per cent to 3 per cent, remittance of certain items of debt, etc.).³

6.

THE LIQUIDATION OF THE COMMISSION.

THE GREEK GOVERNMENT'S UNDERTAKING IN VIRTUE OF THE CONVENTION OF GENEVA OF JANUARY 24TH, 1930.

Before its liquidation, the Commission has made a point, on the one hand, of securing the rights of the bondholders of the Loan of 1924, and, on the other, of the refugees to the properties in their possession by every possible legal guarantee. On this subject, the Convention of Liquidation lays

¹ See Report No. 25 (February 1930). Debts and credits accounts of agricultural refugees.

² We have given in Chapter 4 the figure of 98,885,818 drachmas as the sum expended by the *Caisse d'assistance*. The difference of 941,674 drachmas is due to buildings erected in Thrace by the local *caisses*, for which the refugees were only debited in 1930.

³ See Report No. 26 (May 1930).

down for the Greek Government a series of obligations, which the latter has bound itself to fulfil by December 31st, 1930. These are, in order of importance:

1. The registration of a first mortgage in favour of the International Financial Commission on all the real estate owned by the Refugee Settlement Commission, which will be handed over to the Greek Government. The duration of this mortgage will depend upon the time required to complete the amortisation of the loan for the establishment of the refugees (Article 8, paragraph 1); however, every refugee who has paid his debt in full will be given a release from this mortgage.

2. The realisation of the clause according to which the Government would authorise the International Financial Commission to take from the ceded revenues, for the service of extraordinary amortisation of the 1924 Loan, whatever sum the banks charged with the collection of the refugees' debts shall have failed to pay in to the *Caisse* of the International Financial Commission by the fixed dates (Article 8).

3. The adoption of any measure tending to confirm, either in favour of the Refugee Settlement Commission or of the refugees which it has established, a full and complete right of ownership on all the lands and real properties in their possession, and the grant by the Hellenic Government of a legal title-deed ensuring for the interested parties the peaceable enjoyment of these properties and lands (Article 21).

4. The establishment by the competent services of the Greek Government, and the handing-over to the Refugee Settlement Commission, of accounts showing the debts to the State contracted by the refugees. This is for the purpose of providing for the entry of these debts in the personal account of each refugee, and their set-off against the credit which he may possess on account of the indemnities granted to him for his properties abandoned in Turkey.

5. The adoption of any measure for the purpose of obliging the Municipality of Athens to take over the services of a municipal character in the urban colonies created by the Refugee Settlement Commission on lands in the city area, such as service for the upkeep of roads, public places, open spaces, bridges, canals, waterworks, water supply of all kinds, public utility buildings, materials, etc., which the Refugee Settlement Commission has to hand over to the State before December 31st, 1930, in accordance with the Convention (Article 4).

6. The adoption of any measure required to facilitate the building of the bridges over the Nestos, uniting the sections of the Zirnovo-Borovo road which the Refugee Settlement Commission is constructing, and which could be of no service unless the Greek Government went on with the building of these bridges (Article 3).

7. Finally, the adoption of any measure to facilitate the continuation by the State of the works remaining unfinished by December 31st, 1930, the completion of which is to be borne by the State, such as cadastral survey work, construction of the Drama-Ossenitza and Zirnovo-Borovo roads, and secondary works of all kinds (completion of agricultural and urban colonies, etc.) (Article 3).

7.

SOME REMARKS ON THE WORK OF THE REFUGEE SETTLEMENT COMMISSION.

In order to pronounce an opinion on the work of the Commission, the figures given in the preceding pages must be taken into account. But how far does their authority go? They allow one to fix the cost prices of the houses built, the roads constructed, and so forth, each of these heads being taken separately. These calculations have often been made either by the Commission¹, or by the refugees, or in general by the circles nearly or remotely interested in the colonisation. But there one must stop. One must not insist further on the meaning of figures.

The Commission was neither a building company, nor a public works undertaking, nor an agricultural exploitation. The works the value of which can be determined only represent one side of the activity. The autonomous organisation, with the mission of *establishing* the refugees, was charged with various functions, and exercised an authority which, in general, belong to the State only. In many respects, it has been more than a Ministry. Yet who has ever sought to express the activity of a Ministry or that of a Government by a figure, by the calculation of a cost price?

The Commission had very early to give the most liberal interpretation to the clause in the Protocol laying down that expenditure was only to be incurred for productive works, and it incurred expenses the return for which it will long be difficult to calculate, even if it ever becomes possible to do so.

The reasons which compelled the Commission to act in this way will become evident if one considers the situation at the beginning of 1924.

On the one hand, groups of hungry, naked people, without any common origin, without any cohesion, only supposed to have followed some agricultural calling, are sent to a tract of land, mostly abandoned or fallow, lodged in chance shelters which did not protect them from the wind or the rain. They live on a distribution of rations, and death thins their ranks every day. Time is pressing. The months, the weeks, are precious.

¹ See Report No. 14 (May 1927), page 8: "Mean Cost per Agricultural Family"; and Report No. 21 (February 1929): "I. Agricultural Establishment".

On the other hand, a country ravaged by wars, lately annexed to Greece and consequently ill-known to the services in charge of the establishment, and which had lost most of its former inhabitants, who could have supplied valuable information. These were the conditions under which the work began. It was necessary to begin by a genuine exploration of the country. Topographers, agronomes, hydraulic engineers and builders came upon the scene, and their preliminary studies, their schemes, their experiments were often costly. Next came the foundation of the houses, the allotment of cultivable lands, the distribution of cattle, seed, relief. All this had to be done at once. Sometimes when the work was well advanced it was found that malaria, the impossibility of supplying the colony with drinkable water, or some circumstance arising from the ill-will or obstinacy of the refugees, led away by ringleaders and clamouring to be moved elsewhere, condemned the enterprise to failure. It became necessary to abandon everything, to move the colonists on and begin afresh in another place. There are groups of refugees whose place of establishment has been shifted as many as five times.

It will be seen how many of the works enumerated above fail to fulfil the condition of being productive laid down by the Protocol, and to what extent the expenses which they involved would, if taken into account, upset any calculation intended to fix a general cost price.

This first period of the work was followed by another; even when the colonists were installed, it was impossible to leave them to themselves.

In the agricultural calling, routine is everything. One has to do with men very close to nature who from father to son have cultivated the same produce, on the same lands and by the same methods. Here, the experience they lacked had to be made up for by constant supervision. The cultivator had to be guided, taught new methods of cultivation. The cattle he was unable to keep had to be replaced, his house to be repaired, the roads to be mended, fever to be fought; and, for all this, masons, agronomes, hydraulic engineers and doctors had to be kept or sent where they were required, once, twice or several times—in a word, a complete second series of expenses had to be incurred, the productive nature of which it is also most difficult to estimate.

Indeed, it must be said that, on the material side of the work, the Commission has not confined itself to *creating*, to *founding*; but it has been obliged to *preserve* and *maintain*—to meet the damage caused by floods, by drought, by locusts; creating experimental fields, demonstration fields, stud farms, nursery gardens, model farms. It has spent considerable sums in combating malaria and epidemics, in founding schools, in taking the place of a municipality in its urban quarters.¹

If, however, a point is made of stating the results of the Commission's work in terms of figures, it would be more reasonable (though this, indeed, would be far from conclusive) to spread the total of expenses over the whole of the families established. Thus, let us take the figure of 170,000 families (145,000 rural and 25,000 urban), which gives us, on a total expenditure of £13,400,000, about £79 per family.

On the total of £13,400,000, the cost of maintenance has amounted to about £1,700,000, or £10 per family. Spread over seven years, this represents an annual charge of £1.4 per family. It is with this that the Refugee Settlement Commission has met all the supplementary expenses which we have just enumerated. It only charges the agricultural refugee with the cost of building the house, the value of the land, and the advances it has made him. All that it has given him over and above is represented by this trifling sum, thanks to which, however, he has profited during seven years by treatment which all the native cultivators might envy him, and without which he would have succumbed more than once.

II.

But this calculation, too, will be of very little assistance to whoever desires to appreciate the work of the Commission. It is not the figures that will say whether this work has succeeded or whether it has failed. In this case, success depended on more complex factors, and, as in every case where the human element comes in, the decisive factor is the psychological and moral factor.

The Commission had to establish 145,000 families of cultivators, and the word *establish* should be taken in its proper meaning, which is not the same as to *instal*. The object of such establishment is to succeed in attaching the agriculturist to the land which he cultivates. In the field of material work, we have had to replace the fruits of the experience of several generations by a hasty training. In the moral field, we had to anticipate the action of time by creating that bond of attachment, which is generally the result of long contact between the man and the land, which requires for its development that the man should at least have been born on the land and that its surroundings should be familiar to him from childhood. It is hard enough to establish in a new country colonists who are young, strong, with few family ties, provided with the necessary resources, liking their calling, confident in the future. What, then, are we to say of these Greek refugees who had been struck by a thunderbolt; of these families, mostly bereaved of their natural protectors, exhausted by fatigue and privations, overwhelmed by ordeals and losses? By what miracle were they able to take a fresh hold on life? The Government and the Commission neglected nothing to assist them; but, in this whole question of the establishment, it is the courage, the effort and the energy of the refugees which have formed the central point round which all the rest—installation, housing, distribution of lands, help of every kind—have come to group themselves, and the real efficacy of these means should be measured by the degree in which they have contributed to develop the confidence which was springing up again in their hearts.

¹ This second period, that of maintenance, began with the year 1927 (see Reports Nos. 19 and 21, August 1928 and February 1929).

For the human as well as for the material element, the first period of installation was followed by a second period—that of maintenance and preservation. The refugee had to be supported and strengthened like a convalescent; he had to acquire the conviction that he would not be abandoned; he had to be made to lose the habit of regarding himself as having been torn up by the roots; he had to be accustomed by his work to struggle against the inherent difficulties of the agricultural calling, which are more numerous in Greece than elsewhere for reasons due to the soil and the climate.

In this direction, also, the Commission has done everything possible. To speak only of the district where the colonisation has been carried on on the most considerable scale, we repeat that for six years the Directorate-General of Colonisation of Macedonia was a real Ministry. The courtyard of the building in which its offices were lodged was filled from morning till night with peasants coming from every part of the province—some singly, others in groups—to settle their business. They found themselves at home there. They knew that they would be received by the competent employee; that their request would be examined; that justice would be done if it were reasonable and could be granted; that they would take an agent of the Commission back with them to their village if the solution required a visit to the spot; and that, in all cases, whatever the solution might be, it would be given without delay.

For the agriculturists, the Refugee Settlement Commission has been an ever-present guardian. It was this side of its activity more than anything else which maintained the colonies, strengthened them and prevented them from being dispersed. These are things which cannot be measured by the yield of the *stremma* in drachmas.

These considerations enable one to see the work of the Commission in its true light, and show the point of view from which it must be judged. To sum up, this work has been a means far more than an end.

It matters little whether the sums expended went directly to the refugee or were devoted to works of general utility. They have been well employed if they have served to increase the number of cultivators in whom the love of the agricultural profession has prevailed, from whom has been banished the feeling that everything is temporary—a feeling to which some yielded, and at the first setback left everything to follow any kind of huckster trade in the neighbouring town.

III.

This work is not yet finished. The colonies have not yet reached a degree of consolidation allowing them to be finally emancipated from the guardianship which the Refugee Settlement Commission has hitherto exercised over them. This guardianship passes to the State, which in this field will have to carry on the task which it has inherited. For some time past, the Hellenic Government has begun to apply an extensive agricultural programme¹.

Events have obliged Greece to place agriculture in the front rank of her cares, and henceforth to see in it the chief source of wealth of the country and the essential element of its future economic development. In order to carry out this programme successfully, two things are indispensable.

¹ The main lines of the programme by which the Government proposes to carry out these intentions are the following:

1. *Drainage of Marshes and Regularisation of Water-courses.*

The drainage works are being carried on chiefly in Macedonia:

(1) In the valley of the Vardar, they had been somewhat delayed. Since the proceeds of the productive loan were placed at the disposal of the Government, one may foresee that 50,000 *stremmas*, the result of the drainage of Lakes Ardjan and Amatovo, will be handed over very shortly.

The embankments of the Vardar are being finished. This is the first year in which it has been possible to avoid the river floods. Until now they used to recur annually, inflicting great damage on the riverside population.

(2) Some more years will pass before the drainage of the Lake of Yenidjé, which is now in progress, is completed. It is reckoned that this will render cultivable 320,000 *stremmas* which are now under water, and that it will improve 200,000 more by protecting them from flooding.

The cost per *stremma* of these works will be somewhat heavy.

(3) Lastly, the Government has just entrusted the same company with the works to be carried out for diverting the channel of the lower Vardar. The mouth of the river will be moved outside the Gulf of Salonica, which is in danger of being gradually silted up.

2. *Fight against Malaria.*

Here the programme has already been laid down by the Commission. The Ministry of Public Health will only have to continue to carry it out on a larger scale, if possible.

3. *Road building.*

The most important road-building works have been entrusted to the Makris Company, with which the State has signed a £6,000,000 contract. The total length of the national roads which this company will have to build is 2,200 kilometres. The average cost per kilometre is one million drachmas.

4. *Creation of Agricultural Credit.*

Independently of its financial operations, the Agricultural Bank is charged with all the service of the professional agricultural syndicates, the organisation and working of which it will have to supervise.

The Bank has also a technical service. It is on the recommendation of this latter that it grants long-term loans for agricultural improvements. This service is also studying the agricultural questions of general interest to the country.

Until now, most of the cultivators who have applied to the Bank for loans intended to devote the proceeds to the water supply of their holdings.

(See Report No. 22 (May 1929): "Re-organisation of the Agricultural Service", and in Report No. 23 (August 1929) a long description of the hydraulic works which will be executed in the basins of the Vardar and the Struma.)

The first of these is security in the country districts. To-day, this is not sufficiently guaranteed. The crops are at the mercy of the passers-by, of children, of the flocks.

The laws are good, but it is their application which is at fault. The rural police do not always succeed in enforcing respect for other people's property.

The second is the existence of a staff possessing the requisite qualities and able to meet the requirements of the situation.

To-day, Greece has the advantage of possessing such a staff. To have found a capable technical staff is a characteristic feature of the advance made by the country in the last five years. The Commission can claim its share in this change; it has contributed to the study of the agricultural resources of the country, to the introduction of new methods of cultivation and to the creation of a tradition. It has succeeded in this by encouraging initiative in its own agronomes, in singling out men who deserved to occupy the position to which they have been advanced.

The existence of this staff is one more guarantee that in Government councils the necessity of continuing to afford to the colonies the assistance and the moral protection which they still require will not be lost to view. It would not be possible to assimilate the refugee colonists to the native villagers, who have been long used to the life and the agricultural methods of the land which they cultivate. The work of the Commission will be made lasting and fruitful by care for its preservation. The final solution of the question created for the country by the arrival of the refugees depends on the preservation of what has been done; it is the preservation which will make a permanency of their establishment in the richest districts of the country.

If within some decades, in the course of which progress and fresh needs will bring about many changes in the agricultural conditions of Thrace and Macedonia, a sturdy race of peasants resulting from a blend of all the elements of Hellenism ensures an ample revenue from those two provinces and prosperity for Greece, this result will be due to the initial impulse given by the Refugee Settlement Commission. Then only will it be possible to say that the Commission has well fulfilled the mission with which it was entrusted by the League of Nations.

(Signed) J. Hope SIMPSON,

*President ad int. of the
Refugee Settlement Commission.*

FINANCIAL SECTION.

A. BALANCE-SHEET ON JUNE 30th, 1930.

Liabilities.

	£	s.	d.
Proceeds of the 7% 1924 Loan.	9,970,016	6	9
Proceeds of the 8% 1926 Loan.	499,759	17	0
Proceeds of the 4% 1929 Loan.	2,503,278	16	1
Receipts (interest, tithe, etc.)	805,084	10	1
Bonds paid in by refugees against their debts	365,215	0	0
Various liabilities	211,477	1	5
Various <i>per contra</i> accounts	384,314	14	1
	£14,739,146	5	5

Assets.

	£	s.	d.
Balance available at the Bank and cash	790,368	5	3
Bonds deposited	365,215	0	0
Recoverable advances	11,023	0	5
Expenditure:			
Agricultural settlement	10,422,931	16	2
Urban settlement	2,011,458	7	3
Arts and crafts	12,320	4	7
Carpet industry	100,000	0	0
Central administration	230,024	4	6
Furniture and fittings	26,753	2	9
Service for the compensation of agricultural refugees	12,135	7	11
	£12,815,623	3	2
Sums applied for the ordinary service of the 7% 1924 Loan	216,593	2	1
Sums applied for the extraordinary amortisation of the 7% 1924 Loan	156,009	0	5
Various <i>per contra</i> accounts	384,314	14	1
	£14,739,146	5	5

Note. — The conversion of drachmas for the purposes of the present balance-sheet is based on the average of our conversions of sterling into drachmas from the constitution of the Commission until June 30th, 1930—*i.e.*, 354.470. It should be noted that this average varies from quarter to quarter, thus explaining the variations in the figures of the quarterly balance-sheet. Thus the average at the moment when the balance-sheet on March 31st, 1930, was drawn up was 350.841. These variations, naturally, only occur in the drachma accounts.

From June 15th, 1930, under the respective article of the Convention for the Liquidation of the Commission, all the bonds deposited up to that date by the refugees on temporary account against their debts have been carried to final account. Consequently, the heading of the respective account on the debit side "*Bonds deposited by the refugees on temporary account against their debts*", has been replaced by the following heading: "*Bonds paid in by refugees against their debts*".

We give hereafter explanations on certain items of the balance-sheet:

LIABILITIES.

<i>Receipts</i>	£	s.	d.
	805,084	10	1

The analysis of this chapter is as follows:

	£	s.	d.
Interest on balances	364,257	13	6
Caution money forfeited	9,496	0	9
Various receipts	97,289	19	4
Tithe collected from agricultural refugees settled on land belonging to the Refugee Settlement Commission.	216,593	2	1
Share of the Refugee Settlement Commission in payments made by refugees (25 per cent of capital repayments and 100 per cent of interest payments).	117,447	14	5

<i>Bonds paid in by refugees, etc.</i>	£805,084	10	1
	£365,215	0	0
	£	s.	d.
Payments by urban refugees	119,617	10	0
Payments by agricultural refugees	245,597	10	0
	£365,215	0	0

	£	s.	d.
<i>Various liabilities</i>	211,477	1	5
Share of the International Financial Commission:			
75 per cent of repayments of capital by refugees (£154,587 15s. 10d.) and 100 per cent of the proceeds of the sale of lands to non-refugees (£1,421 4s. 7d.)	156,009	0	5
Rents to be refunded	3,089	15	3
Caution money and sundry creditors	52,378	5	9
	£211,477	1	5

ASSETS.

<i>Balances available</i>	790,368	5	3
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This sum represents our balances in hand at the banks and at the Head Office in pounds sterling and in drachmas. (During the second quarter, the balances available in dollars were converted into drachmas, in consequence of the difference in the rate of interest between New York and Athens (New York 2 ½ per cent, Athens 4 per cent), and were deposited with the banks in this city.) Needless to say, this does not mean sums available in the budgetary sense of the word. With the exception of £131,764 (representing a special reserve of £100,000 and £31,764 for unforeseen expenses), the rest is covered by appropriations already made.

<i>Bonds deposited by refugees, etc.</i>	£	s.	d.	£365,215	0	0
Bonds of the 6 per cent 1923 Loan for compensation to immigrants from Bulgaria (74,481,500 drachmas)	186,203	15	0			
Bonds of the 8 per cent 1926 and 1928 Loan for compensation to exchangeable refugees from Turkey (69,318,000 drachmas)	173,295	0	0			
Bonds of the 8 per cent 1927 Loan for compensation to Turkish refugees who are Greek nationals (2,286,500 drachmas)	5,716	5	0			
	£365,215	0	0			
<i>Sums applied to the extraordinary amortisation of the 7 per cent 1924 Loan</i>	£	s.	d.	156,009	0	5
75 per cent of capital repayments by refugees	154,587	15	10			
100 per cent of payments by non-refugees	1,421	4	7			
	£156,009	0	5			
<i>Various per contra accounts.</i>				384,314	14	1
Value of buildings made over by the Caisse d'assistance	278,967	11	9			
Sums owing from the sale of urban property.	86,917	4	3			
Sums owing from the sale of plots to non-refugees	1,391	15	11			
State debtors	83	2	3			
Various deposits.	16,954	19	11			
	£384,314	14	1			

B. COLLECTIONS.

Collections credited during the three months April to June 1930 amounted to:

(a) In cash, £19,718 16s. 3d., of which sum £11,234 11s. 1d. (75 per cent of capital repayments) was paid to the International Financial Commission for additional amortisation of the 7 per cent 1924 Loan.

(b) In bonds, 11,444,000 drachmas, or £28,610 (at the rate of £2 10s. per 1,000 drachmas). The distribution of these payments between agricultural and urban refugees is as follows:

	Agricultural refugees			Urban refugees			Total		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
In cash.	7,927	4	3	11,791	12	0	19,718	16	3
In bonds	18,238	15	0	10,371	5	0	28,610	0	0
	£26,165	19	3	£22,162	17	0	£48,328	16	3

(a) *Payments by Agricultural Refugees.*

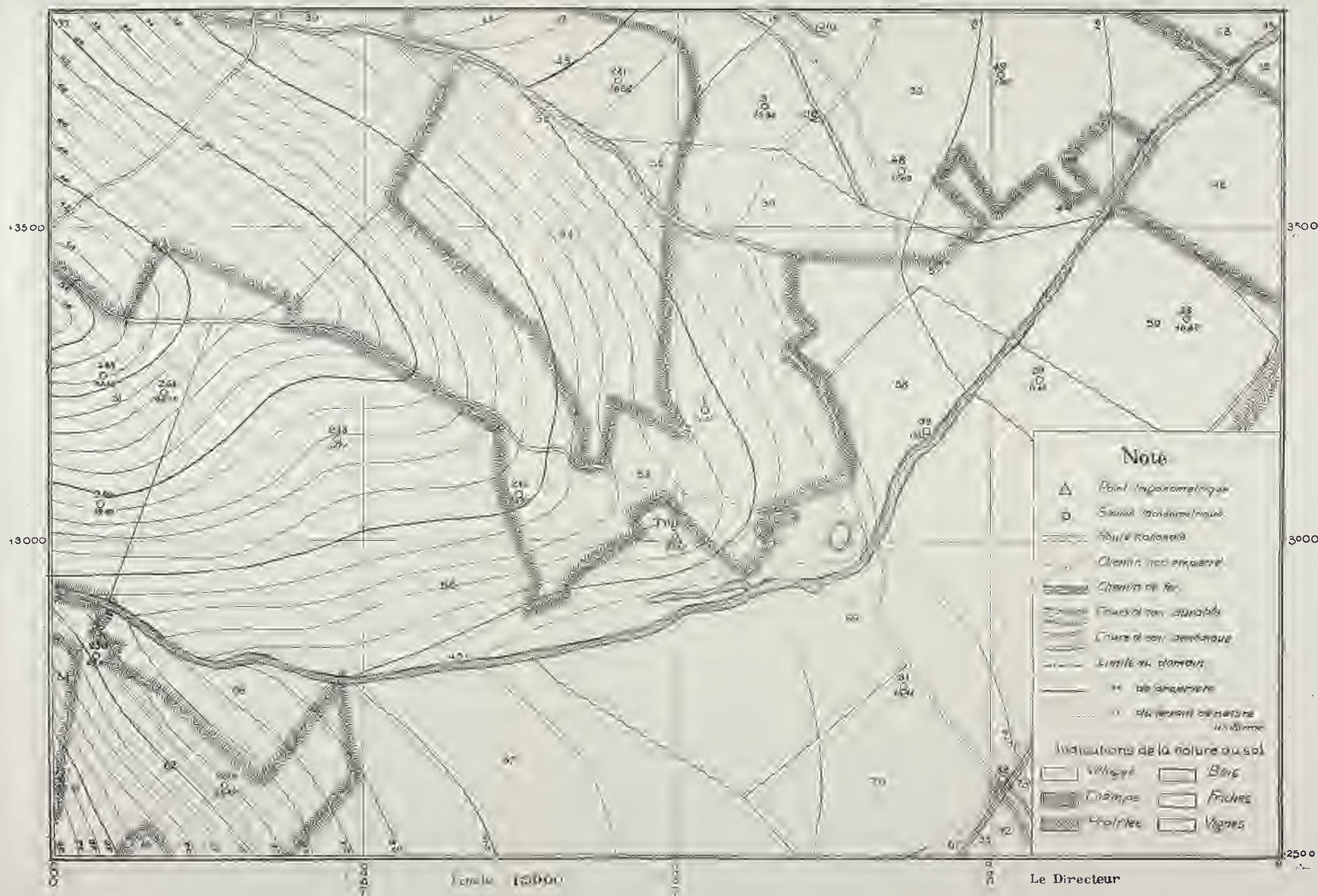
Payments made during the three months April to June 1930 amounted to 9,166,193 drachmas (in cash and bonds). Collections for the corresponding quarter of the previous year amounted to 7,192,277 drachmas, or an increase of 1,973,916 drachmas.

(b) *Payments by Urban Refugees.*

Payments made during the three months April to June 1930 amounted to 7,859,080 drachmas (in bonds and cash). Payments for the corresponding quarter of the previous year were 4,712,364 drachmas, or an increase of 3,146,716 drachmas.

Refugee Settlement Commission

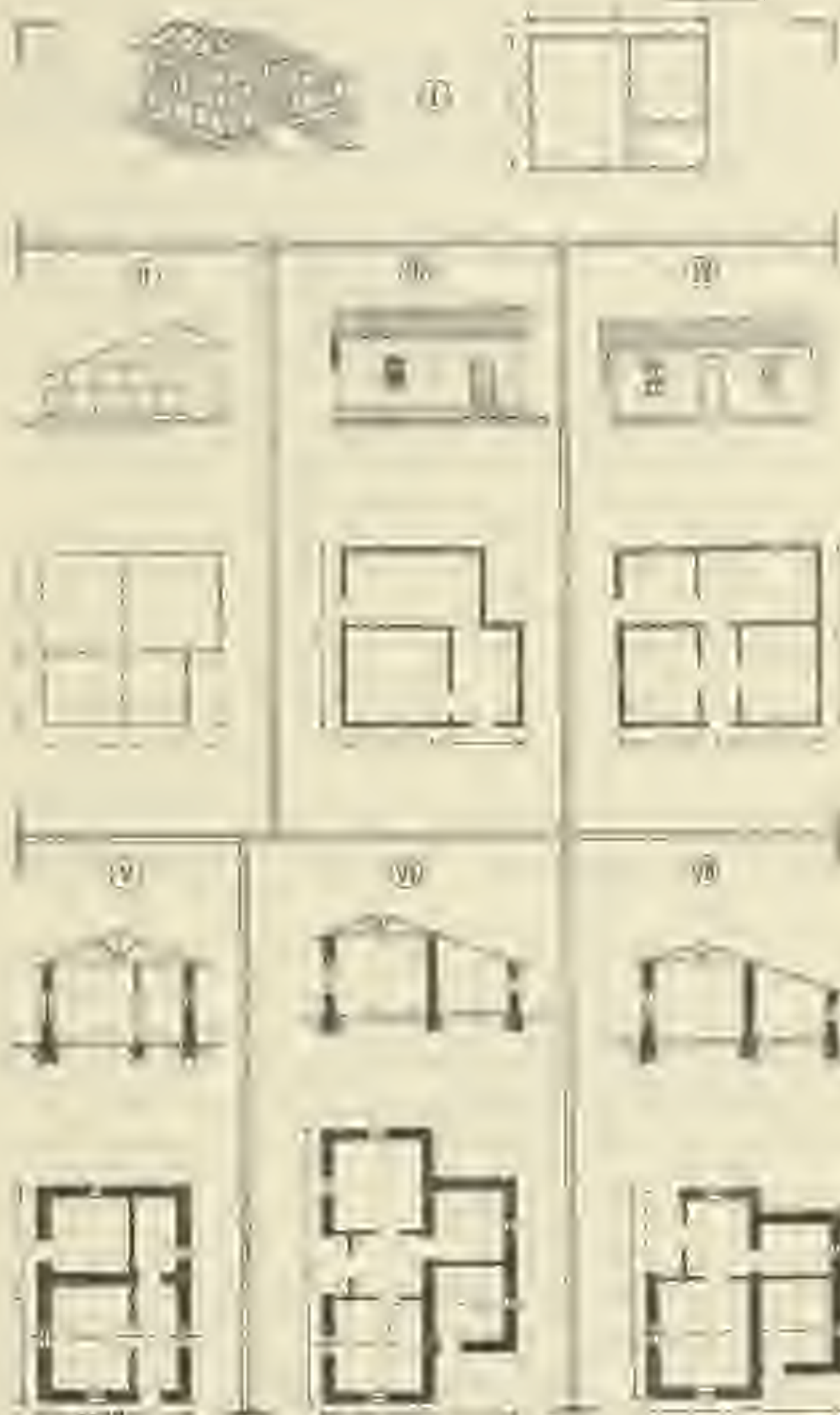
(Annex to the 27th three-monthly report.- August 1930)













Cadastre

Estate of Korynos (Macedonia). Fac - similé of Topographical Survey.

Translation of the corresponding sheet of the register :

No of the sheet in the plan	No of plot	Area of plot		Quality of the land	Owner	Observations
		Strem- mas	m ²			
1	51	187	620	Field	Exchangeable	
3	52	18	975	»	»	
1	53	241	365	Meadow	Marco Brothers	Expropriation
1	54	145	435	Field	» »	»
1	55	26	720	Water course	Public	
1	56	5	995	Field	Marco Brothers	Expropriation
1	57	52	800	»	»	»
1	58	51	555	»	Exchangeable	
1	59	92	875	»	Marco Brothers	Expropriation
1	60	168	650	Meadow	» »	»
1	61	152	920	Field	Exchangeable	
1+2	62	1386	700	Meadow	Chrissovélonis	Expropriation
1+2	63	145	400	Field	»	»
1	64	40	820	»	»	»
1+2	65	5	500	»	»	»
1	66	36	450	»	»	»
1+2	67	1009	020	»	»	»
1	68	340	545	»	Marco Brothers	»
1	69	310	710	»	Exchangeable	
1+2	70	79	035	»	Marco Brothers	Expropriation
1	71	2	625	Meadow	Exchangeable	
1+2	72	273	365	Field	»	
1	73	54	180	»	»	
1	74	2	000	Meadow	»	
3	75	11	110	Field	Marco Brothers	Expropriation
1	76	52	555	»	Chrissovélonis	»

Cadastral Survey

Estate of Korynos. Fac - simulé of distribution by plots.

Translation of the corresponding sheet of the Survey :

Number	C o l o n i s t			H o l d i n g		Quality of Land : A			Quality of Land : B			Quality of Land : Γ			Quality of Land : Δ			Total		Observations
	Name	Christian name	Father's Christian name	Description of Colonist	Proportion of holding	No of plot	Area		No of plot	Area		No of plot	Area		No of plot	Area		Str	m ²	
							Str	m ²		Str	m ²		Str	m ²		Str	m ²			
101	Hadi-Parass	Athanasse		Cultivator	1 1/4	101	8	125	101	22	500	101	14	375	30	1	500	46	500	
102	Mirmingas	Nicolas		»	1 1/4	102	8	125	102	22	500	102	14	375	103	1	500	46	500	
103	Bouclas	Efstratios		»	1 1/4	103	8	125	103	22	500	103	14	375	67	1	500	46	500	
104	Kalacos	Demetre		»	1 1/4	104	8	125	104	22	500	104	14	375	140	1	500	46	500	
105	Kozanitou	Mertzano		»	1 1/4	105	8	125	105	22	500	105	14	375	29	1	500	46	500	
106	Dallis	Georges		»	1 1/4	106	8	125	106	22	500	106	14	375	61	1	500	46	500	
107	Veves	Saranti		»	1 1/4	107	8	125	107	22	500	107	14	375	84	1	500	46	500	
108	Vassilicou	Fotios		»	1 1/4	108	8	125	108	22	500	108	14	375	33	1	500	46	500	
109	Ghavlavidou	Marie		»	1 1/4	109	8	125	109	22	500	109	14	375	23	1	500	46	500	
110	Léondaris	Constantin		»	1 1/4	110	8	125	110	22	500	110	14	375	19	1	500	46	500	
111	Raptopoulos	Jordan		»	1 1/4	111	8	125	111	22	500	111	14	375	150	1	500	46	500	
112	Horinos	Athanasse		»	1 1/4	112	8	125	112	22	500	112	14	375	157	1	500	46	500	
113	Héliopoulos	Nicolas		»	1 1/2	113	9	750	113	27	000	113	17	250	91	1	500	55	500	
114	Vayvaos	Anastasse		»	1 1/2	114	9	750	114	27	000	114	17	250	87	1	500	55	500	
115	Kavilias	Constantin		»	1 1/2	115	9	750	115	27	000	115	17	250	68	1	500	55	500	
116	Arabadianis	Nicolas		»	1 1/2	116	9	750	116	27	000	116	17	250	22	1	500	55	500	
117	Miliatès	Nicolas		»	1 1/2	117	9	750	117	27	000	117	17	250	53	1	500	55	500	
118	Guanitès	Nicolas	Prodrome	»	1 1/2	118	9	750	118	27	000	118	17	250	173	1	500	55	500	
119	Arabadjidès	Constantin		»	1 1/2	119	9	750	119	27	000	119	17	250	10	1	500	55	500	
120	Hadji-Papa	Fori	Demetre	»	1 1/2	120	9	750	120	27	000	120	17	250	16	1	500	55	500	
121	Tsakires	Jean		»	1 1/2	121	9	750	121	27	000	121	17	250	38	1	500	55	500	
122	Zissoglou	Thrassivoulos		»	1 1/2	122	9	750	122	27	000	122	17	250	36	1	500	55	500	
123	Mavridès	Demetre		»	1 1/2	123	9	750	123	27	000	123	17	250	90	1	500	55	500	
124	Papadopoulos	Haralanibe		»	1 1/2	124	9	750	124	27	000	124	17	250	89	1	500	55	500	

Colonization : Old Greece, Epirus and the Islands.

Plan of the Colony of New Kios (near Argos on the Gulf of Nauplia) with some of the lands distributed. Scale 1: 10.000.

This Colony contains 275 houses, each lodging two families, built of burnt bricks on concrete foundations.

Price of the house 64.688 dr. of the lodging 32.344 dr. Each lodging has an out-house which is not given here.

The Canal and the embankments on the plan protect the Colony from floods of the Inachos (Banizza)

Colonization : Agricultural Housing in Macedonia.

I. & II. Sommerfeld Houses (D.H.T.G.) (one lodging per house).

The Company built the foundations (in masonry), the framework (in wood), the roof and covering (in tiles). The refugee had to fill up the walls with whatever material he chose.

III. Normal type of lodging for one family. Three rooms one of which is a stable pisé, foundations in masonry)

IV. Lodging for one family (Colony of New Ménéméni. Four rooms including a stable and barn, (in pisé, foundations in masonry) Cost 17.000 drs.

V, VI, VII. Normal types of lodging for a family of cultivators. Foundations in masonry. Walls in masonry or pisé. All the roofs are tiled.

Urban buildings.

(Quarters in Athens - Piraeus).

Buildings of 1st series (1924-25).

I. House containing four lodgings. In pisé. Cost 65.100 drs. (16.275 per lodging).

II. Two-storey house, (two lodgings). In masonry. Cost 100.000 drs. (50.000 per lodging).

Buildings of 2nd series (1925-27).

III. House of two lodgings. In monobloc cement. Cost 32.548 drs. (16.274 per family).

IV. Two-storey house containing seven lodgings. In masonry. Cost 273.000 drs (from 22 955 to 53.848 drs. per lodging).

Buildings of 3rd series (1927-1930).

V. Normal type of house of two lodgings. In masonry. Cost per lodging 37.000 drs. (₺ 100).

VI. Normal type of house. In masonry. Cost 56.000 drs.

VII. Dispensary of the Urban Quarter of Byron (in masonry) Cost 667.000 drs.

VIII. School of the Urban Quarter of Césariani (in masonry). Gift of Mme E. Venizelos. Cost 1.282.000 drs.

