

**B.(1). POLITICAL AND GENERAL.**

The year opened with a considerable degree of labour unrest. The general strike in Mombasa in January had repercussions on some estates in the Coastal belt, but appeared to have little effect on the district as a whole and, with the exception of some P.W.D. road labour, did not affect Government or Local Native Council employees.

On the estate of Kenya Sugar Ltd. at Ramisi the workers came out on strike on the morning of January 15th., but were eventually persuaded to return to work on the 18th. There was a certain amount of violence and 27 arrests had to be made, the offenders being subsequently tried by the Resident Magistrate in Mombasa. During the strike an African was wounded by a rifle bullet fired by one of the Asian staff, but recovered after an operation at Msambweni Hospital. The workers at Gazi Sisal Estate came out on strike for only half a day, the P.W.D. road labourers followed suit for a slightly longer period, and the dockyard coal heavers living in the Pungu area refused to work for the duration of the strike.

The African Workers Federation made its first open appearance in the native reserve in August, when a dispute concerning the issue of Sugar arose between an Indian shopkeeper and an Mdogo named Hassan Mwanzuka, a recently joined member who later became chairman of the Ukunda branch of the Federation. As a result of the dispute, the shop in question was boycotted for a short period by the local population. Mohamed Mbwana, who succeeded Chege Kibachia as president of the African Workers Federation, made at least two appearances in the district before being sentenced to imprisonment, and on the second occasion spent a week with Hassan Mwanzuka touring the area between Ukunda and Kiwambale. As a result of these activities, by the end of the year the Federation has succeeded in enrolling a considerable number of Digo members, mostly unemployed, as far south as Kikoneni and the Shimoni Peninsula. As usual, the Federation did not confine its activities....

activities to labour problems, and at one period began to hold a few illegal Courts, as a result of which charges were being preferred at the end of the year against Hassan Mwanzuka and two others in the Resident Magistrate's Court in Mombasa.

The Digo Welfare Association was active during the year, but although some of its members were also members of the African Workers Federation, it displayed a genuine desire to cooperate with Government for the social, educational and economic development of the Digo tribe. Most of the leading Digo government and Local Native Council servants are members of this Association.