

MADRAS IN 1946

(OUTLINE OF THE ADMINISTRATION)

PART I

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1947

PREFATORY NOTE

"Madras in 1946" is a general summary of the salient features of the administration during the calendar year 1946. The Madras Administration Report, 1945-46, which is being published simultaneously, contains detailed information on the work of the various departments in the official year 1945-46. They correspond to Parts I and II respectively of the Presidency Administration Report published up to 1939. The year 1946 will be remembered as the year in which a fully representative ministry assumed office for the second time in this Province. Several schemes were initiated by the popular Government, some of the more important being an enquiry into the question of the separation of the judiciary from the executive, the introduction of Prohibition in certain parts of the Province, the introduction of a new textile policy with special reference to the development of the Khadi Industry, and the introduction of various measures to improve cottage industries in selected areas. A brief reference has been made in this booklet to each of these items and also to the work of each department.



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MADRAS IN 1946

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CHAPTER I—GENERAL

The Executive

His Excellency Captain the Hon'ble Sir Arthur Oswald James Hope, G.C.I.E., M.C., continued to hold office as Governor of the Presidency of Fort St. George till the afternoon of the 26th February 1946. His Excellency Sir Henry Foley Knight, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., acted as Governor from the 26th February 1946 afternoon till 6th May 1946 forenoon on which date His Excellency Lieutenant-General Sir Archibald Edward Nye, G.C.I.E., K.C.B., K.B.E., M.C., took charge and continued to hold office as Governor of the Presidency of Fort St. George.

2. The Advisers to His Excellency the Governor continued to be :

Sir Norman Strathie, K.C.I.E., I.C.S.—

Public Department *excluding* Fire Services.

Finance Department.

Revenue Department—Excise, Registration, and Commercial Taxes.

Sir Thomas Austin, K.C.I.E., I.C.S.—

Education and Public Health Department.

Legal Department.

Local Administration Department.

Public Works Department *excluding* Irrigation, Industrial and Labour disputes, Labour and Communities eligible for help by the Labour Department, and Factories and Trade Unions.

Sir S. V. Ramamurty, K.C.I.E., I.C.S.—

Development Department.

Public Works Department—Irrigation.

Mr. E. M. Gawne, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S.—

Revenue Department *excluding* Excise, Registration, and Commercial Taxes.

Home Department.

Public Works Department—Industrial and Labour disputes, Labour and Communities eligible for help by the Labour Department, and Factories and Trade Unions.

Public Department—Fire Services.

Sir Thomas Austin went on leave preparatory to retirement on 6th February 1946 and Mr. J. B. Brown, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., acted as Adviser. Sir S. V. Ramamurty was on deputation in the United Kingdom and the U.S.A. as a Member of the Food Delegation from 9th February to 30th March 1946. As he retained the status of Adviser during this period, a fifth post of Adviser was created

to which Mr. C. H. Masterman, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., was appointed. Mr. J. B. Brown, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., went on leave from 24th March 1946, and Mr. C. H. Masterman continued as Adviser till 30th April 1946 on which date a Ministry assumed charge. During the period 24th to 30th March 1946, the subjects attended to by Mr. J. B. Brown were shared by the other Advisers.

For the first time since 1939 a popularly elected Ministry took office. Eleven Ministers took charge on 30th April 1946 and subsequently two other Ministers took charge on 1st June 1946. The allocation of business among the Ministers was as follows:—

(1) The Hon'ble Sri T. PRAKASAM, in charge of Public, Police, Finance, Planning and Food.

(2) The Hon'ble MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI, in charge of Public Health and Medicine.

(3) The Hon'ble Sri V. V. GIRI, in charge of Industries, Labour, Electricity, Co-operation and Emigration.

(4) The Hon'ble Sri K. BHASHYAM, in charge of Law, Home, (except Police and Motor Transport and Registration).

(5) The Hon'ble Sri K. KOTI REDDI, in charge of Hindu Religious Endowments, Charitable Institutions and Excise.

(6) The Hon'ble MR. DANIEL THOMAS, in charge of Local Administration.

(7) The Hon'ble Sri K. R. KARANTH, in charge of Land Revenue and Commercial Taxes.

(8) The Hon'ble Sri M. BHAKTHAVATSALAM, in charge of Public Works (General), Irrigation and Highways.

(9) The Hon'ble Sri P. S. KUMARASWAMI RAJA, in charge of Agriculture, Commerce and Trade, Veterinary and Debt Relief.

(10) The Hon'ble Sri T. S. AVANASHILINGAM CHETTI, in charge of Education.

(11) The Hon'ble Sri V. KURMAYYA, in charge of Public Information and Hajian Uplift.

(12) The Hon'ble Sri B. VEERASWAMI, in charge of Forests, Fisheries and Village Industries.

(13) The Hon'ble Sri R. RAGHAVA MENON, in charge of Food, Motor Transport and House Control.

The Legislature

The proclamation issued in 1939 under section 93 of the Government of India Act, 1935, was in force till 30th April 1946. The second general election to the Provincial Legislature under the Government of India Act, 1935, was held in March 1946.

The first session of the second Legislative Assembly and the fifth session of the Legislative Council began on the 24th May 1946. Sri R. B. Ramakrishna Rajulungaru was elected unanimously as President of the Council, while Sri K. Venkataswami Nayudu continued to be Deputy President of the Council. Sri J. Sivashanmukham Pillai was elected unanimously as Speaker of the

Assembly and Srimathi C. Ammanna Raja as its Deputy Speaker. There were three bye-elections to the Assembly consequent on the death of members and two more seats fell vacant, one by resignation and the other by death.

"In accordance with paragraph 21 of the Statement by the Cabinet Delegation and His Excellency the Viceroy of 16th May 1946, a special meeting of the Assembly was convened on 22nd July 1946 for the election of 45 General and 4 Muslim representatives to the Constituent Assembly. An election was held for the 45 General seats. The Muslim representatives were elected unanimously."

The business transacted during the year related mainly to the budget for 1946-47 and Government Bills. The food and cloth situation in the Province was also debated at length for over six days in the Assembly on a motion moved by the Hon'ble the Premier. The Council sat for 16 days in the year, all for official business and the Assembly for 31 days, also for official business. Out of 353 questions received for the Legislative Council, 341 were admitted, 5 disallowed, 3 referred back to Members of Legislative Council and 4 withdrawn, and out of 1,305 questions received for the Assembly, 1,167 were admitted, 61 disallowed, 56 referred back to Members of Legislative Assembly and 24 withdrawn. In all 105 questions were answered in the Council and 306 in the Assembly. The sessions of the Assembly and the Council were prorogued by His Excellency the Governor on 13th December 1946.

The Services

Direct recruitment was made by the Commission to 21 classes of posts and selection was also made for direct recruitment to 42 classes of posts, exclusively from persons with war service. In November 1946, a competitive examination was held for the recruitment of clerks, typists, etc., to the Madras Ministerial Service, Madras Judicial Ministerial Service and the Madras Secretariat Service. There were 2,794 qualified candidates for the examination and the number of unpassed men already in service who also appeared was 544. The number of vacancies expected to arise in 1947 was 2,479.

The Salaries Committee

The question of revision of salaries of the subordinate services was considered to be a very urgent problem as the cost of living had soared and Government servants were working under very difficult conditions. A Cabinet Salaries Committee was therefore constituted in August 1946, consisting of—

The Hon'ble Sri K. R. Karanth, Minister for Revenue as Chairman;

the Hon'ble Mr. Daniel Thomas, Minister for Local Administration as Member; and

the Hon'ble Sri M. Bhakthavatsalam, Minister for Public Works as Member.

to go into the question not only as regards Government servants but also as regards municipal and local board employees and teachers of aided educational institutions. The Committee held 23 meetings and presented its report at the end of October 1946. At the request of the Cabinet, three more meetings were held by the Committee to consider the views of the several Ministers. Some of the original recommendations were revised in the light of the observations made by the Ministers and at the end of December 1946 the Cabinet considered and accepted all the recommendations of the Committee and ordered that they should take effect from 1st January 1947. Some of the more important recommendations included provision for—

(a) annual increments instead of biennial increments as at present;

(b) liberal increases in pay in some cases in excess of those suggested by the Salaries Committee that considered the question in 1944, particularly in respect of clerks and peons. The lower division clerk's pay which was Rs. 30—55 per month was to be raised to Rs. 45—90 per month and the upper division clerk's pay was to be increased from Rs. 55—70 a month to Rs. 80—110 per month, while the peons were to get an increase from Rs. 12—17 per month to Rs. 16—25 per month;

(c) Grant of house-rent allowance to Government servants within certain pay limits in all municipalities with a population of over 50,000; and

(d) Continuance of the dearness allowance at appropriate rates until the cost of living falls to 80 per cent above the pre-war level.

The important considerations that guided the Committee was that even after the abnormal conditions arising from the war subside, the cost of living would not fall below 180 per cent of the pre-war level. The salaries were fixed so as to be sufficient for the Government servant to live without difficulty when the cost of living should come down to that level.

Cost of Public Services

Including High Court Judges, Members of the Indian Civil Service, other All-India Services, Provincial Services, the Subordinate, Ministerial and Inferior Services and the village establishment, the total number of persons under the pay of the Madras Government was 265,826 at the end of the financial year 1945-46 and the total salaries bill for that year amounted to Rs. 897.31 lakhs. The number of pensioners under the Madras Government at the end of 1945-46 was 29,985 and the amount paid to them came to Rs. 144.58 lakhs.

CHAPTER II—LEGISLATION

During the year 18 Acts were passed, of which the first 12 were in exercise of the powers of the Provincial Legislature assumed by His Excellency the Governor under the Proclamation under section 93 of the Government of India Act, 1935, and the remaining 6 were enacted by the Madras Legislature. Besides this, 3 Regulations were made.

Madras Act I of 1946 [The Madras District Municipalities (Amendment) Act, 1946] raises the maximum of the salary and allowances payable to the Commissioner of the Madura Municipality, from Rs. 1,200 per mensem to Rs. 1,500 per mensem, plus war allowance in the case of a Government servant.

Madras Act II of 1946 [The Madras Motor Vehicles Taxation (Amendment) Act, 1946] provides for the payment of compensation in two cases not covered by the principal Act, viz., (i) for loss of income from tolls and the vehicle tax on motor vehicles, in the case of municipalities constituted on or after the 1st April 1931; and (ii) for loss of income from fees on licences granted to motor vehicles, in the case of municipalities constituted on or after the 1st April 1938.

Madras Act III of 1946 [The Madras Legislative Assembly (Railway Employees Removal of Disqualifications) Act, 1946] makes employees of railways in this Province eligible for membership of the Madras Legislative Assembly.

Madras Act IV of 1946 [The Madras Gaming (Amendment) Act, 1946] extends the definitions of "gaming", "common gaming-house" and "instruments of gaming" so as to cover all forms of wagering and betting. The Act also provides for the payment of rewards to informers or police officers who assist in the detection of offenders, from fines levied and moneys or proceeds of articles ordered to be forfeited.

Madras Act V of 1946 [The Madras Debt Conciliation (Amendment) Act, 1946] provides that all applications pending before a Debt Conciliation Board on the date on which it ceased to exist should be deemed to have been dismissed, even though no specific direction had been issued by Government under section 4-A of the principal Act.

Madras Act VI of 1946 [The Madras District Municipalities (Second Amendment) Act, 1946] empowers Government to frame rules prescribing the manner in which, and the person or persons by whom, the annual value of lands which are not exclusively used for agricultural purposes, may be estimated or revised.

Madras Act VII of 1946 [The Madras District Municipalities and Local Boards (Amendment) Act, 1946] empowers Government to

place roads of military importance and other important roads in the Province under the control of the Highways Department. The Act also makes it clear that local bodies should continue to provide civic amenities like lighting, scavenging, drainage, watering, etc., for such roads.

Madras Act VIII of 1946 [The Madras Elementary Education (Amendment) Act, 1946] vests in the District Educational Officer (instead of in the Commissioner of the Corporation of Madras, the Chairmen of Municipal Councils and the Presidents of District Boards) the power to impose penalties on guardians who fail to send children of school-age to schools in compulsory education areas.

Madras Act IX of 1946 [The Madras Land Acquisition (Ex-service Men's Settlements) Act, 1946] empowers Government to acquire lands for establishing settlements of ex-service men, or to take over lands for their temporary occupation and use. The lands so acquired or taken over are to be granted in the first instance to co-operative societies which will consist predominantly of ex-service men and subsequently by such societies to their members.

Madras Act X of 1946 [The Madras Hindu Religious Endowments (Amendment) Act, 1946] (a) brings within the scope of the principal Act Hindu religious endowments in the Presidency-town, (b) removes the distinction between excepted and non-excepted temples, (c) provides for a more effective auditing of the accounts of the temples, and (d) enlarges the powers of the Board in certain respects.

Madras Act XI of 1946 [The Madras Local Boards (Amendment) Act, 1946] and Madras Act XII of 1946 (The Madras Village Panchayats Act, 1946) are closely connected measures. Act XII is a self-contained enactment governing village panchayats, and Act XI makes consequential changes in the Madras Local Boards Act. Act XI also removes certain minor difficulties encountered in working the Madras Local Boards Act, besides improving the administration of District Boards in various respects in the light of experience. The Acts have not yet been brought into force.

Madras Act XIII of 1946 [The Madras Payment of Salaries and Removal of Disqualifications (Amendment) Act, 1946] increases the salaries of the Ministers, the Speaker and Deputy Speaker, the President and Deputy President, the Parliamentary Secretaries and Members of the Legislature, on account of the great increase in the cost of living.

Madras Act XIV of 1946 [The Madras Essential Articles Control and Requisitioning (Temporary Powers) Act, 1946] enables Government to control, for a limited period, the production, supply, distribution, transport and prices of essential articles, and also to requisition property.

Madras Act XV of 1946 [The Madras Buildings (Lease and Rent Control) Act, 1946] regulates the letting of both residential and non-residential buildings. Provision has been made in the Act for fixing fair rents for both classes of buildings, and protecting tenants from unreasonable eviction. Whenever a building falls vacant the landlord is to give at least 7 days' notice to a Controller appointed by the Government so that it may be allotted, if necessary, for a Government purpose or as the residence of a Government Officer.

Madras Act XVI of 1946 [The Madras District Municipalities and Local Boards (Second Amendment) Act, 1946] provides that members of Municipal Councils and District Boards which are reconstituted after a supersession or dissolution, should be elected and not nominated. The Act also empowers the Government to appoint Special Officers for administering the affairs of District Boards during the interval between the vacation of office by existing members and the assumption of office by new members.

Madras Act XVII of 1946 (The Madras Tenants and Ryots Protection Act, 1946) gives protection, for a temporary period, to tenants to whom the Malabar Tenancy Act, 1920, applies, and tenants of private lands in estates governed by the Madras Estates Land Act, 1908, against (i) eviction and (ii) the sale of their holdings. It also protects ryots in such estates against the sale of their holdings. Provision has been made for the stay of suits and other proceedings relating to such eviction and sales.

Madras Act XVIII of 1946 (The Madras Preservation of Private Forests Act, 1946) (i) safeguards private forests from being destroyed by the indiscriminate cutting of trees and (ii) provides for the stay of proceedings, civil and criminal, in which any claim to customary or prescriptive rights in a forest is involved.

Three Regulations were also made during the year 1946 in respect of the Partially Excluded Areas in the Province.

Madras Regulation III of 1945 [The Madras (Partially Excluded Areas) Hindu Religious Endowments Regulation, 1945] extends the Madras Hindu Religious Endowments Act, 1926, with certain modifications, to the partially excluded areas.

Madras Regulation I of 1946 [The Madras Agency Rules (Amendment) Regulation, 1946], and Madras Regulation II of 1946 [The Madras Agency Rules (Second Amendment) Regulation, 1946] amend the Agency Rules, the former to provide for the transfer of any suit, appeal or other proceeding pending in any Agency Court to any Civil Court in any other Province, and the latter for the exercise by the Headquarters Sub-Collector at Vizagapatam of all or any of the powers and functions of the Collector of Vizagapatam in his capacity as the Provincial Government's Agent.

CHAPTER III—FINANCE

Accounts, 1945-46

Revenue.—The main feature of the year was the large increase of Rs. 668.49 lakhs in revenue as compared with the previous year. The total revenue realized amounted to Rs. 4,792.22 lakhs against the budget estimate of Rs. 4,125.29 lakhs. There were increased receipts as compared with the budget estimate under all the principal heads of revenue except "Land Revenue after deducting portion due to irrigation." The largest increase was under "Provincial Excise" (Rs. 268.68 lakhs) mainly as a result of increased consumption, larger receipts from tree tax and higher rentals realized from arrack and toddy shops due to keen competition among bidders. The share of income-tax receipts assigned to the Province was Rs. 70.65 lakhs more than had been anticipated in the budget. There was a large increase under "Other Taxes and Duties" (Rs. 153.82 lakhs) as a result of larger receipts from the General Sales Tax due to high prices and the consequent increase in the turnover of the assesses and the gradual improvement in the administration of the tax, from "Entertainments Tax" owing to the 50 per cent increase in the rates for all classes except the lowest, and from "Motor Spirit Sales Tax" and "Betting Tax". The other substantial increases were Rs. 51.67 lakhs under 'Stamps' as a result of a general increase in business transactions, Rs. 13.61 lakhs under "Forest" mainly due to better prices and larger supplies of timber for war purposes and of fuel and charcoal to Madras City, Rs. 13.56 lakhs under "Registration" on account of an increase in transactions, and Rs. 25.50 lakhs under "Receipts under Motor Vehicles Acts" as a result of the import of more vehicles.

Expenditure.—The total expenditure on Revenue Account was Rs. 4,791.58 lakhs which exceeded the budget figure of Rs. 4,045.14 lakhs by Rs. 746.44 lakhs. Once again a large sum of Rs. 1,803.00 lakhs was transferred to the Revenue Reserve Fund for financing post-war development schemes. The largest increase, viz., Rupees 100.90 lakhs occurred under "General Administration" due mainly to the grant of dearness allowance to village officers and servants, higher rates of dearness and war allowances to Government servants and employment of additional staff for various purposes. There was an increase of Rs. 48.87 lakhs under "Police" as a result of the enhanced rates of dearness and war allowances, larger expenditure on petty construction and repairs and employment of additional staff to strengthen the taluk police and an increase of Rs. 69.76 lakhs under "Civil Works" due mainly to a number of new works sanctioned in the course of the year and larger expenditure on roads taken over from local bodies. The other large increases of expenditure were Rs. 30.43 lakhs under

"Other taxes and Duties", Rs. 17.64 lakhs under "Irrigation—Other Revenue Expenditure financed from ordinary revenues", Rupees 10.52 lakhs under "Administration of Justice", Rs. 29.82 lakhs under "Medical", Rs. 11.08 lakhs under "Agriculture", and Rs. 22.05 lakhs under "Capital outlay on industrial development."

Budgetary position (1945-46).—The Budget estimates for the year showed a surplus of Rs. 80.15 lakhs against Rs. 0.77 lakh in the previous year. The year however closed with an actual surplus of Rs. 0.64 lakh, after transferring to the Revenue Reserve Fund a sum of Rs. 803.00 lakhs in excess of Rs. 1,000.00 lakhs contemplated in the Budget.

Capital expenditure outside the Revenue Account and loans and advances by the Provincial Government (1945-46).—The Government incurred capital expenditure outside the Revenue Account to the extent of Rs. 90.61 lakhs in 1945-46 mainly on irrigation and electricity schemes and on cinchona plantations. A sum of Rs. 119.28 lakhs was disbursed as loans to local bodies, agriculturists, etc., besides a sum of Rs. 24.00 lakhs by way of short-term loans to the Madras Co-operative Central Land Mortgage Bank.

Budget, 1946-47

The Budget for 1946-7 included provision for the normal activities of the Government as well as for certain special items of expenditure, such as, heavy subsidies on food, large expenditure on famine relief operations, additional grant to managements of aided institutions towards the increase in the pay of teachers, contribution of Rs. 4 crores to the Fund for Village Reconstruction and Harijan Uplift, and a contribution of Rs. 30 lakhs to the Rural Water-supply Fund.

New schemes of expenditure.—The Government made a much larger provision for new schemes of expenditure in 1946-7 than had been made during the war years. The net estimated expenditure in 1946-7 on new schemes costing over Rs. 10,000 each and debit-able to the Revenue Account, for which provision was made in the Budget was Rs. 1,961.99 lakhs. The more important of the new schemes were (1) irrigation works to increase food production, and investigation of the Ramapadasagar project, (2) constitution of a special fund for Village Reconstruction and Harijan Uplift and transfer of Rs. 400 lakhs from the Revenue Account to the credit of that Fund, (3) extension of compulsory primary education to further selected areas, extension of the supply of free mid-day meals to poor children attending elementary schools in the selected areas, training of 4,000 additional teachers and payment of increased stipends to teachers undergoing training, grant to the Andhra University towards the cost of the Chancellory and Administration buildings, increased block grant to the Annamalai University, opening of Government Engineering Colleges at Cocanada and Anantapur, opening of a Government College for Muslim Girls

at Madras, (4) provincialization of five local fund medical institutions, opening of two Government Medical Colleges at Madura and Guntur, training of 200 additional midwives and improvement of Indian Medicine, (5) purchase of drugs and equipment in connexion with measures for the prevention of epidemic diseases on account of food scarcity, opening of two additional anti-malarial units at Vizagapatam and East Godavari districts, (6) free distribution of manure in the districts of Malabar and South Kanara and payment of bonus to cultivators for short-term cereal crops, (7) opening of three experimental centres for the manufacture of sugar and jaggery from sugarcane juice, (8) execution of road works included in the first phase of the five-year programme of post-war road development and of new works and repairs and maintenance of roads taken over from the local bodies by the Highways Department, and (9) free distribution of milk to the school children and priority consumers in the mufassal.

The Budget anticipated a revenue surplus of Rs. 0.15 lakh, after taking credit for the transfer of a sum of Rs. 894 lakhs from the Revenue Reserve Fund account to wipe off the deficit which would otherwise occur in the Revenue Account.

Capital expenditure outside the Revenue Account, 1946-7 and loans and advances by the Provincial Government.—The amount required for capital expenditure outside the Revenue Account in 1946-7 was estimated at Rs. 429.84 lakhs (against Rs. 87.77 lakhs in 1945-6). Out of this an amount of Rs. 409.82 lakhs was for expenditure on irrigation works, electricity schemes and schemes of industrial development, which will produce revenue to cover the whole or part of the interest on the capital outlay. A sum of Rs. 206.38 lakhs was provided for loans to local bodies, agriculturists, co-operative societies, etc., including Rs. 30 lakhs for short-term loans to the Madras Co-operative Central Land Mortgage Bank.

Loans, 1946

A special loan of Rs. 409.30 lakhs was raised in the open market in September 1946 to be utilized towards the estimated capital outlay of Rs. 409.82 lakhs on the revenue-producing schemes mentioned in the previous paragraph and for re-lending to local bodies, agriculturists, etc.

Three months' treasury bills of the nominal value of Rs. 50 lakhs issued in October 1945 and outstanding at the end of December 1945 were repaid in January 1946. There were no issues of treasury bills during 1946.

CHAPTER IV—SEASONAL CONDITIONS, REVENUE, ETC.

Rainfall and crops.—The rainfall during the south-west monsoon was generally below normal. The area cultivated from April to September 1946 was less than in the previous year, both as regards dry and wet crops, due to inadequate rainfall. The condition of standing crops was generally fair except in the Circars and the Deccan where the crops withered for want of rain.

In November and December 1946 there were heavy incessant rains on the Coromandel Coast and in the districts of Salem, Chittoor, Cuddapah and Trichinopoly. Standing crops were not much affected by these floods, except in a few villages, but some irrigation sources were affected in the districts of Nellore, Chingleput, South Arcot and Salem. Relief was given to those affected by the floods by cash grants, by the grant of remission of land revenue and tree tax, by the supply of seed for raising another crop, and the grant of loans for the purchase of seed, etc.

Famine.—In the early part of the year relief operations had to be undertaken in the districts of Bellary and Anantapur and in Rapur taluk of Nellore district, where seasonal conditions were very unfavourable. There were 84 works in progress in Anantapur and Bellary with a daily average attendance of 5,232. In addition to this, gratuitous relief in the shape of cash and grain was given to an average number of 17,186 persons daily in the districts of Anantapur and Bellary. This was stopped in November. Four relief kitchens were worked in Anantapur for about 1½ months. Fodder scarcity was also keenly felt in these areas and 26 Government Fodder Depots were opened in Anantapur and 7 in Bellary. Condensed milk was also supplied to expectant and nursing mothers and children up to eight years of age.

Land revenue.—Out of a demand of Rs. 9.89 crores for fasli 1355, a sum of Rs. 9.64 crores or 98.5 per cent was either collected or written off. Owing to very bad seasonal conditions by way of cyclone in the Circars and drought in the southern districts during the north-east monsoon period, Government had to remit large sums of land revenue ranging from Rs. 33,000 in Vizagapatam to Rs. 20 lakhs in West Godavari and from Rs. 25,000 in Kurnool district to Rs. 6 lakhs in Anantapur district. The collection of land revenue had also to be postponed in the districts of Anantapur and Kurnool and, in fasli 1356, the collection of a sum of Rs. 3 lakhs and more was postponed in Bellary district.

Commercial taxes.—The three Commercial Taxation Acts were administered satisfactorily. The rate of General Sales Tax continued to be one per cent for turnovers exceeding Rs. 20,000 and the slab rates for smaller turnovers continued to be the same. As a result of agitation from commission agents and Chambers of

Commerce, a Special Officer was appointed to investigate into the methods of business of commission agents and determine whether their assessment under the Act was in order. On the report of the Special Officer, Government decided that these agents should continue to be taxed under the Act for failure to comply with the conditions of the licence and the provisions of the Act and the rules framed under it.

Excise and Prohibition

The outstanding feature of the year was the reintroduction of prohibition in the four districts of Salem, Chittoor, Cuddapah and North Arcot, and its introduction for the first time in the districts of Bellary, Anantapur, Kurnool and Coimbatore with effect from 1st October 1946. All toddy, arrack, ganja and opium shops in the seventeen firkas in the non-prohibition districts selected under the Intensive Rural Development Scheme were also closed. The enforcement of prohibition in the four districts of Salem, Chittoor, Coimbatore and North Arcot was entrusted to the Police Department. For this purpose they had a special staff of two Assistant Commissioners of Excise lent from the Excise Department, seven Deputy Superintendents of Police recruited from Excise Inspectors, seven Inspectors from the ordinary Police, 87 Sub-Inspectors recruited from Excise Sub-Inspectors, 334 Head-constables from the ordinary police and 874 constables of whom 494 were recruited from among Excise peons. The two Assistant Commissioners worked only till the end of the year. In the remaining four districts the officers and men of the Excise Department newly constituted into a Prohibition Department consisting of one Deputy Commissioner of Prohibition, four District Prohibition Officers and others were responsible for the enforcement of Prohibition. The reconstruction work that had to be taken up along with prohibition was entrusted to the Deputy Commissioner, Prohibition (Amelioration)—formerly a Joint Registrar of Co-operative Societies—eight special Development Officers as Personal Assistants to the Collectors of the eight districts, 31 Assistant Development Officers as Personal Assistants to the Revenue Divisional Officers, 77 Rural Recreation Officers, one for each taluk, 77 rural guides and 31 ballad singers. The supply of liquor in the ten mile belt area adjoining the prohibition districts was on a restricted scale and possession of liquor without a permit, outside licensed premises in this area, was prohibited. The number of cases detected in the eight prohibition districts was 3,362, of which 1,669 related to illicit distillation and kindred offences. The work of constituting taluk and village prohibition committees was completed in most of the districts, but the assistance from these committees in the detection of crimes was not very appreciable.

In order to increase the efficiency of the Excise administration, two new subdivisions were formed with headquarters at Tanjore and Erode, with effect from 1st March 1946. A separate party consisting of an Assistant Inspector, petty officers and peons was

appointed to work under each Assistant Commissioner from 1st April 1946 to deal with crime beyond the scope of the local officers. The Excise staff in the eight prohibition districts was abolished. The Abkari and Opium administration in the British enclave villages of Anjengo and Tangasseri was handed over to the Travancore Government with effect from 1st April 1946. The Madras Government's administration of abkari and opium revenues in Banganapalle State terminated with effect from 1st October 1946. There was an increase in consumption for the first nine months of the year, due mainly to the larger amount of money available with all classes and the shortage of consumer goods. But there was a decrease under ganja, Indian made 'foreign' spirits, including coconut toddy, arrack, and beer brewed in India. The system of rationing of arrack introduced in 1943 continued during the year, but the quotas were increased. The issue price of opium was raised from Rs. 140 to Rs. 150 with effect from 1st April 1946.

Court of Wards.—There were 11 estates under the superintendence of the Court of Wards at the beginning of the year. The estates of Pappanad, Sivaganga and Vizianagram were handed over to the Proprietors during the year. The health and education of all the Wards were generally satisfactory. The Court's efforts were directed as before to the stabilization of administration, the improvement of finances, the restoration of neglected irrigation works, the conservancy of forests and the education of the Wards. Revenue collections were satisfactory except in the estates of Salur and Siripuram. In the estates of Sivagiri, Chundi and Salur, section 45 of the Act was in force. Instructions were issued for the payment of debts of the Sivagiri estate in accordance with the scheme prepared by the Collector. The sale of certain villages in Siripuram estate could not be held as there were no purchasers forthcoming. Government therefore decided to release the estate from the Court's superintendence, as there was no reasonable prospect of repaying the debts. A loan of Rs. 2 lakhs was sanctioned to Salur estate for the repayment of its debts. The surplus funds of the unencumbered estates were invested in Defence and Victory Bonds.

Schemes for sinking and repairing wells.—There were three schemes in force during the year. The first scheme was the one introduced in 1944 in 11 districts of the Province, under which a subsidy of 25 per cent of the cost of a new well or repairs to an old well subject to a maximum of Rs. 300 in Bellary district and Rs. 310 in the other districts for a new well and Rs. 200 for an old well was granted. The scheme will be in force until the end of March 1947. The second scheme was the accelerated scheme introduced in February-March 1946 in all the districts of the Province except the Nilgiris, under which a subsidy of 50 per cent of the cost of a new well or repairs to an old well, subject to a maximum of Rs. 310 or Rs. 300 for a new well and Rs. 160 for an old well was granted. Time has been granted till the end of March 1947 for the completion

of works under this scheme. The third scheme was the one introduced in June 1946, specially for the Ceded districts, under which a subsidy of 50 per cent of the cost, subject to a maximum of Rs. 500 for a new well and Rs. 300 for an old well is paid. This scheme will be in force till the end of June 1947. A sum of Rs. 2.33 crores has been granted by way of subsidy for the sinking or repairing of 95,367 wells and work has been completed in respect of 45,933 wells.

CHAPTER V—LAW, ORDER AND JUSTICE

Separation of the Judiciary from the Executive

Government decided to take steps for the separation of the Judiciary from the Executive in the Province and therefore appointed a committee to consider the best method of implementing this policy. The committee submitted its report and it was under the consideration of the Government. The appointment of a Special Officer to work out the details of the scheme recommended by the committee was also under consideration.

Police

General.—Due to the threat of famine, the shortage of essential commodities and housing, and the wave of labour unrest that swept the country, the year 1946 was a difficult one for the Police.

Staff.—Out of three Army Officers given training for employment in the Police Department, two were posted to the charge of subdivisions and one reverted to the Army. The permanent retention was sanctioned of the temporary additional staff of 86 head constables and 5,000 constables for strengthening the taluk police. Police subdivisions were formed in Vizagapatam South, Coimbatore and North Arcot districts. A temporary additional staff was appointed for dealing with cases of corruption and black-marketing. A number of ex-army recruits were trained during the year at the Central Recruits' Schools at Vellore, Coimbatore and Anantapur. Forty Indian Sergeants were selected from ex-service personnel. The scales of pay of police subordinate officers were increased with effect from 1st April 1946.

Armed forces.—The Armed Reserves, Presidency General Reserve and Emergency Forces were amalgamated and reorganized with effect from 1st May 1946. Four additional Companies of the Malabar Special Police which went on strike in April 1946 were disbanded. The Malabar Special Police was, as in the previous years, deputed to various parts of the Province for bandobast duties. This Force is now commanded by a Senior District Superintendent of Police.

Additional Police continued to be stationed in the villages of Gudipad, Chinnasettipalle and Musaliyeddipalli in Cuddapah district and Muradi Hanumapuram in Bellary district at the cost of the inhabitants. Additional police were stationed for the first time in Himakuntla village in Cuddapah district at the cost of the inhabitants. The Police stationed in Eunamangalam village in Coimbatore district were withdrawn.

Crime.—Due mainly to adverse economic conditions and high prices of essential commodities the total crime increased by about 16.4 per cent over that for 1945. Increases were registered under

all heads of crime except robbery. Murder increased by 2.9 per cent, dacoity by 28.6 per cent, house-breaking by 21.8 per cent, major thefts by 17.4 per cent, and cattle-theft by 9.7 per cent. Robbery decreased by 4.5 per cent. Increases occurred in all districts except North Arcot, Tanjore, Tinnevely, the Nilgiris and South Kanara. The percentage of detection was 28.3.

Inspectors were placed in charge of District Intelligence Bureaux and a Deputy Superintendent of Police was in charge of the Joint Intelligence Bureau at Madura. A separate Kepmari Bureau was formed in November in the Criminal Investigation Department for the collection of information regarding the activities of Kepmaris. The Superintendent of the Finger-Print Bureau was deputed to Ceylon to study the system of finger-print work there. Village Vigilance Committees proved useful only in a few districts. They were reconstituted in the districts of South Arcot and Tinnevely. Civic Guards were abolished in those districts in which they were functioning. The enforcement of prohibition which was introduced in eight districts on 1st October 1946 was entrusted to the Police Department in the four districts of Chittoor, North Arcot Salem and Coimbatore. The provisions of the Madras City Police Act were extended to some important urban areas in the Province.

Riots and disturbances.—There were 88 cases of riots and disturbances. Most of them were minor in nature, but on 33 occasions the police had to open fire. There were Hindu-Muslim clashes in the districts of Kistna, Guntur, Nellore, Kurnool, Anantapur, Chittoor, North Arcot, Madura South, Ramnad and Salem, but none of them was serious. Tear gas was used successfully to disperse unruly mobs in Madras City, Madura and Vaniambadi. It was also used to overcome a prisoner in the Sub-Jail in Vellore and a dangerous lunatic in Coimbatore. The Police Wireless Scheme was introduced to make police work more rapid and effective.

City Police

The year 1946 was a strenuous one for the City Police due to the conditions of general unrest following the cessation of hostilities and demobilization, and the developments in the political, labour and communal fields.

Crime.—There was an increase in the volume of crime due partly to economic conditions. A number of demobilized persons were found concerned in these crimes. The percentage of detection increased to 45 per cent (42). The system of partial decentralization of the Crime Branch continued to work satisfactorily. Of the 21 murders committed during the year, two were due to communal causes and another two were due to the sudden scare in the city that children were being kidnapped. The mob considered the victims of the murder to be responsible for the kidnapping.

Law and order.—Mr. Gandhi's sojourn in Madras for three weeks early in the year necessitated considerable extra police

bandobast and the establishment of a temporary outpost at Thyagarayanagar. There were three minor disturbances in the Vyasarpadi area due to communal tension, in the course of which two were killed and seven seriously injured.

There were a number of strikes and disturbances during the year, the more important being the South Indian Railway strike, the Postal and Telegraph employees strike, the Corporation Conservancy workers' strike. The non-gazetted officers of Government also threatened to strike. There were also general hartals in sympathy with the Royal Indian Navy mutiny, in connection with the arrest of Pandit Nehru in Kashmir and in sympathy with the Corporation Conservancy workers. During the hartal in sympathy with the Royal Indian Navy mutiny, the police resorted to firing, but there were no casualties. However, during some stone-throwing on cars and vehicles, firing by a private individual, apparently in self-defence, resulted in the death of a boy. There were several disturbances caused by a "kidnapping scare" when harmless beggars were attacked by misguided mobs. Communist influence had much to do with many of the strikes and disturbances.

There were two major fire accidents in the city in which eight persons died and nine received extensive burns.

Radio telephonic communication between Police stations and Mobile patrols was introduced in the City. This has added greatly to the efficiency of the City Police and Riot Squads. Unprecedented rains in November and December resulted in heavy floods in the City during which the Police organized rescue work.

There was a decrease of about 50 per cent in accidents involving military vehicles. New roundabouts and a large number of refuge islands came into existence during the year. There was an increase in the number of licences issued due to the increase in the number of motor vehicles coming on the roads.

Harbour Police.—The Harbour Police were kept fully engaged throughout the year by the heavy passenger traffic from Burma and the Far East and the frequent troop movements and the entry of a large number of grain ships to the harbour. Attempts to smuggle opium, piece-goods and drugs were met with on a large-scale. The Harbour Pass Office was closed in June 1946 and the issue of passes was taken over by the Port Trust. Stevedoring labourers went on a lightning strike on the 13th November 1946, but work was resumed within three days. The high level of detection reached during the previous year was maintained.

Prisons

There was a decrease in the daily average population of the prisons in the Province, due to the release of all detenus and prisoners convicted under the Defence of India Rules, and also due to the releases under the Premature Release Scheme sanctioned by Government in order to find accommodation for prohibition offenders.

On the recommendation of the Advisory Board, 332 prisoners were released and under the Premature Release Scheme, 630 were released. The number of prison offences showed an increase to 840 (703).

Several changes were made in prison administration during the year. The District Jail at Madura was converted into a Central Jail. "B Class" prisoners were allowed the same privileges as "A Class" prisoners in respect of clothing and bedding. "A Class" prisoners were allowed to use their own tooth paste and tooth brush and razors on condition that the razors were kept with the jail authorities when not in use. Prisoners in subsidiary jails were allowed to be kept in the open air where suitable enclosures existed. Paper-making was started in a few jails, phenyle manufacture in the Penitentiary, Madras, and experiments on the manufacture of ink at the Central Jail, Coimbatore. Several improvements to sub-jails such as the provision of aluminium eating and drinking vessels, the purchase of clothing for prisoners, the construction of platforms for prisoners to take their food and the purchase of books and sports materials were under the consideration of Government. Increased rates of conveyance allowance were sanctioned for lecturers on religious and moral subjects to go to the Central Jails at Cannanore and Bellary and the Mental Jail at Cuddalore. Members of the Madras Legislature and the Central Legislature were appointed as special visitors to jails within their respective constituencies. A post of Assistant Inspector-General of Prisons was created in lieu of the Personal Assistant to the Inspector-General.

There was an increase in the daily average number of inmates at the Borstal School, Palamcottah, and there was overcrowding in the school. Government permitted the payment of railway fare to inmates going on leave to visit their homes.

Four Government Certified Schools and three private Certified Schools continued to function throughout the year. The daily average in all the schools decreased to 2,828 (3,119). The Junior Certified School under the Madras Society for the Protection of Children which was shifted to Tanjore in 1942 was brought back to Madras during the year. To relieve overcrowding in the Senior Certified School at Chingleput, 92 boys were discharged on licence. A Conference of Headmasters of all Certified Schools was held for the first time at the Senior Certified School, Chingleput, in April 1946. The Probation of Offenders Act was in force in the city and in 14 districts and the question of extending the Act to some of the remaining districts was under consideration. A scheme of not locking up the boys in dormitories at night was tried during the year in the Senior Certified School, Chingleput, and in the Junior Certified Schools at Tanjore and Bellary. The Headmaster, Senior Certified School, Chingleput, was permitted to admit into that school juvenile offenders from Cochin State, not exceeding ten in number. An extra set of clothing consisting of a shirt and a pair of shorts was supplied to the pupils of the Certified Schools. Radio sets were installed in the schools at Chingleput and Bellary.

An important feature in the administration of the Madras Probation of Offenders Act was the provincialization of the Probation System and the appointment of a Chief Probation Superintendent under the control of the Inspector-General of Prisons. The Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society, the Borstal Association and the Certified Schools Ex-pupils' Association continued to render every possible help to released prisoners, inmates and pupils.

Criminal Justice, 1946

There was an increase in total crime in the districts of North Arcot, Coimbatore, Cuddapah, East Godavari, Kurnool, Madura, Nellore, Ramnad and Salem and a decrease in the districts of Chingleput, West Godavari and Tanjore. Grave crime increased appreciably in the districts of Anantapur, Chingleput, Chittoor, West Godavari, Madura, Ramnad, Salem, Tanjore and Vizagapatam. There was a general increase in the number of crimes against property.

The number of Sessions cases filed showed an increase in the districts of Anantapur, South Arcot, West Godavari, Madura and Salem, and a general fall in the other districts. Criminal appellate work was less in the districts of Anantapur, North Arcot, Chingleput, Coimbatore, South Kanara, Kistna, Madura, North Malabar, Nellore, Tinnevely and Vizagapatam and more in the districts of South Arcot, Cuddapah, East Godavari, West Godavari, Kurnool, South Malabar, Salem, West Tanjore and Trichinopoly. The number of criminal revision cases was less from all districts, excepting Bellary, Chittoor, Coimbatore, Cuddapah, Guntur, Salem and East Tanjore.

In Madras City the post of Fifth Presidency Magistrate, which was discontinued from 17th April 1945, was revived from 11th May 1946. There was an increase in total crime. Under the Indian Penal Code the increase was mainly in respect of offences against persons, offences against property, especially theft, and criminal intimidation; under the local and special laws it was mainly under the City Police Act, the Defence of India Rules, the Indian Railways Act, the Motor Vehicles Act, the Opium Act, and the Criminal Tribes Act. There was a fall in the number of cases under the Suppression of Immoral Traffic Act and the Madras Traffic Rules. The Juvenile Court presided over by the Special Honorary Presidency Magistrate was working satisfactorily.

In the High Court, there was an increase in the number of criminal appeals, criminal revision cases and criminal miscellaneous cases instituted, the increase being appreciable in the case of the last two groups. The number of referred trials remained more or less the same, but there was an increase in the number of cases committed to the High Court Sessions.

Civil Justice

The number of original suits instituted in the inferior courts showed an increase in the districts of North Arcot, South Arcot, Bellary, Chittoor, Cuddapah, Guntur, Kistna, Kurnool, Madura, North Malabar, Nellore, Ramnad, Salem, East Tanjore, Trichinopoly and Vizagapatam and a decrease in the districts of Chingleput, South Malabar and Tinnevely. The fall in South Malabar is attributed partly to the amendment of the Tenancy Act by Act XXIV of 1945 and the passing of the Madras Tenants and Ryots Protection Act, 1946 (Act XVII of 1946). In superior courts the institution of original suits increased in all districts except Anantapur, South Arcot, Guntur, Kistna, Kurnool and Salem. The increase was appreciable in Chingleput, North Malabar, Nellore and Tinnevely. A large number of title suits were instituted owing to the prosperity of the commercial and agricultural sections of the public and to the steep rise in the value of immovable property. The number of small cause suits instituted showed an increase in the districts of North Arcot, South Arcot, Chingleput, Chittoor, East Godavari, Guntur, Kistna, Madura, Nellore, Ramnad, Salem, East Tanjore, West Tanjore, Tinnevely and Trichinopoly and a fall in the remaining districts. Insolvency petitions were fewer in all districts excepting North Arcot, Bellary, Guntur and Madura. In order to give Official Receivers more work, the scheme of appointing them as additional Judges of Small Cause Courts is being tried at Cuddalore, Rajahmundry, Mangalore, Nellore and Chingleput. Execution petitions were on the increase in the districts of Guntur, Kistna, Madura and Nellore, but those relating to money claims decreased owing to the improvement in the economic condition of the people. Appellate work was less except in the districts of Anantapur, North Malabar, South Malabar, Salem, West Tanjore, Tinnevely and Trichinopoly.

In the City Civil Court, the number of suits instituted rose in spite of the fall in the number of suits filed by the Madras Corporation for the recovery of taxes. The number of execution petitions increased appreciably owing to the working of the Rent Control Legislation. In the Court of Small Causes, the work was more or less the same.

On the Original Side of the High Court, there was an increase in the institution of Original Suits, Testamentary Original Suits and Matrimonial Suits, whilst on the Appellate Side there was a slight decrease in the number of civil appeals, original side appeals and second appeals. The institution of Letters Patent appeals, Miscellaneous petitions and Referred cases were much greater.

After 11 estates were taken charge of and 19 estates closed during the year the Administrator-General had 734 estates vested in him at the end of the year. Two estates were taken charge of and 25 closed during the year leaving 592 estates vested in the Official Trustee at the end of the year.

Registration

The following redistribution of Registration districts came into effect from 1st April 1946 :—

Original Registration districts.	New Registration districts.
1 Bellary-Anantapur	(1) Bellary.
2 Chittoor-Cuddapah	(2) Anantapur.
3 West Godavari-Kistna	(3) Chittoor.
4 Tanjore	(4) Cuddapah.
5 Coimbatore	(5) West Godavari
6 North Malabar	(6) Kistna.
7 South Malabar	(7) Tanjore.
8 South Arcot	(8) Negapatam.
9 Chidambaram	(9) Coimbatore.
	(10) Erode
	(11) Tellicherry.
	(12) Calicut.
	(13) Palghat.
	(14) Cuddalore.
	(15) Chidambaram.

Necessary additional staff was appointed for the six additional districts. Eight sub-districts of East Godavari district were re-transferred to West Godavari district. The Registrars of Assurances at Kistna, Anantapur, Cuddapah, Erode, Chidambaram, Cuddalore, Tanjore, Negapatam, Tellicherry, Calicut and Palghat were appointed as ex-officio Notaries Public within their jurisdictions. The Sub-Registry Office at Gudalur was abolished and its area of operation included within the sub-district of Ootacamund. An itinerating system of registry was introduced at Gudalur with effect from 1st December 1946, according to which, the Sub-Registrar, Ootacamund, visits Gudalur twice a month for registration of documents presented there.

The surcharge duty on transfers of property in municipal and local board areas was increased from 2 to 4 per cent with effect from 15th October 1946, and in Madras City, from 3 to 5 per cent with effect from 1st December 1946. Land Reclamation Societies and their members were exempted from the registration fees payable for registering deeds executed by them for loans taken under the reclamation scheme sanctioned by the Government.

The number of documents registered decreased to 1,527, 086 but the income increased to Rs. 73.59 lakhs owing to the increase in the surcharge of transfers of property. The expenditure of the department rose to Rs. 41.75 lakhs owing to the grant of increase in war and dearness allowances.

During the year, 2,380 (2,163) firms were registered and 166 (152) firms were reported to have been dissolved under the Indian Partnership Act of 1932.

Fire Services

Fire Service Stations were functioning in 49 towns including Madras City. During the year, the opening of 20 more Fire Stations in mufassal towns was sanctioned and 5 of these had been opened by the end of the year. Owing to the suspension of the "Dangerous Cargo Regulations", the responsibility for fighting fires in the Madras Harbour was handed over to the Port Trust with effect from 1st April 1946.

The number of fire calls attended to by the Fire Services was 1,637, of which 46 were false alarms and 74 were serious cases. The property lost or damaged by fire throughout the Presidency was estimated at Rs. 42.8 lakhs and the property at risk and saved from destruction during the year at about Rs. 415 lakhs. There were 52 ambulances distributed among the several stations in the Province and 4,699 ambulance calls were attended to. The rules for the plying of these ambulances were amended during the year and a flat rate of Rs. 3 for one engagement within Madras City and Rs. 2 for one engagement in the rest of the towns in the Province was adopted. A total sum of Rs. 34,935 was realised from ambulance calls. Besides this, hire charges amounting to Rs. 14,000 were also realised on account of private pumping done by Fire Engines.

The Madras Fire Services Workshops in Madras City, Coimbatore and Bezwada continued to attend to all minor repairs and replacements to vehicles within their regions. The Madras Fire Service Training School was under the charge of a Station Officer and it trained in all, 63 persons for various posts. The Indianisation of the service was in progress.

Motor Vehicles

Control by the Government of India of the price and sale of motor vehicles lapsed at the end of September 1946 but was continued by the Madras Government with some modifications except in respect of motor cycles. The Government of India lifted the control over 71 out of 135 items of motor vehicles spare parts with effect from 19th January 1946, and the total value of parts that could be acquired in a calendar year was reduced from Rs. 600 to Rs. 450 in the case of transport vehicles and from Rs. 250 to Rs. 150 in the case of cars. The spare parts supply position continued to be acute. There was no import of Chevrolet parts. Ford and Chevrolet Engine Assemblies were available from army surplus stores in limited numbers. The number of vehicles allotted during the year was 683 cars, 781 motor transport vehicles and 391 commercially imported transport vehicles.

The control over the purchase of new tyres and tubes was withdrawn with effect from 26th March 1946. The control over petrol however, had to be continued owing to the world shortage of petrol and the difficulties of movement to supply centres. By

August 1946, the quantity of petrol released for civilian consumption in India was increased by 30 per cent as a result of which the basic ration for private cars and motor cycles was doubled once again from 1st August 1946. The total consumption in the Province was 118 lakhs of gallons as against 71.69 lakhs of gallons in 1945.

Motor Transport

As a result of the policy of not issuing permits to small operators the number of operators owning less than 20 vehicles decreased from 189 to 70. This policy was, however, altered in December 1946 and persons prepared to run a minimum of 3 buses were allowed to apply for permits. Proposals were under consideration for the formation of District Traffic Boards and the appointment of District Transport Officers to be in charge of transport problems in each district so as to divest the police administration of all its connection with transport except as far as it related to the regulation of traffic and the maintenance of law and order. The decision to nationalise motor transport was perhaps one of the most important decisions taken by Government during the year. As a preliminary step and also to relieve congestion in Madras City, Government sanctioned a scheme costing Rs. 34.52 lakhs to run 30 buses in the City. During the railway strike on the S.I.R. in October 1946, the motor transport services gave considerable relief to the travelling public. Special services were started in all areas and all the available vehicles were put on the roads.

The Chemical Examiner's Department

The Chemical Examiner's Department dealt with 8,813 articles involved in 1,751 cases. It examined articles for blood in homicidal and hurt cases, for semen and blood in cases of rape and other unnatural crimes. It also conducted medico-legal examinations of fire arms, bullets, bombs, fire-works, drugs, documents, tissues, bones, hair, kerosene oil and petrol; and conducted general analyses of various articles for Government departments. Medico-legal examinations were made, as usual, for the Central Government and for the Cochin and Banganapalle States. The research work done included an investigation into the methods of detecting small quantities of alcohol in viscera and foodstuffs, a study of the relative effects of some saline preservatives in inhibiting alcoholic fermentation in blood, viscera and foodstuffs and a study of the transparency of writings in various inks to infra-red rays.

CHAPTER VI—LOCAL ADMINISTRATION

There were 24 district boards and 81 municipalities in the Province excluding the Corporation of Madras. The Saidapet Municipality was abolished and the area that came under that municipality was included in the City of Madras. The Chittoor District Board was superseded with effect from 16th July 1946. Government postponed the holding of elections to district boards and municipal councils *sine die* and extended the life of municipal councils to 1st March 1947. Government took powers to place district boards under special officers so that no undue influence might be brought to bear on the electorate when ordinary elections to these boards were to be held. Collectors were appointed as special officers with effect from 1st November 1946. The basic pay of conservancy menials was increased by 25 per cent, and a provident fund bonus at the rate of Re. 1 per head per month in first and second grade municipalities, and at the rate of annas eight per month in other municipalities and panchayat boards was provided for them with effect from 1st August 1946. Municipal councils were permitted to open ration shops for the distribution of rationed articles to conservancy and other menials. The rate of stamp duty levied in the mufassal on transfer of immovable property was raised from 2 to 4 per cent with effect from 15th October 1946. The 50 per cent increase in the grant payable to district boards and municipal councils for the maintenance of trunk roads and important marketing roads was continued during 1945-46. Government also sanctioned a sum of Rs. 48 lakhs to district boards and Rs. 26 lakhs to municipal councils including the Madras Corporation towards a part of the deficiency in the maximum amount of compensation payable to them under the Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, 1931, for the years from 1931-32 to 1940-41. Government also paid Rs. 41.35 lakhs as grants to local boards and municipal councils towards the payment of dearness and war allowances to their staff.

Municipalities.—Compulsory education was in force in 27 municipalities. Municipal councils maintained 1,143 elementary schools at a cost of Rs. 40.93 lakhs and provided education for 187,131 children. They also maintained 57 secondary schools. The Salem Council maintained a First Grade College, and the Guntur Council a Second Grade College for women. There were 135 medical institutions run by municipal councils and they afforded relief to 5,217 in-patients and 4,126,380 out-patients. The Madras Corporation maintained 155 elementary schools, providing instruction for 47,205 children.

District Boards.—District boards maintained 221 secondary schools and 14,769 elementary schools providing education for 99,923 children and 1,292,646 children respectively. They also maintained

1,236 medical institutions which afforded relief to 32,132 in-patients and 13,713,644 out-patients.

Panchayats.—During the year, 66 panchayat boards were constituted and 18 were abolished for maladministration and other reasons, leaving a total of 7,177 panchayat boards at the end of the year. Of these, 12 were dissolved and re-constituted and 23 were superseded. In 38 cases, the presidents or vice-presidents had to be removed for abusing their powers or for failure to discharge their duties. There were 1,253 schools at the end of the year with 1,872 teachers. A sum of Rs. 6.47 lakhs was disbursed by way of teaching grants and dearness allowance.

The Provincial Highways Department, which was formed with effect from 1st April 1946, took charge of all main roads from district boards. About 13,000 miles of roads in all, including about 3,000 miles transferred during the recent war, have been transferred from district boards and municipal councils to the Highways Department.

A Government grant of Rs. 1.65 lakhs was disbursed to various panchayat boards for the improvement of village communications in the panchayat areas.

Local Fund audit.—The audit of the accounts of local boards and other institutions was continued on a reduced scale. During the year, the audit of 8 panchayat boards and 4 other institutions was newly entrusted to the Local Fund Audit Department.

CHAPTER VII—PUBLIC HEALTH AND MEDICINE

Vital statistics.—The estimated mid-year population of the Province excluding Vizagapatam Agency, was 51·857 (51·568) million. According to the figures available for the ten months of 1946, the birth and death rates were 29·7 and 17·7 per thousand respectively as against the actual birth and death rates of 27·9 and 21·2 respectively for 1945. The infant and maternal mortality rates for the same period were 145·2 and 8·2 per 1,000 respectively as against 167·1 and 9·6 respectively in 1945. A comparison of the mortality from the principal diseases for the same period showed a considerable fall in the death rate from cholera which was the lowest on record during the last 60 years. A considerable decrease in the mortality from small-pox which, however, occurred in almost all districts and an increase in the mortality from plague which occurred seriously in the districts of Coimbatore, Salem, Chittoor, Anantapur and South Arcot.

Public health.—Necessary preventive measures were taken promptly for the control of epidemics. Evacuation of infected houses and villages, cyanogas fumigation and anti-plague inoculations were undertaken to control the plague epidemic which occurred particularly strongly in the district of Coimbatore. Control of guineaworm disease by cyclopaecidal fish was continued and experiments were conducted on the relative value of biological and chemical methods of guineaworm control. Seven new schemes for the investigation and control of malaria were sanctioned. Experiments were conducted on D.D.T. and Pyrethrum spray and the efficacy of the new drug 'Paludrine' as against the previous drugs, quinine and mepacrine. Free distribution of quinine and its substitutes was continued in the epidemic and endemic areas. The provisions of the Madras Public Health Act, 1939, relating to mosquito control were extended to the municipalities of Salem, Anakapalle, Gudivada and Tanjore, the panchayat boards of Nayudupeta and Penukonda and the island of Sriharikota. Public Health personnel were trained in anti-malarial work at Pattukottai and Krishnadevipeta. District Health Officers were trained in the use of D.D.T.

Grants were sanctioned for building child welfare centres and maternity homes according to approved designs at four places. The number of Child Welfare Centres opened during the year was 23, bringing the total number to 290. Maternity and Child Welfare schemes were undertaken by 22 district boards, and 82 municipalities and a sum of Rs. 5·91 lakhs was spent on these schemes.

Dietary defects noted during surveys of diets of families belonging to different income groups, conducted in various parts of the Province, especially in the districts of Anantapur, Kurnool and Ramnad, showed that the consumption was abnormally low of all protective foods such as milk, green vegetables, pulses, fruits and

animal proteins and that Vitamin "A" and "B" deficiencies were common among the poorer classes. Two nutrition exhibitions were organised in Madras City. An Assistant Director of Public Health was placed in charge of the Nutrition Bureau and two Regional Nutrition Units with headquarters at Trichinopoly and Anantapur were created. Compost manufacture from town wastes was continued during the year, as a result of which 3·09 million cubic feet of compost were produced. Education and propaganda on Public Health were continued as usual by short talks, lectures, magic lantern demonstrations, cinema shows, etc. The "Empire Shield" for the best organised Maternity and Child Welfare Centre was awarded to the Salem Municipality.

There were 88 local authorities who had notified residential areas under the Madras Public Health Act. The Poonamallee Health Unit continued to function as a demonstration centre and training ground for public health workers.

Famine and epidemics.—The question of the arrangements which might be necessary in the event of famine and subsequent epidemics breaking out in the Province, owing to the adverse conditions created by the war, was considered by committees which were set up in each district. Instructions were issued on the preliminary action to be taken, so that much valuable time might be saved in the event of any serious outbreak. The Expert Committee at Madras consisting of the Surgeon-General, the Director of Public Health, the Director of the King Institute and the Superintendent of the General Hospital considered the recommendations of the various District Committees and recommended to Government the measures necessary to combat epidemics in the event of famine. A list was drawn up of disinfectants, vaccines, etc. to be held in reserve by District Health Officers and a list of drugs to be held in reserve by District Medical Officers was under the consideration of Government. A Committee appointed by the Government of India visited Madras early in 1946 and held discussions with the Expert Committee as regards the hospital equipment and drugs necessary. The plan for famine relief was to provide hospital equipment for 4,000 beds assuming that four districts would be affected according to the position prevailing in March 1946 and taking roughly 2 millions as the population in each district. The proposal was to attach units of 20 beds each, to each famine kitchen and to have 50 such kitchens in the district.

Medicine.—A number of I.M.S. Officers who had been called away for military duty on mobilisation, reverted to civil employment in the Province during the year. There was a shortage in the I.M.S. cadre and some of the vacancies were filled by officers from the Provincial Medical Service. Recruitment to the Madras Medical Service continued to be on a temporary basis. The question of reservation of appointments for doctors with war service was under the consideration of Government. The post of Resident Medical

Officer, General Hospital, was given the status of Civil Surgeon. Compensatory allowances were granted to medical officers whose private practice was restricted to consulting practice under the orders issued in April 1939 and the allowance already paid to officers who were entirely debarred from private practice were increased. Officers were deputed abroad for post graduate study in Pediatrics, Orthopaedics, Social Medicine, Ear, Nose and Throat diseases, Maternity and Child Welfare and Chest diseases. During the year, there were 31 Honorary Surgeons and Physicians and 165 Honorary Assistant Medical Officers working in Government hospitals in the Province. The posts of Honorary Anaesthetists at the General Hospital, Madras, and the King George Hospital, Vizagapatam, were abolished and paid Assistant Surgeons were appointed in their place. In order to take advantage of the talent available in the private medical profession, a Committee was appointed to revise and bring up-to-date the scheme for the employment of Honorary Medical Officers. Of the 43 surgeons who had gone on military duty, all but one reverted to civil employment and they have been promoted as temporary Civil Assistant Surgeons. Five additional posts of male Sub-Assistant Surgeons and 9 additional posts of women Sub-Assistant Surgeons were created during the year. The difficulty of getting candidates both men and women for appointment as temporary Sub-Assistant Surgeons continued. Government sanctioned a leave reserve of 10 per cent of the staff in the categories of Matrons, III Grade, Ward Sisters and Nurses and Nurse pupils. Under a scheme of the Government of India one nurse was deputed to the United Kingdom for a year's post-graduate training and one candidate for the four years' course in general nursing and midwifery. All posts of Matrons and Sister Tutors were raised to gazetted status and were included in the Madras Medical Service. The number of gazetted posts in the nursing service at the end of the year was 37.

A priority list was drawn up and approved by Government for the electrification of district headquarters hospitals. Offers by private donors to construct women and children hospitals at Bezwada and Coimbatore and wards in several other hospitals were accepted by Government. The new headquarters hospital at Trichinopoly was nearing completion and work was resumed on the new headquarters hospital at Calicut. The Lady Hope School of Nursing was also practically completed.

The distribution of Penicillin by the King Institute, Guindy, was stopped from November 1946 as sufficient quantities of this drug were available in the market. Orders relating to cinchona plantations and cinchona bark and sales of cinchona products continued to be in force during the year. The system of sales of cinchona products through post offices was continued. Two Mobile Medical Units continued anti-malarial work in Vizagapatam district. The Blood Transfusion service was reorganised on a peacetime basis and blood transfusion units were established

at the General Hospital and the Stanley Hospital, Madras, and at the headquarters hospitals in Vizagapatam, Trichinopoly, Coimbatore, Cocanada, Calicut, Madura and British Cochin in addition to the Processing Centre at Guindy. The provision of quarters for paid House Surgeons, or the payment of appropriate house allowance instead was sanctioned by Government. The total number of paid House Surgeons was 199. In order to provide facilities for higher education to doctors with war service, 18 additional posts of unpaid House Surgeons were created at the Government General Hospital, Madras, and 12 additional unpaid posts at the Stanley Hospital, Madras. The purchase of 700 milligrams of radium element at a cost of Rs. 90,000 was ordered, in order to make up the deficiency in the stock of radium in the Province.

The total number of institutions of Indian Medicine in the Province was 589. The daily average attendance of in-patients and out-patients at the Hospital of Indian Medicine was 175 and 973 respectively.

Medical education.—The Madras Medical College had on its rolls, 1,942 students. There were 195 women students out of a total of 837 in the M.B.B.S. Classes. The Regulations for the higher degrees in Medicine and Surgery (M.D. and M.S.) and for the Diploma Courses were revised by the Madras University, so as to require candidates to appear for these examinations through this College. Members of the staff were fully occupied with their heavy teaching duties. A certain amount of research work was done in a few departments. Ten original papers were published during the year. Research was conducted on the toxicology of indigenous drugs used in Veterinary practice, and a highly toxic crystalline substance was obtained from the bulbs of the plant, *Crinum Defixum*. The paper on this subject was sent to the Indian Science Congress held in Delhi. Echitamine an alkaloidal constituent of the bark of the tree *Alstonia Scholaris* was also found to be of use in cases of "bleeding into the capillaries during conditions of shock."

In the Andhra Medical College at Vizagapatam, a separate Department of Forensic Medicine was created with a full-time professor in charge. A research unit was working in the Pathology Department on Infantile Biliary Cirrhosis. In the Bio-Chemistry Department, work was done on the Pyrophosphatase of red corpuscles and on the plasma proteins in peptic ulcer. A paper on 'Intestinal Anthrax' was published in the Bacteriology Department. In the Surgery Department, peptic ulcers were found to be on the increase. The relative merits of gastro enterostomy and gastrectomy in cases of certain types of duodenal ulcer were tested out. Penicillin was found to be of immense benefit both in the treatment of established sepsis and also as a prophylactic and follow up. In the Medicine Department, work was done on the treatment of anaemias, on the effect of paludrine in cases of malaria, and on the value of mercurial diuretics in cases of oedema. Papers were published in Mitral stenosis and pulmonary tuberculosis and

on Familial incidence, subcutaneous nodule and left recurrent laryngeal nerve paralysis in rheumatic heart disease. A new sectional library was opened in the Ophthalmology Department. The practice of deputing final year students to the Barnard Institute of Radiology, Madras, for training in Radio Therapeutics was continued. The tutorial system introduced in the year 1941 functioned satisfactorily and the conduct of the students throughout was excellent.

An investigation was made by an Expert Committee into the possibility of opening a Medical College at Guntur. A decision was taken to start work in July 1946 itself and 50 students were admitted for the Pre-Registration course in that month, by arrangement with the local Andhra Christian College. A Special Officer in the grade of Clinical Professor was appointed on special duty to get the college working.

Plans were prepared for starting the Madura Medical College and as a preliminary measure 50 students, meant for that college, were admitted to the pre-registration class at Stanley Medical College.

The School of Indian Medicine continued to work satisfactorily, the number of students on the rolls in July 1946 being 376 of which 42 were women students. The number of stipendiaries of Government and of local bodies was 33.

An event of great importance was the publication of the report of the Health Survey and Development Committee under the Chairmanship of Sir Joseph Bore. A conference of Health Ministers of all the Provinces and many of the States was held at Delhi in the second week of October, at which many of the salient recommendations of the report were discussed. The report was under detailed examination by the Public Health Department, with a view to implementing the recommendations of the Committee as early as possible, subject to variations dictated by local conditions and needs.

King Institute, Guindy

The Institute continued to function as the general Public Health Laboratory, a Diagnostic Laboratory, a Laboratory for the manufacture of essential biologicals, and the Government Analyst's Laboratory for the examination of samples under the Food Adulteration Act. The first batch of trainees under the scheme sanctioned in the year 1944 completed their training in general bacteriological technique.

All demands of the Public Health Department and of the Military Authorities for Vaccine Lymph were complied with. In February 1946 it was noticed that the buffer stock of lymph was very low, and it was therefore thought that there would not be sufficient time to allow it to be treated with glycerine in cold storage. Therefore chloroform vapour was resorted to, in order to bring down the bacterial content. The addition of clove oil at the time of issue was also omitted. Lymph treated in this manner was issued

from April 1946 and was found to give satisfactory results. The Diagnostic Section was engaged in several items of research and specially in epidemiological investigations. It examined several samples of blood and spinal fluid and conducted a large number of Kahn and Wassermann tests. Several specimens were received and dealt with, for bacteriological diagnosis and for histo-pathological examinations. Autogenous vaccines were also prepared and issued.

Out of 4.67 million c.c. of cholera vaccine issued from the Institute, 2.2 million c.c. were supplied to the Government of the Central Provinces and Berar. There was a considerable increase in the quantity of plague vaccine obtained from the Haffkine Institute, Bombay, and issued to the Public Health authorities in the Province. The figures were 1.47 million c.c. as against 0.55 million c.c. in the previous year. The Anti-toxin Department dealt mainly with the preparation of anti-tetanic and anti-Gas-Gangrene sera for therapeutic purposes. The new buildings intended to house the department were nearing completion. In the Public Health Section, work was concentrated mainly on the analyses of samples of drinking water received from various parts of the Province. The Water and Sewage Purification Committee met three times during the year and reviewed the experiments in progress at the Experimental Filter Station at Kilpauk. Improved methods of washing mechanical filters and the sterilization of water with the aid of chloramines were the main lines of research at this station. The preparation of protein hydrolysate was started in March 1946 as a precautionary method for the treatment of starvation cases during the threatened famine. The more important investigations conducted during the year were—

A detailed survey of the water sheds of the Ootacamund water-supply reservoirs ;

A study of the channel pollution caused by discharge of sugar factory waters at Pugalur ;

Hydrobiological studies of the temple tanks at Rameswaram, Srirangam, Tirupati and Tiruvallur.

Research was done on the use of vegetable oils for mosquito larvicidal purposes. Work was also done on virus diseases and cholera, with grants received from the Indian Research Fund Association. A study of the relative values of chick membrane vaccine and calf lymph as agents against small-pox showed that the membrane lymph was much weaker antigenically than calf lymph. Samples were prepared of the new virus vaccine against Influenza which had been developed in the United States. Owing to the low prevalence of cholera in the Province, the activities of the Cholera Treatment Unit which has been established at the Institute by the Indian Research Fund Association were directed mainly to laboratory investigations of problems connected with cholera, particularly the establishment of cholera-like infections in experimental animals. Studies were continued on the Bacteriology of Milk and several samples were analysed.

The Prevention of Adulteration Act was extended to 13 panchayat boards during the year. Nearly 18,000 samples were analysed in connection with the administration of the Act and 46 per cent of the samples were found to be adulterated. Of the milk samples analysed, 62 per cent were found to be adulterated. Adulteration was found to have decreased in the case of butter and increased in the case of edible oils particularly gingelly oil.

CHAPTER VIII—EDUCATION

An Advisory Board on Education was constituted by Government to advise them on matters pertaining to secondary education and collegiate education. The districts of Guntur and Tinnevely were bifurcated and placed in the charges of separate District Educational Officers. Posts of Personal Assistants to District Educational Officers in the cadre of Deputy Inspectors were sanctioned, except for the bifurcated districts. One additional Inspectress of Girls' Schools was appointed. Three additional posts of Deputy Inspectors were created at Narasampet, Bellary and Chittoor. A Special Officer was appointed for work connected with the reorganization of education in the Province. The part-time post of Adviser to Government on Physical Education was converted into a full-time post called the Chief Inspector for Physical Education.

Collegiate education.—Two new Engineering Colleges at Vizagapatam and Anantapur respectively were permitted to be opened. The college at Anantapur could not be opened, but an extra batch of students was admitted into the Guindy Engineering College with a view to transfer them to Anantapur next year. A new College for muslim women was opened at Madras. The Government College at Coimbatore was converted into a first grade College and a B. Com. course was opened in it. A B.Sc. course was started in the Government Muslim College for men at Madras and provision was made for the teaching of Natural Science under Part III of the Intermediate Class at the Government College, Kumbakonam.

A new Arts College for men, called the Vivekananda College, was opened under private management at Madras. A Training College for women called the St. Joseph's Training College was opened at Guntur.

Secondary education.—The policy of having the regional language as the medium of instruction in secondary schools was introduced as far as possible. Provision was made for the teaching of Hindustani as an optional subject in the II, III and IV Forms in all Government secondary schools and in many other high schools. A Board of secondary education consisting of 25 members was constituted in lieu of the S.S.L.C. Board to advise the Director of Public Instruction in matters relating to Secondary Education, and to conduct the S.S.L.C. examination through persons unconnected with the Board. Middle schools for girls were opened at Palni, Chicacole, Kumbakonam and Angalur. Additional sections and forms were added to some of the existing schools for boys and girls. The opening of 54 middle schools for boys and 6 for girls under local board and municipal managements was sanctioned, and heads of secondary schools were permitted to admit in 1946-47 and for two years thereafter, up to 45 pupils in a section, subject to the condition that each pupil should be allowed a minimum floor space of 10 square feet. With

regard to the payment of dearness allowance to teachers in aided secondary schools, Government decided to permit managements to grant allowances at the rates at which Government servants in corresponding grades were paid, for the purpose of assessing the teaching grant. For the year 1945-46, Government agreed to pay the managements to such an extent that the staff could be paid one half of the dearness allowance admissible at these rates in addition to such amounts as the managements had been able to pay from out of their funds. In order to increase the number of trained teachers, 24 secondary training and 9 higher elementary training sections were opened in Government Training Schools and 15 secondary and 9 higher elementary sections in aided training schools. The training classes at Coimbatore and Bellary were also revived. A one year emergency training course for secondary grade teachers was also started. Stipends to teachers under training were increased from Rs. 8 to Rs. 12 for the higher elementary grade and from Rs. 12 to Rs. 18 for the secondary grade.

Elementary education.—An Advisory Board of Education consisting of officials and non-officials was constituted to advise Government on matters relating to basic education. The rate of teaching grant to teachers of all grades in aided elementary schools and panchayat schools was increased by Rs. 2 per month with effect from 1st August 1946. Compulsory education was extended so as to bring under instruction, an additional 1.4 lakhs of children of school-age. The provision of free midday meals in these new areas was limited to 70,000. A scheme for the free supply of milk to school children in elementary schools and in primary departments of secondary schools was introduced in the districts of Anantapur, Bellary, North Arcot, Chittoor, Salem, Ramnad, Vizagapatam, Malabar, Tinnevely and Coimbatore.

Basic education.—Proposals were under consideration to convert existing elementary schools into schools for basic education. In order to staff these schools with qualified teachers, two basic training schools, one at Perianaickenpalayam for TAMILIAN teachers and the other at Vinayasramam for TELEGU teachers were opened. The teachers were paid stipends at Rs. 18 per month in addition to their pay as school teachers. In order to provide these schools with men-teachers in the technique and science of Khadi, the All-India Spinners' Association was conducting a eleven months' training course called the Khadi Pranesika Course at Tiruppur. Candidates were selected for undergoing the course at Government cost. The scheme for the reorganization of secondary education envisages the opening of vocational courses such as the Secretarial Course, the Engineering Course, etc. Draft syllabuses for these courses were approved by the Secondary Education Board and the Government.

Miscellaneous.—The number of scholarships awarded during the year was doubled in respect of those tenable in colleges, secondary schools and elementary schools. The rates of scholarships were

increased from Rs. 3 to 4 in Forms I to III, from Rs. 6 to 8 in High School classes, from Rs. 9 to 12 in Intermediate Classes and from Rs. 14 to 16 in Degree Classes. Government opened a hostel at Madras for the benefit of College students in the city.

Government Examinations

Secondary School Leaving Certificates were issued to 32,340 candidates including 3,217 girls. The number of dependants of persons serving in the armed forces, admitted to the examination without payment of fees was 1,350 (1,247). The languages of the Presidency were used as the medium of instruction in the higher Forms in 434 schools out of the 509 which presented candidates for the S.S.L.C. Public Examination of 1946. Government permitted higher elementary grade trained teachers, with a minimum service of three years in recognized schools, to appear as private candidates for the Secondary School Leaving Certificate public examinations, after passing the Training School Leaving Certificate examination. For the Training School Leaving Certificate examinations 132 (148) dependants of persons serving in the armed forces were admitted without payment of fees.

The subject of Carpet Weaving was deleted from the scheme of examinations and the last examination on that subject was held in April 1946. The examination on Hand-loom Weaving according to the revised syllabus was also held in April 1946. The rules relating to the Sanskrit Entrance Examination were altered as a result of the institution of the Special Entrance Test by the University of Madras.

The number of candidates examined for the Eighth Standard Public Examination increased to 26,796 (26,487), of whom 7,514 (7,420) were girls, and, of these candidates, 9,051 (11,487) including 2,715 (3,289) girls were successful. Dependants of service personnel admitted to the examinations without payment of fees numbered 120. The examination fee was increased from Rs. 1-8-0 to Rs. 2; the remuneration for setting a question paper from Rs. 10 to Rs. 15 and the remuneration for valuing answer papers from 2 annas to 3 annas for each paper; all these changes were to come into effect for the public examination in 1947.

The examinations in Indian Medicine were held in April and October 1946, the number of candidates appearing being 209 and 113 respectively. A Board of Examiners in Indian Medicine, consisting of 13 members, was appointed for three years from 26th March 1946.

CHAPTER IX—TRADE AND INDUSTRY

Industries and Commerce

The Bureau of Industrial Commercial Intelligence continued to provide general and technical information on industrial and commercial subjects. One meeting of the Board of Industries was held to consider application for state-aid, and a loan of Rs. 8,250 to one concern was sanctioned by Government on the recommendation of the Board. In January 1946, Government disbursed Rs. 1 lakh towards shares subscribed for the Radio and Electricals, Limited, Madras, and Rs. 5 lakhs towards shares subscribed for the Fertilisers and Chemicals, Travancore, Limited, Trivandrum. The District Industries Officers continued to render assistance in the starting of new industries such as vegetable oil refineries, tanning, leather goods manufacture, glass bangle industry, slate and ceramic industry, soap and oil manufacture and hand-made paper manufacture. They also helped in the starting of cottage industries such as mat weaving, basket weaving, jaggery manufacture, coir making, lace making and toy manufacture. They also carried out an intensive survey of the firkas selected in the Province under the new schemes for rural reconstruction.

The Rice Mills Spare Parts Section continued to function and assisted mill owners in obtaining various articles required in the industry, such as beltings, wire cloth, cement asbestos jointing sheets, huller screens, etc., the total value of stores distributed being Rs. 65,775.

Coir factories were opened one at Calicut in January 1946, another at Ullal in February 1946 and a third at Amalapuram in East Godavari district in November 1946. Four village coir yarn producing Units were organised for the Calicut factory, one for the Ullal factory, and one for the Amalapuram factory. Demonstrations on improved methods in the coir industry were started at Muthupet in Tanjore district and Baruva in North Vizagapatam district. The strength of the Coir School at Beypore was increased from 60 to 80. An Advisory Board consisting of officials and non-officials was constituted to advise Government on matters relating to the coir industry.

The distribution of coal to tobacco curing concerns and redrying factories was transferred from the Central Government to the Provincial Government with effect from the season 1946-47. The system of distribution of coal to ryots on the recommendation of the Excise department was discontinued and the distribution was entrusted to inspectors working at the four important centres, Chirala, Ongole, Guntur and Bezwada assisted by Committees consisting of 5 members formed from among tobacco curing ryots. The quantity distributed amounted to about 15,000 tons. The Provincial scheme of coal distribution to the different classes of industries in the Province remained the same. The total quantity

of steam coal, hard coke and soft coke received till the end of October 1946 was about 31,680 tons.

The four control orders relating to paper promulgated by the Government of India and the Madras Paper Control (Licensing, Economy and Distribution) Order continued to be administered by the Provincial Paper Controller. The Government of India's Paper Control (Economy) Order, 1944, was revised during the year and several concessions were granted to all classes of paper consumers. Text-book publishers were allowed 120 per cent of the quantity consumed by them in the basic year and other consumers were allowed 100 per cent. The balance of quarterly quotas was permitted to be taken before the close of the calendar year. The supply position of Indian mill-made paper did not improve, but there was a regular import of paper of foreign origin.

The Iron and Steel Control Order, 1941, was amended from 1st April 1946 so as to restore pre-war trading arrangements, but the control was re-enforced on 1st September 1946. The work in connexion with issue of permits for iron and steel in this Province and the States of Travancore, Cochin, Pudukottah, Banganapalle and Sandur was transferred from the Regional Deputy Iron and Steel Controller, Madras Circle, to the Director of Industries and Commerce, Madras.

In order to foster intensive development of cottage industries, a Deputy Director of Industries and Commerce (Cottage Industries) was appointed. A rapid survey was made of the conditions prevailing in the 25 firkas selected for the Intensive Rural Reconstruction Scheme. About 10 industries were selected for each firka, the intention being to devote special attention to their development in that area. Proposals were sanctioned for the establishment under the Rural Development Scheme of about 200 training demonstration centres for the training of over 4,000 candidates.

Work was continued on the new factory that was ordered to be installed at Calicut for the refining and hydrogenation of vegetable oil.

At the Kerala Soap Institute two soap boiling pans of improved capacity were under installation in the place of the two condemned ones. The Institute worked in double shifts in the toilet section. A special brand of medicated soap continued to be supplied to a local Ayurvedic Oushadasala. Several samples of oils, soaps, etc., were analysed in the laboratory. A Pinto chekku was installed for the crushing of groundnut kernels. The distillation of essential oil was continued on a commercial scale. Experimental distillations were conducted with lemon grass, sweet basil, peppermint, vetiver roots, etc.

The Government Oil Factory, Calicut, had to face severe competition from producers of shark liver oil in other maritime provinces and from foreign interests. A Propaganda Officer was therefore appointed in July 1946 to tour all important towns in the Province to demonstrate to the medical profession by practical

tests the merits of the products of the factory. The appointment of new agents in Northern India and overseas was under consideration. A new steam vat for treating livers was put into operation. The construction of the new office and laboratory buildings was almost complete.

The analysis of limestones in Salem district showed that rotary kilns were necessary for treating the limestone to the best advantage. A scheme was sanctioned for carrying out large scale burning trials with the rotary kiln that was available at Aravankadu. The analysis of clays, felspars and other ceramic raw material in Nellore district was continued. The Alkaline Chemist carried out an extensive survey of the Anantapur and Guntur districts for alkaline earthtracts. Demonstrations were given on the preparation of caustic soda from alkaline earth. The Starch Chemist visited places in the Vizagapatnam Agency Tracts where a special variety of starch is manufactured from tubers growing wildly in the forests.

The three hand-made paper units at Bezwada, Gazulapalli and Bugga continued to work as State Trading Schemes. The Bezwada Unit was converted into a rag paper manufacturing unit. Several experiments were done on the manufacture of paper and boards from various raw materials, such as sugar thrash, spent wattle bark, casuarina leaves and various South Indian species of wood. Several paper mills were started with the assistance of the department.

The Government Silk Filature, Kollegal, and the Kollegal Silk Filatures, Kollegal, continued to work as independent units until 14th August 1946 when they were amalgamated and called the Government Silk Filature. The number of basins working after this amalgamation was restricted to about 300. After the removal of the Cocoon and Silk Control Orders, the supply of raw materials to the filature was inadequate. Rereeling was introduced in 160 basins because the water obtained from the borewells was found to be bad. The Japanese method of rereeling proved successful. The silk testing section was of great assistance. Every lot of silk is now tested before it is put into the market. The by-product—silk waste—is now sold to the Mysore Spun Silk Mills, Limited, Chennapatnam. Till the end of November 1946, the production at the filature amounted to about 44,000 lb. of good silk, about 4,800 lbs. of Duppon silk, about 18,000 lb. of first-grade silk waste and 9,800 lb. of second-grade silk waste.

The Madras Silk Worm Cocoon Control Order lapsed on 1st October 1946. The silk market declined on account of foreign imports. Concessions were granted as before to mulberry cultivators by way of loans, assignments of land and remission of kist. The amount disbursed by way of loan by the end of the year was Rs. 28,125. Mulberry cultivation was extended to an area of 2,272 acres. Several cart-loads of mulberry cuttings were distributed free to deserving ryots. Kist remission granted amounted to more than Rs. 10,000. All the new Chinese seed brought by the

Sericultural Expert in November 1945 was consigned in cold storage in January 1946 and later reared in Government farms. Hybrid seeds from the new Chinese and the local races yielded cocoons weighing over 60 lb. Steps were taken to distribute more of these seeds. New mulberry gardens were started at Hosur, Coonoor, Bandalli and Berikai. Up to the end of November 1946, a quantity of 8.47 lakhs of pounds of good cocoons were purchased for the Government Silk Filature, Kollegal. Castor was planted in the new Government Sericulture Farm set up at Kudligi in Bellary district. In order to introduce the silk industry in other parts of the Province, mulberry gardens were started at Hindupur, Chintapalli, Harpanahalli, Chintalapadu and Badrachalam. A training school in Sericulture was opened at Kollegal with a strength of 24. The Assistant Sericultural Expert (Mulberry Research) was deputed to the Imperial Agricultural Research Institute for advanced study in plant genetics, etc. The Pathology section was transferred from Palmaner to Kollegal.

A large number of borings were conducted for industrial, drinking water and agricultural purposes, especially under the Grow More Food Campaign. The difficulty in getting steel pipes and couplings continued till the latter half of the year when they became available from the Army Surplus Stock. Pumping plants in the department were lent to ryots at concessional rates, in connexion with the Grow More Food Campaign. Departmental boring sets continued to work at the sites proposed for the dam across the Godavari at Polavaram. Several borings were put down to tap underground sources of water-supply, both for irrigation and drinking purposes, in areas selected for resettling servicemen. A sugar and jaggery manufacturing centre was started at Ullal in South Kanara district and arrangements were in progress for starting two others at Aragonda and Cholvaram. A calendaring machine for the District Board, South Arcot, 5 Pinto chekkus and 20 hand-boring sets for various colonization schemes were also under manufacture.

Polytechnics were started at Cocanada in February 1946 and at Vuyyuru, Madras, Madura, Calicut and Mangalore in August 1946. Two scholarships tenable at the Andhra University, Guntur, 12 scholarships tenable at the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, and one for research work in the laboratory of the Provincial Broadcasting Department, Madras, were awarded. Out of 20 officers selected for higher studies in foreign countries, 13 left during the year and 2 returned after completing their courses. An Advisory Board consisting of officials and non-officials was constituted for the School of Arts and Crafts, Madras. An additional Inspector of Technical and Industrial Schools was appointed to work out details in connexion with starting of 15 new industrial schools.

The Government Textile Institute continued to run courses in handloom weaving, bleaching, dyeing, etc. A short three months' course in textile designing was also conducted. The Glass

Technologist took charge of his post from January 1946 and made a rapid survey of the Province for the several raw materials necessary for glass manufacture.

In the Experimental Section of the Industrial Engineering Workshops, Madras, the industries borehole pump proved a success and was installed at the Central Agricultural Farm, Coimbatore. A new type of cashewnut roaster was designed and demonstrated successfully to the public. Alterations were carried out in the bark stripping machine and the treadle jigger for ceramic work. A new type of rice dehushing machine on the Japanese model was constructed. Work was done on a spinning machine which would yield more yarn than the ordinary charka, and work was started on a sand paper-making machine and an automatic gluing arrangement for corrugating board-making machine.

The survey of raw materials suitable for Mangalore pattern roofing tiles and bricks in the districts of Bellary and Vizagapatam was completed at the end of March 1946. A Technical Assistant for tile manufacture was appointed in August 1946. A two-year scheme was sanctioned for the manufacture of glazed floor and mosaic tiles in Mangalore. The construction of the Government Ceramic Factory at Gudur was continued. Government sanctioned schemes for the starting of Ceramic Service Centre at Pappiniseri (Malabar) and three similar centres at Rajahmundry (East Godavari), Dhone (Kurnool district) and Cuddalore (South Arcot district).

At the Institute of Leather Technology, a diploma course in Leather Technology, a certificate course in Leather goods manufacture, and an Artisan course were started. Research was done on the utility of konnan bark as a substitute for wattle bark. Tanning demonstrations were started at Melvisharam in North Arcot district and Nidubrolu in Guntur district.

Industrial Occupations

At the end of the year there were 3,542 factories on the registers. Attention was devoted to industrial labour welfare work, as a result of which many factories started canteens, creches, rest sheds, dispensaries, etc. The grant of dearness allowance to employees was continued in most of the factories. The health of the workers was generally good. Sanitation and cleanliness, the lime-washing of walls and the painting of wood-work in factories were all attended to. Statutory requirements relating to hours of work and holidays were complied with. The Weekly Holidays Act of 1942 was introduced in Madras City and the Municipal towns of the Province with effect from the 1st of January 1946 and in the major panchayats with effect from 1st August 1946. There were 11 cases of fire causing damage amounting to Rs. 65,640, of which a sum of Rs. 16,500 was covered by insurance. The fires resulted in the death of seven workers. Surprise inspections, night inspections and

Sunday visits were carried out as usual and attention was also paid to unregistered factories.

There were 260 labour disputes during the year, of which 127 related to the textile industry, 16 to jute mills, 10 to the engineering industry, 32 to railways and one to mines. Some of the strikes lasted for fairly long periods. About 2,000 conservancy workers of the Madras Corporation were on strike from 13th August till the 4th September, about 2,600 workers of the Coimbatore Spinning and Weaving Mills, Coimbatore, from 12th September to the 1st November, about 1,000 workers of the Mettur Chemicals and Industrial Corporation, Limited, from 16th September to 1st November, the South Indian Railway Workers from 24th August to 16th September and about 3,000 workers of the I.L.T.D. Co., Chirala, from 5th September to 18th September. Twenty disputes were referred for adjudication under rule 81 (a) of the Defence of India Rules, six were placed before Boards of Conciliation appointed by Government, and Courts of Enquiry were appointed for two others, while three disputes were settled by private arbitration. There were 352 Trade Unions on the register at the end of the year. In order to afford relief under the Workmen's Compensation Act to workmen employed in small establishments, not covered by the Factories Act merely because the number of persons employed was below the minimum prescribed in the Act, Government made suitable amendments to the schedule of the Act. A sum of Rs. 45,990 was deposited with the Court for payment of compensation to the personnel of the Madras Labour Units for Ceylon area and the Madras Provincial Civil and Labour Units as against a sum of Rs. 10,620 deposited for the same purpose in the previous year.

Fisheries

The fishing season on the West Coast was better than in the previous year and two new fish curing yards were opened, while on the East Coast the catches were the same as before and one new yard was opened. The production of Shark Liver Oil was fair on the West Coast, and increased steadily on the East Coast as a result of the opening of more centres and the intensification of deep sea fishing operations. The number of chanks fished at Tuticorin was double that of last year and the price, much higher. The number of chanks fished at Rammad and Tanjore was however poor.

At the West Hill Biological Station, investigations were made of oil sardines and mackerel and an analysis of plankton was also conducted. At the Krusadai Biological Station, hydrographical and meteorological recordings research on food fishes, pearl culture experiments fish meal and manurial experiments, etc., were continued. An Estuarine Research station was opened at Ennore. The Fisheries Technological Station which was opened last year at Calicut was fully equipped with the required apparatus.

A Phytological Unit was added to the Fresh Water Biological Station at Chetput. An additional consignment of the upper Indian carp was introduced. Acclimatisation of various fishes was attended to and a programme of hilsa investigation was started. The semi-drying work on inland prawns at Akindu and Pulicat has succeeded in popularising the product and the technique of the process. The Mopad fish farm which was closed in 1939, was revived. An upland fish farm for Mirror carp and other fishes was established at Ootacamund. The conservancy of the Collair fisheries was kept in abeyance. Statistics of inland fishes were systematically gathered and a Fisheries Information Bureau with a library and museum and a propaganda section was organised. A Fisheries Engineering Unit was also started.

Deep sea fishing operations continued to yield good results. An outstanding feature of the year was the employment of power vessels for fishing operations. Eight power vessels were purchased from surplus Naval Stores and three of these were put into service on the East Coast. Out of six insulated motor vans purchased for the transport of fresh fish from fishing centres to important consuming centres, two were put into operation between Ennore and Madras. The systematic collection and utilisation of sea weeds was started on the East Coast. The manufacture of smoked fish for civil supply was discontinued in the latter half of the year. An experimental boat building yard was opened at Adirampatnam and boats were supplied to fishermen at 75 per cent of the cost. Special Officers assisted fisherman in obtaining supplies of yarn, timber, etc. The Special Officer, (Marine Craft and Tackle), conducted a survey of fishing craft in the Province and found them to be far below the minimum requirements. The Madapalli Higher Elementary School for Children of fishermen was raised into a technical high school. Free midday meals were supplied to children of fishermen attending all fisheries schools. The post of Inspector of Fisheries Schools was sanctioned. New co-operative societies for fishermen were also opened.

Companies

The period under review was remarkable for the industrial progress in the Province following the termination of the war. The impetus given to industry by the cessation of hostilities, the large war profits available for investment, and the raising of the limit of the capital issue permissible without sanction under the Defence of India Rules, to Rs. 5 lakhs were the main causes of this improvement. There were 611 companies registered during the year as against 232 in the previous year. Of these, 274 were public and 337 private companies and 6 of them were without capital. There were 33 textile mills and 46 oil mills involving a capital of Rs. 8.01 crores and Rs. 4.23 crores respectively. Agricultural Development and House building companies accounted for 16 new

registrations. Engineering and Cement concerns and Paper and Sugar Mills also figured prominently.

Ports

The first schedule to the Indian Ports Act was amended in September 1946 so as to include vessels trading between Burma and India as coasting vessels. The Tuticorin Port Trust foreshore premises ceased to be a protected area. The rates of Landing and Shipping fees leviable at the Ports of Cuddalore and Negapatam were enhanced by 66½ per cent. Eight sailing vessels were totally wrecked and one motor fishing vessel stranded near Azhikkal during the south-west monsoon on the Malabar coast. There was a slight increase in the number of steamships entering the ports of Cocanada, Masulipatam and Calicut. Trade at Cuddalore continued to be slack and there was a decrease in the tonnage of ships entering Negapatam. Port dues receipts showed an increase at all the minor ports except Negapatam.

Trade

The total value of the foreign and coastal private trade of the Province for the first eleven months of the year increased by Rs. 20.40 crores to Rs. 136.80 crores. The value of foreign imports increased by Rs. 5.60 crores to Rs. 29.10 crores the increases being mainly under metals and ores, vehicles (excluding locomotives etc.) machinery and mill work, instruments, apparatus and appliances, manures, dyeing and tanning substances and spices. Imports of oils, and building and engineering materials decreased. Foreign exports, including re-exports, increased by Rs. 13.74 crores to Rs. 50.48 crores, the increases being mainly under cow hides (tanned or dressed), skins (tanned or dressed), fibre for brushes and brooms, coir manufactures, fruits and vegetables and manufactured tobacco. There was a decrease under ground-nuts, cotton piecegoods and tea. The total trade (imports and exports) with the British Empire showed an increase of Rs. 16.67 crores.

The import revenue for the 12 months of the calendar year fell from Rs. 896.08 lakhs to Rs. 849.59 lakhs, owing to the smaller arrivals of motor spirit and artificial silk yarn. Export revenue increased by Rs. 11.31 lakhs. The cess collected under the Agricultural Produce Cess Act amounted to Rs. 8.75 lakhs.

Textile Control

The work of the Department was confined to the administration of the Provincial and Central Control Orders for cotton textiles, dyes and chemicals, pure silk and silk yarn. Owing to the heavier work devolving upon the department and the introduction of the Khadi scheme the staff was considerably increased. An additional Joint Provincial Textile Commissioner was appointed. This post

was however abolished when the department was reorganised towards the end of the year. Two Inspecting Assistant Textile Commissioners were appointed, one for Madras City and another for the districts of Chingleput and South Arcot and four Textile Control Officers one for each of the districts of Chittoor, Vizagapatam and Malabar and the fourth for Dyes Control in the districts of Guntur and Kistna. The post of Assistant Textile Commissioner (Silk) was abolished at the end of September 1946, owing to the lapsing of the Silk Control Orders. A new post of Personal Assistant (Khadi) was created to assist the Provincial Textile Commissioner in the working of the Khadi scheme. Towards the end of the year, work such as licensing, internal distribution and enforcement, etc., which could be done on district basis, was transferred to the District Collectors. To assist them in this work, Gazetted officers called Inspecting Assisting Textile Commissioners were appointed for every district except the Nilgiris. The Provincial Commissioner was made responsible only for the Khadi Scheme and items of work like procurement from outside areas and the control of mills which have to be done on a Provincial basis.

Cotton cloth.—The per capita allotment of cloth to this Province was reduced in June 1946 from 12 yards to 10·8 yards per head per annum, as a result of which the monthly quota of mill cloth from the Bombay surplus area was reduced to about 8,307 bales. Even so, at the end of the year, the quota actually received was short of the quota allotted by about 23,319 bales. In the month of December 1946 no quota was allotted to this Province from the Bombay surplus area in order to enable that area to clear all arrears for the previous month. Distribution at the Bombay and Ahmedabad centres continued to be unsatisfactory, and measures for improvement were suggested at the Textile Commissioner's Conference held in December 1946 and at the All-India Ministerial Conference held in Delhi. The scheme for the association of non-officials with the administration of civil supplies was extended so as to include textile control measures also within the scope of the district, taluk and village committees. These committees were expanded so as to include various textile interests. Proposals were under consideration for the introduction of rationing of mill cloth in all areas. Towards the end of the year the entire distribution of mill cloth in Malabar was entrusted to the co-operative organisations which had been set up in connection with food procurement and distribution. Suitable existing co-operative organisations willing to undertake the distribution of cloth and yarn were ordered to be utilised fully, and new societies to be set up wherever possible. Separate shops were also ordered to be opened in Harijan quarters with Harijans as the licensees for them.

Cotton yarn.—The control of the distribution of yarn continued to work satisfactorily. Yarn quotas for each district were revised in February 1946 in accordance with the census of looms taken in October 1945.

Handloom cloth.—The handloom Cloth (Price Control) Order of 1946 did not achieve its purpose of bringing down prices of handloom cloth. Government have therefore decided to adopt the following further measures towards that end:—

(a) Local Wage Boards are to be set up to fix local wages subject to a maximum prescribed by the Government.

(b) The retail ceiling price of handloom cloth will be fixed at 18½ per cent above the cost of production and will be stamped on each piece of cloth.

(c) No weaver will be given a further supply of yarn at any time unless he satisfactorily accounts for the previous supply.

The system of regulation of exports through quotas which had been introduced in the previous year worked satisfactorily. In the case of exports to Ceylon, exporters found some difficulty in disposing of their cloth in that country. With the approval of the Government of India, a system was adopted in June 1946 of stamping each piece of cloth for export with a serial number for which a price was notified in a schedule published by the Provincial Textile Commissioner. This facilitated the fixing of retail prices in Ceylon by the authorities there.

Dyes and chemicals.—In the year under report licences were issued to 19 importers and 633 dealers in dyes and chemicals, and permits were issued to 5,965 consumers of these Commodities. There was an improvement in the supply of dyes. On 28th September 1946 the Central Government issued the Cotton Textile (Raw Materials and Stores) Order 1946 in supersession of the (Cotton Textiles Dyes and Chemicals) Control Order, 1945, the Hydro-sulphite of Soda Control Order, 1945, and certain other control orders. Hydrosulphite of Soda continued to be distributed to handloom weaver through the Madras Handloom Weavers' Provincial Co-operative Society.

Silk.—The Central Government withdrew the price control notifications issued by them under the H.P.P. Ordinance with effect from 17th September 1946. The Provincial Control Orders relating to the licensing of dealers in silk yarn and silk fabrics and the transport of silk lapsed on 30th September 1946. There was no control over silk yarn or silk fabrics after that date.

Control orders were enforced with great vigour, either by departmental action or by prosecutions. As many as 415 cloth licences and 103 yarn licences were cancelled during the year and 153 cloth licences and 10 yarn licences suspended for various reasons. Supply of goods was refused to 87 licensees either permanently or for specified periods. In order to check illegal movements of cloth and yarn from the mills, squads of Textile Control Officers were working at Coimbatore and Madurai. Authorised Controllers for the same purpose were also appointed for four mills in the Province.

CHAPTER X—AGRICULTURE, CO-OPERATION AND FORESTS

Agriculture

The first examination for students from the Bapatla College of Agriculture was held in April 1946 and 83 out of the 90 students who appeared, passed in all the subjects. The equipment of the laboratories, farms, dairy and library progressed steadily. The College, which was in the second year of its existence, was in full working condition. Several books and publications were added to the library at the College at Coimbatore.

Irrigation experiments on black soils at the Agricultural Research Station, Siruguppa indicated that the salts get washed down as irrigation progresses. Several varietal trials and rotations were made with crops like jonna, ragi, chillies, wheat, etc. Fundamental studies were continued on the geo-chemistry of the black and red soils of the Presidency, on the reclamation of alkaline soils and on the microbiological population of various soils. Experiments were done on the storage of farmyard manure, and tests were made of the relative values of night soil, rubbish compost and farmyard manure. The vine *Cryptostegia grandiflora* was found to be a valuable green manure plant. The effect of vernalisation of paddy seed on earliness and drought resistance was studied.

The scheme for the purchase and distribution of improved paddy seed was in operation in 16 districts. Work was done at several Research Stations on the improvement of paddy crops through the selection of pure lines, hybridisation and the introduction of promising varieties after acclimatisation. With a view to improve grain size, strains of cholam were crossed with A.S. 3790 "Sufrá of Sudan" which has the biggest grain among the cholam varieties. Several samples of Cumbu were sown under replicated bulk plots to obtain parents of widely different characters in order to study hybrid vigour. Yield trials were continued on short duration ragi. Work was done on the improvement of strains of all the various pulses.

Research work on improved oil seeds was concentrated on isolating high yield strains, and on determining the best cultural and manurial practices to be adopted for increasing yields. At Nandyal, the groundnut variety A.H. 4354, isolated from the variety called "Spanish Bombay", gave a yield, 64 per cent in excess of the local 'Bunch' type. Studies were made of the use of D.D.T. 666 and light traps in the control of the 'Sural' pest. Bordeaux mixture, colloidal copper, Bouisol and Sulphur were found to be effective in the control of the 'Tikka' disease. Studies on the storage of groundnut showed that the summer crop gave two to three per cent more oil than the winter crop, that the initial moisture content was the most important factor in determining deterioration under a storage and that produce containing

splits and broken kernels deteriorated faster than produce containing whole kernels. Castor showed itself to be practically free from pests under storage. With the aid of the Indian Central Coconut Committee, two nurseries for coconut were started at Pattukkottai and Samalkot. Studies on the manurial requirements and moisture retention of coconut were continued. Work was also done on vegetable varieties and fodder grasses.

The acreage under cotton decreased as a result of the restrictive legislation on the cultivation of irrigated cotton. The cotton strain X. 7682 was proved at the Srivilliputtur Station, to be superior to the popular Co. 4. A very promising type was found in the variety Co. 4-B 40 which was shown to be better than Co. 2. In the Mungari trials, 881F maintained its first rank in a variety of soils and seasons.

Outstanding varieties of sugarcane were under study, and trials showed that Co. 475 and Co. 467 were equal to Co. 419. The scheme of Sugarcane Development Research under the Indian Central Sugarcane Committee was continued at Gudiyattam. Control of "Smut" on cane formed the main item of work in the growing areas.

Work on citrus fruits showed that Sathugudi on wood apple stock was a prolific bearer. Three varieties of mangoes of exceptional merit were obtained for the first time. Work was continued at Coonoor on fruits like apple, pear, peach and persimmon and at Kallar and Burliyar on orange, cherimoy, custard apple, papaya, and litchi.

Studies on the control of the sugarcane borer by egg parasite gave very useful results. For the first time, the cholam earhead bug was observed in guinea grass and other grasses. Experiments on stored products with D.D.T. and Gammexane were very successful. Studies were also made of the diseases of cardamom. Fumigation of grain and packages was done as an anti-plague measure. Sulphur was distributed to ryots in important cholam growing areas to enable them to treat their seed against "Smut". Large quantities of copper sulphate were supplied to check paddy blast, and five tons of zinc sulphate were supplied in important orange growing tracts to check the citrus mottle leaf disease. Further study was made of the production of food yeast. The Posts and Diseases Act was enforced in respect of 'Budrot' of palms in the Circars and Malabar, in respect of "Broom hape" of tobacco in the Circars, Sugarcane 'Smut' in Hospet, 'Spike' disease of sandal in Salem, and the 'Mosaic' disease of cardamom in Nelliampathies.

The survey reports on the marketing of gingelly, niger, safflower, pungan, mohwa seeds and pepper were completed and the surveys on turmeric, ginger, dried fruits, cotton seed, betel leaves, animal fats and minor fruits were taken up. Reports on bananas, bengalgram and barley were revised in accordance with the Government of India's reports. The reports on rice, wheat, groundnut, castor,

tobacco, cattle, eggs, milk, sheep, goats, wool and hair, mangoes, citrus fruits, hides, skins, cashewnuts, fish, coffee and coconuts were kept up-to-date in respect of production, exports, imports and prices. Grading of sathugudi oranges was continued in Cuddapah and Madras City, and of eggs in Ootacamund, Katpadi and Madras City.

Propaganda and demonstration was concentrated entirely on the Grow More Food Scheme. The production of sweet potato was encouraged, and seed material and vine cuttings, raised at experimental stations were distributed free to ryots. Experiments were also done on the methods of storage and dehydration of the sweet potato. The cost of dehydration worked out to Re. 0-2-3 per pound. About 20,000 tons of manure were distributed free of cost, to about 43,700 persons in the Districts of Malabar and South Kanara, for manuring about 174,000 acres. The increase in the yield has been estimated at 33,450 tons of paddy and 75,350 tons of straw. The scheme for the training of fieldmen and demonstration maistries at selected agricultural stations was continued. Farmers were taken in groups to these stations and given demonstrations on the improved methods of cultivation. Periodical radio talks were given on agricultural problems, and exhibitions and shows were conducted at important festivals, conferences and meetings. Propaganda was done to encourage the growing of more fodder crops.

Contour bunding, contour ploughing, strip cropping and tree and hedge planting were the main features of work in connection with soil erosion.

After July 1946 all the oil cake produced at power mills was taken up by Government instead of 50% as was done till then and distributed through the Agricultural Department with the help of Village Committees after they were constituted. The Government of India allotted to this Province 70,000 tons of ammonium sulphate and 4,250 tons of super phosphate for the year 1946-47. Advice was given to municipalities and panchayat boards on the proper methods of composting, of farm wastes, vegetable refuse, etc.

The Malt Factory at Coimbatore continued to work during the year. Investigations were carried out on the use of "Aspergillus Oryzae" for increasing the diastatic activity of cholan malt products. Experiments were done on the preparation and the keeping quality of maize flour. The Yeast pilot plant continued to work during the year.

Co-operation

The year 1946 was one of all round progress for the co-operative movement in the Province. The progress made during the war was not only maintained but improved upon. Several steps were taken to stabilise this war time progress. A large number of rural credit societies were revised and the business of Land Mortgage

Banks also showed improvement. On the non-credit side Consumers' Co-operatives, Milk Supply Societies, Weavers' Societies, etc., made steady advance. In the important task of procurement and distribution of foodgrains and other essential articles, Consumers' Co-operative Societies and some other types of Co-operative Societies rendered valuable service to the public as well as to Government.

At the end of the year, there were 16,663 co-operative societies of all types as against 15,761 at the end of 1945, the increase in the number being due to the starting of more village credit societies in many districts.

The Madras Provincial Co-operative Bank continued to do good business during the year. It had to meet heavy demands from the Central Banks. Its lending rate to Central Bank was reduced to 3 per cent with effect from 17th February 1946. All the 30 Central Banks in the Province worked at a profit during the year. They had to borrow heavily from the Provincial Banks in order to meet the demands of their affiliated societies. Five of the Central Banks cleared the entire arrears under principal and interest, while in many other banks, the percentage of balance to demand was below 10. The committee of enquiry appointed by Government to examine the condition of Central Banks and the co-operative movement in Rayalaseema submitted its report, and its recommendations were under the consideration of Government. The transactions of the Central Land Mortgage Bank showed considerable improvement. Its loan disbursement amounted to Rs. 43.13 lakhs as against Rs. 28.35 lakhs in the previous year. It floated debentures to the extent of Rs. 37.50 lakhs.

The Co-operative Marketing Societies suffered a setback owing to the price and movement controls enforced by Government over various articles. Loans were issued to the extent of Rs. 115.17 lakhs and goods were marketed to the value of Rs. 151.66 lakhs. A few sales societies undertook the distribution of compost manufactured by local boards under a special scheme subsidized by Government. There were five marketing Federations in the Province. They sold goods worth Rs. 65.35 lakhs.

There was further development in Consumers' Co-operative Societies. The District Wholesale Stores and primary stores played an important part in the procurement and distribution schemes of Government. There were 1,448 primary stores at the end of the year. The value of goods sold by them amounted to Rs. 1,376.04 lakhs. Most of them maintained ration shops for the distribution of foodgrains and other controlled articles. The purchases and sales of the 21 District Wholesale Stores amounted to Rs. 11.71 crores and Rs. 13.24 crores respectively.

Handloom Weavers' Co-operative Societies had another year of good progress in spite of the difficulty in obtaining yarn. An additional quota of yarn was provided for the members of these societies. At the end of the year there were 362 such societies. They purchased raw material to the extent of Rs. 190.64 lakhs and

sold goods to the extent of Rs. 352.87 lakhs. The Madras Handloom Weavers' Provincial Co-operative Society continued to function as a co-ordinating agency for all the primary societies. It sold goods through its emporiums to the value of Rs. 86.82 lakhs. Notable service was rendered to the public by the Milk Supply Unions and Societies, of which there were 21 and 257 respectively at the end of the year. The Madras, Coimbatore, and Madura Milk Supply Unions continued to supply milk to the military, to State hospitals and other public institutions. The unions at Coimbatore and Madras maintained pasteurising plants. A Dairy Development Officer was appointed to work under the Registrar of Co-operative Societies to formulate schemes for increased production of milk in urban areas through co-operative and private dairies.

There were four Co-operative Insurance Societies in the Province, of which three undertook life insurance and the fourth undertook third-party risk insurance in respect of motor vehicles.

Training and education in co-operation continued to be imparted through the five Co-operative Training Institutes in the Province. About 200 ex-Servicemen and 150 Servicemen underwent or were undergoing training in these institutes during 1946.

Veterinary Services

The seven additional posts of District Veterinary Officers created at the end of the previous year were filled up during the year and additional circles were opened. The post of Lecturer in Animal Hygiene at the Agricultural College, Coimbatore, was converted into a gazetted post. The following temporary posts of gazetted officers were also sanctioned during the year:—

- (1) Research Officer, Ranikhet Disease Vaccine Production, Madras Veterinary College;
- (2) Cattle Procurement Officer, Bangalore;
- (3) Two Deputy Directors of Veterinary Services;
- (4) Sheep and Goats Development Officer;
- (5) Assistant Disease Investigation Officer (Sheep and Goats);
- (6) Dairy Development Officer;
- (7) One District Veterinary Officer for the Madras Milk Supply Union in lieu of the two Veterinary Assistant Surgeons previously sanctioned.

The total number of gazetted posts at the end of the year was 54.

The G.M.V.C. Diploma Course was abolished and a revised B.V.Sc. Degree Course spread over a period of four years and one term was introduced with effect from 1946-47. Ten per cent of the seats in the Madras Veterinary College were reserved for demobilized personnel. In order to attract a large number of suitable candidates to the College, Government abolished the payment of tuition fees by candidates of this Province, for a period of five years from the year 1946-47. The number of admissions to the Stockmen Compounders' Course was increased from 30 to 50. Two Veterinary

Assistant Surgeons of the department were deputed for advanced training in Poultry Husbandry at the Imperial Veterinary Research Institute. Three out of the five officers selected for studies abroad left for their respective places of study. Several army men were given training in poultry farming, animal husbandry and dairying at the Livestock Research Station, Hosur, and the Poultry Research Station, Teynampet. Thirty-six Veterinary Assistant Surgeons were trained in livestock work under village conditions at the Livestock Research Station, Hosur.

The scheme for salvage of dry cows in Madras City continued to work during the year. Two poultry production centres were opened in Madras City, and sites were selected for the opening of two district poultry farms. The Poultry Unit at the Lam Station was extended and six more poultry demonstration units in Veterinary institutions were sanctioned. Cattle shows were held at Ongole and Tiruppur under the auspices of the All-India Cattle Show Committee.

Inoculations with Ranikhet Disease Vaccine were conducted in the field by the Assistant Disease Investigation Officer (Poultry) and the results achieved were very satisfactory. He also conducted investigations of diseases like Coccidiosis among chickens, Avian leucosis, and Parasitic infestation among poultry and ducks.

The Cattle Procurement Officer started work at Bangalore on 25th April 1946 procuring the quota of cattle allowed by the Mysore Government to be imported into this Province. Propaganda was done as usual by the distribution of leaflets, magic lantern lectures, talks to the villagers, radio talks, etc.

Cinchona Plantations

The full programme of planting sanctioned for the year was completed according to schedule. An extent of 1,071 acres was planted in the Government Cinchona Plantations, Anamalais, Cherangode and Devarshola. Preliminary operations such as felling, clearing, etc. were in progress for the planting programme for 1947. The Kadamparai Estate, which was under the management of a private planter, was taken over by this Government at the end of March 1946, on behalf of the Government of India. Good work was done in the Vegetative Propagation Section which was started in the year 1945.

Production at the Quinine Factory at Naduvattam fell still further to 15,000 lb. of hydrated quinine sulphate and 9,600 lb. of Cinchona febrifuge for the year. Owing to the limited resources of bark in the Government plantations, the questions of purchase of some Java bark was under consideration, in order to reduce the cost of production by manufacturing a larger quantity of quinine sulphate. The old metal chimney stack in the factory was replaced by a brick stack and the new chimney was connected with the boiler by a flue. The construction of a modern factory in the plantations in the Anamalais was in progress and work was also done on the new hospital. A Civil Assistant Surgeon was sanctioned for a period

of six months to afford medical relief to the staff and labourers working in the Cherangode plantation. A Sub-Assistant Surgeon was sanctioned for work in the Anamalais Plantations.

Forests

Owing to the termination of the war, two timber supply divisions were closed during the year. Supplies to the Railways and the Supply Department continued as usual. The Forest Utilization Officer was in charge of the Timber Supply Circle. Timber of the lower classes, not required for the Supply Department, was sold to the public. The control over transport of timber by sea and rail from the West Coast continued. Timber plantations were extended to an area of about 3,330 acres.

A special fodder division was formed at Bollary for the supply of hay to the Military department. But on account of the fodder famine it had to undertake the supply of hay to the famine areas on a large scale. It was closed from the middle of November 1946.

Assistant Conservators were appointed temporarily—

(1) for the submission of proposals for acquisition of land for teakwood and softwood plantations in the West Coast;

(2) for the scheme of construction of roads in the Javadis; and

(3) for the scheme of casuarina planting.

The Deputy Conservator of Forests appointed for the afforestation of the Hagari River and Tungabhadra continued during the year. A soil conservation division was formed in January 1946 with headquarters at Aravankadu. It was kept in abeyance from 1st July 1946 but was revived on a reduced scale in August 1946. The Working Plans Circle formed in May 1946 was also held in abeyance from July 1946.

An extent of about 7,800 acres was planted with casuarina in accordance with the scheme of large scale planting of casuarina to compensate the overexploiting of the fuel forests. The Deputy Conservator on special duty for the investigation of firewood plantation projects continued till the end of July 1946. The Assistant Conservator who was working under him continued till 2nd November 1946. The Forest department supplied to the City of Madras about 114,240 tons of firewood during the year.

Foodcrops were raised in fuel and timber plantations over an area of about 2,550 acres by the kumri method of cultivation.

The Intensive Rural Development Scheme

A new scheme of rural development was introduced during the year and a sum of Rs. 4 crores was transferred from the revenue account to a special fund for financing this scheme. Out of this sum of Rs. 4 crores, Rs. 1 crore is intended for Harijan uplift and the rest for general schemes of rural reconstruction including the Khadi scheme. Twenty-seven firkas were selected in the Province

at the rate of 2 in Vizagapatam district, one in each of the remaining districts, except Madras; and 2 in the Agency tracts. The selection was made on considerations of the general backwardness of the firka in regard to communications, sanitation, etc., the presence of electric installations in or within easy reach of the firka, the presence of favourable conditions for intensifying the production of handloom cloth and for the development of other cottage industries and the fact whether some rural reconstruction work had already been done in that area. The goal is to make each firka self-sufficient in the matter of food and clothing. Each selected firka is in the charge of a Firka Development Officer for purposes of general rural reconstruction and a Firka Cottage Industries Officer for developing Khadi and other cottage industries. The firka is to be divided into four or five groups each in the charge of a Village Development Officer of the rank of Revenue Inspector. The Development Commissioner who has the status of a Member of the Board of Revenue is in charge of the work of planning, organising and supervising the execution of the scheme. He has under him two Assistant Development Commissioners, one for Telugu districts and the other for the remaining districts of the Province. The hereditary and potential skill of village artisans are to be utilised fully; and modern methods introduced wherever possible. The supply of electric power to the selected areas will receive high priority. Special attention is to be paid to increasing the production of lands in these areas and the programme will therefore include the sinking of wells and the electric-pumping of water for irrigation purposes. Because of the basic needs of each village the carpenter, the blacksmith and the potter will receive special attention. More than 200 training and demonstration units will train about 4,000 persons at a time in more than 30 industries, the period of training ranging from 3 to 10 months. District Industrial Museums will also be reorganized and financial assistance will be given by Government for setting up such Museums wherever necessary.

The Khadi scheme is one of the main items in the new Scheme of Rural Reconstruction. It is to be worked on an intensive scale in the seven centres at Vellakkovil, Avanashi, and Puliyankurichi in Tamil Nád, Kotauratla, Guruvareddipalem and Erragondapalem in Andhra Desa and Páyyanur cum Nileswhar in Kerala, and on an extensive scale in the 27 selected firkas. The seven centres contain 156 villages with a population of 3.57 lakhs. Khadi Committees are to be constituted for each of these centres and also for each village within the centres for the purpose of doing house to house propaganda for the enlistment of spinners and weavers, the final goal being to have as many charkas in each centre as there are families residing within it and at least as many efficient spinners. As far as possible the yarn spun in each village is to be woven into cloth by the weavers residing in that village. A Khadi Officer with appropriate staff is to be appointed for each centre to assist the committees in working the scheme. The

purpose of the intensive portion of the scheme is to see that sufficient Khadi is produced for supply to the entire population of the centre at the rate of 20 yards per adult and 10 yards per child per annum. Government have taken over the assets and liabilities of the All India Spinners Association in these seven centres. Within their respective regions the local Branch Secretaries of the All India Spinners Association are to be Honorary Regional Khadi Officers and the centre Khadi Officers are to work under their guidance. Financial and administrative supervision over the entire scheme is to vest in the Provincial Textile Commissioner. As an essential part of the scheme, courses of training are to be held at Government cost as follows :—

- (a) Three months' accelerated courses in spinning.
- (b) The Khadi Pravesika course (one year).
- (c) Bunayi Karyakartha course (one year).
- (d) Two months' training for new spinners in each centre.
- (e) Short classes in Khadi weaving in each centre.

Charkas and carding and slivering equipments are to be supplied at cost price by Government, but in the case of Harijans and poor persons the price is to be recovered in 12 monthly instalments. All yarn that the spinning families find surplus to their requirements is to be purchased by the Centre Khadi Officer. Government have also taken steps to control private khadi production in order to ensure the success of this scheme. It is estimated that when the scheme comes to full maturity the cost to Government will not exceed Rs. 5.5 lakhs, of which about Rs. 3 lakhs will be spent on training classes and about Rs. 2.5 lakhs on subsidy. The annual expenditure on the scheme is estimated to be one crore.

In the areas selected for intensive khadi work the development of cottage industries and other items of work included in the general programme are to proceed at the same pace as in the selected firkas.

Communities Eligible for Help

The work of the Labour Department relating to communities eligible for help from the Government consisted as usual of the provision of house-sites, the opening of schools, the grant of scholarships, stipends, boarding grants, cloth and discretionary grants, the maintenance of hospitals at important centres, the supply of midday meals to the poor pupils reading in labour schools, the provision of sanitary amenities such as pathways and burial grounds, the provision of tanks and wells, etc., for the supply of drinking water and the assignment of land for cultivation. The term of membership of members of the Provincial Advisory Board and the District Advisory Committees expired on 26th August 1946 and the question of the reconstitution of the Board was under the consideration of the Government. Government were also considering

an amendment of the Removal of Civil Disabilities Act, 1938. A sum of Rs. 1 crore was set apart in the Budget for 1946-47, to implement a scheme for the uplift of Harijans and the removal of their general disabilities. Under this scheme mixed colonies of Harijans, caste Hindus, Muslims and others would be set up and several facilities such as schools, hospitals, etc., would be provided for the colonists. Government sanctioned the grant of ten scholarships every year for the Law Course of which five were to be given to students from the Yerukula, Yenadi and other aboriginal tribes. But as a special case 11 scholarships were granted during the year for the Law Course, ten being for students of the scheduled classes. Admission to all Government hostels maintained by the Labour Department was restricted to the Hindu members of eligible communities. All hostels having a minimum strength of 10 boarders belonging to the eligible communities were declared to be eligible for a lump-sum boarding grant even in the first year and proposals were called for from the Commissioner of Labour for the grant of additional boarding grants to all such hostels. There were 1,143 labour schools in the Province during the year. The scheme for the supply of free midday meals in these schools worked satisfactorily and 69,964 pupils of the eligible communities were fed every day. Marked improvement was observed in the health and appearance of the pupils.

Civic amenities were provided and sanitary improvements effected in the 'cherries' in the City of Madras. Sanction was given for the construction of 37 model huts in the Tondiarpet area at a cost of Rs. 62,000. Some of the labour colonies in the low-lying lands in the north of Madras were affected by the recent floods in the City and relief was provided for the residents.

Criminal Tribes Settlements

The administration of the Criminal Tribes Settlements and the Reclamation Centres continued to be under the charge of the Deputy Inspector-General of Police, C.I.D., and Railways, Madras.

Agriculture continued to be the main occupation of the settlers. More lands were brought under the plough in the Aziznagar Settlement, and boring operations were conducted in the Chintaladevi Settlement for a subartesian spring. Industries such as Chapli making, weaving, carpentry, match-making, quarrying, charcoal making, etc., were carried on in these Settlements. Incidence of malaria was very high in the Siddhapuram Settlement and certain preventive measures were undertaken on the advice of the malariologist. Compounders were appointed in the Aziznagar and Sitanagaram Settlements. Five new schools were opened in Anantapur district and one in Chittoor district for the Sugalis. The Bitragunta Reformatory Settlement worked satisfactorily

and its strength was reduced from 48 to 39. The remission system was in operation. Thirty-three additional teachers were appointed for the Kallar schools in Madura district.

Several proposals for the general uplift of the notified tribes in the Settlements were deferred, pending final disposal of the question of the repeal of the Criminal Tribes Act.

CHAPTER XI—PUBLIC WORKS

The Public Works Department

General, Buildings and Defence

The temporary Anantapur Circle continued during the year, but the Aerodrome Circle was abolished in July 1946. Five officers were deputed to the United Kingdom for advanced studies. All the remaining air fields and A.M.E. stations constructed by the department were handed over during the year to the Military Engineering Service for maintenance.

Work was continued on the construction of the Quinine Factory in the Anamalais. Out of 37 sub-estimates for the scheme, 28 were sanctioned. Construction was completed of all the 47 godowns at Coimbatore and Vizagapatam, meant for the Central Government and they were handed over to the Central Public Works Department for maintenance. The Government House estate and buildings on Mount Road were relinquished by His Excellency the Governor for housing members of the Madras Legislature, when they come to Madras in connection with official business. The reconstruction of the western half of the tenements in the Indian Infantry Lines at Perambur for military pensioners and their families was nearing completion.

Work in connection with the Land Colonization Schemes in the Araku Valley, Wynaad and Gudalur was continued. As regards Wynaad, the construction of buildings for Government departments, the metalling of roads within the colonization area and the construction of wells with pumping arrangements alone remained to be done.

The Walajapet Water Supply Scheme came into operation during the year bringing the total number of water-supply schemes in the Province to 61. Detailed plans and estimates were prepared for one city water-supply improvement scheme, four municipal water-supply schemes and two drainage schemes costing in all Rs. 65.51 lakhs, and plans and estimates were under preparation for another seven municipal water-supply schemes and one drainage scheme. Plans were prepared for introducing water-supply and drainage facilities for the colony attached to the Tungabhadra Project.

Government decided that, for the purposes of the post-war reconstruction schemes, the post-war period should commence from the year 1947-48 instead of 1946-47.

Communications.—The Communications Branch of the Public Works Department continued till the end of March 1946 when it was reconstituted as the Highways Department with one Chief Engineer, six Superintending Engineers and 37 Divisional Engineers. A new circle called the North East Roads Circle was formed on 17th January 1946 in the Communications Branch. Another

circle called the Bridges Circle and another division for work relating to transport and machinery were also formed during the year. Government sanctioned the post of a Road Development Engineer to revise the Post-war development programme, and this post was filled up on 17th December 1946. In accordance with the scheme sponsored by the Government of India, eight engineers were deputed for training in the United Kingdom and the United States of America. The Special Engineer sanctioned in July 1945 to be in charge of the Transport and Machinery Division was continued during the year. Sanction was also given for the purchase of heavy tools and plant including scientific and mathematical instruments to the extent of Rs. 175 lakhs. All military works, except those which could not be safely postponed, were stopped at the end of March 1946. The Government of India discontinued their financial assistance towards the maintenance and improvement of roads taken over for war purposes.

Owing to heavy rains in November 1946 and the floods in the rivers Pennar, Vanniar, etc., several breaches occurred in highways and damage was caused to causeways and bridges in the districts of Ramnad, Chingleput, South Arcot and Salem. The damage was particularly heavy in South Arcot district. Heavy rocks fell across roads at various points in Coimbatore district. Prompt action was taken to restore traffic. The formation of a special Division for work in connection with these repairs was under consideration.

A scheme was drawn up for the employment of demobilized soldiers on road works.

Electricity

Satisfactory progress was made during the year. The Restriction and Control orders continued, but were relaxed in respect of domestic services, small industrial loads and street lighting. There were 80 electrical undertakings in the Province, of which 35 were managed by local authorities and 45 by private companies. The Kurnool Municipal Electrical Undertaking was taken over by Government on 1st October 1946. Work was continued on the Machkund Hydro-Electric Scheme, the Moyar Hydro-Electric Scheme, the Pykara and Moyar Extensions and the Madras Thermal Plant Extensions, the Madras-Mettur Inter-connection Scheme, the Papanasam Extensions, the Madura Thermal Scheme, the Bezwada Thermal Extensions, the Vizagapatam Extensions and the Ceded Districts Scheme. The Cuddapah Thermal Scheme was under preparation. Sanction was given to the Conjeeveram-Chingleput-Arkonam Extension Scheme estimated to cost Rs. 16.7 lakhs.

The Pykara System continued to function satisfactorily and the total connected load was 67,500 KW. Supply was given to the Calicut licensee in April 1946. A serious accident occurred in the haulage track owing to the snapping of the wire rope, resulting in the death of five persons. The Mettur Power House had to be closed

down from 16th January 1946 to 30th January 1946 owing to extremely adverse seasonal conditions. Till about the middle of June 1946 the water position continued to be unsatisfactory and the Pykara Power Station afforded relief. The Mettur Fourth Unit was put into commercial run from the end of October 1946. The total connected load on the system was about 70,000 KW. Due to the collapse of tower 115 on the Mettur-Singarapet line on 16th November 1946, there was a major interruption of supply to the northern areas; but supply was resumed through a loop line in 23 hours. The Papanasam System continued satisfactorily and had a total connected load of about 28,000 KW. Bulk supply to the Travancore Government was started on 11th September 1946. The Thermal Stations at Vizagapatam, Bezwada, Cocanada and Kurnool continued to function satisfactorily.

Irrigation

Cauvery Delta System.—Owing to bad seasonal conditions, the opening of the Mettur Reservoir had to be postponed by about a month to the end of June 1946. The storage was low until the 10th of July, after which the reservoir started filling up rapidly, until it started surplussing on the 15th August. There was a breach in one of the canals which took four days to close. The crops did not suffer as there was local rain. Twelve key schemes for drainage improvements were sanctioned during the year, of which four were taken up for execution. Duty experiments were conducted on the Pattukottai and Aduthurai Agricultural Research Stations.

Godavari Delta System.—A special Sub-division was sanctioned for the scientific investigation of drains and the remodelling of channels in the eastern delta of the Godavari Delta system. The reconstruction of the collapsed arch of the Gannavaram Aqueduct and the pile-driving in front and rear of its aprons as a protective measure were completed during the year. The remodelling of the remaining vents and the widening of the bridge were taken up by a Special Division formed in November. The work was estimated to cost Rs. 28 lakhs. An extent of 309,000 acres was thrown open for second crop cultivation in the Godavari Delta system, but only 113,527 acres were actually cultivated in the Godavari Eastern and Central Deltas as the ryots apprehended inadequacy of supplies in March and April 1946.

Kistna Delta System.—A few breaches occurred in the canals of the Kistna Delta system during the heavy rains in November 1946, but they were immediately closed and no appreciable damage was caused to standing crops.

Periyar System.—Owing to the partial failure of the North-East monsoon last year, the Periyar reservoir had to be kept open for 11 days beyond the normal closing date of 1st March for saving

the standing crops and therefore it was opened 20 days late. Water-supply to Madura town was given as usual owing to the drought in the months of July and August.

Ramapadasagar Project.—The detailed investigation of the Ramapadasagar Project was continued by a special staff. Exploratory borings and percolation experiments pertaining to coffer-dam works in foundations at the dam-site, surveys of water-spread and the taking of check and block levels along the left canal alignment down to the Vizagapatam Harbour were all attended to. A technical commission was appointed by the Government of India to consider the submission of certain areas in the Hyderabad lands by the execution of the Ramapadasagar Project and the utilisation of the Godavari waters by the Madras and Hyderabad Governments. The Chief Engineer of the Madras Government returned from his tour of the United States of America and the United Kingdom after studying the methods of design and construction of large dams and after collecting valuable data on deep foundations for dams. Two eminent American Engineers who are the Consulting Engineers for the Project, visited the dam-site and submitted their report. A Designs and Tests Division was formed during the year to finalise the designs for the Tungabhadra and Ramapadasagar Dams.

Tungabhadra Project.—To ensure quick progress in the execution of the Tungabhadra Project another Circle called the Headworks Circle was formed at Hospet. Construction of quarters for officers and staff along the low-level canal and at the dam-site were in progress. Preliminaries for expediting the water-supply, drainage and electric-supply arrangements in the camp area were attended to. A road was under construction from Hospet to the dam-site. Designs for the under-tunnel and bridges were settled. Owing to the failure of the monsoon last year, expansion relief works were commenced in January 1946 and famine labour was engaged in excavating the canal in five reaches. Orders were placed for machinery available in local Army dumps.

The investigation of the scheme for dry farming and contour bunding in the famine-affected areas of the Ceded Districts was completed. Government were considering schemes for contour bunding an area 5,500 acres near Guntakal and 2,500 acres near Hagari.

Another ten schemes at an estimated cost of Rs. 9.85 lakhs designed to irrigate about 10,000 acres were sanctioned during the year as Grow More Food schemes. Since the inauguration of the Grow More Food Campaign, 89 schemes have been sanctioned at a cost of Rs. 131.41 lakhs for irrigating about 1.54 lakhs of acres, and of these, 68 schemes have been completed.

The Irrigation Research Division at Poondi was provided with a Research Laboratory. Experiments were done in Irrigation,

Hydraulics and Soil Mechanics, and problems relating to the construction of dams were studied with special reference to the Tungabhadra and Ramapadasagar Projects. Models both on tank weirs and spillways were constructed and studied. Stauching of canals and other such problems were also investigated.

Broadcasting

The staff of the department was increased by the appointment of 2 Assistant Radio Engineers and 10 Radio Supervisors. The Province is now divided into five Circles each in the charge of an Assistant Radio Engineer. During the year, the department installed 112 rural sets, 12 municipal sets and 31 sets for Government and private bodies. Four Public Address Systems were supplied to municipalities and one to a private concern. Concessional rates of maintenance charges were sanctioned in respect of sets in district board and municipal schools. About 500 new batteries were received during the year. The installation of Lease-Lend sets received from the Government of India was completed with the help of special staff.

Four conferences were held during the year by the Radio Engineer with the Heads of nation-building departments and the Station Directors of the All-India Radio, Madras and Trichinopoly, to discuss the question of the use to be made of rural broadcasting receivers. The Radio Engineer was appointed as the Government Director of Radio and Electricals, Limited, Madras.

Two Research Assistants and two Workshop Assistants were appointed in January 1946 to work on the two schemes (1) Lead-Acid batteries and (2) Electrolytic Condensers, sanctioned by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, Delhi, which gave a grant of Rs. 16,058 for these two schemes. Investigation was continued by the recipients of Government scholarships, on

- (a) the construction of Multitester and Meter units with indigenous products, a scheme in which Messrs. Tata & Company have co-operated by the supply of steel magnets;
- (b) the making of loudspeakers;
- (c) aerial matching circuits; and
- (d) the designing of cheap receivers for listening purposes.

CHAPTER XII—CIVIL SUPPLIES

Prices in 1946.—As compared with the previous year there was an increase in the prices of both foodgrains and commercial products. The index numbers of the average wholesale prices were as follows :—

(Base : Prices in the week ending 21st August 1939 = 100.)

Half-year ending.	Food-grains.	Commercial products.	Half-year ending.	Food-grains.	Commercial products.
December 1940	119	96	December 1943	263	257
June 1941	122	95	June 1944	249	254
December 1941	140	114	December 1944	243	249
June 1942	142	123	June 1945	244	259
December 1942	207	187	December 1945	252	287
June 1943	236	239	June 1946	251	349

Cost of living.—The trend of index numbers of the cost of living for the working classes in Madras City and in eight centres since August 1939 is shown below :

Month.	Madras City.	Vizagapatam.	Ellore.	Bellary.	Cuddalore.	Trichinopoly.	Madura.	Colimbatore.	Calcut.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
August 1939	98	102	101	96	104	103	97	102	103
January 1942	117	121	120	127	118	121	110	118	129
December 1942	158	172	175	155	172	171	167	174	180
December 1943	189	220	213	226	198	195	210	213	228
December 1944	209	219	218	214	221	208	205	218	237
December 1945	224	228	269	234	237	247	244	238	266
March 1946	228	242	273	235	239	250	236	239	270
June 1946	235	247	290	241	248	255	240	243	284
September 1946	239	236	306	260	263	252	268	253	292
December 1946	249	250	319	267	266	276	285	270	296

The index was compiled by dividing the various items of expenditure into five main groups, viz., food, fuel and lighting, clothing, rent and miscellaneous and assigning weights to each item in proportion to its relative importance in an average low-paid employee's family budget.

Owing to the severe cyclone in the Circars and the failure of the north-east monsoon in other parts of the Province at the end of 1945, and the consequent shortage in the yield of foodgrains, a serious situation was expected to develop in the Province at the beginning of the year 1946. The Civil Supplies Department therefore assumed great importance during the year and engaged the greater part of the attention of Government throughout the year. At the beginning of the year the Commissioner of Civil Supplies continued to be in charge of the administration of the various controls relating to essential articles, and the subject was dealt with by Government in the Development Department. At the end of February 1946 a separate department of Government for food was created and the Commissioner of Civil Supplies became ex-officio

Secretary to Government in this department. After a review of the whole question by the new Government, a separate Secretary to Government in the Food Department was appointed in June 1946, and the Commissioner of Civil Supplies continued in the position occupied by him at the beginning of the year. Four Deputy Commissioners of Civil Supplies were appointed for the northern districts, the Ceded Districts, the Central Range and the Southern Range with six Assistant Commissioners under them. By the end of the year the number of Assistant Commissioners' posts was reduced to two, one for the northern surplus districts and the other for the Ceded Districts. A post of Deputy Commissioner to be in charge of Movements, with an Assistant Commissioner under him, was also created to deal with problems relating to the transport of foodgrains and other commodities. For the purpose of carrying on propaganda and popularizing unfamiliar foodgrains, a Public Relations Officer was appointed in March 1946. This post was abolished in July and the work was attended to by the newly-appointed Director of Information and Publicity. The post of Deputy Commissioner (Enforcement) for the administration of the Hoarding and Profiteering Prevention Ordinance and some other Control Orders was abolished after the lapsing of the Ordinance. But another Deputy Commissioner had to be appointed because Government introduced further control measures over such items as jaggery, groundnut and edible oils. The cost of the Civil Supplies establishment was estimated to be more than one crore during the year 1946-47.

Procurement and rationing.—The scheme of intensive procurement of foodgrains, under which the surplus of foodgrains with producers, after allowing for household consumption, payment of rent in kind, etc., is procured at rates fixed by Government, by agents nominated by the Collectors of districts, was introduced in the remaining 17 districts of the Province, thus bringing the entire Province under the scheme. During the first half of the year procurement was made through ordinary trade channels, by appointing suitable private dealers as wholesalers, but in order to eliminate middlemen and to give the producer a fair share of the profit, the work was later entrusted to Co-operative Stores wherever possible. In Malabar, Producers' Co-operative Societies were organized for the purpose in the first instance, but subsequently they were reorganized into Producers-cum-Consumers Co-operative Societies. The entire procurement and distribution work in Malabar was entrusted to these new societies. The formation of similar societies in the districts of East Godavari, West Godavari, Kistna and Guntur was also undertaken towards the end of the year. Revenue Officers were placed in general charge of procurement operations within their respective jurisdictions and they were assisted by a special staff consisting of District, Taluk and Firka Supply Officers. In order to induce producers to part with as much of their stocks

as possible Government sanctioned a bonus for deliveries of foodgrains in the months of June and July 1946. Special inducement was also given to cultivators to surrender the produce of the short-term crops by granting bonuses for deliveries of paddy and millets from September till the middle of November. In order to persuade producers to part with stocks by reducing their daily consumption from 16 ounces to 12 ounces Government also sanctioned an additional bonus in respect of deliveries of paddy and rice from 16th September to 31st October 1946, at the rate of Rs. 2 per maund of paddy and Rs. 3 per maund of rice. As a result of these measures, the total quantity of foodgrains procured during the year was 1,660,076 tons of rice and 124,617 tons of millets.

Statutory rationing was introduced during the year in the nine villages of Chingleput district which were included within the limits of Madras City. It was also introduced in the Guntakal major panchayat area. Non-statutory rationing was introduced in all districts. At the end of the year therefore the ordinary form of non-statutory rural rationing was in force in all the rural areas of the Province except Malabar and the Ceded districts. In the Ceded districts it was in force in the taluk headquarters and major panchayat areas, but a "block list" system of rural rationing was in force in the other rural areas. The early part of the year witnessed very heavy movements of foodgrains from surplus to deficit districts, because of the introduction of rationing in all the districts and the necessity for building up buffer stocks. The Provincial rice stocks showed a progressive decline from May. The stock which was 484,000 tons at the beginning of May dropped to 325,000 tons by the beginning of August. In February the daily ration was lowered from 16 ounces to 12 ounces. In June the rice constituent of the ration was lowered from 12 to 10 ounces and again in August this had to be lowered still further to 8 ounces. There was an improvement towards the end of the year in the stock position, as a result of which the ration was raised to 10 ounces in 14 districts and in the municipal towns of 4 other districts with effect from 15th December 1946. By the end of December 1946, the increase in ration to 10 ounces was given effect to in all areas except one district and the informally rationed areas of two other districts.

The Province participated in the Government of India scheme for the procurement and distribution of supplies for deficit Provinces and States. The following are the figures relating to the allotment of foodgrains by the Government of India and the quantities received from outside this Province:—

	Allotment.	Quantity received.	Place from where received.
	TONS.	TONS.	
Rice—			
Kharif Plan, 1945-46.	201,970	183,570	Punjab, Sind, Baluchistan, Assam, Orissa, Eastern States, and Central Provinces.
	191,500	114,911	Brazil, Burma and Java.

	Allotment.	Quantity received.	Place from where received.
	TONS.	TONS.	
Rice—cont.			
Kharif Plan, 1946-47.	75,000	15,311	Orissa, Central Provinces, Eastern States, Punjab and Coorg.
Millets	32,000	8,522	Overseas.
	10,203	4,522	Hyderabad, Gwalior and Orissa.
	24,500	23,072	Overseas.
Maize	100,000	92,853	Do.
Wheat and wheat products.		21,903	Punjab and Sind.
Barley and Rye		243,530	Overseas.
Pulses		7,000	Do.
	157,211	88,460	From places in India.

Of the allotment of 201,970 tons of rice from other Provinces and States under the Kharif Plan, 1945-46, 47,200 tons represented the allotments to Travancore, Cochin and the Defence Services via the Madras Province. Therefore the net allotment to this Province from sources within India and outside was 346,270 tons. A special feature of the year was the receipt of maize and millets from overseas. By means of propaganda and the publication of suitable recipes the consumption of maize, which is not a familiar food in this Province was raised to more than 10,000 tons per month by November 1946. The sale of imported millets and maize was subsidized by Government so as to bring the prices down to the local level. The cost to Government was about Rs. 78 lakhs. As a result of the reduction in rice content of the ration and the subsidizing of the sale of wheat and maida the offtake of wheat and wheat products which was at a level of 5,000 tons per month in 1945 increased to nearly 30,000 tons per month in August and September 1946. Orders were issued to discontinue the subsidized sale of maida with effect from 1st January 1947 mainly owing to the shortage of the flour and the increase in the rice-content of the ration.

Sugar.—The quota of sugar for the Province was fixed at 69,600 tons for 1945-46 and at 70,000 tons for 1946-47. Statutory rationing of sugar was introduced in Madras City on 1st August 1946 and informal rationing of sugar was introduced later in some urban areas. Up to the end of October 1946, a quantity of 13,921 tons was imported into the Province from North India. A surcharge at the rate of 6 pies per maund was collected by Government in order to cover the risk of loss in transit on all sugar consignments received from factories outside the Province. As a result of the policy of increasing the production of sugar within the Province, 52,710 tons were produced in 1945-46 as against 51,437 tons in 1944-45, 45,697 tons in 1943-44 and 35,007 tons in 1942-43.

Jaggery.—The Gur Control Order, 1946, was issued by the Government of India in supersession of the order of 1943. The surcharge on jaggery exports outside the Province was discontinued from 1st April 1946 and the restrictions on inter-district movement were also lifted. A quantity of 24,700 tons of jaggery was exported to other Provinces and States under permits issued to *bona fide*

merchants. Prices of cane jaggery were fixed at the end of November 1946.

Groundnut.—Owing to adverse seasonal conditions and with a view to use it as a supplementary foodstuff, the export quota of groundnut was reduced from 392,200 tons to 32,000 tons for the year 1945-46. To popularize the use of groundnut as a supplementary food, arrangements were made to sell it through ration shops; Government also subsidized the sale of groundnut toffee. These attempts were not successful and were therefore abandoned. Export of groundnut oil outside the Province except under permit was prohibited in January 1946. Subsequently the Government of India formulated a basic plan for the movement of the commodity, and export quotas were allotted for this Province. Up to the end of November 1946 permits were issued for the export of 148,000 tons. In December 1946, a new scheme of movement was decided upon. The oil was to be moved on Government account, and tenders were to be invited on a competitive basis. The importing administrations were to appoint their own agents for inspecting and taking delivery of the oil. A Deputy Commissioner of Civil Supplies (Export) was appointed to be in charge of this work.

Firewood.—Statutory rationing of firewood continued to be in force in Madras City and was extended on 1st September 1946 to those areas which had been included within the city. A 25 per cent increase in the scale of rations was sanctioned for the months of January and February 1946 and also for the first three quarters of December 1946. Owing to the heavy rains on the East Coast at the end of the year transport of firewood became difficult and only 8,358 tons were received in December as against the normal monthly average of 23,000 tons. The increase of 25 per cent in the rations was therefore cancelled during the last quarter of the month. A quantity of 212,144 tons was received during the year, of which 15,666 tons were written off as loss due to dryage and pilferage. The direct delivery system continued to be in force and a quantity of 89,296 tons was moved under this scheme resulting in a saving of Rs. 5.14 lakhs to Government in subsidy. The stock position of firewood was not satisfactory in Madura and Tinnevely during a part of the year.

Potatoes, fish and eggs.—It was decided to abolish control over potatoes with effect from 1st January 1947. The ban on the export of fish and eggs continued, while the ban on the movement of poultry outside the Province was removed. The demands of the military for eggs and poultry went down appreciably.

Miscellaneous commodities.—The ban on the export of various commodities such as chillies, tamarind, onions, coriander, garlic, ghee, butter and cream continued. The supply position of cattle fodder having become unsatisfactory, exports of the product outside the Province and from the districts of Anantapur, Bellary, Tanjore, Nellore, Malabar and Madura were banned. The quota of 12,000

tons of cotton seeds allotted to this Province from Hyderabad was not received. The ban on inter-district movement of cotton seed continued. The export of tapioca from the Province and from Salem district was prohibited. Restrictions on the movement of castor seeds outside the Province were lifted in January 1946.

Government received about 6,600 tons of milk powder during the year. Reconstituted milk was distributed free to elementary school children in the districts of Anantapur, Bellary, Vizagapatam, Chittoor, North Arcot, Coimbatore, Salem, Ramnad, Tinnevely and Malabar. A scheme for reconstituting milk from separated milk by a special blending process was taken up in order to ease the acute shortage of milk in Madras City, and a factory was constructed for this purpose.

Control orders.—The Madras Foodgrains Control Order, 1945, continued to be in force. During the year, 14,660 licences were issued for paddy, 16,105 for rice, 7,921 for pulses, 7,092 for millets and 3,476 for wheat and wheat products. The number of prosecutions launched for violation of this order and other food control orders was 3,952. The Drugs Control Order ceased to be in force from 1st October 1946 but control was continued along the same lines by the Madras Government through the Madras Essential Articles Control and Requisitioning (Temporary Powers) Act of 1946. It was decided, however, to lift the control with effect from the beginning of 1947. The Hoarding and Profiteering Prevention Ordinance continued to be administered by the Commercial Tax Department. It ceased to be in force from 1st October 1946. During the period that it was in force, 186 prosecutions were launched for violation of the Ordinance. The Indian Woollen Goods Control Order, 1945, the Brass and Copper Control Order, 1945, the Aluminium Utensils Control Order, 1945, and the Consumer Goods Control and Distribution Order, 1945, all lapsed on 30th September 1946 with the expiry of the Defence of India Rules. But control over woollen goods was continued by the Government of India under their Essential Supplies Ordinance of 1946, and that over brass and copper and over aluminium utensils by the Madras Government under their Essential Articles Control Act, 1946. The Defence of India Rules expired on the 30th of September 1946. All the control orders relating to the foodgrains and other commodities which were in force on that date derived their authority from the Defence of India Rules. As these controls had to be continued, it became necessary to legislate for the purpose. The Government of India therefore first issued an ordinance known as "the Essential Supplies (Temporary Powers) Ordinance of 1946." This ordinance related to foodstuffs, cotton and woollen textiles, etc. Under the provisions of the ordinance all the orders issued by the Provincial Government under sections 80 (3) and 81 (2) and (3) of the Defence of India Rules continued to be in force. This ordinance

was later replaced by an Act called the Essential Articles (Temporary Powers) Act, 1946.

Following the lead of the Government of India, the Madras Government also passed legislation with regard to the continuance of control over commodities other than those which fell within the scope of the Government of India's Act, e.g., firewood, livestock, oil seeds, etc., and this Act also included a provision for the requisitioning and acquisition of movable and immovable properties.

Thus all the control orders issued prior to 30th September 1946, either by the Provincial Government or by the subordinate officers continued to be in force, except a very few which were cancelled.

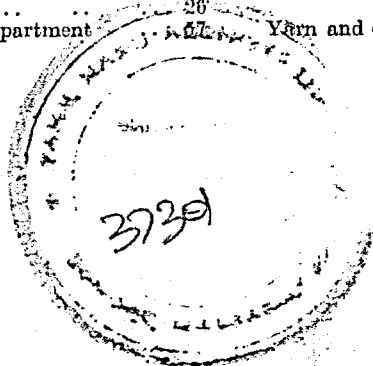
General.—A feature of special interest during the year was the opening of Nutrition Canteens for labourers by the Y.M.C.A. in Madras City. Government advanced a sum of Rs. 10,000 for this purpose and retained a supervisory control over its working. The first canteen was opened in November 1946 and dishes made out of nutritious but unfamiliar foodstuffs like wheat and maize were prepared in it.

A very important measure introduced by the new Government for assisting the Civil Supplies Department was a scheme for associating non-officials with the work of the department. Village Committees consisting of five to eight members were selected by the Tahsildars. The members of these committees elected representatives to the Taluk Committee at the rate of two for each *Erka* of the taluk. The Taluk Committee elected one of its members to serve on the District Committee. Certain officials were made ex-officio members of the Taluk and District Committees. Village Officers were, however, precluded from being members of the Village Committees. Members of the Provincial and Central Legislatures automatically became members of the Taluk and District Committees within their respective constituencies. Members of the Legislatures actually residing in municipal or panchayat areas became ex-officio members of the Rationing Advisory Committees constituted of such areas. The main function of the Village Committee was to decide the surplus of foodgrains with the ryot after considering the lists prepared by the Village Officers. The decisions of the Village Committee were subject to the approval of the Taluk and finally the District Committees. The assistance of these Committees was also to be enlisted for the control and distribution of various other essential articles dealt with by the department.

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