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Indian Historical
Records Commission

21st Session

Agenda



Udaipur
1944

22.5.1944

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AGENDA

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Fifth Meeting

The Research and Publication Committee, Udaipur, 1944

1. Review of action taken on the Resolutions of the Research and Publication Committee passed at the third meeting at Aligarh.—

(Please see *Conspectus* pages 4-8.).

2. Review of action taken on the resolution of the Research and Publication Committee passed at the fourth meeting at New Delhi.—

(Please see *Conspectus* pages 8-9.).

3. Review of work done in connection with the Five-year Publication Programme.—

(a) *Scheme I.*—Some details of the work of the Board of Editors were published in last year's *Proceedings Volume*. Under the *first year's programme*, the editors, as suggested [*vide* I. H. R. C. Procs. Volume XX, Part III, Appendix A (III)] met at New Delhi and an agreed principle was evolved for co-ordinating the work so as to avoid all chances of overlapping and duplication of work. The reports of the meetings are laid on the table.

Under the *second year's programme* it was found possible to include *Public Department Letters* for the period 1787-1788 as well although the original plan was to include in the year's programme those from 1773-1786 only. Nearly 4,000 typescript pages were distributed to the second batch of editors who met at New Delhi during March 1944. The periods distributed to the various editors will be found from the report of the meeting a copy of which is laid on the table. The work is expected to be finished by 30th April 1945.

Selection of Editors.—Considerable progress has been made under *third year's programme* in transcribing the documents to be taken up during 1945 and it is expected that sufficient materials for four volumes will be available for editing by the end of March 1945. The following gentlemen may be appointed to edit the next four volumes :

- (1) Mr. S. V. Puntambekar, M.A. (Oxon.), Benares.
- (2) Mr. J. C. Taluqdar, M.A., Agra.
- (3) Mr. H. K. Sherwani, M.A. (Oxon.), Bar.-at-Law, Hyderabad-Deccan.
- (4) Dr. Nandalal Chatterjee, M.A., Ph.D., D.Litt., Lucknow.

(b) *Scheme II.*—As it was definitely learnt from the India Office that the transcripts of the pages wanting in the Departmental copy of Major Browne's *Correspondence* would not be available till the conclusion of the war, the Department has been compelled to postpone the editing of the Ms. for the time being. But the Members will be glad to learn that the annotation of the portions of Mss. available here has been completed as also the annotation of the second item of the scheme. The full transcripts of Sir John Shore's minutes are also ready and considerable progress has been made in the annotation of these documents.

(c) *Scheme III (a).*—The work on Marathi letters by the B. I. S. Mandala is in progress. Prof. Potdar visited the I. R. Department in January 1944 to consult the original papers and compared the text with the copies. The Gurmukhi papers were examined by Sardar Ganda Singh who was of opinion that they were of no historical importance. It has been decided therefore not to publish them. The Allahabad University deputed Dr. Varshneya to select the Hindi documents for publication and supervise their transcription. He visited the I. R. Department in December 1943 and made a preliminary selection of 292 manuscripts and arranged for their transcription which is in progress. The Kotah Darbar has also nominated Prof. Sharma to edit Vol. II of the Hindi documents in co-operation with the nominee of the Allahabad University but final agreement has not yet been arrived at. The Tamil documents are being transcribed for Rao Bahadur C. S. Srinivasachari who will edit them. Dr. B. A. Saletore of the Gujarat College, Ahmedabad, has agreed to edit the Kannada letters and is moving the University of Bombay for undertaking their publication. Of the 8 Sanskrit documents referred to in the *Proceedings of the third meeting of this Committee (vide Progs. I. H. R. C. 1943, Part III)*, four have already been published with introduction, notes and English translation in the

November 1943 and May 1944 issues of the Journal of Ganganath Jha Research Institute and arrangement has been made for the printing of three more in the forthcoming issue of the same journal. The editing of the eighth letter has also been completed. The Secretary is glad to report that he has unearthed 16 more documents of which no less than 8 seem to deserve publication. Of particular interest is a document containing legal opinion secured by Bajirao II's daughters in support of their petition in which they contested the claim of Nana Saheb to be recognised as the adopted son of the deceased prince. The editing of this as well as other documents in the series is in progress. The G. N. Jha Research institute has made a tentative offer for undertaking the publication of a volume embracing all these letters. Their final decision is being awaited.

(d) *Scheme III (b).*—So far no proposal has been received under the Scheme "Selection of records". Materials in the custody of the Imperial Record Department have to some extent been examined and some papers of substantial interest have been noticed which are suitable for publication under this Scheme. They are briefly on the following subjects :—

- I. Selections from Orme Manuscripts.
- II. Cornwallis Correspondence on Sindhia's affairs (1786-93).
- III. Elphinstone Correspondence—Nagpur Period.
- IV. Ochterlony Papers on Delhi and Central India (1818-1825).
- V. News Letters. (April 1839-March 1842).
- VI. Punjab Akhbar (1839-41).

Details of these collections will be given by the Secretary during the meeting. The Committee may now formulate a definite plan of work for this Scheme. Full co-operation of the Imperial Record Department will be available.

4. Survey of Historical Records.—

It will be found from the Conspectus of action taken that *ad hoc* regional survey committees have been set up in 7 Provinces and 10 Indian States. In pursuance of the recommendations of the fourth meeting of the Research and Publication Committee a set of "General Instructions" was circulated to the conveners of the committees. A list of committees set up and their personnel has been included in the Conspectus (Appendix D). As the Government of India accepted the recommendation that brief annual reports of the Survey Committees will be printed in the Indian Historical Records Commission Proceedings, the Conveners were requested to send such reports to the Secretary. A few points raised by the Conveners of the *ad hoc* committees regarding their function are stated below for the information and consideration of the Committee.

(i) It has been suggested that "General Instructions for the guidance of the Regional Survey Committees" (Appendix E) should be supplied to all the members of the *ad hoc* committees appointed under resolution. If this is recommended the Government of India will have to be approached for printing the requisite number of copies.

(ii) *Appointment of Members.*—It has been also suggested that members of the *ad hoc* survey committees should be formally appointed by the Indian Historical Records Commission on the recommendation of the Conveners instead of the Conveners making the appointment. The Resolution V of the Research and Publication Committee meeting held at Aligarh is quite clear and unambiguous on this point and authorised the Conveners to set up *ad hoc* committees. The Indian Historical Records Commission meets only once a year and if this suggestion is accepted the responsibility will in practice devolve on the Secretary who cannot be expected to be familiar with the local conditions in every case.

(iii) *Terms of Appointments.*—The question has also been raised whether the members of the *ad hoc* survey committees other than the Ordinary, Associate and Corresponding members of the Indian Historical Records Commission should be appointed for a specified term. As the *ad hoc* committees are to function for the duration of War or until the Provincial Governments are prepared to appoint permanent committees, it does not appear necessary at this stage to take up this question. It is for the Committee to decide whether it will serve any useful purpose if the *ad hoc* Committees are appointed for a fixed number of years.

(iv) *Proposal by Mr. Y. K. Deshpande.*—As the creation of Regional Survey Committees will naturally involve some expenditure in carrying out their work, it is suggested that some provision should be made towards the expenses.

Explanatory Note.—It is necessary to incur some expenses for the working of the Committee, leaving out of question the expenses required by the members for tour as there is no provision made for them. It is suggested that there should be some uniformity in all the Regional Survey Committees.

5. Report on Vaidya Collection in Poona.—

The Government of India accepted the recommendation made in Resolution VII of the Research and Publication Committee meeting held at Aligarh and authorised the Secretary to attend the meeting of the Sub-Committee appointed at Poona. Attention of the members is invited to the report at Appendix A for further action.

6. Records of the Defunct Residencies.—

In its eighth meeting held in April 1943 the Local Records Sub-Committee considered that information ought to be secured regarding the defunct residency records and accordingly the Secretary to H. E. the Crown Representative was pleased to make enquiries on the basis of the following points :—(a) the number of defunct residencies, (b) location of their records and (c) their state of preservation. In the ninth meeting the following resolution was passed :—

Resolution I.—Resolved that in view of the discrepancy pointed out in the agenda a further enquiry be made to clarify the doubtful points and a statement embodying the information about defunct agencies be placed before the next meeting of the Research and Publication Committee.

This has been done and a complete Report on the Defunct Residency Records will be found in Appendix B.

It is a matter of great satisfaction that inspite of their present pre-occupation Residents and Political Agents were kind enough to furnish the necessary information on the subject.

7. Replies to Questionnaire.—

This Committee recommended during its Trivandrum Session that a Questionnaire should be circulated in order to secure information with regard to research facilities available in different provinces and states. Answers have been received and arranged in groups under each question separately and suitable notes have been added to, where necessary, by the Secretary (Appendix C).

8. Proposal by Rao Bahadur Sardar M. V. Kibe, Indore.—

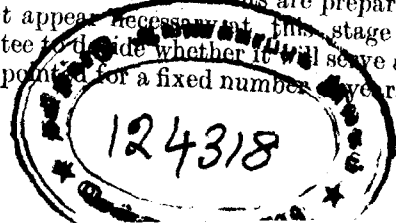
This Commission recommends to the Government of India to make arrangements to continue to publish records from its archives which have been thrown open to scholars on such lines as may be recommended by the Commission.

Explanatory Note.—The Five-year Publication programme adopted by the Government of India in 1942 is being executed quite satisfactorily. Ten Editors are working under Scheme I, the Director of Archives, Government of India, has practically completed 2 Volumes under Scheme II, and 3 Volumes on Persian, Marathi and Hindi are in progress under Scheme III (a) by Universities and learned institutions. These are expected to be works of a high standard but cannot be published till the paper position improves. It is desirable that before the current tentative Five-year Programme is completed, arrangements should be made for a Twenty-year plan. As it will naturally take some time to prepare estimates of various works and costs, it is necessary to meet the question well in advance for obvious convenience. The Volumes of the Residency Records, Poona, may be kept in view as a model.

Secretary's Note.—The volumes of *Poona Residency Records* and the *Selection from the Peshwa Daftar* hardly offer the desirable standard of editing. The latter series is marred by inaccuracies of all sorts and in the former the original spelling in the texts have in some cases been modernised while unfamiliar place and personal names have invariably been left unannotated. The introduction seldom gives any information not available in the texts published. The Fort William-East India House Correspondence are on the other hand being edited on lines agreed on by the Editors. The Board of Editors meets from time to time and individual Editors bring to its notice any point of interest or difficulty that might not have previously

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occurred to the Board. It will be better to leave this question to the collective experience and wisdom of the editors who are not new to the task instead of arbitrarily imposing on them a model not free from imperfections.

9. Proposal by Prof. H. K. Sherwani, Hyderabad-Deccan.—

This Commission should actively undertake a regional survey of historical documents in the private possession of individuals in different parts of India on the basis of the work being done by the British Royal Commission on Historical Records, and commence its work in the Delhi Province to begin with.

Secretary's Note.—In conformity with the Resolution V of the third meeting of the Research and Publication Committee held at Aligarh, *ad hoc* regional survey committees have been set up in the Provinces and many Indian States have also done so including the Committee in Delhi as will be found from the details included in the Conspectus. The preliminary work has been already commenced at Delhi and other places. The resolution therefore seems to be redundant.

10. Proposal by Mr. K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar, Pudukkottai.—

Until the Imperial Record Department is able to publish the journal that the Secretary has in contemplation, some arrangement has to be made to bring to the notice of research students and scholars the nature and contents of original documents that members of the Commission or of the regional Committees may discover. The Commission therefore requests the Universities in the different Provinces and States and the learned Societies interested in Historical Research, to publish in their Journals or Bulletins of Transactions brief notes on such documents.

Secretary's Note.—It will be found from the Resolution VI of the third meeting of the R. & P. Committee and the reply in the Conspectus that the Government of India have agreed that a brief account of the discoveries of the Regional Survey Committees may be printed in the I. H. R. C. Proceedings.

Research and Publication Committee.—Conspectus of action taken—Second Meeting held at Trivandrum, 1942.

Resolution I (b).—This Committee reiterates the Resolution III of the eighteenth session and requests the Government of India to impress upon the Provincial Governments, Indian States and Universities the need of co-operating with the Imperial Record Department with a view to ensuring the success of the scheme.

1. *The Indore Government* intimate that co-operation to the extent possible during the war will be given in connection with the Five-year Publication Programme.

2. *The Jhind Darbar* have taken no action.

Resolution II.—This Committee recommends that the questionnaire be circulated to the Provincial and States Governments.

Please see the remarks against the Resolution II, in Conspectus page 93, Part III, I. H. R. C. Proceedings, Volume XX. A consolidated statement embodying the replies received from the Provincial Governments and Indian States on the Questionnaire will be found at Appendix C.

Resolution VII.—This Committee recommends that the Regional Survey Committees in addition to their usual activities should during the pendency of war explore ways and means to prevent the unwarranted destruction of papers of historical importance in the process of paper salvage. The Provincial Governments and the Governments of Indian States may be requested to afford all facilities in the work of the Committees.

1. *Patna State.*—The Darbar shall be glad to afford all facilities in the work of the Regional Survey Committees as desired.

2. *Jaipur Government* do not propose to take any action in the matter during the period of War.

3. *Mysore Government* state that all possible facilities will be given by them to the Regional Survey Committees in their work.

4. *Kolhapur.*—A scheme is being worked out in the State for organizing the preservation of old records.

5. *Bombay* have invited attention to their reply contained in item No. 12, page 40, Part I, I. H. R. C. Proceedings, Volume XIX.

Research and Publication Committee.—Conspectus of action taken—Third Meeting held at Aligarh, 1943

Resolution I.—This Committee approves of the action taken on the resolutions passed by the Research and Publication Committee at the 18th and 19th sessions of the Indian Historical Records Commission.

No action.

Resolution II.—This Committee recommends that Prof. Mohammed Habib, Dr. T. G. P. Spear, Mr. R. P. Patwardhan and Dr. B. A. Saletore be appointed Honorary Editors for Volumes 7, 8, 9 and 10 of Fort William East India House Correspondence to be published under Scheme I of the Five-year Publication Programme.

Forwarded to the Governments of Bombay, United Provinces and the Department of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India, New Delhi.

The Government of India have appointed Prof. Mohammed Habib, Dr. T. G. P. Spear, Mr. R. P. Patwardhan and Dr. B. A. Saletore as Honorary Editors for Volumes 7, 8, 9 and 10 of the Fort William-India House Correspondence to be published under Scheme I of the Five-Year Publication Programme of the Imperial Record Department.

The Government of India are aware that it may not be possible to undertake any large printing work while the present scarcity of paper continues. They hope, however, that it would be possible with the co-operation of the Honorary Editors to keep the material ready for publication when better condition prevails.

Remarks.—All the editors excepting Mr. Patwardhan were present in the meeting of the Board of Editors held at Delhi. Typescripts of the correspondence have been supplied to the Editors.

Resolution III.—This Committee recommends that the Delhi University be requested to take up the publication of the *Persian Akhbars* edited by Dr. I. H. Qureshi under the Scheme III of the Five-Year Publication Programme.

The Government of India regret that, in view of the present paper position, they are unable to approach the Delhi University to take up the publication of the *Persian Akhbars* edited by Dr. I. H. Qureshi under Scheme III of the Five-Year Publication Programme. They feel that the publication of this Volume should await better times.

Remarks.—A copy of the Government of India's letter was forwarded to Dr. Qureshi.

Resolution IV.—This Committee recommends that two volumes of Hindi records may be published under Scheme III (a) of the Five-Year Programme under the joint auspices of the Allahabad University and the Kotah Durbar. Scholars appointed by the University and the Durbar should jointly edit both the volumes and the expenses of publication should be shared by the University and the Kotah Durbar.

The Government of India permitted the Secretary to correspond direct with the Kotah Durbar and requested that sanction of the Government of India may be obtained before the publication of the two volumes is undertaken.

Kotah Durbar agreed to depute Dr. M. L. Sharma to Delhi and Allahabad for the purpose of editing jointly the proposed Hindi volume during the summer vacation. As regards the question of sharing the cost of publication, a final reply is awaited.

Resolution V.—This Commission recommends that *ad hoc* Regional Survey Committees consisting of all grades of members of the Commission residing in the area concerned be set up in the Provinces with powers to co-opt and that the Provincial Governments, Indian States and Universities be requested to grant them such facilities in the shape of leave, access to archives, official recognition, etc., as may facilitate the object which these Committees have in view. Such Indian States as may desire to act on these lines may set up similar Committees. The following gentlemen may kindly act as conveners of the *ad hoc* Committees in the provinces mentioned against their names.

Madras.—Rao Bahadur S. C. Srinivasachari.

Bombay and Sind.—Prof. D. V. Potdar.

Bengal and Assam.—Dr. R. C. Majumdar.

U. P.—Dr. Tara Chand.

Bihar.—Dr. K. K. Datta.

C. P. and Berar.—Mr. Y. K. Deshpande.

Orissa and Eastern States Agency.—Mr. G. S. Das.

N.-W. F. P.—Mr. S. M. Jaffar.

Delhi.—Dr. S. N. Sen.

The Government of India forwarded the resolution to all the Provincial Governments except the Punjab and the Chief Commissioner, Delhi, and permitted the Secretary to address the Indian States direct. 61 States have been addressed on the subject.

A list of members of various committees so far received together with such reports of work done will be found at Appendix D.

1. *The Government of Bengal* would be glad to afford all facilities to Dr. R. C. Majumdar for carrying on Regional Surveys of Historical Records in this Province provided it does not involve any financial liability at this stage.

Remarks.—A copy of the above communication was forwarded to Dr. Majumdar.

2. *The Government of United Provinces* say that His Excellency the Governor will be glad to consider the requests of the *ad hoc* Regional Survey Committee and to extend to it all possible facilities.

Remarks.—A copy of the above communication was forwarded to Dr. Tara Chand.

3. *The Government of Madras* state that the work will not permit the Curator, Madras Records Office, for the duration of the War to be exclusively employed under the Committee but he will be able to assist the Committee with advice on matters relating to preservation and publication of records. The cases of any other Government servants who if and when are co-opted by the Committee will be considered by the Government in regard to the grant of leave, etc., facilities.

Regarding access to records, this Government consider that private individuals and institutions cannot be easily persuaded to allow access to their records unless they are persuaded by influential zamindars, landholders, directors of firms, etc. This can be done only by organising a Committee consisting of influential people and members of the Commission. The Government have already stated that they do not intend to create the Committee during the pendency of War (*vide* page 39, part I, Indian Historical Records Commission Proceedings, Volume XIX).

The Government however think that they can assist the Committee in the present circumstances by issuing circular letters to the Collectors of Districts to render assistance to the members of the Committee in obtaining access to records in private possession as well as the District or Collectorate records. If the Government of India consider it necessary.

As regards official recognition to the Committee, the nature of such recognition is not indicated in the resolution. The necessity for official recognition is likely to arise only when the Committee experiences any difficulty in gaining access to private collection.

As regards co-operation from Universities, this Government feel that the matter is one for the Universities to decide.

Secretary's Note.—A copy of the above communication was forwarded to Rao Bahadur C. S. Srinivasachari for necessary action. It will be found from the "General Instruction for the guidance of Regional Survey Committees" issued to the Conveners that the principle outlined in para. 2 above has been fully adopted.

4. *The Malerkotla Darbar* will be glad to co-operate in any matter.

Remarks.—The reply as to whether the Darbar is willing to create a Committee is awaited.

5. *Tehri-Garhwal State* say that there is no possibility of any valuable historical documents being found in the State and as such the organisation of any Committee in the State would not be able to get any effective result.

6. *Government of Assam* state that the two corresponding members of the Indian Historical Records Commission in the region are busy with war work and it would be difficult to set up the proposed *ad hoc* Committee in this Province for sometime. If, however, Dr. R. C. Majumdar, the proposed Convener of the *ad hoc* Committee can successfully set up such a Committee, this Government would give what facilities are possible in the shape of leave, access to Archives, official recognition, etc. This Government do not accept any financial obligation in the matter of travelling allowance and other expenses of such an *ad hoc* Committee.

Remarks.—A copy of the letter from the Government of Assam was forwarded to Dr. R. C. Majumdar.

7. *The Durgapur Darbar* say that the creation of a Regional Survey Committee was not considered necessary in view of their remarks contained in item No. 20, page 40, part I, Indian Historical Records Commission Proceedings Volume XIX.

8. *The Bastar State* say that as there are no records of historical value in private custody in the State there is no scope for such a Committee there.

9. *Khairpur Darbar* state that there is not so much of research work in the state as to necessitate organizing Survey Committee of private individuals. The Darbar has, however, decided to get this task done through the Educational Department of the State and the Director of Public Instruction will be able to secure the help of

teachers in unearthing old records. Such teachers as are so utilized will be granted facilities of leave, travelling allowance, etc.

10. *Delhi University* state that it will gladly extend to the *ad hoc* Regional Survey Committee such facilities in the shape of leave, access to archives, official recognition, etc., as may facilitate the object which the Committee has in view.

11. *The Pudukkottai Darbar* has set up a Committee.

The Darbar are anxious to bring about closer co-ordination between the research scholars of the State and those of the Madras Presidency, and will be glad if Rao Bahadur C. S. Srinivasachari, Convener of the Madras area gets into touch with Messrs. K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar and K. R. Srinivasa Ayyar.

Remarks.—Copy of relevant extracts from the letter from the Pudukkottai Darbar was forwarded to Rao Bahadur C. S. Srinivasachari.

12. *Kotah Darbar* say that there is no necessity to organize a Regional Survey Committee in view of the fact that the historical records available in the State have already been surveyed by the State historian, Dr. Mathura Lal Sharma. He would supply the Research and Publication Committee with such information regarding the records as may be desired by it.

13. *Kanker State* say that there is no record of historical interest in the State and no action seems necessary.

14. *Bundi State* say that as there are no members of the Indian Historical Records Commission residing in the Bundi State, it is not possible to create a Survey Committee as suggested. However, if any Regional Survey Committee is created for Rajputana or in a neighbouring State, the Darbar will give all reasonable facilities.

15. *Kalsia State* has no such historical records as may be helpful in research work and it will serve no useful purpose to establish, during the pendency of War, a Committee.

16. *Malerkotla State* inform that there does not seem to be any scope for the creation of a Committee in the State.

17. *Bamra State* inform that the Darbar have created an *ad hoc* Regional Survey Committee.

18. *The Baroda Government* have created a Committee.

19. *Mayurbhanj State* have made a survey of historical documents in private possession in the State and there appears to be no need therefore to organize a Regional Survey Committee there. Should any scholar visit the State with definite information to explore or discover any new historical facts the State would be glad to afford him all necessary facilities.

20. *The Kolhapur State* have decided to create a Committee and empowered Dr. A. G. Power to do so. He will be given all facilities.

21. *Cochin Government* inform that there is hardly any scope for the constitution of a separate Committee for the State as contemplated by the resolution. All facilities that are asked for will, however, be afforded to any Committee that is set up under the Scheme.

22. *Mysore Government* state that Dr. K. N. V. Sastri, Corresponding Member of the Commission, will co-operate with any *ad hoc* Regional Survey Committee that may be appointed.

Resolution VI.—This Committee recommends that the report of Regional Committees be published in the Proceedings of the Indian Historical Records Commission.

The Government of India have accepted the recommendation subject to the condition that only absolutely essential information regarding discoveries of Historical records will be published in the proceedings of the Indian Historical Records Commission.

Secretary's Note.—The Conveners of the Provincial Committees and the Indian States were informed of the decision of the Government of India.

Resolution VII.—This Committee recommends that a Sub-Committee consisting of Dr. S. N. Sen, Prof. D. V. Potdar and Mr. S. L. Vaidya with power to co-opt be appointed to estimate the cost of calendaring the valuable Marathi records in the possession of Mr. S. L. Vaidya.

The Government of India have accepted the recommendation. This does not however commit them to bear the cost of calendaring those (Vaidya) records. The Secretary, Indian Historical Records Commission was permitted to visit Poona to attend the meeting of the Sub-Committee as the Chairman.

Secretary's Note.—The report of the Sub-Committee will be found at Appendix.

A.

Resolution VIII.—This Committee recommends that Prof. Potdar's note and Dr. B. S. Baliga and Dr. Shankaran's observations be forwarded to the Government of Madras for their information and such action as they may deem necessary.

Forwarded to the Government of Madras with the request to furnish the Government of India with the views of the Provincial Government. The reply is awaited.

Resolution IX.—This Committee is of opinion that these proposals are outside the scope of the Research and Publication Committee and the Commission.

No action.

Research and Publication Committee.—Conspectus of action taken—Fourth Meeting held at Delhi, March 1944.

Resolution I (a).—This Committee requests the Secretary, Indian Historical Records Commission to frame a set of general instructions for the guidance of the Regional Survey Committees and these be communicated to the Provincial Governments, Indian States, Universities and learned institutions and the Records Offices in the Provinces and States.

The Secretary framed a set of "General Instructions for the guidance of the Regional Survey Committees" and submitted it to the Government of India for transmission to the Provincial Governments and Indian States for necessary action. But the Government of India consider that as the *ad hoc* Regional Survey Committees set up by the Commission are responsible only to the Commission, the set of rules may be forwarded direct by the Secretary to the Conveners of the Committees in Provinces and States. Government of India do not consider it necessary to send copies officially to the Provincial Governments and Indian States as the "General Instructions" are of a tentative nature.

The resolution together with the "General Instructions" were forwarded to the Conveners in Provinces and to 23 Indian States. A copy of the "General Instructions" is printed at the end of this report for information of the members. (*Vide Appendix E*).

1. *The Government of Jodhpur* inform that owing to War nothing has been done in this connection here.

Note.—Please see conspectus, page 42, Part I, Indian Historical Records Commission Proceedings, Volume XIX. The Jodhpur Government agreed previously to continue work in this direction.

2. *The Sirmur Darbar* has set up a Committee.

3. *The Dungarpur Government* invite a reference to their remarks against resolution V of the 18th session (*vide* page 40, Part I, I. H. R. C. Proceedings, Volume XIX). In view of this no action was taken.

4. *The Bharatpur Government* has set up a Committee.

5. *The Kanker State* inform that there are no records of historical importance or interest with any one in this State. No action on the lines suggested seems therefore necessary.

6. *The United Provinces.*—An *ad hoc* Committee has been set up.

7. *Madras.*—An *ad hoc* Committee has been set up.

8. *The North-West Frontier Provinces.*—An *ad hoc* Committee has been set up.

9. *Kolhapur.*—Arrangements are in progress.

10. *Bengal and Assam.*—Arrangements are in progress.

11. *Puddukkottai Darbar* has set up a Committee.

Please also see replies from the Provincial Governments, etc., on resolution V of the third meeting of the Research and Publication Committee (conspectus, pages 5—8). The remarks of the Governments of Bengal, Assam, Madras and the United Provinces have been forwarded to the Conveners of the respective zones.

Resolution I (b).—Steps should be taken for securing permission from the Portuguese and Free French Governments in India for the Regional Survey Committees to extend their activities to the districts under their respective jurisdiction.

Forwarded to the Governments of the French Establishments in India and the Portuguese Possession in India.

1. *Government of Portuguese Possessions in India* inform that a general permission cannot be granted to the Research and Publication Committee of the Indian

Historical Records Commission to extend their activities to this State. However whenever any specific information of historical nature is required, due facilities will be given in the usual manner.

2. *Government of French Establishments in India* say that they are agreeable to allow the Regional Survey Committee for Madras to explore for record material that may be in the possession of prominent families living in French territory with the consent of the descendants of the families concerned.

Note.—The message was communicated to the Regional Conveners.

Resolution II.—This Committee recommends that the attention of Mr. S. N. Banerjee be invited to the Imperial Record Department Historical Research Rules.

No action.

Resolution III.—This Committee recommends that in view of the intimate cultural and historical relation with Ceylon, Burma and other neighbouring countries, arrangements should be made to make suitable provisions in the new constitution of the Indian Historical Records Commission to enable such of these Countries as may be willing to participate in the activities of the Indian Historical Records Commission.

The Government of India state that it should be placed before the next (21st) meeting of the Indian Historical Records Commission and submitted to them with the Commission's recommendation thereon. The proposal has been included in the agenda.

AGENDA

Indian Historical Records Commission

Twenty-first Session, Udaipur, 1944

1. **Vote of Condolence on the death of Sir Don Baron Jayatilaka, corresponding member from Ceylon.**

2. **Review of the action taken on the Resolutions of the Commission passed at their Twentieth Session held at Aligarh.**

(Please see Conspectus pages 16-19.)

Calcutta High Court Records.—Attention is invited to the Resolution III of the Twentieth Session regarding the weeding of Calcutta High Court Records and the self-explanatory note embodying the opinion of the Solicitor to the Government of India (Conspectus, page 19.)

3. **Recommendations of the Research and Publication Committee.**—

Special attention is drawn to the Committee's scheme of Post-war reorganisation of Archives and expansion of Research facilities as embodied in its report at Appendix F and also on to Resolution III of the fourth meeting of the Research and Publication Committee regarding closer co-operation with Burma and Ceylon (*vide* Conspectus page 9.)

4. **Proposal for nomination of a member to the Advisory Board of Archaeology.**—

The Government of India have constituted an Advisory Board of Archaeology and a copy of the constitution will be laid on the table. The constitution provides for the nomination of a member of the I. H. R. C. to the Advisory Board. The name of the nominee may be recommended to the Government of India.

5. **Proposal by Dr. Baliga (endorsed by the Government of Madras).**—

This Commission recommends that such of the Provincial Governments and Indian States as may possess Central Record Offices be requested to concentrate in them, after the war, all their district or division records and to see that they are properly looked after and made available for research. It also recommends that in the Provinces and Indian States which do not possess Central Record Offices these records be transferred to suitable institutions approved by the Governments and that where even this is not possible, the district or division officers be instructed to see that their record keepers receive a brief training in archive preservation and to throw open for research such of their records as may be unobjectionable.

Explanatory Note.—The Madras Government have centralised all their Collectorate records in English from the earliest time down to 1856 in the Madras Record Office. They have also ordered that the records from 1857 to 1892 should similarly be transferred to that office as soon as the space required for their accommodation becomes available there. The Madras Record Office will be in a position to take in these records after the war is over. In the meantime such of the records that have already been taken in as were in a bad condition have been mended with chiffon and rebound. It is proposed to mend the remaining volumes after the war. Guides or handbooks to the records of each of the districts up to 1835 have also been prepared and published. These measures have gone a long way not only to preserve these valuable records but also to facilitate searches and researches among them. The mending and reconditioning of these records which were mostly in the shape of volumes have proved of value not only to the administrators to whom they are frequently sent for reference but also to the research students who have occasion to consult them. A similar policy, if followed by the other Provincial Governments and Indian States, is bound to ensure the better preservation and use of their valuable district or division records. In the Provinces and Indian States in which there is no Central Record Office these classes of records can be transferred to some proper institution approved by the Government where they will be properly preserved and made available for research. If this is not possible, the district or the divisional officers may be requested to see that their record keepers receive a brief training in archive preservation. They may also be requested to throw open for research such of their records as are unobjectionable.

6. **Proposal by Dr. G. L. Chopra.**—

In view of the fact that paste of good quality for mending old documents is not available in the market and efforts made by some Record Offices to get it prepared through local firms are reported not to have borne good results, the Commission recommend that the Government of India make arrangements for the preparation of the paste in the Technical Laboratory attached to the Imperial Record Department and for the supply of the same to such Record Offices in India as may require it.

Explanatory Note.—The Punjab Record Office had been using the ordinary paste for mending old documents. In 1942, however, I secured the formula of the paste used in the Imperial Record Department which is universally recommended as an insecticide and an adhesive. Orders were accordingly placed with a local firm after inviting estimates and the paste was got prepared by the firm in the presence of an official of the Punjab Record Office. The paste prepared was then tried by the daftries doing the mending work. The paste did not turn out to be adhesive and was thus given up.

If the Technical Laboratory attached to the Imperial Record Department were to prepare this paste in their own premises, the paste would be of the best possible quality and besides catering for its own needs the Imperial Record Department will be able to supply such Record Offices in India as may require it with a standard quality of paste.

Secretary's Note.—The present time seems inopportune for large scale manufacture of Dextrine Paste to meet the requirements of all the Archives Offices and institutions in India as one of the ingredients is not likely to be available during the pendency of war. It is further apprehended that "Mixer" and other implements made of cast and pig iron necessary for the purpose will not be available owing to the present Iron and Steel Control Orders. The accommodation in the present I. R. Department Research Laboratory, moreover, is also very meagre for such an undertaking. The proposal involves capital expenditure on extra building accommodation, special implements and staff to work it out for which sanction of the Government of India is necessary. It is, however, doubtful if such a proposal will be entertained by them during the pendency of war.

The Research Laboratory is however carrying out experiments for preparation of a suitable substitute for the Dextrine Paste with such chemicals as are readily available in the market. The result, if successful, will be made known to the members.

7. **Proposal by Holkar Government.**—

The Commission should associate the States more closely in its work in all possible ways, and, in particular, on the lines mentioned below :—

1. As a rule include in all its Committees, such as Regional Survey Committee, etc., some member or members representing the States.
2. In its scheme of publishing and editing the Records preserved in the various Government archives, always include some scholars from the Indian States.
3. As was suggested last year, to include the Records preserved in the Residencies in its scheme of publication and editing.
4. Give special facilities to scholars of Indian States to avail themselves of the training given by the Imperial Record Department.

Secretary's Note.—1 above.—Ordinary, Associate and Corresponding members are already on the personnel of the Commission. Holkar Government have not yet set up a Regional Survey Committee for their State.

2 above.—Holkar Government have not sent any proposal for editing volumes under Schemes (a) or (b) of the Five-year Publication Programme. The members from the States usually participate in all the activities of the Commission.

3 above.—The Government of India and His Excellency the Crown Representative will consider this question after the war.

4 above.—All facilities are given to the nominees of the Provincial and State Governments. The Holkar Government have so far not sent any of its employees or subjects for training in the Imperial Record Department.

8. Proposal by Rao Bahadur M. V. Kibe.—

This Commission recommends to the Provincial Governments and the States to institute research scholarship to enable competent students to carry on original investigations in the Imperial Record Department and to finance the publication of the results of their research work when completed.

Explanatory Note.—The records in the custody of the I. R. Department are of All-India importance and if these are suitably published are likely to fill up gaps in our history. The Government of India and H. E. the Crown Representative have been pleased to throw open their records up to 1880. This presents an unique opportunity for the scholars to work upon the original source so long not easily accessible to them. The Five-year Publication Programme has been adopted by the Government of India but the Provincial and States Governments should also avail themselves of this opportunity to enable scholars interested in subjects and records excluded from the above programme to bring them to light.

9. Proposal by Major K. M. Panikkar.—

This Commission recommends to the appropriate department of the Government of India that arrangements may be made for full transcripts being obtained either by photostat process or by microfilms of all records of value relating to Indian history which are dispersed in the different libraries of Europe.

Explanatory Note.—It is a well known fact that, apart from the very valuable collection of records at the India Office, British Museum, the Bodleian, and other libraries in England, much of the material relating to Indian history, especially for the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries, is in the national libraries of Portugal, Holland, France, and in the pontifical library at the Vatican. The Portuguese records are especially valuable, and there is a comprehensive list of them available in the India Office Library, apart from valuable transcripts from the originals which have been taken and preserved there. It is also known that at the University of Coimbra there is a small collection dealing with Indian affairs. The family papers of such important Viceroys and Governors as Vasco da Gama, Almeida, Albuquerque and others have also not been thoroughly investigated, and, in any case, transcripts of them are not available in the India Office and in the other public libraries. So far as Holland is concerned, there was a large collection at Batavia and records of very great value exist also at the Royal Library at the Hague and in the University of Leyden. The French records cover a most important period, and they are in the Bibliothèque Nationale in Paris. It is, however, not known whether the private records of important families like Lally-Tollendal and Comte de Bussy are available in private collections. Perhaps more important than these are the records of Jesuit Fathers and the reports of various ecclesiastical establishments in India, which should be available in the Vatican.

Without a complete collection of such records, it is not possible to obtain a correct view of many of the important phases of the history of the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries in India.

The invention of microfilms has made the collection and preservation of these documents fairly easy. If the Government of India would decide upon a programme spread over a number of years, it would be possible to establish a central record office in India, which will contain copies of all important records relating to Indian history. Side by side with the copying of such material as is available in libraries, it is also necessary to institute a search for material in the countries which were closely connected with developments in India, such as Portugal, Holland, France, and perhaps, Denmark.

Secretary's Note.—See the report of the R. and P. Committee on post-war re-organisation of Archives in India (Appendix F).

10. Any other subject which may be brought before the meeting.

11. Dates and places of the 1946 and 1947 meetings—

The Government of the N.-W. F. P. have invited the Commission to hold its twenty-second Session at Peshawar in 1945.

12. Papers and Publications on the following subject are laid on the table.—

(i) Reports of the fourth and fifth meetings of the Board of Editors under Scheme I of the Five-year Publication Programme.

(ii) Report of the Fourth meeting of the Research and Publication Committee held at Delhi in March 1944.

(iii) Report of the Tenth meeting of the Local Records Sub-Committee.

(iv) The Government of India Resolution regarding the nomination on the proposed Advisory Board of Archaeology for closer contact with the Archaeological Survey of India and Universities.

(v) Rules for the destruction of High Court records.

(vi) Annual Reports—

The Chief Commissioner of Coorg state that there were no new accession of records during the year and no application from public for research was received.

(vii) List of books and periodicals presented to the Indian Historical Records Commission and/or Imperial Record Department during 1944.

Presented by the author.—

Annexation of Burma, by Mr. Anil Chandra Banerjee, M.A., P.R.S.

Rajput Studies, by Mr. Anil Chandra Banerjee, M.A., P.R.S.

History of India, by Dr. N. K. Sinha, M.A., P.R.S., Ph.D., and Mr. Anil Chandra Banerjee, M.A., P.R.S.

Kamboja (Pauranic Yuga), by Swami Sadananda.

Javadwipa, by Swami Sadananda.

Educational Controversies in India, by Mr. B. K. Boman-Behram, M.A., LL.B.

Jadunath Sircar Ani Maharashtra Samshodhana, by Pr. of. D. V. Potdar, B.A.

Kavya Samudaya, by Mr. C. Venkataramanaia.

Shyamarasotsaba (Kavya), by Brajanath Barajena (presented by Pt. Nagendra Nath Mahapatra, Vidyalkar).

Samara-taranga (Rajah of Dhenkanal vs. the Nagpur Marhattas), by Brajanath Barajena (presented by Pt. Nagendra Nath Mahapatra, Vidyalkar).

Treaties, Agreements and Sanads selected by Ganesh Chinnaji Vad, Ed. by P. V. Mawjee & D. B. Parasnis (presented by Prof. D. V. Potdar, B.A.).

All India Modern History Congress, 1st Session, Poona, June 1935 (presented by Prof. D. V. Potdar, B.A.).

Kahade Brahmananchya Itihasanchin Sadhanen or Gune Gharanyacha Itihasa by Mr. V. T. Gune (presented by Prof. D. V. Potdar, B.A.).

Vaidya Daftaranun Nivadele Kagod, Part I, Edited by Shankar Laxman Vaidya.

Memoirs of the Madras Library Association, 1944 (presented by Rao Saheb S. R. Ranganathan, M.A., F.L.A.).

50th Annual report of the Kasi Nagaripracharini Sabha (presented by Bharat Kala Bhawan, Benares City).

The Last Peshwas and the English Commissioners (1818-1851) by Dr. P. C. Gupta, M. A., Ph. D. (London).

Presented by the Madras University.—

Economic Conditions in the Madras Presidency, 1800-1850, 2 copies, by Dr. A. Sarada Raju.

Sources of the History of the Nawabs of the Carnatic, IV-MD. Karim's Sawanihat-i-Muntaz (2nd Part) translated into English by S. Md. Husyan Nainar.

Presented by the Mysore University.—

Annual Report of the Mysore Archaeological Dept. from 1929-41 (14 Vols.).

Presented by the Deccan College Research Institute, Poona.—

Descriptive Hand list of Arabic, Persian and Hindustani Mss. belonging to the Satara Historical Museum at present lodged at the Deccan College Research Institute, Poona, by C. H. Shaikh.

Presented by the Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute, Poona.—

New Prospectus of the critical and illustrated edition of the Mahabharata.

Presented by the Ganganath Jha Research Institute, Allahabad.—

Journal of the Ganganath Jha Research Institute, Feb. 1944, Vol. I, Part II.

Presented by the Marwari Association, Calcutta.—

Journal of the Marwari Association, Feb. 1944, Vol. I, No. II.

Presented by the Centenary Celebrations Committee, Cawnpore.—

Maharaja Ranjit Singh Centenary Volume, 2 copies.

Presented by Messrs. Hargopal & Sons, Ambala Cantt.—

Concise Standard Catalogue of Science Apparatus and Chemicals, 29th edition.

Presented by the Chinese Ministry of Information, Calcutta.—

China Information Bulletin.

Presented by the Provincial and State Governments.—

Madras.—Letters to Fort St. George, 1762-63, Vol. No. XLIII.

Letters from Fort St. George, 1754, Vol. XXX.

Diary and Consultation Book (Public Dept.) 1756, Vol. No. 85.

Letters from Fort St. George, 1763, Vol. No. XXXVIII.

Manilha Consultation, 1764, Vols. IX and IXA (in one Vol.).

- Triennial Catalogue of Manuscripts for Government Oriental Manuscripts Library, Madras—Vol. IX—Sanskrit, by P. P. Subramanya Sastri and A. Sankaran.
- Descriptive Catalogue of the Sanskrit Manuscripts in the Government Oriental Manuscript Library, Madras, Vol. XXIX—Supplement, by P. P. Subramanya Sastri and A. Sankaran.
- Orissa.—Quinquennial Report on the Progress of Education in Orissa for the period 1937-42, 2 copies. (Resolution No. 1162-E dated 19th April, 1944).
- Quinquennial Report on the Progress of Education in Orissa for the period 1937-42, Vol. II, 2 copies.
- Punjab.—Review of the Administration of the Punjab P. W. Dept., Building and Roads Branch, for the year 1942-43, 2 copies.
- Bombay.—Poona Residency Correspondence, Vol. VIII, ed. by Sir Jadunath Sircar.
- Poona Residency Correspondence, Vol. IX, ed. by Maharaj Kumar Raghubir Singh.
- U. P.—Twelfth Report on the Search of Hindi Manuscripts for the years 1923, 1924 and 1925, Vols. I and II, by the late Dr. Hira Lal.
- Baroda.—Gaikwads of Baroda, Vol. VIII, edited by J. H. Gense, S.J., Ph.D., and D. R. Banaji, M.A., LL.B., D. Litt.
- Presented by the National Archives, U. S. A., Washington.**—
- National Archives 3rd Annual Report of the Archivist of the United States as to the F. D. Roosevelt Library for the year ending June 30, 1942.
- Historical Units of Agencies of the first world war, by E. B. Drewry, Bulletin No. 4 of the National Archives.
- Repair and Preservation of Records, by A. E. Minogue, Bulletin No. 5 of the National Archives.
- National Archives Staff Information Circulars, Dec. 1938, April, July, Oct., 1939, June, Sept., 1940, July 1941 and May 1942.
- Records Administration Circulars, Nos. 1-3.
- National Archives Planning, a permanent programme for Federal Records in the States, by O. W. Holmes, January 1943.
- Presented by the High Commissioner for India, London.**—
- India House Library Leaflet, 5 copies.
- (viii) Research reports received from the following members of the Commission :—
1. Rao Bahadur Dr. B. S. Baliga, M.A., Ph.D. (London).
 2. Mr. K. A. Nilakanta Sastri, M.A.
 3. Dr. M. A. Chaghtai, M.A., D. Litt. (Paris).
 4. Mr. G. H. Khare, B.A.
 5. Dr. B. A. Saletore, M.A., Ph.D. (London), D. Phil. (Giessen).
 6. Mr. D. N. Banerji, M.A.
 7. Dr. N. K. Sinha, M.A., Ph.D.
 8. Mr. K. P. Mitra, M.A., B.L.
 9. Dr. P. C. Gupta, M.A., Ph.D. (London).
 10. Mr. M. L. Roy Chaudhury, M.A., B.L., P.R.S., Sastri.
 11. Mr. S. V. Puntambekar, M.A. (Oxon.), Bar-at-Law.
 12. Shk. Abdur Rashid, M.A., LL.B.
 13. Dr. N. L. Chatterji, M.A., Ph.D., D. Litt.
 14. Dr. A. Halim, M.A., Ph.D.
 15. Dr. G. L. Chopra, M.A., Ph.D., Bar-at-Law.
 16. Mr. Ganda Singh, M.A.
 17. Dr. K. K. Datta, M.A., Ph.D., P.R.S.
 18. Mr. S. A. Shere, M.A. (Oxon.).
 19. Mr. S. H. Askari, M.A., B.L.
 20. Mr. Y. K. Deshpande, M.A., LL.B., M.R.A.S.
 21. Mr. L. P. Pandeya, Kavya Vinod, M.N.S.L.
 22. Mr. S. N. Banhatti, M.A., LL.B.
 23. Mr. S. C. Goswami, L.S.O., B.A., B.T., Vidyavidhi.
 24. Mr. S. M. Jaffar, B.A., M.R.A.S. (London).
 25. Dr. I. H. Qureshi, M.A., Ph.D. (Cantab.).
 26. Khan Bahadur Maulvi Zafar Hasan, O.B.E., B.A.
 27. Mr. H. K. Sherwani, M.A. (Oxon.), Bar-at-Law.
 28. Dr. M. H. Krishna, M.A., D. Litt.
 29. Rao Bahadur C. Hayavadana Rao, B.A., B.L.
 30. Mr. C. V. Joshi, M.A.
 31. Mr. V. Rangacharya, M.A., M.E.S. (Retd.).
 32. Mr. P. N. Kunjan Pillai, M.A.
 33. Mr. R. V. Pothuval, B.A.
 34. Mahamahopadhyaya Pandit Bisheshwar Nath Reu.
 35. Mr. S. N. Banerji, M.A.
 36. Dr. A. G. Pawar, M.A., LL.B., Ph.D.
 37. Rao Bahadur Sardar M. V. Kibe, M.A.
 38. Mr. P. Acharya, B.Sc., M.R.A.S., F.R.A.I.
 39. Rao Bahadur Lala Raj Kanwar, M.A., P.C.S. (Retd.).
 40. Mr. K. R. Venkatarama Aiyar, B.A., L.T.
 41. Mr. P. C. Ragh, B.A., D. Ed.
 42. Mr. Imtiaz Ali Arshi.

Indian Historical Records Commission—Conspectus of action taken—Nineteenth and some previous sessions.

18th Session.—

Resolution XII (a).—This Commission endorses in general the report of Dr. S. N. Sen, the Keeper of Imperial Records on the maintenance of the Records in the Alienation Office, Poona (Peshwa Daftar) and urges upon the Government of Bombay to take necessary steps to implement the recommendations and suggestions contained in his note.

The Government of Bombay state in continuation of their previous remarks contained in the Conspectus page 106 and pages 113-21, Part III, Indian Historical Records Commission Proceedings, Volume XX, that the proposal for providing exhaust fans in the Alienation Office has been deferred till after the war in view of the exorbitant cost of electrical materials.

19th Session.—

Resolution IV.—This Commission strongly feels the need of a "Consolidated Guide to the Archives in India" and recommends that the Provincial Governments and Indian States be requested to co-operate with the Imperial Record Department in the preparation of a complete and up-to-date handbook of Indian Archives.

The Orissa Government state that they have decided to co-operate with the Imperial Record Department in the preparation of a complete and up-to-date handbook of Indian Archives and deputed as a preliminary to that end, a qualified candidate for training for one year in Indexing and Calendaring of records under the Imperial Record Department Training Scheme. The candidate after necessary training is intended to be employed to examine the old records which should be made available to him in the different offices in the province and to prepare an Orissan Handbook of Archives for incorporation in the All-India Handbook.

Remarks.—The candidate has joined the training class in the Imperial Record Department in July 1944 and is receiving training in Indexing and Calendaring of records.

Resolution VII.—This Commission recommends to the Government of India that Section 5 of Act III of 1879, Government of India Act—to authorise the destruction of useless records—be so amended that all rules made under this Act shall be published in the Gazettes, etc., after being confirmed by the Local Government or Governments and sanctioned by the Governor-General in Council after obtaining the views of the Indian Historical Records Commission in the matter.

The Government of India thought that time was inopportune for any legislation and addressed an appeal to all the Provincial Governments and Local Administrations. It will be found on page 110, Part III, Indian Historical Records Commission Proceedings, Volume XX. The Secretary, being asked by the Government of India, submitted a proposal regarding the weeding of Central records which is still under their consideration. A copy of it together with such decision as the Government of India may arrive at on the subject will be placed before the Commission at a later date.

2. The Government of Madras state that there is no room for apprehension that any old records of the Government will be destroyed without proper scrutiny in view of the following procedure which is observed by the Government. As early as 1912, they ordered that no papers earlier than 1857 should be locally destroyed by the Collectors but that, if their removal from the local records rooms should be desired, they should be forwarded to the Curator, Madras Record Office, to enable him to decide whether they should be retained or not. This order was repeated in 1922 and 1933 and it was made applicable not only to the pre-mutiny records of the Revenue Department but also to the old records of all other Departments under that Government. Again in the same year they directed that the Curator, as the expert adviser to Government on all record matters, should render the necessary assistance to heads of Departments in sorting out and scrutinising old records before their destruction. In accordance with these orders, no old records of the heads of Departments or the Collectors, or the District Judges are destroyed without previous consultation with the Curator in the matter. All the English records of the Collectors have been transferred to the Office of the Curator for permanent retention. Before any destruction of records is done, the value of the records is assessed by the Curator, personally to see that no record of any administrative, historical or antiquarian value is destroyed.

3. Government of Bombay state that they do not intend at present to weed out its records to ease the paper situation. The question of preventing the loss of valuable historical material in hasty or indiscriminate weeding does not therefore arise.

4. *The Government of Orissa* issued necessary instructions to the Revenue Commissioner, Orissa, and to the District and Sub-Divisional Officers to the effect that no records of historical importance should be destroyed without consulting the associate member of the Indian Historical Records Commission for Orissa.

5. *Surguja State* state that no record of historical importance is being destroyed.

6. *Puddukkottai State* inform that steps have been taken to ensure that no valuable documents are lost by inadvertent destruction. The files are classified as important, of temporary importance and unimportant. Important papers are retained permanently. The Darbar have instructed their heads of Departments to take care to preserve documents of historical importance while periodical weeding of papers is taken up and to consult Historical Records Officer in cases of doubt.

Resolution VIII.—This Commission authorises the Secretary to obtain the rules from the Calcutta High Court and after scrutinising them with the legal help available from the Government of India may circulate them to the members for opinion.

Attention is invited to the Conspectus, page 110, part III, Indian Historical Records Commission Proceedings, Volume XX. A self-contained note explaining the position will be found on page .

Resolution X.—This Commission recommends to the Government of Madras that they be pleased to issue instructions (a) to the President of Madras Religious Endowment Board and (b) to the Dewans or other administrative officers in charge of principal Zamindaris in the Presidency to take early steps to preserve, classify and index all old records of historical value.

1. *Government of Madras* state in continuation of their remarks contained in the Conspectus, pages 111-12, part III, Indian Historical Records Commission Proceedings, Volume XX, that the Board of Revenue has since reported that all District Collectors have issued necessary instructions to the Zamindars or Diwans or Administrative Officers, as the case may be, to have all old records of historical value sorted, indexed and preserved carefully.

Indian Historical Records Commission.—Conspectus of action taken—Twentieth Session held at Aligarh, 1944.

Resolution I.—This Commission deeply mourns the death of Mr. Y. M. Kale, B.A., LL.B. and authorises the Secretary to convey to his relatives a message of sympathy and condolence on behalf of the Commission.

The resolution of condolence was forwarded to the bereaved family. Mrs Kale has communicated her thanks to the members of the Commission for the sympathy expressed in her bereavement.

Resolution II.—This Commission approves the recommendation of the Research and Publication Committee.

The Government of India have taken suitable action.

Resolution III.—This Commission recommends that (i) the opinion of the Solicitor to the Government of India may be awaited and that (ii) the names of Mr. D. N. Banerjee, Dacca University and Dr. N. K. Sinha, Calcutta University may be forwarded to the Registrar, Calcutta High Court, as local experts whose services the Hon'ble the Chief Justice may be pleased to utilise in determining the historical importance of records marked out for weeding.

(i) Opinion of the Solicitor to the Government of India on the destruction of Calcutta High Court records has been received.

Remarks.—A self-explanatory note embodying the opinion of the Solicitor to the Government of India and all other cognate items has been prepared for the convenience of the members to enable them, to consider the question in all its aspects. It will be found on page 19. It will be appropriate to take into account the answers to Resolution IV below as well as to Resolution II of the Research and Publication Committee, Travancore Session, in respect of Question No. 17 which is also on the same subject.

(ii) Forwarded to the Calcutta High Court. Their reply is awaited.

Resolution IV.—This Commission recommends that the Secretary be authorised to enquire about the procedure followed by High Courts other than that of Calcutta in weeding out their old records.

The Government of India permitted the Secretary to correspond direct with High Courts other than Calcutta to obtain information regarding the procedure followed by them in weeding out their old records.

The replies of the High Courts so far received are noted below :—

1. *Judicial Commissioner's Court, Peshawar*, has forwarded a copy of the Rules which is laid on the table.

2. *Nagpur High Court.*—No rules have been furnished. It has been stated that under the rules of the High Court judgments and final orders of the High Court and of His Majesty in Council, with the compromise deed if any, on which the decree is based, decrees and any other documents whose detention may be ordered by the Court are retained permanently in civil cases. All other papers are destroyed after prescribed periods.

Documents produced in lower Courts are kept in lower Court record rooms. Some of these are of historical value, but like similar documents sometimes produced in the High Court, are as a rule taken back by parties to the litigation.

3. *Madras High Court* have forwarded copies of the latest rules on (1) the Appellate side, (2) the Original Side and (3) Insolvency Side of the Madras High Court. Special attention has been invited to Rules 13-15 on the Original Side and Rule 12 on the Insolvency Side which provide for the permanent retention of records of historical value. Ancient records in the custody of Subordinate Courts of the Province are also preserved permanently and these courts have to submit an annual return to the Provincial Government through the High Court, reporting the condition of these records. The Curator of the Madras Records Office is also consulted when any of these records require to be reconditioned.

The High Court is prepared to consider any suggestions which the Commission may offer with a view to identifying and preserving records of historical value.

4. *Chief Court of Oudh, Lucknow* state that the judgments of the Chief Court in all cases, civil and criminal, are preserved permanently. These are in the custody of the Chief Court, certain records of cases disposed of by the British Indian Association of Oudh. These records are of historical value and have been preserved permanently. There are also some settlement records which have been preserved permanently.

5. *Bombay High Court* state that records of the Court are destroyed subject to the following exceptions :—

(a) *Civil Records.*—Such records of cases or any particular documents therein as in the opinion of the Registrar relate to matters of public interest or may hereafter be of historical value.

(b) *Criminal Records.*—“Cases of historical value; cases of racial, religious or political riots or murders or other cases disclosing curious social customs such as witch-torture.”

6. *Allahabad High Court* refer to the Rules under Chapter XXII of the Rules of High Court of Judicature a copy of which is placed on the table.

On request, the Government of Madras sent a copy of the following circular letter issued by the Hindu Religious Endowment Board to the Trustees of Temples and Muths :—

It has been brought to the notice of the Board by the Indian Historical Records Commission that the old Inam grants, peishcush records and correspondence in the archives of temples and maths contain much that is of value to research scholars. Such records, besides being of considerable historical value, are also important and indispensable to establish the rights and claims of temples and maths as and when occasions may arise. It is thus necessary that they should be preserved permanently. Trustees and paid officers of temples, maths and specific endowments are therefore requested to classify such of the old and historical records as are available in their institutions, index them and take all steps as may be found necessary to preserve them in tact and in good condition.

A copy of the above letter was furnished to Professor Potdar as decided.

Resolution V.—This Commission recommends that the Provincial Governments having no organised Records Offices should be requested to take such steps as may prevent the weeding out of historical records in their Divisional and District Offices without previous scrutiny by the local members of the Commission.

The Government of India do not consider it necessary to address the Provincial Governments, etc., again in the matter in view of the fact that they have already addressed the Provincial Governments and Local Administrations on the subject of weeding of old records. (Please see p. 110, part III, I. H. R. C. Progs., Vol. XX).

Resolution VI.—This Commission recommends that the question* may be considered after the war.

*Page 98, Part III, I.H.R.C. Progs, Vol. XX.

No reply from the Government of India has yet been received.

Resolution VII.—This Commission recommends that the principal Indian States be addressed to ascertain whether they would be prepared to finance a publication programme regarding records in the custody of the British Residencies in India.

The Government of India regret that they are unable to accept the recommendation of the Indian Historical Records Commission in view of the fact that His Excellency the Crown Representative has already decided that the question of publishing records in the custody of British Residencies should wait till after the war (*vide* Conspectus, Resolution XXI, 18th session, p. 49, Part I, I. H. R. C. Progs., Vol. XIX).

Remarks.—The intention of the Commission was only to ascertain the views of the principal Indian States and not to start publication of Residency records during the pendency of war.

Resolution VIII.—This Commission recommends that the records created by the new departments in the Centre and in the Provinces due to war be preserved in the interest of future historians.

Forwarded to all the Provincial Governments, Indian States and local administrations.

1. *The Punjab Government* state that the principle is being ensured through the system followed in the province according to which all important matters are classed in 'A' files which are printed and permanently preserved.

2. *Madras Government* state that they have no reason to apprehend that the records of the new departments under them are likely to be scattered and lost irretrievably under the system adopted at present for the preservation of records.

3. *Assam Government* state that as there are no organised archives in the Province, normally records of abolished Departments such as the office of the Director, Civil Defence, Director of Supply, etc., would be sorted either for retention or destruction and papers considered necessary for preservation would be deposited in the Provincial Record Room—District Records would be similarly dealt with in Districts.

Resolution IX.—This Commission recommends that arrangements be made for the compilation and publication of a Consolidated Index to the Proceedings of the Indian Historical Records Commission, after the Proceedings of the 25th session are published.

The reply of the Government of India is awaited.

Resolution X.—This Commission recommends that the Provincial Governments and Indian States may give suitable publicity to the project of compiling a Consolidated Guide to the Public and Private Archives in India.

Forwarded to all the Provincial Governments, Indian States, and local Administrations. The Government of India did not consider it necessary to ask for the views of the authorities addressed.

1. *The Punjab Government* think that no useful purpose will be served in giving publicity to the project until they have prepared a handbook of their own records when public bodies and individuals in this Province could be usefully approached.

2. *Madras Government* invite attention to their remarks contained in the Conspectus, p. 107, pt. III, I. H. R. C. Progs., Vol. XX. They have published a relevant extract from the Progs. of the I. H. R. C. in the Fort St. George Gazette as an official notification.

3. *Assam Government* state that due publicity has been given to the resolution through the Publicity Department of this Province.

4. *Mysore Government* inform that the University of Mysore have instructed the Curator, Oriental Library, Mysore, and members of the History Department of the University to send descriptive notes on valuable historical documents, if any, in their possession to the Secretary, Indian Historical Records Commission.

5. *U. P. Government* have given publicity through the newspapers. A press note appeared in the *Statesman*, New Delhi, dated 10th July 1944.

6. *N.-W. F. P. Government* have given publicity through the *Dawn*, Delhi, dated 24th April 1944.

7. *The Pudukkottai Darbar* have published a notification in the State Gazette calling upon the families of Sardar, Kurigars and others to bring to the notice of the Darbar any copper plates or other documents of historical interest in the collections of their family records and that they have authorised their Historical Records

Officer to communicate all such information to the Director of Archives, Government of India, for inclusion in the "Consolidated Guide."

Notes on Calcutta High Court Records.

The following self-contained notes will clearly explain the position :—

In 1939 it was brought to the notice of the Indian Historical Records Commission that the Calcutta High Court possessed an enormous collection of documents concerning the working of Company's Courts as well as those of the Crown. As these records were of no further use to the High Court it was rumoured that there was proposal for their destruction. The Indian Historical Records Commission at once sought the help of the Chief Justice (Resolution V, seventeenth session) to prevent any indiscriminate destruction of old papers. The High Court however thought that the advice of an expert member of the Royal Asiatic Society of Bengal would be sufficient guarantee against reckless weeding of historical records. But the Indian Historical Records Commission suggested that the services of the members of the Commission resident of Bengal might in this connection be utilized, (Resolution X, eighteenth session). The Court stated that weeding of documents was regulated by the rules framed in 1917. The Commission, anxious to examine the said rules passed the following resolution in their nineteenth session held in 1942 :—

Resolution VIII.—This Commission authorises the Secretary to obtain the rules from the Calcutta High Court and after scrutinising them with the legal help available from the Government of India may circulate them to the members for opinion.

A copy of the rules obtained is laid on the table. It was considered that the rules being framed in 1917 may not be suitably applicable to the old records in question as will appear from the contents of the second column of the rules which specify that certain documents should be destroyed after a stated number of years. A reference was made on the subject and the Registrar, Calcutta High Court, stated that these rules would be applicable to both the old and new records. The High Court has agreed to consult an expert nominated by the Indian Historical Records Commission for advice when weeding its records. The Commission passed the following resolution in 1943 :—

Resolution III.—This Commission recommends that (i) the opinion of the Solicitor to the Government of India may be awaited and that (ii) the names of Mr. D. N. Banerjee, Dacca University and Dr. N. K. Sinha, Calcutta University, may be forwarded to the Registrar, as local experts whose services the Hon'ble Chief Justice may be pleased to utilise in determining the historical importance of records marked out for weeding.

The following is the opinion of the Solicitor to the Government of India :—

In view of the agreement reached to utilise the services of the experts recommended for advice in regard to the destruction of old records nothing need be done excepting intimating to the Court that Government is prepared to take over and preserve such of the records as are intended to be destroyed if the same are of historical interest. If this course is not possible under the rules as they stand, it may be suggested that the rules may be amended so as to confer power on the Government to do so.

Secretary's note.—It will be found from the examination of replies to Questionnaire that Rules for weeding of records in all the High Courts in India were framed under the provision of Destruction of Records Act, 1917. The Solicitors opinion appears to be quite comprehensive and according to this it seems desirable that a specific recommendation should be made to all High Courts in India that experts nominated by the Commission be utilised for determining the value of records marked out for weeding and provision be made for those earmarked for destruction being taken over by the Provincial Governments for preservation, if they are of historical interest.

APPENDIX A.

Report of the Sub-Committee appointed in connection with Vaidya Collection in Poona.

Mons. A. Lehuraux tabled the following resolution at the Aligarh Session of the Indian Historical Records Commission :—

That, in view of the present financial stringency of the Government of India, steps be taken to issue an appeal to the ruling princes of India for pecuniary help in calendaring in English the important store of letters in the *Modi* script recently found at Poona and at present in the possession of Mr. Shankar Laxman Vaidya, B.Ag., Poona.

That, for the purpose of determining the cost of calendaring these letters, a sub-committee be formed consisting of Dr. S. N. Sen, Professor D. V. Potdar and Mr. S. L. Vaidya, with power to add to their number, to prepare a proper estimate.

The resolution was discussed in the absence of the mover. The Commission was reluctant to request the Government to approach the rulers of Indian States for necessary funds but felt that an estimate of costs might be obtained before it could see its way to make any positive recommendation. Accordingly the following amended resolution was moved and passed :—

This Committee recommends that a Sub-Committee consisting of Dr. S. N. Sen, Prof. D. V. Potdar and Mr. S. L. Vaidya with power to co-opt be appointed to estimate the cost of calendaring the valuable Marathi records in the possession of Mr. S. L. Vaidya.

The Government of India accepted the resolution without committing themselves to any financial undertaking. Dr. S. N. Sen then commenced his work as Chairman of the Sub-Committee. Mr. R. P. Patwardhan, an ordinary member of the Indian Historical Records Commission and representative of the Government of Bombay was co-opted by correspondence. The Sub-Committee met on two days. On the 28th August it held its first meeting at Mr. Vaidya's residence and inspected the records. The second meeting was held at the Bharata Itihasa Samshodhaka Mandala on the 30th. All the members were present on both the occasions.

The Vaidyas, as the surname indicates were originally physicians. They later took to banking and diplomacy and for several generations served as the representatives of the Satara-Poona Government at the Court of Nagpur. They had business and family relations with many leading families of Maharashtra and the papers salvaged by Mr. S. L. Vaidya, B.Ag., throw important light on Maratha history from the reign of Shahu to the Peshawaship of Baji Rao II. The present collection obviously forms only a fraction of the family papers of the Vaidyas a considerable bulk having perished in course of time. That does not however in any way minimise the value of the records saved by Mr. S. L. Vaidya from a similar fate and students of history will ever remain grateful to him.

The papers may be divided into three main categories :—

- (1) Political and diplomatic correspondence.
- (2) Business and banking papers.
- (3) Miscellaneous ; consisting of family and temple accounts, private correspondence of

non-historical interest, horoscopes, medical prescriptions, etc.

Records of the first category obviously formed the subject of Mr. Lehuraux's resolution as will appear from his explanatory note. The Sub-Committee therefore confined its enquiries to political and diplomatic correspondence only. Mr. Vaidya has been engaged in the classification and transcription of his ancestral papers for the last ten years and his work has already made good progress. Papers of different categories have been separated and made into bundles. They have further been sub-divided according to their subject-matter. Papers likely to throw light on the history of related families have been set apart and Mr. Vaidya has also collected papers belonging to other families, e.g., Khandkars and Joshis of Satara.

The political and diplomatic correspondence consists approximately of 4,000 letters. Of these 2,000 have already been dated and transcribed in *Balabodh* character under Mr. Shankar Rao Vaidya's supervision. Most of the transcriptions have been compared with the originals and indexed; a few however still remains to be indexed and compared or to be indexed only. Seventyone selected letters have already been published with notes, introduction and short synopsis in English and a second volume is in the press. Mr. Vaidya intends to publish the whole series but the progress of his work will necessarily depend on the facilities granted to him. Of the remaining political papers it is estimated that roughly 1,000 will be worth publishing and calendaring. This estimate is based on the past experience of Mr. Vaidya. While calendaring of the first 2,000 will be comparatively easy as the preliminary difficulties of chronology and deciphering have in the majority of cases been solved, those hitherto left unexamined by Mr. Vaidya will necessarily take more time. The Sub-Committee thinks that a competent person familiar with the *Modi* script in which the records are written and possessing the requisite knowledge of English and Maratha history will take at least three years to complete the work. Such a man will expect a salary of Rs. 100 at least per month, and the Sub-Committee is of opinion that the calendaring of this section of Vaidya papers will cost an approximate sum of Rs. 4,000. The Sub-Committee however, wants to make it clear that its estimate is tentative as a thorough examination of the papers to be calendared without which an accurate estimate cannot be made would demand continuous work for many months.

As Mr. Vaidya intends to publish *in extenso* the political and diplomatic correspondence of his distinguished ancestors, the Sub-Committee feels that it will be redundant to calendar these letters in English. Mr. Vaidya's plan is to print a brief English Summary after each letter and this will be of some help to those students who do not read Marathi. A memorandum submitted by Mr. Vaidya and considered by the Sub-Committee at its second sitting is appended herewith for the consideration of the Commission. As the term of reference specifically limited to its function to an estimate of the probable cost of calendaring Vaidya papers the Sub-Committee does not feel itself competent to give its opinion on Mr. Vaidya's memorandum.

Sd. S. L. VAIDYA, Member.

Sd. D. V. POTDAR, Member.

Sd. R. P. PATWARDHAN, Co-opted Member.

Sd. S. N. SEN, Chairman.

FROM
SHANKAR L. VAIDYA, Esq., L.Ac.,
Government Pensioner and Inamdar.

TO
THE SUB-COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED BY THE ALIGARH HISTORICAL RECORDS
COMMISSION AND SANCTIONED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

SUBJECT :—Vaidya Daftar—Estimate of the cost of calendaring of important historical documents in—
SIR,

The Daftar placed before the Committee for observation consists of the following parts :—

- I. This part contains accounts, i.e., *jama kharch* (जमा खर्च) arranged into bundles of following years : 1735 to 49, 1749 to 1761, 1761 to 1769, 1769 to 1800 and 1800 onwards. In them is found much information of daily household transactions, money dealings and other matters of private and public interest. All these are not scrutinised by me as yet.
- II. This part contains letters written by clerks to Vaidyas or any other persons who might be relatives, creditors, debtors, or officials and vice versa. They are kept nearly in 55 bundles containing on an average nearly 50 in each. They are to be read yet and selection of important letters has to be made; then they are to be dated, copied into *Balbadh* Marathi, compared with the original and indexed. In these bundles are found many Ayurvedic prescriptions of medicines on diseases. They are being collected and will be printed in a separate volume.
- III. This part is very important. It contains nearly more than 2,000 mostly historical letters which are dated, copied, compared and indexed. They are of the period of years 1735 to 1818 and onwards. Some of them are yet to be compared and indexed and some are only to be indexed.
- IV. This part again contains selected important historical papers of the same period which are only dated; copying, comparing and indexing are to be made.
- V. This part contains Daftars of Pant Sachiv, Patwardhan (Chiefs), Kales, Thattes and of other families who were relatives of Vaidyas or had money dealings with them. These are made use of and will be made use of for writing the family histories. Some Daftars contain horoscopes, accounts of marriages, munjra, pilgrimages and of other occasional ceremonies, religious and social.
- VI. This part contains Inam Daftars and is voluminous. Some inams were resumed and others were inquired into by the Inam Commission and allowed to be continued to the Vaidya family. The Inam Sanads are kept in a separate bundle.
- VII. There are bound books (*Vahis*) of daily accounts (रोज की बही) and ledgers (*Khata vahis*) of some 15 years which contain historical and household accounts of important incidents and give the full names of important persons who had money dealings with the Vaidyas.
- VIII. This part contains bundles of important documents secured from historical families such as Khandkars, Joshi (Babuji Naik's branch) of Satara, and of copies of nearly 200 documents of the Satara Parasnis Museum (New Deccan College Museum) and a bundle of hand written old Panchanjas.

2. The Sub-Committee is going to give an estimate of the cost of calendaring the valuable records in my possession. Though I am one of the members of the Committee, I am inclined to say that it is very difficult to estimate the required cost even approximately unless the valuable record is first determined. The estimate made by a sitting or two will be one similar to that made by the Engineering Department which always requires in the case of major works, to be supplemented by new grants to finish the intended work.

3. The discussion leads me to think that the Committee are of opinion that the calendaring is very difficult and will not satisfy the need of the public, interested in history as adequately, as the book containing the original documents published fully and properly dated with explanatory notes. It is not advisable to ask Government to spend money on an incomplete and inefficient work. After discussing the utility of calendaring, I proposed a cheapest and easiest course to be followed under the present circumstances of the Daftar in my possession.

4. I have lately published volume I of selected documents of the Daftar, upto now read by me, for the period between 1641 to 1740. It contains in addition to 71 original documents, a detailed account of the Daftar and a report of Rao Bahadur G. S. Sardesai, made on going through nearly 1,500 documents which were ready for printing. The volume II will contain documents of the period extending over 10 years, i.e., to the end of Shahu's death (15th December 1849). They would number not less than 500. The volume III will be for the period extending over nearly 11 years, i.e., to the battle of Panipat or to the end of the regime of Nana Sahib Peshwa (23rd June 1761). It will contain more than six or seven hundred documents which are ready for printing. I need not give the details and extent of the remaining volumes that will follow one by one. The number of documents is decidedly greater in each.

5. With such a ready material on hand I on my part make the following three plausible suggestions on the supposition that the present move of Government is expressive of their keenness to bring out the historical records of my Daftar to the notice of the public interested in the History of India as early as possible.

(1) I am prepared to spend at present for the publication of the historical papers selected from my Daftar. But owing to the paper control imposed on the press I am unable to go through the work. I have secured the necessary paper, but the quota assigned to the Anand Press of Satara in which I mean to publish my volumes is very much restricted and does not allow the

Press to take the work. The Government of India should, therefore, be requested to write to the Paper Controller of the Bombay Presidency to allow the press to use the paper for the purpose of my work beyond the quota given to him by the rules.

(2) It is well-known that the copies of such historical books have a very scanty sale in the public. The Government of India should therefore be requested to patronise my volumes by buying a reasonable number of copies for distribution in the whole of India. This number should not be in my humble opinion less than 5 or 6 hundred. It is not possible for a man of 73 years to work privately in the direction of getting a good sale of the copies of books in the public. I am not sufficiently strong in health and am very unwilling to spend my time otherwise than the reading and selection of documents of my Daftar to continue the publication. I have printed only 250 copies of the first volume, including those necessary for free distribution. I wish that I should know how many copies the Government are going to patronise before I begin the printing of the second volume.

(3) This suggestion is very simple and mainly dependent on the keenness of the Government for the subject. If the publication is to be expedited, the Government should be requested to make provision of a competent clerk who would do the work of reading *Mohi* letters and copying them into legible Marathi script. I am greatly in need of such an assistance in rapidly doing the work of publication. It is my great desire to finish this work during my life time. I became blind with one eye at the age of ten and naturally at the present declining age I am gradually losing my sight of the other eye on account of the growth of cataract. Hence I am making this suggestion.

I sanguinely hope that my colleagues in the Committee will do the needful in the matter for the cause of the History of India.

SHANKAR L. VAIDYA.

P. S.—If Government is prepared to accept my third suggestion, I may state that a clerk who would be of use to me will not be available for a pay of less than 100 rupees per month.

One word more for the suggestion made by Mons. Lehuraux. He suggests that the Chiefs of States should be moved to contribute to the publication of this Daftar. Really my Daftar contains many letters relating to the work of the Chiefs during the Maratha period. I think the suggestion will not be shelved if the Government of India forwards the suggestion to them. They will contribute substantially.

SHANKAR L. VAIDYA.

APPENDIX B.

Report on the Defunct Residency Records.

1. *Madras Government.*—No records relating to defunct Residencies are still being kept in this Province. The records which were with the respective Agents or Residents for the Indian States or Pudukkottai, Banganapalle and Sandur were, after the formation of the Madras States Agency in 1923, duly transferred to that Agency in 1926-27. But it has to be pointed out, in case it may be of interest, that records relating to the Rajahs of Tanjore (among them being papers relating to the Carnatic Wars and the reviews of Hyder Ali and Tippoo Sultan) are still either in the Record Office or at Tanjore.

2. *Bombay Government.*—The Government presume that the phrase 'Defunct Residencies' applies to the agencies for the States which were in political relations with the Government of Bombay prior to the transfer of control to the Centre.

(1) Cutch, (2) Kathiawar, (3) Palanpur, (4) Kolhapur and Southern Maratha country States, (5) Mahi Kantha, (6) Rewa Kantha, (7) Kaira for Cambay, (8) Surat for Sachin Bansda, Dharampur and the Dangs, (9) Nasik for Surgana, (10) Thana for Jawhar, (11) Kolaba for Janjira, (12) Poona for Bhor, (13) Satara for Phaltan and Aundh, (14) Sholapur for Akalkot, (15) Bijapur for Fath, (16) Belgaum for Sawantwadi, (17) Dharwar for Savanur and (18) Sukkur for Khairpur.

On this basis, there are no records in that Province pertaining exclusively to any defunct Residency. A list of such agencies, i.e., for States is given. The records pertaining exclusively to the agencies mentioned above and those relating to them which were in the Secretariat have been transferred to the respective Central Agencies and as such the Government of Bombay are not in a position to

indicate the state of their preservation. Poona Agency for Bhor was distinct from Poona Residency and the former had no records relating to the old Maratha Court of Poona. The records of Satara and Poona Residencies are in the custody of the Government of Bombay.

3. *Bengal Government.*—The work of classification and separation of Revenue and Judicial Department records in the custody of the Bengal Government was suspended and it is not possible at this stage to state the number of defunct Residencies. As regards the location, 20 bundles so far classified and separated have been kept in the Writers' Buildings, Calcutta. The records are generally in good condition.

4. *Punjab Government.*—The following records of the defunct Residencies are in the custody of the Punjab Government :—

1. Delhi Residency and Agency	1804=1867
2. Ludhiana, Ambala and Karnal Agency	1808=1840
3. N.-W. Frontier Agency	1840=1845
4. Lahore Agency and Residency	1846=1849

The records are located in the Punjab Record Office and are in the charge of the Keeper of the Records of the Government.

The records of the Delhi Residency have all been flattened and are partly mounted on guards and stitched into files and partly put under covers after necessary repairs. The records of the Lahore Residency are preserved in leather binding after being flattened, mounted on and repaired with chifton whenever necessary. All these records are being properly treated according to modern archivist methods and the state of their preservation is good.

5. *United Provinces Government.*—The pre-mutiny records relating to the defunct Benares State which could not be separated were placed in the Commissioner's Office, Benares, and those from 1857-1911 were transferred to the Resident at Gwalior for the States of Rampur and Benares.

No records of the old Lucknow Residency at the Court of the Kings of Oudh from 1776 onwards exist in the records of the Provincial Government. This is clear from the following paragraph from "The Notes on the English Pre-Mutiny Records in the United Provinces" 1911, by Mr. Dewar, I.C.S., who was placed on special duty by the Provincial Government to inspect pre-mutiny records in districts and to report on the steps to be taken to ensure their safe preservation:—

"I have not been able to trace the records of the Residency at Lucknow. Those are said to have been taken out of the Residency by Sir George Couper when the Garrison was relieved by Sir Colin Campbell, but I have not been able to ascertain what subsequently became of them. They are not at Lucknow."

The same officer in his book "A Handbook to the English Pre-Mutiny Records in the Government Record Room of the United Provinces," 1920, observed as follows in Chapter IV (i), entitled "Records relating to the United Provinces in the Imperial Record Department, Calcutta":—

"As all the records at Delhi and Lucknow have disappeared the volumes of correspondence with the Residents at those cities which exist at Fort William are of great value to the historian."

Secretary's Note.—It will appear from the examination of the whole report that the statement of the United Provinces Government that "all the records at Delhi and Lucknow have disappeared" is inaccurate. The Delhi Residency records are partly located in the Punjab Record Office and partly in the Rajputana Agency. The whereabouts of Lucknow Residency records are however not yet known.

6. *Bihar Government.*—There is no defunct Residencies whose records are situated in the Province of Bihar.

7. *C. P. and Berar Government.*—The Nagpur Residency became defunct in 1854 and its records are deposited in the Civil Secretariat, Nagpur. In addition, there was at Raipur upto 1933, a Political Agent for the Old Central Provinces States, now included in the Eastern States Agency. Only the "mixed" Secretariat records relating to the States in this Agency are now retained in the Secretariat at Nagpur.

These records are kept separately in the main Secretariat record room in a steel almirah. The records are kept free from dust and care is taken to see that they are not destroyed by white ants. Whenever it is found necessary to mend or bind the records, book-binders are sent from the Government Press and the binding work is done under the personal supervision of the Record Keeper.

8. *N.-W. F. P. Government.*—There is only one defunct Residency (Political Resident). This Residency had no separate records. All correspondence, etc., was conducted on the main Secretariat files which are properly preserved and maintained in the Secretariat Buildings.

9. *Sind Government.*—There are no records of the defunct Residencies in the custody of this Government.

10. *Orissa Government.*—There are no defunct Residencies in the Province of Orissa.

11. *Assam Government.*—There is no defunct Residency in this Province.

12. *Governor of Assam.*—There is no defunct Residency under the charge of His Excellency the Agent of the Crown Representative.

13. *Hyderabad.*—There are no records of defunct Residencies in the Hyderabad Residency Office.

14. *Baroda and Gujarat States.*—Records of the five defunct Agencies of Rewa Kantha, Kaira, Nasik, Thana and Surat were handed over by the Government of Bombay to this Residency and are maintained with the Residency records. Their condition is fair.

15. *Mysore.*—The Mysore Residency which was established in 1799 was abolished in 1843, but revived in 1881. The records from 1779 to 1843 might therefore be considered the records of a defunct Residency. The records are located in this Residency, they were bound into volumes in 1940 and are well preserved.

16. *Madras States.*—Of the three assistant Agencies of Puddukkottai, Banganapalle and Sandur at the Collectorate of Trichinopoly, Kurnool and Bellary were abolished and the relevant records of Puddukkottai left to this Agency and those of the other two transferred to the Mysore Residency. The records of the old assistant Agency of Puddukkottai left with this Agency are preserved along with and in the same good condition as, the original records of the Madras States Agency.

17. *Gwalior.*—In October, 1936, most of the records were transferred by the Government of U. P. to this Residency. The Persian and pre-mutiny records relating to the Benares States were however not transferred and remain in the office of the Commissioner of Benares.

The records of the Political Agencies in Guna and Agar which were abolished in 1922 are in this Residency. The records here are in a satisfactory condition but they are not in charge of an expert.

18. *Eastern States.*—Prior to the creation of this Agency in 1933, the Political relations of the States were conducted by the Governors of adjacent Provinces. Upon creation of this Agency, the records relating to Provincial control were passed to this Agency and have been safely stored in good condition at Raipur. For the present purposes it may therefore be said that there are no defunct Residencies in this Agency.

19. *Western India.*—Records of the defunct Cutch Political Agency are now located in the Central Record Office, Rajkot. The records are in good condition.

20. *Kashmir.*—There are no records of defunct Residencies in Kashmir.

21. *Central India.*—The only defunct Residency in Central India is "the Indore Residency". It was established in 1899 and abolished in 1916. Records of this defunct Residency are in the Central India Agency Office, Indore, and they are preserved as the other records of the Agency.

22. *Kolhapur and Deccan.*—The records of the Agencies mentioned below were transferred to this Residency on its formation in 1933. These records were systematically sorted, indexed and bound in volumes for safe custody and preservation in the record room at the Kolhapur Residency along with other important records.

Originally the names of those Agencies were not mentioned as they were not considered as "defunct Residencies" their functions having been transferred to this Residency and not terminated.

(1) Kolhapur and Southern Maratha Country; (2) Kolaba; (3) Satara; (4) Sholapur; (5) Bijapur; (6) Belgaum; (7) Dharwar; (8) Poona.

23. *Punjab States.*—On the formation of this Agency in 1921, the records of the Phulkian (Patiala, Nabha and Jind) and Bahawalpur (Bahawalpur, Malerkotla and Faridkot) Agencies and those of Chamba, Kapurthala, Mandi, Suket, Sirmur, Bilaspur and Loharu were transferred to the Punjab States Agency in 1921.

The records of Khairpur were similarly received in 1933 when that State was amalgamated with the Punjab States Agency.

The Punjab Hill States Agency was formed in 1936, and the records of Tehri (Garhwal), Sirmur, Bilaspur and Kalsia were transferred to that Agency, together with the records of those States received from the Superintendent, Hill States (Deputy Commissioner, Simla). The records of Pataudi and Dujana were transferred to the Punjab States Agency at the same time.

The ordinary records are kept on shelves in the record rooms and confidential records in almirah and are in good condition.

24. *Rajputana.*—A list of correspondence registers from 1814 available in the Rajputana Agency showing the state of preservation of each has been furnished. It is not known from which Residency these records were transferred but some of them probably belong to the late Delhi Residency. Steps have already been taken to re-bind these registers and to keep them securely housed.

25. *Baluchistan.*—There are no defunct Residencies in Baluchistan.

26. *Sikkim.*—There are no such defunct Residencies with the Political Officer there.

APPENDIX C.

Replies to Questionnaire.

Question No. 1.—Is there a Central Records Office in the Province/State? If not, when is it proposed to establish one?

REPLIES.

1. *India Government.*—Yes. The Imperial Record Department.

2. *Madras Government.*—An organised Central Records Office has been in existence in the Province since 1909.

3. *Bombay Government.*—There is no Central Records Office in the Province of Bombay within the meaning given by the Government of India and it is not proposed to take up the Question of the establishment of such an office till after the war.

4. *Bengal Government.*—Yes.

5. *The Punjab Government.*—There is no Central Records Office in the Punjab. The Punjab Government, however, propose to consider certain measures which, if adopted, will ultimately lead to the conversion of the Punjab Historical Records Office into a Central Records Office.

6. *United Provinces Government.*—No. For administrative reasons the proposal of establishing a Central Records Office in this Province was impracticable. The record rooms of the Civil Secretariat at Lucknow and the Board of Revenue at Allahabad would serve the purpose of Central Records Offices where research scholars could conduct their researches.

7. *Central Provinces Government.*—No reply received.

8. *Bihar Government.*—There is no Central Records Office in this Province. After careful consideration the Government of Bihar have come to the conclusion that the establishment of a Central Records Office is not necessary in this Province.

9. *Assam Government.*—No; and the present does not seem to be an opportune time for taking up the question of establishing one in the near future.

10. *N.-W. F. P. Government.*—No. The Provincial Government hope to have a Records Office after the war.

11. *Orissa Government.*—No.

12. *Sind Government.*—No. The question of having a Central Records Office in Sind will be considered after the war.

13. *Chief Commissioner, Delhi.*—Please see answers to Questions Nos. 13-15.

14. *Chief Commissioner, Baluchistan.*—There is no Central Records Office in Baluchistan nor is it proposed to establish one in the near future.

15. *Chief Commissioner, Ajmer-Merwara.*—No. There are practically no documents of historical importance in the records of Ajmer-Merwara District (District Record Room or in Deputy Commissioner's English Office) and reply to other questions does not arise.

16. *Hyderabad State.*—At present, there is no Central Records Office in the established sense of the term, that is to say, no Records Office which combines historical records, records of grants as well as Secretariat records. The Daftar-i-Dewani and Mal, an amalgamation of several of the old Archives and records of the Nizam's Government, consists now of two main parts, Historical Records and Records of Grants. Both date back to the time of Asaf Jah I.

An endeavour is being made to add to the collection by not only acquiring State documents in the possession of old Ministerial families as has already been done in one or two cases but also sorting out documents declared to be "historical" in the possession of the different Secretariats in the State, leaving the rest to be preserved in the Central Secretariat Records until such time as they become "historical" as well.

17. *Mysore State*.—There is no Central Records Office in the State and that the establishment of such an office can be thought of only after the war.

18. *Baroda State*.—A Central Records Office has been established for over 50 years.

19. *Travancore State*.—Yes. There is a Central Records Office called the Huzur Central Records, forming a part of the Government Secretariat at Trivandrum.

20. *Gwalior State*.—Yes.

21. *Kashmir State*.—No reply received.

22. *Jaipur State*.—The Government do not propose to take any action in the matter during the period of war.

23. *Indore State*.—There is no Central Records Office in the State at present. (A Committee for unearthing records of historical value in the State is under contemplation and it is expected in due course to lead to the establishment of a Central Records Office).

24. *Jodhpur State*.—No reply received.

25. *Bikaner State*.—No reply received.

26. *Mewar State*.—No reply received.

27. *Patiala State*.—His Highness's Government maintain a Records Office.

28. *Mayurbhanj State*.—Yes.

29. *Cochin State*.—Yes.

30. *Kolhapur State*.—There is no Central Records Office in the State at present. Weeding and sorting out of the old records is, however, being done and as soon as it is finished there will be such an office.

31. *Manipur State*.—There is no Central Records Office in Manipur at present. Until the war is over the authorities cannot give any definite date for establishing one.

32. *Cooch Behar State*.—Yes. There are Council Records Office, Revenue Records Office and Judicial Records Offices (both Civil and Criminal) in the town of Cooch Behar.

33. *Tripura State*.—No reply received.

34. *Puduchkottai State*.—The State is too small to have a "Central Records Office", but it has "organized" records offices. The important historical records are now kept in the records rooms of the Old Palace, the Durbar Office and the Central Revenue Office (Dewan Peishkar's Office) and the copper plates in the State Museum.

35. *Sangli State*.—There is a Central Records Office which is called Huzur Records Office in which record from Huzur Amalgamated Office, the Treasury Office and the Chief Revenue Office is maintained.

36. *Patna State*.—As the number of historical papers in the Darbar's possession is strictly limited, the need for organising a Record Office on up-to-date lines for this purpose has not been felt.

37. *Tehri Garhwal State*.—A Central Records Office exists in the State, but there are no records which may be of interest for historical research.

38. *Dhenkanal State*.—There is only one Record Room at the Headquarters of the State Secretary's Note.—Some of the Provincial Governments and Indian States wanted to know the implications of a Central Records Office and the position was explained to them as follows :—

The establishment of a Central Records Office means the concentration in one place under unified control of all the departmental records of the Government, old and new, ordinarily kept at the headquarters and such other records as may from time to time be removed from Districts and provision of suitable means for scientific preservation and up-keep of records. Such a records office should be placed in charge of a qualified Keeper of Records and provision should be made for giving reasonable facilities to such research scholars as may like to examine the archives for *bonafide* academic purposes. The function briefly of such a records office is to issue indexes, calendars to records and other suitable publications including a handbook or a guide to facilitate research work and to supply Government requisitions besides taking necessary care for the preservation of records placed in its custody.

It will be noted with satisfaction that some of the Provincial Governments intend to establish Central Records Office after the war. Attention is invited to the replies from the Governments of the Punjab, U. P. and Bihar. The question of a Records Office in U. P. was considered by the Commission in 1922, 1938 (Resolution V) and 1940 and a case was made out by Dr. R. K. Mookerji's proposal in 1942 and a resolution was passed on the subject (Resolution XIV).

Question No. 2.—Is the Records Office placed under the charge of a whole-time qualified Keeper of Records? If not, when is it proposed to do so?

REPLIES.

1. *India Government*.—Yes. Director of Archives, Government of India.

2. *Madras Government*.—The Records Office is under the charge of a whole-time qualified Keeper of Records.

3. *Bombay Government*.—No. It is not proposed to take up the question of the appointment of a whole-time qualified Keeper of Records till after the war.

4. *Bengal Government*.—Yes.

5. *The Punjab Government*.—The Punjab Records Office is at present placed under the charge of a part-time qualified Keeper of the Records. The question of appointing a whole-time Keeper will be considered when it is decided finally to convert the Punjab Historical Records Office into a Central Records Office.

6. *United Provinces Government*.—No standard qualification has been laid down for the post of a Record Keeper. The Secretariat Record Room is under the charge of a senior assistant of the Secretariat. Similarly, in the Board's office at Allahabad one of the Assistants of that office who has acquired experience has been put in charge of the Records.

7. *Central Provinces Government*.—No reply received.

8. *Bihar Government*.—Please see answer under Question No. 1.

9. *Assam Government*.—Does not arise.

10. *N.-W. F. P. Government*.—

11. *Orissa Government*.—Please see answer at Question No. 1.

12. *Sind Government*.—No. The question of placing the Records Office under the charge of a whole-time qualified Keeper of the Records will arise after the establishment of a Central Records Office and will therefore be considered after the war.

13. *Chief Commissioner, Delhi*.—Please see answers to Questions Nos. 13-15.

14. *Chief Commissioner, Baluchistan*.—

15. *Chief Commissioner, Ajmer-Merwara*.—No remarks.

16. *Hyderabad State*.—Yes. Under a whole-time Officer.

17. *Mysore State*.—

18. *Baroda State*.—Yes.

19. *Travancore Government*.—Yes. It is placed under the charge of a whole-time officer under the administrative control of the Chief Secretary to Government.

20. *Gwalior State*.—Yes.

21. *Kashmir State*.—No reply received.

22. *Jaipur State*.—Not answered in view of the reply to question No. 1.

23. *Indore State*.—

24. *Jodhpur State*.—No reply received.

25. *Bikaner State*.—No reply received.

26. *Mewar State*.—No reply received.

27. *Patiala State*.—The Records Office is under a trained officer.

28. *Mayurbhanj State*.—Yes. His qualifications are similar to the Record Keepers of the Commissioner's Record Rooms of the British India.

29. *Cochin State*.—The Office is now under an experienced Keeper. He has been trained in the Imperial Record Department.

30. *Kolhapur State*.—As there is no such office at present there is no such Officer.

31. *Manipur State*.—Please see reply to Question No. 1.

32. *Cooch Behar State*.—Yes. Wholtime Record Keepers are in charge of these offices.

33. *Tripura State*.—No reply received.

34. *Puduchkottai State*.—The records are in charge of qualified clerks.

35. *Sangli State*.—Yes.

36. *Patna State*.—In view of the answer given to Question No. 1 replies to all other questions do not seem necessary.

37. *Tehri Garhwal State*.—Not answered in view of the reply to Question No. 1.

38. *Dhenkanal State*.—The Record Room is under the charge of a whole-time qualified Record Keeper.

Question No. 3.—Are there any rules governing access to the records for *bonafide* research purposes? If not, when is it proposed to frame such rules?

REPLIES.

1. *India Government*.—Yes. Imperial Record Department (Historical Research) Rules.

2. *Madras Government*.—Rules governing access to the records have been framed and published (copy included in the Manual of Rules regulating access to Archives in India and Europe, 1940).

3. *Bombay Government*.—Yes.

4. *Bengal Government*.—Yes.

5. *The Punjab Government*.—Yes. It was printed in the Manual of Rules.

6. *United Provinces Government*.—Yes. (Copies of the Rules regarding the Secretariat Record Room and the Record Room of the Board of Revenue, Allahabad, are placed before the Commission).

7. *Central Provinces Government*.—No reply received.

8. *Bihar Government*.—No remarks.

9. *Assam Government*.—There are no rules but reasonable facilities, if sought, will not be denied.

10. *N.-W. F. P. Government*.—

11. *Orissa Government*.—Not answered in view of reply to Question No. 1.

12. *Sind Government*.—There are rules governing access to the records and facilities afforded to research scholars (a copy is placed before the Commission).

13. *Chief Commissioner, Delhi*.—Please see answers to Questions Nos. 13-15.

14. *Chief Commissioner, Baluchistan*.—

15. *Chief Commissioner, Ajmer-Merwara*.—It is not considered necessary to frame any rules.

16. *Hyderabad State*.—There are special Rules and Regulations, formulated in 1933, governing access to the records for *bonafide* research purposes, which have also been included in the Manual published by the Imperial Record Department in 1940.

17. *Mysore State*.—No remarks (vide reply to Question No. 1).

18. *Baroda State*.—The Record House has been thrown open to *bonafide* students since 1931 and rules regarding access to it are framed on the lines of those of Government of India records.

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19. *Travancore State*.—Rules have not been framed in regard to this. But access is generally given to *bonafide* students who apply to Government for permission.
20. *Gwalior State*.—No. But outsiders are not allowed access to the records. No rules are needed.
21. *Kashmir State*.—No reply received.
22. *Jaipur State*.—Please see answer to Questions Nos. 1-2.
23. *Indore State*.—
24. *Jodhpur State*.—No reply received.
25. *Bikaner State*.—No reply received.
26. *Mewar State*.—No reply received.
27. *Patiala State*.—No general rules have so far been framed regulating admission to the Record Room. But individual cases seeking access to the records are considered and permission is granted only to *bonafide* research scholars.
28. *Mayurbhanj State*.—No, as the Record Room does not possess any historical records.
29. *Cochin State*.—Government sanction is necessary for access to the records. Rules similar to the Madras rules are likely to be framed.
30. *Kolhapur State*.—Not answered in view of replies to Questions Nos. 1 and 2.
31. *Manipur State*.—Please see reply to Question No. 1.
32. *Cooch Behar State*.—There are no rules. Permission must be sought from the Durbar establishing *bonafide* purposes of research.
33. *Tripura State*.—No reply received.
34. *Puduchkottai State*.—Rules governing access to records for *bonafide* research purposes have been published in the State Gazette. A copy was printed in the Indian Historical Records Commission Proceedings Volume XX.
35. *Sangli State*.—No. It is not at present before the Durbar to frame any such rules.
36. *Patna State*.—(Please see answers to Questions Nos. 1-2).
37. *Tehri Garhwal State*.—(Please see answers to Questions Nos. 1-2).
38. *Dhenkanal State*.—Not answered.

Question No. 4.—What records are in the custody of the Records Office and for what periods?

REPLIES.

1. *India Government*.—The Records of the old East India Company 1748-1859 and of the Government of India subsequent to 1859.
2. *Madras Government*.—The Records Office has in its custody (1) the records of the various Departments of the Secretariat from 1670-1939; (2) the records of the Board of Revenue from 1786-1936; (3) certain classes of Army records from 1761-1898; (4) Mayor's Court records from 1689-1798; (5) Surgeon-General's records from 1787-1858; (6) Mint records from 1744-1876; (7) the Collectorate records from the earliest time upto 1856; (8) certain classes of Miscellaneous records and some records in Dutch, Danish, Persian and Marathi. Further information is available in the Madras Records Office catalogue.
3. *Bombay Government*.—A reference is invited to the Handbook of the Bombay Government records by A. F. Kindersley and to the Handbook to the Records in the Alienation Office, Poona, with regard to the records in the Secretariat Records Office, Bombay, and the Alienation Office, Poona, respectively.
4. *Bengal Government*.—English records from 1758 onwards and some records in Indian languages from 1624-1828 (details to be found in the Bengal Government catalogue).
5. *The Punjab Government*.—The records in the custody of the Punjab Records Office begin with 1804. Those from 1804-1849 consist of books and files relating to the work of Delhi Residency and Agency, Ludhiana, Ambala and Karnal Agencies, N.-W. Frontier Agency and Lahore Residency and Agency. The records from 1849-1900 are proper departmental files relating to the transactions of the Punjab Government after the annexation of the Province to the British India. Printed 'A' files from 1900 to date and complete sets of the Government of India and the Punjab Gazettes, Persian Records of the different departments of the pre-British Government of the Sikhs and of the Residencies mentioned above and also the Persian correspondence with the Ruling Chiefs of Kabul, N.-W. F. P. and the Punjab upto 1890.
6. *United Provinces Government*.—The Board's old Record Room with which the research scholars are concerned consists of pre-mutiny records from 1803-1855, but they do not contain any original letters issued during the period prior to 1857. The Records are in the form of proceedings in manuscripts with their indices and pertain to settlement of land revenue and the grant of *muafees* and *jagirs*. A full detail of the pre-mutiny records in the office of the Board of Revenue, United Provinces is given in the "Handbook to the English pre-mutiny Records in the Government Record Room of the United Provinces" prepared by Mr. D. Dewar, I.C.S., and also in the "Notes on the Records of the Board of Revenue, N.-W. F. P." prepared by Sir W. W. Hunter in 1904.
7. *Central Provinces Government*.—No reply received.
8. *Bihar Government*.—No remarks.
9. *Assam Government*.—Does not arise (*vide* Question No. 1).
10. *N.-W. F. P. Government*.—
11. *Orissa Government*.—Not answered in view of reply to Question No. 1.
12. *Sind Government*.—Provincial Government records which include the records of the Commissioner in Sind. Among the Secretariat records those of Kelat Affairs, Persia Affairs and Abyssinian Expedition are interesting. The most important of the records received and lodged in the Government Records Office are for the period from 1820 to 1936.

13. *Chief Commissioner, Delhi*.—Please see answers to Questions Nos. 13-15.
14. *Chief Commissioner, Baluchistan*.—
15. *Chief Commissioner, Ajmer-Merwara*.—No remarks.
16. *Hyderabad State*.—In addition to the State records belonging to the Asafia period, there are some which refer to the Moghul period as well, dating back to the reign of Shah Jehan.
17. *Mysore State*.—No remarks (*vide* remarks to Question No. 1).
18. *Baroda State*.—Records of all the departments of the State from 1730 A.D. to 1932 A.D. are kept in the custody of the office.
19. *Travancore State*.—All available administrative records from the early part of the 18th century to the present day.
20. *Gwalior State*.—Records date from 1843 A.D. onwards and they cover the whole range of administration.
21. *Kashmir State*.—No reply received.
22. *Jaipur State*.—Not answered in view of reply to Question No. 1.
23. *Indore State*.—
24. *Jodhpur State*.—No reply received.
25. *Bikaner State*.—No reply received.
26. *Mewar State*.—No reply received.
27. *Patiala State*.—The record of purely historical interest are not many. The oldest paper is dated 1174 A.H. (1761 A.D.).
28. *Mayurbhanj State*.—The Record Room contains records relating to the Mayurbhanj State from 1866 onwards.
29. *Cochin State*.—All available historical records from 1500 A.D. onwards.
30. *Kolhapur State*.—Not answered in view of reply to Questions Nos. 1-2.
31. *Manipur State*.—Please see reply to Question No. 1.
32. *Cooch Behar State*.—Some old documents—the oldest being 1646 A.D. English correspondence of Commissioner's Office, since 1864-65 to 1883-84; Deputy Commissioner's Office for the same period and of Council Office from 1883-84 to 1940-41. There are Annual Administration Reports and other books and registers. There are English correspondence of General Department's Office since 1883-84 to 1918-19 and also Criminal Records of the Civil and Sessions Judge's Courts since 1883-84 and case registers. All case records and case registers of Cooch Behar High Court since 1883-84.
33. *Tripura State*.—No reply received.
34. *Puduchkottai State*.—It is not possible to describe the records in the offices in the State within the limits of an answer to a question. The Durbar invite reference to the brief 'Guide to the Archives in the State'.
35. *Sangli State*.—Official records for the period from 1800 A.D.
36. *Patna State*.—Not answered in view of reply to Question No. 1.
37. *Tehri Garhwal State*.—Not answered in view of reply to Question No. 1.
38. *Dhenkanal State*.—Both Judicial and Collectorate records with settlement papers are in the custody of Record Keeper dating since 1878.

Question No. 5.—Upto what period have the records been thrown open for *bonafide* research?

REPLIES.

1. *India Government*.—Upto the year 1880.
2. *Madras Government*.—All the records which are more than 50 years old are generally thrown open for research.
3. *Bombay Government*.—Manuscript records are thrown open upto 1750 with the permission of the Head of the Office and upto 1910 with the permission of Government.
4. *Bengal Government*.—Upto 1858. Research in records of the later period requires permission of the Department concerned.
5. *The Punjab Government*.—Almost all the records of the Punjab Government as well as "Mixed" records upto 1880 have been thrown open for purposes of *bonafide* historical research.
6. *United Provinces Government*.—(i) In the Secretariat record room there are only five bundles of mutiny records which are not very valuable but they are of some historic importance. There are no original treaties or *jagirs*.
(ii) Under the rules a research scholar is allowed to inspect records in the Board's Record Room from 1803 to 1874. The mutiny records of the Secretariat Record Room are open to inspection by research scholars subject to the rules regulating access to them.
7. *Central Provinces Government*.—No reply received.
8. *Bihar Government*.—No remarks.
9. *Assam Government*.—Does not arise (*vide* Question No. 1).
10. *N.-W. F. P. Government*.—
11. *Orissa Government*.—Not answered in view of Question No. 1.
12. *Sind Government*.—The available records in the Sind Government Records Office have been thrown open for all the periods for *bonafide* research, except such documents in respect whereof it is considered that such a course will be prejudicial to the interests of Government.
13. *Chief Commissioner, Delhi*.—Please see answers to Questions Nos. 13-15.
14. *Chief Commissioner, Baluchistan*.—
15. *Chief Commissioner, Ajmer-Merwara*.—No remarks.
16. *Hyderabad State*.—All records are thrown open for the *bonafide* students except those which pertain to the "Grant" section.
17. *Mysore State*.—No remarks (*vide* reply to Question No. 1).

18. *Baroda State*.—Upto 1932 A.D.
 19. *Travancore State*.—*Vide* answer to Question No. 3.
 20. *Gwalior State*.—None.
 21. *Kashmir State*.—No reply received.
 22. *Jaipur State*.—Not answered in view of reply to Question No. 1.
 23. *Indore State*.—
 24. *Jodhpur State*.—No reply received.
 25. *Bikaner State*.—No reply received.
 26. *Mewar State*.—No reply received.
 27. *Patiala State*.—No remarks.
 28. *Mayurbhanj State*.—There is no necessity for it.
 29. *Cochin State*.—All records upto 1857 A.D.
 30. *Kolhapur State*.—The answers to these Questions (5-9) can only be given when the record office is formed.
 31. *Manipur State*.—Please see reply to Question No. 1.
 32. *Cooch Behar State*.—There is no particular period under restriction or without restriction. Permission of the Durbar is required in every case.
 33. *Tripura State*.—No reply received.
 34. *Puduchkottai State*.—The Durbar have thrown open all records upto the year 1900 (except those that are confidential).
 35. *Sangli State*.—No. The record is open for research.
 36. *Patna State*.—Not answered in view of reply to Question No. 1.
 37. *Tehri Garhwal State*.—Not answered in view of reply to Question No. 1.
 38. *Dhenkanal State*.—Not answered.
Secretary's Note.—The records of the Government of India and His Excellency the Crown Representative in the custody of the Imperial Record Department and British Residences have been thrown open till 1880.

Question No. 6.—Is there a handbook or a guide to the records? If not, when is it proposed to compile one?

REPLIES.

1. *India Government*.—(a) Handbook to the Records of the Government of India in the Imperial Record Department 1748-1859 (1925). It is under revision (1748-1880); (b) *Lists of Original Treaties, Engagements and Sanads* in the custody of the Imperial Record Department; (c) *Kabul Papers, 1839-1859, Jagir Settlements, 1847-57, Calcutta, 1919*; (d) *A Manual of Rules regulating access to Archives in India and Europe, New Delhi, 1940.*
2. *Madras Government*.—There are 3 handbooks or guides to the records: (1) *J. Talboys Wheeler's Handbook to the Madras Records (1907)*; (2) *Report on the Madras records by Mr. H. Dodwell (1916)*; and (3) *A Guide to the records preserved in the Madras Records Office (1936).*
3. *Bombay Government*.—Yes.
4. *Bengal Government*.—There are abstract catalogues or guide books to our records. A detailed Handbook is under preparation.
5. *The Punjab Government*.—A consolidated guide book to the records preserved in the Punjab Records Office has not so far been prepared but it is proposed to prepare and publish one after the war.
6. *United Provinces Government*.—The reply to the question No. 4 may please be seen in this connection. The Board have indices of the Records from 1803 to 1857 in manuscript and in print from 1857 districtwise. As there is only a small number of records of historic importance in the Secretariat record room no handbook or guide has been prepared. (As regards the Commission's proposal for preparing a consolidated Guide to the Archives in India, the Government of India were informed that so far as this province was concerned it was not possible to take any action in the matter for the duration of the war.)
7. *Central Provinces Government*.—No reply received.
8. *Bihar Government*.—No remarks.
9. *Assam Government*.—There is no such book at present nor is it under contemplation to take up compilation in the near future.
10. *N.-W. F. P. Government*.—
11. *Orissa Government*.—Not answered.
12. *Sind Government*.—A handbook and an alphabetical catalogue though incomplete have been prepared in respect of records of pre-mutiny period. The question regarding preparation of a complete handbook has been postponed for the duration of the war.
13. *Chief Commissioner, Delhi*.—Please see answers to Questions Nos. 13-15.
14. *Chief Commissioner, Baluchistan*.—
15. *Chief Commissioner, Ajmer-Merwara*.—No remarks.
16. *Hyderabad State*.—There is no Guide or Handbook at present, but the Department is considering the preparation of a detailed Guide which, if undertaken, can be published only after the war.
17. *Mysore State*.—No remarks (*vide* reply to Question No. 1).
18. *Baroda State*.—There is no handbook or guide to the records. The question of compilation of one is under consideration.
19. *Travancore State*.—There are lists of records for purposes of reference. No special handbook is available.

20. *Gwalior State*.—No. The question is under consideration.
 21. *Kashmir State*.—No reply received.
 22. *Jaipur State*.—Not answered in view of reply to Question No. 1.
 23. *Indore State*.—
 24. *Jodhpur State*.—No reply received.
 25. *Bikaner State*.—No reply received.
 26. *Mewar State*.—No reply received.
 27. *Patiala State*.—Not answered.
 28. *Mayurbhanj State*.—There is no necessity for it.
 29. *Cochin State*.—No.
 30. *Kolhapur State*.—No remarks (*vide* answer to Question No. 5).
 31. *Manipur State*.—Please see reply to Question No. 1.
 32. *Cooch Behar State*.—No.
 33. *Tripura State*.—No reply received.
 34. *Puduchkottai State*.—Yes. A guide has been prepared.
 35. *Sangli State*.—A Handbook, *i.e.*, General Ferists to the records is maintained.
 36. *Patna State*.—Not answered in view of the reply to Question No. 1.
 37. *Tehri Garhwal State*.—Not answered in view of the reply to Question No. 1.
 38. *Dhenkanal State*.—There are Index Registers of Records.
- Secretary's Note.**—A Guide is of great help to the records offices both for the proper maintenance of records and fostering historical research.

Question No. 7.—What is the average number of research scholars who visit the records office annually

REPLIES

1. *India Government*.—Thirty-three (approximately).
 2. *Madras Government*.—On an average 12 research scholars work in the office annually.
 3. *Bombay Government*.—The average number is 12 based on an average of the past six years. But there were 18 research scholars who visited the Records Office, in the year 1940. It may be stated that there is no special research room available for them and they have to sit in between the racks containing the records.
 4. *Bengal Government*.—The average number would be about 15 or 16. With the transfer of a major part of historical records to Berhampore as an A. R. P. measure the number of research scholars has considerably decreased.
 5. *The Punjab Government*.—Besides numerous queries from scholars, members of the public and officials, which are answered through correspondence, 42 students have, on an average, visited the Punjab Record Office annually during the last 6 years.
 6. *United Provinces Government*.—On an average one research scholar visits the Board's Record Room annually and none has visited the Secretariat Record Room for the last several years.
 7. *Central Provinces Government*.—No reply received.
 8. *Bihar Government*.—No remarks.
 9. *Assam Government*.—None.
 10. *N.-W. F. P. Government*.—
 11. *Orissa Government*.—Not answered.
 12. *Sind Government*.—The average number of research scholars who visit the records office comes to 3 annually.
 13. *Chief Commissioner, Delhi*.—Please see answers to Questions Nos. 13-15.
 14. *Chief Commissioner, Baluchistan*.—
 15. *Chief Commissioner, Ajmer-Merwara*.—No remarks.
 16. *Hyderabad State*.—A steady batch of students avails itself of the facilities but the numbers are small. For example, the average last year was 5 and the year before was 3, with the progress being made in modern methods of classification and cataloguing, greater facilities will be available in due course as a result of which, it is hoped, that a larger number will attend.
 17. *Mysore State*.—No remarks (*vide* reply to Question No. 1).
 18. *Baroda State*.—Two.
 19. *Travancore State*.—Only a few scholars have hitherto applied to Government for research facilities in the records office.
 20. *Gwalior State*.—Nil.
 21. *Kashmir State*.—No reply received.
 22. *Jaipur State*.—No remarks (*vide* answer to Question No. 1).
 23. *Indore State*.—
 24. *Jodhpur State*.—No reply received.
 25. *Bikaner State*.—No reply received.
 26. *Mewar State*.—No reply received.
 27. *Patiala State*.—Not answered.
 28. *Mayurbhanj State*.—There is no necessity at all.
 29. *Cochin State*.—Between 20 to 30 per year.
 30. *Kolhapur State*.—No remarks (*vide* answer to Question No. 5).
 31. *Manipur State*.—Please see reply to Question No. 1.
 32. *Cooch Behar State*.—No research scholar from outside has visited the records offices.
- Local research scholars.—(1) Khan Chaudhury Amanatullah Ahmed has examined records in compiling his works on "Kochviharer Itihas" from the earliest times to the 18th century; and

(2) Rai Sahib S. C. Ghoshal is examining records for compilation of a History of Cooch Behar from the 19th. Century up-to-date and also examined other manuscripts in connection with various works which were published by Cooch Behar Sahitya Sabha.

33. Tripura State.—No reply received.

34. Puddukkottai State.—The Durbar have (recently) thrown open their records offices to genuine researchers.

35. Sangli State.—No research scholar has so far visited the Records Office.

36. Patna State.—No remarks (vide answer to Question No. 1).

37. Tehri Garhwal State.—No remarks (vide answer to Question No. 1).

38. Dhenkanal State.—Nil.

Question No. 8.—Has indexing of records on the lines recommended by the Commission been undertaken? If not, how is it proposed to facilitate research work?

REPLIES

1. India Government.—Yes.

2. Madras Government.—The Madras Records Office possesses printed indexes to all the records of the Government and the Board of Revenue. It has also printed Guides to the District records upto 1835. The Indian Historical Records Commission at its Baroda Session made an exception in the case of the Madras Records Office so far as indexing on the lines of the Imperial Record Department is concerned and approved the publication programme undertaken by the Madras Records Office.

3. Bombay Government.—The Government of Bombay has already issued orders directing the preparation of a hand list of the historical records in the Secretariat Records Office, Bombay, upto the year 1827. As regards the indexing of records covering the period 1828-57, it is proposed to consider the question in due course after hand-listing is finished.

4. Bengal Government.—Consolidated Indexes of all General Letters to and from the Court of Directors have already been printed. Revenue Department index on this line was started some years back with the help of some honorary research scholars but no progress was made for want of their co-operation. The present emergency does not permit employment of additional staff for this purpose. For facility of research work there are, however, Manuscript Annual Indexes to different series of Proceedings of the pre-mutiny period.

5. The Punjab Government.—Yes, all the records upto 1868 have been press-listed and indexed on the lines recommended by the Indian Historical Records Commission from time to time.

6. United Provinces Government.—Since most of the records are arranged into files, weekly bundles and volumes which are of different dates, their indexing or cataloguing is not easily possible, nor can this work be undertaken during the war.

7. Central Provinces Government.—No reply received.

8. Bihar Government.—No remarks.

9. Assam Government.—No. The annual amalgamated indices of ordinary records may afford facilities in this connection.

10. N.-W. F. P. Government.—

11. Orissa Government.—Not answered.

12. Sind Government.—No. A handbook and the alphabetical catalogue referred to in Question No. 6 facilitate the research work in regard to pre-mutiny period only.

13. Chief Commissioner, Delhi.—Please see answers to Questions Nos. 13-15.

14. Chief Commissioner, Baluchistan.—

15. Chief Commissioner, Ajmer-Merwara.—No remarks.

16. Hyderabad State.—The work of card-indexing of documents is progressing on a chronological as well as a subject-wise basis, a nucleus of the more efficient members of the staff being set apart for the purpose. General and Classified Lists of the records made some time ago on a rough basis, are used for the present for helping research scholars in addition to which qualified members of the staff are also present to add to the information given in the old lists which are by no means complete.

17. Mysore State.—No remarks (vide reply to Question No. 1).

18. Baroda State.—The State has its own indexing system.

19. Travancore State.—The bulk of records are in Malayalam and in regard to several items Malayalam indices are now available. With regard to the remaining items descriptive lists are available for reference.

20. Gwalior State.—No. All the records have been catalogued and stored in accordance with the provisions of the Records Manual.

21. Kashmir State.—No reply received.

22. Jaipur State.—No remarks (vide answer to Question No. 1).

23. Indore State.—No remarks (vide reply to Question No. 1).

24. Jodhpur State.—No reply received.

25. Bikaner State.—No reply received.

26. Mewar State.—No reply received.

27. Patiala State.—For ready reference a Register is maintained in which all records are entered. Hence for all practical purposes the documents have been indexed. Full details regarding the documents will be made available to the public when the History of Patiala is published.

28. Mayurbhanj State.—There is no necessity at all.

29. Cochin State.—Indexing on indigenous lines have already been carried out. It is hoped to do the indexing on scientific lines after the Keeper returns from training in the Imperial Record Department.

30. Kolhapur State.—No remarks (vide answer to Question No. 5).

31. Manipur State.—Please see reply to Question No. 1.

32. Cooch Behar State.—No. Research work may be done by looking up indices-maintained from year to year.

33. Tripura State.—No reply received.

34. Puddukkottai State.—A large number of records in the Durbar Office and the Revenue Offices and the Copper Plates in the Museum have been indexed. The rest will be indexed hereafter.

35. Sangli State.—Indexing is done according to the practice in the State.

36. Patna State.—No remarks (vide answer to Question No. 1).

37. Tehri Garhwal State.—No remarks (vide answer to Question No. 1).

38. Dhenkanal State.—No. Nothing has yet been proposed for this purpose.

Question No. 9.—What publications based on the records have been issued by the Provincial Government/Indian State Government? If none, when is it proposed to take up a publication programme?

REPLIES.

1. India Government.—Nearly 75 volumes under 21 items. List will be found on pages 30-31, part III, Indian Historical Records Commission Proceedings, Volume XVI. Five-year Publication Programme is in progress.

2. Madras Government.—A list of the record publication issued by the Madras Records Office upto 28th April 1942 is appended (correspondence pages 123-34). Besides continuing the reprinting of records of the Government of the period 1751-1765, the Office is also engaged in preparing (1) Calendars of the Revenue Records 1763-1800 and (2) Selections from the records of the period 1801-1857.

3. Bombay Government.—Selections from the Letters, Despatches and other State Papers preserved in the Bombay Secretariat were published at various dates under the editorship of Mr. G. W. Forrest.

45 volumes of selections from the Peshwa's Daftar (in Marathi) have been published, edited by Rao Bahadur Sardesai. In addition, a volume of Persian Papers has been published.

In more complete furtherance of their undertaking to publish the Poona Residency English Records which are a supplement to the Maratha Series, the Government of Bombay has decided to issue seventeen volumes of which ten have already been published and seven are awaiting publication. A descriptive catalogue of the historical portion of the records in the Record Office of the Bombay Secretariat on the model of Hill's catalogue of India Office Records (Home Miscellaneous Series) is also being prepared.

4. Bengal Government.—63 volumes have been published so far. The publication work, though it had to be slowed down for paper economy, has made fair progress.

5. The Punjab Government.—40 volumes and 34 monographs have been published. Besides, the Punjab Government contemplate taking up a five years' publication programme on the lines of the Imperial Record Department after the war when the supply of paper is likely to return to normal.

6. United Provinces Government.—Six volumes have been published. List supplied to the Commission. It is not possible to take up a publication programme while the war lasts. (A list of some of the old publications as far as available in the Secretariat Library regarding records of historical importance has been supplied to the Imperial Record Department.)

7. Central Provinces Government.—No reply received.

8. Bihar Government.—No remarks.

9. Assam Government.—None and there is no proposal pending at present.

10. N.-W. F. P. Government.—

11. Orissa Government.—Not answered.

12. Sind Government.—There are three publications, namely (1) Handbook of the Government Records lying in the Office of the Commissioner in Sind, (2) Alphabetical catalogue of the contents of the pre-mutiny Records upto 1857 and (3) Selection of pre-mutiny Records. These publications are saleable to the Public.

13. Chief Commissioner, Delhi.—Please see answers to Questions Nos. 13-15.

14. Chief Commissioner, Baluchistan.—

15. Chief Commissioner, Ajmer-Merwara.—No remarks.

16. Hyderabad State.—A compilation has been published by the Department some years ago, but owing to the war, the programme of publication has been held in abeyance. On the other hand, a liberal programme of editing has been decided upon and, in addition to obtaining the voluntary services of local research workers and scholars, it is intended to invite some leading scholars in India to undertake the editing of definite sets of documents, these to be published after the war. Work in that connection is expected to start soon.

17. Mysore State.—No remarks (vide reply to Question No. 1).

18. Baroda State.—Publication of selections of historical importance from the State archive has been taken in hand. Six volumes have been issued already while the seventh is under preparation.

19. Travancore State.—Sri Chitra Huzur Central Records Series Nos. I and II have been issued from the office.

20. Gwalior State.—Two publications have hitherto been published covering Historical documents (1) महादजी सिंधिया का पत्र व्यवहार (Marathi) by Rao Bahadur Sardesai. (2) Selections from Chandrachud Daftar (Indore).

21. *Kashmir State*.—No reply received.
 22. *Jaipur State*.—No remarks (*vide* answer to Question No. 1).
 23. *Indore State*.—
 24. *Jodhpur State*.—No reply received.
 25. *Bikaner State*.—No reply received.
 26. *Mewar State*.—No reply received.
 27. *Patiala State*.—Compilation of the History of Patiala has been taken in hand. In 1918 Sardar Karan Singh, State historian for some time, published a book in Gurmukhi on Maharaja Alta Singh.
 28. *Mayurbhanj State*.—There is no necessity at all.
 29. *Cochin State*.—Three publications have been sanctioned this year, in spite of the war conditions. The first one is in the Press.
 30. *Kolhapur State*.—No remarks (*vide* answer to Question No. 5).
 31. *Manipur State*.—All the old records of the State were destroyed by the frequent ravages of Burmese Army for several centuries and in the Manipur disturbance of 1891. The only somewhat reliable records now available are those that may be found in the manuscript of the "Cheitharol Kumbaba", the original copy of which was also destroyed in the devastation of Manipur. In 1702 Shaka Maharaja Jai Singh once again had it recompiled. The manuscript is written in the form of a diary, in old Manipuri script. The present Political Agent, Mr. C. Gimson, C.I.E., I.C.S., has suggested the manuscript to be translated into English under the supervision of Sjt. Yumjao Singh and there is every possibility of this Translation being published after the war.
 32. *Cooch Behar State*.—Nine Volumes.
 33. *Tripura State*.—No reply received.
 34. *Pudukkottai State*.—(a) The State Manual including the History and Gazetteer of the State; (b) The Monographs based upon State Records contributed by the Historical Records Officer to the proceedings of the Commission.
- The Historical Records Officer is now engaged in editing the Palace Records—correspondence in Persian and English between the Rulers of the State and the Nawabs of Carnatic and the East India Company in the 17th and 18th centuries.
35. *Sangli State*.—No publication based on the records has ever been issued.
 36. *Patna State*.—No remarks (*vide* answer to Question No. 1).
 37. *Tehri Garhwal State*.—Ditto.
 38. *Dhenkanal State*.—Not answered.

Question No. 10.—Are the records weeded? If so, what records have been weeded before?

REPLIES.

1. *India Government*.—Yes. The pre-mutiny records have been weeded, classified and separated into three classes of documents, *viz.*, A, B and C according to their historical and administrative importance. None has been destroyed.
2. *Madras Government*.—Since only the records of permanent value are transferred to the Madras Records Office none of them is generally weeded. In the case of old records it has been found necessary to weed out some of the papers which are duplicates and which are not worth mending. The weeding of these duplicates is done after careful comparison with the originals.
3. *Bombay Government*.—Some manuscript records for the period 1851 and 1852 and 1861 to 1872 numbering 6224 volumes were weeded during the years 1920-22 by members of the Secretariat Staff deputed by each Department for weeding its records under the general supervision of the Record Keeper (now Keeper of Records) in the Secretariat Office.
4. *Bengal Government*.—The work of weeding is carried on according to programme. Papers of ephemeral interest of the Crown period which are generally preserved for 12 or for 20 years are periodically destroyed under responsible supervision (records of the pre-mutiny period do not fall in this category).
5. *The Punjab Government*.—All the English records are weeded. The Persian records are yet in course of examination and the question of their weeding will arise when their preliminary examination is completed.
6. *United Provinces Government*.—As there are no original records prior to 1857 but only Board's proceedings in manuscript the question of weeding does not arise. The old Urdu records from 1857 to 1890 have twice been overhauled once in 1921 and again in 1939. Only papers of considered permanent value have been retained and the rest destroyed. Similarly Agra Province records have been retained in weekly bundles and files and unimportant papers have been destroyed to avoid congestion in the record room. There are no lists of the papers destroyed.
7. *Central Provinces Government*.—No reply received.
8. *Bihar Government*.—No remarks.
9. *Assam Government*.—The ordinary records were weeded out once in 1921, once in 1931 and once in 1937. The records due for destruction were weeded upto 1932.
10. *N.-W. F. P. Government*.—
11. *Orissa Government*.—Not answered.
12. *Sind Government*.—The records from the conquest of Sind to the year 1857 were weeded in the year 1926. Weeding of records from 1858 upto 1936 has been dropped for the duration of war.

13. *Chief Commissioner, Delhi*.—Please see answers to Questions Nos. 13-15.
14. *Chief Commissioner, Baluchistan*.—
15. *Chief Commissioner, Ajmer-Merwara*.—No remarks.
16. *Hyderabad State*.—There are rules and regulations for weeding out records generally, but this does not refer to the old records of the Daftar-i-Dewani and Mal which are irreplaceable and very carefully preserved.
17. *Mysore State*.—No remarks (*vide* reply to Question No. 1).
18. *Baroda State*.—The weeding is done regularly.
19. *Travancore State*.—The record are weeded and arranged.
20. *Gwalior State*.—Yes.
21. *Kashmir State*.—No reply received.
22. *Jaipur State*.—No remarks (*vide* answer to Question No. 1).
23. *Indore State*.—
24. *Jodhpur State*.—No reply received.
25. *Bikaner State*.—No reply received.
26. *Mewar State*.—No reply received.
27. *Patiala State*.—Generally speaking such papers or records are destroyed as have become useless or being made useless by the ravages of time.
28. *Mayurbhanj State*.—Records are weeded according to rules of B. & O. Records Room Manual.
29. *Cochin State*.—The records were weeded in the time of Sir A. R. Banerjee, Dewan of Cochin. Unimportant records were apparently weeded out.
30. *Kolhapur State*.—The weeding out of records is being done and papers regarding administration only are being weeded out. This is according to rules existing in the State.
31. *Manipur State*.—No remarks.
32. *Cooch Behar State*.—Records are weeded from time to time by a Committee appointed by the State Council. Old and obsolete papers which lose all their importance are destroyed after examination.
33. *Tripura State*.—No reply received.
34. *Pudukkottai State*.—Files are classified as important, of temporary importance and unimportant. Those of importance are retained permanently. Under this system there is no chance of documents of historical importance being destroyed.
35. *Sangli State*.—Some records (relating to Treasury Office) was formerly weeded according to the rules in the State.
36. *Patna State*.—No remarks (*vide* answer to Question No. 1).
37. *Tehri Garhwal State*.—No remarks (*vide* answer to Question No. 1).
38. *Dhenkanal State*.—Some of the records are weeded out. They were mostly of settlement and law references.

Question No. 11.—Is there a good reference library attached to the research room of the Records Office?

REPLIES.

1. *India Government*.—Yes.
2. *Madras Government*.—There is a good reference library in the Madras Record Office which can be consulted by research students.
3. *Bombay Government*.—There is a good reference collection of publications for which a card index is available; but it has not been found practicable to maintain it in library fashion, classified according to subject, etc.
4. *Bengal Government*.—Yes.
5. *The Punjab Government*.—Yes, a good reference library of old, rare and out of print books relating to the history of Northern India is attached to the Punjab Records Office.
6. *United Provinces Government*.—There is no separate research room in the Secretariat Record Room or in the Board's Record Room. There is, however, a library in the Secretariat as well as in the Board's Office.
7. *Central Provinces Government*.—No reply received.
8. *Bihar Government*.—No remarks.
9. *Assam Government*.—Does not arise.
10. *N.-W. F. P. Government*.—
11. *Orissa Government*.—Not answered.
12. *Sind Government*.—There is no separate Research Room and therefore the research work is being done by the scholars in the Government Records Office and the facility of obtaining the necessary books from the Reference Library which is situated in the Secretariat Buildings is given to them.
13. *Chief Commissioner, Delhi*.—Please see answers to Questions Nos. 13-15.
14. *Chief Commissioner, Baluchistan*.—
15. *Chief Commissioner, Ajmer-Merwara*.—
16. *Hyderabad State*.—The nucleus of a Reference Library, and even something more than a Reference Library so far as manuscripts and printed works on Deccan History are concerned, is already in existence. Owing to war exigencies, no great additions have been made to the collection since 1939.
17. *Mysore State*.—No remarks (*vide* reply to Question No. 1).
18. *Baroda State*.—Yes.
19. *Travancore State*.—There is no research room for reference library in the Records Office, as necessity therefore has not arisen.

20. *Gwalior State*.—No. There is neither a Research Section.
21. *Kashmir State*.—No reply received.
22. *Jaipur State*.—No remarks (*vide answer to Question No. 1*).
23. *Indore State*.—
24. *Jodhpur State*.—No reply received.
25. *Bikaner State*.—No reply received.
26. *Mewar State*.—No reply received.
27. *Patiala State*.—The Foreign Office of which the Records Office is only a section maintains a fairly good library containing among others, all the important publications bearing on the History of the Punjab.
28. *Mayurbhanj State*.—There is no necessity for it.
29. *Cochin State*.—Yes.
30. *Kolhapur State*.—There is no such library.
31. *Manipur State*.—There are no good libraries in Manipur as yet.
32. *Cooch Behar State*.—There is a State Library very near to all the record rooms which contains many reference works.
33. *Tripura State*.—No reply received.
34. *Puduchkottai State*.—The Library of H. H. the Raja's College, which is not far from the Darbar Office, is a good reference library to which the public can have access with the permission of the Darbar.
35. *Sangli State*.—No.
36. *Patna State*.—No remarks (*vide answer to Question No. 1*).
37. *Tehri Garhwal State*.—Ditto.
38. *Dhenkanal State*.—No.

Question No. 12.—Is an annual report of the work of the Records Office submitted to the Commission?

REPLIES.

1. *India Government*.—Yes.
2. *Madras Government*.—The annual reports on the working of the Records Office is sent to the Imperial Record Department as well as to the Government of India. One of these is placed before the Commission by the Secretary.
3. *Bombay Government*.—No annual report has been published since 1931. It has been discontinued for reasons of economy. A copy of the report used to be sent to the Keeper of Records to the Government of India, Imperial Record Department, in the usual course of distribution.
4. *Bengal Government*.—Yes. A copy is placed before the Commission.
5. *The Punjab Government*.—No.
6. *United Provinces Government*.—No report has been so far submitted to the Commission.
7. *Central Provinces Government*.—No reply received.
8. *Bihar Government*.—No remarks.
9. *Assam Government*.—No.
10. *N. W. F. P. Government*.—
11. *Orissa Government*.—Not answered.
12. *Sind Government*.—No.
13. *Chief Commissioner, Delhi*.—
14. *Chief Commissioner, Baluchistan*.—
15. *Chief Commissioner, Ajmer-Merwara*.—No remarks.
16. *Hyderabad State*.—No.
17. *Mysore State*.—No remarks (*vide reply to Question No. 1*).
18. *Baroda State*.—Yes, in the Secretary's Library of the State.
19. *Travancore State*.—No.
20. *Gwalior State*.—No.
21. *Kashmir State*.—No reply received.
22. *Jaipur State*.—No remarks (*vide answer to Question No. 1*).
23. *Indore State*.—
24. *Jodhpur State*.—No reply received.
25. *Bikaner State*.—Ditto.
26. *Mewar State*.—No reply received.
27. *Patiala State*.—Not answered.
28. *Mayurbhanj State*.—No.
29. *Cochin State*.—No.
30. *Kolhapur State*.—No such report is submitted.
31. *Manipur State*.—No remarks necessary.
32. *Cooch Behar State*.—No.
33. *Tripura State*.—No reply received.
34. *Puduchkottai State*.—No.
35. *Sangli State*.—No.
36. *Patna State*.—No remarks (*vide answer to Question No. 1*).
37. *Tehri Garhwal State*.—Ditto.
38. *Dhenkanal State*.—No.

Secretary's Note.—Resolution VI of the first meeting of the I.H.R.C. recommended that annual reports should be prepared and exchanged.

Question No. 13.—Are the old district records kept in the district offices or at the headquarters of the Province?

REPLIES.

1. *India Government*.—Not concerned.
2. *Madras Government*.—All the English records of the Collectors from the earliest times upto 1856 have been taken in by the Madras Record Office. Records from 1857—92 will be taken in after the War. A few unimportant records in Indian languages alone of the Company's period, remain in the Collectorate.
3. *Bombay Government*.—The District records are either in the district or, in a few cases (Pre-1857 record) in the Alienation Office, Poona. There is no district record at the Headquarters of the Province, viz. Bombay.
4. *Bengal Government*.—In the district offices. The question of centralisation of district records has been shelved for the emergency period.
5. *The Punjab Government*.—The Old district records are kept in the district offices.
6. *United Provinces Government*.—Some of the Old Records are kept in the district offices.
7. *Central Provinces Government*.—No reply received.
8. *Bihar Government*.—The District records are kept in the District Offices.
9. *Assam Government*.—In Districts.
10. *N. W. F. P. Government*.—
11. *Orissa Government*.—In the District Offices.
12. *Sind Government*.—The old district records are not kept at the Headquarters, but in the District Offices.
13. *Chief Commissioner, Delhi*.—There are five kinds of records in the District office, viz. :—
(1) Office Records, (2) Sub Registrar's Records, (3) General Records, (4) Revenue Records and (5) Tehsil Records.

The first four are kept in the Deputy Commissioner's Office and the fifth in the Tehsil Office. The records are regularly inspected and are in charge of a Subordinate Officer. Records 2—5 are maintained and weeded periodically according to rules and regulations laid down in various manuals.

14. *Chief Commissioner, Baluchistan*.—
15. *Chief Commissioner, Ajmer-Merwara*.—No remarks.
16. *Hyderabad State*.—At present the old district records are kept in the District Offices.
17. *Mysore State*.—The Old District Records are not kept at the headquarters of the State but in the District Record Offices attached to the respective Districts.
18. *Baroda State*.—District records are sent periodically to the Central Records Office in Baroda.
19. *Travancore State*.—The old records belonging to the district and taluk offices are now kept in the Huzur Central Records.
20. *Gwalior State*.—Yes. They are generally kept in the headquarters of the Districts.
21. *Kashmir State*.—No reply received.
22. *Jaipur State*.—No remarks (*vide answer to Question No. 1*).
23. *Indore State*.—
24. *Jodhpur State*.—No reply received.
25. *Bikaner State*.—Ditto.
26. *Mewar State*.—Ditto.
27. *Patiala State*.—In Districts.
28. *Mayurbhanj State*.—There are no old records.
29. *Cochin State*.—No answer necessary.
30. *Kolhapur State*.—The Old District Records are kept at the Headquarters (Kolhapur).
31. *Manipur State*.—No remarks necessary.
32. *Cooch Behar State*.—In the headquarters of the State.
33. *Tripura State*.—No reply received.
34. *Puduchkottai State*.—All important records are kept at the headquarters of the State.
35. *Sangli State*.—The records of the Taluka Offices are kept at the Taluka headquarters.
36. *Patna State*.—No remarks (*vide answer to Question No. 1*).
37. *Tehri Garhwal State*.—Ditto.

38. *Dhenkanal State*.—Questions 13-19 cannot be answered as no such provision or rules exist in the State at present. It is under contemplation to take necessary action in that direction in the near future.

Question No. 14.—Are the old district records open for bonafide research? If so, are there any rules governing access to these records, and upto what period are these records open for research?

REPLIES

1. *India Government*.—Not concerned.
2. *Madras Government*.—All the District records upto 1856 which are in Madras Records Office are thrown open for research. The rules governing access to records apply to these records also.
3. *Bombay Government*.—No. Government would dispose of any request on merits on application being made to it for access to any particular record.
4. *Bengal Government*.—This question never took any definite shape. Research scholars are given facilities by the Provincial Government. Research scholars have, so far, evinced no zeal for work in the district offices.

5. *The Punjab Government.*—The question of access to and the period upto which the record are open for *bonafide* research are for the District Officers to decide in case a scholar wishes to consult them. No rules exist for access to these records for historical research and no such need has so far arisen.

6. *United Provinces Government.*—Yes. But it is very seldom that facilities are demanded by research scholars for examining them.

7. *Central Provinces Government.*—No reply received.

8. *Bihar Government.*—There are no rules giving access to these records.

9. *Assam Government.*—Yes. A copy of the rules is enclosed.

10. *N. W. F. P. Government.*—

11. *Orissa Government.*—Yes, with special permission of the Collector of the Distt. concerned. There are no rules.

12. *Sind Government.*—Information is not readily available. No rules have been framed.

13. *Chief Commissioner, Delhi.*—The records of the District Office are open to public inspection during office hours on payment of a prescribed fee and in the presence of a clerk. The records of Deputy Commissioner's office do not afford any scope for historical research.

14. *Chief Commissioner, Baluchistan.*—

15. *Chief Commissioner, Ajmer-Merwara.*—No remarks.

16. *Hyderabad State.*—No rules have so far been framed governing access to these records but as regional surveys are intended to be undertaken by the State Historical Records commission as regards which proposals have already been sent to Government, it is expected that, in the course of regional surveys, the question of framing of rules governing access to records in district offices will also be taken up.

17. *Mysore State.*—No special rules have been framed governing access to these records or for affording facilities for research. Each individual requisition of a *bonafide* nature will be considered on merits by the Presiding Officer in charge of the Records who will permit, if necessary, with the previous approval of the Government the records of the selected years being looked into the Record Room during Office hours on working days.

18. *Baroda State.*—No; the district records are sent to the Central records office where they may be studied.

19. *Travancore State.*—The bulk of the old district and taluk records relate to revenue administration and they are mainly useful in regard to administrative purposes. Copies of those records are generally granted to *bonafide* applicants.

20. *Gwalior State.*—No.

21. *Kashmir State.*—No reply received.

22. *Jaipur State.*—No remarks (*vide* answer to Question No. 1).

23. *Indore State.*—

24. *Jodhpur State.*—No reply received.

25. *Bikaner State.*—No reply received.

26. *Mewar State.*—No reply received.

27. *Patiala State.*—Not answered.

28. *Mayurbhanj State.*—There is no necessity for it for the present.

29. *Cochin State.*—No answer necessary.

30. *Kolhapur State.*—These records are not open for research work. No attempt, however, has hitherto been made by any one in this line.

31. *Manipur State.*—No remarks necessary.

32. *Cooch Behar State.*—*Vide* replies to Questions Nos. 3 and 5.

33. *Tripura State.*—No reply received.

34. *Pudukottai State.*—Does not arise.

35. *Sangli State.*—No.

36. *Patna State.*—No remarks (*vide* answer to Question No. 1).

37. *Tehri Garhwal State.*—Ditto.

38. *Dhenkanal State.*—No remarks (*vide* answer to Question No. 13).

Question No. 15.—What facilities are given for research from the district records?

REPLIES

1. *India Government.*—Not concerned.

2. *Madras Government.*—Please see answer at No. 14.

3. *Bombay Government.*—None, except as above in answer to Question No. 14.

4. *Bengal Government.*—*Vide* reply to Question No. 14.

5. *The Punjab Government.*—*Vide* reply to Question No. 14.

6. *United Provinces Government.*—All reasonable facilities are given when any *bonafide* research scholar asks for them.

7. *Central Provinces Government.*—No reply received.

8. *Bihar Government.*—Facilities for research are given when applied for.

9. *Assam Government.*—Please see answer to Question No. 14.

10. *N. W. F. P. Government.*—

11. *Orissa Government.*—Sitting arrangement is with the clerks. Records are not indexed and the researchers experience great difficulty in getting hold of the necessary documents as the record keepers are not familiar with old records.

12. *Sind Government.*—Please see reply to Question No. 14.

13. *Chief Commissioner, Delhi.*—Please see reply to Question No. 14. In view of the position explained under the previous questions no detailed reply to the questionnaire is furnished.

14. *Chief Commissioner, Baluchistan.*—

15. *Chief Commissioner, Ajmer-Merwara.*—All local heads of Departments were instructed to render every possible assistance to research students who want to consult the annual reports of the District and other papers. Records of confidential nature are not open to them.

16. *Hyderabad State.*—*Vide* answer to Question No. 14.

17. *Mysore State.*—Please see answer to Question No. 14.

18. *Baroda State.*—*Vide* reply to Question No. 14.

19. *Travancore State.*—*Vide* answer to Question No. 14.

20. *Gwalior State.*—None.

21. *Kashmir State.*—No reply received.

22. *Jaipur State.*—No remarks (*vide* answer to Question No. 1).

23. *Indore State.*—

24. *Jodhpur State.*—No reply received.

25. *Bikaner State.*—No reply received.

26. *Mewar State.*—No reply received.

27. *Patiala State.*—Not answered.

28. *Mayurbhanj State.*—There is no necessity for it for the present.

29. *Cochin State.*—No answer necessary.

30. *Kolhapur State.*—Please see answer to Question No. 14.

31. *Manipur State.*—No remarks necessary.

32. *Cooch Behar State.*—*Vide* replies to Questions Nos. 3 and 5.

33. *Tripura State.*—No reply received.

34. *Pudukottai State.*—Does not arise.

35. *Sangli State.*—The question does not arise.

36. *Patna State.*—No remarks. (*vide* answers to Question No. 1.)

37. *Tehri Garhwal State.*—No remarks (*vide* answer to Question No. 1).

38. *Dhenkanal State.*—No remarks (*vide* answer to Question No. 13).

Question No. 16.—Does the Provincial Records Office take over to its custody the old records belonging to the High Court and Small Causes Court?

REPLIES

1. *India Government.*—Not concerned.

2. *Madras Government.*—The records of the High Court and Small Causes Court are not transferred to the Madras Records Office. But the records of the Old Mayor's Court, the Coroner and the Sheriff have been transferred to the Madras Records Office. In the High Court the records are being looked after by persons trained in archivism in the Madras Records Office.

3. *Bombay Government.*—No. A few records of the High Court for the period 1792 which were in the Records Office were transferred in 1921 to the High Court.

4. *Bengal Government.*—No.

5. *The Punjab Government.*—Yes.

6. *United Provinces Government.*—No.

7. *Central Provinces Government.*—No reply received.

8. *Bihar Government.*—No remarks.

9. *Assam Government.*—No.

10. *N. W. F. P. Government.*—

11. *Orissa Government.*—Not answered.

12. *Sind Government.*—No.

13. *Chief Commissioner, Delhi.*—Please see answers to Questions Nos. 13—15.

14. *Chief Commissioner, Baluchistan.*—

15. *Chief Commissioner, Ajmer-Merwara.*—No remarks.

16. *Hyderabad State.*—No.

17. *Mysore State.*—The Central Record room of the respective divisions takes over to its custody the records belonging to the Small Causes Court and also of other Subordinate Courts, but the records of the High Court are maintained separately in the High Court record room.

18. *Baroda State.*—Yes.

19. *Travancore State.*—No.

20. *Gwalior State.*—No.

21. *Kashmir State.*—No reply received.

22. *Jaipur State.*—No remarks. (*vide* answer to Question No. 1).

23. *Indore State.*—

24. *Jodhpur State.*—No reply received.

25. *Bikaner State.*—No reply received.

26. *Mewar State.*—No reply received.

27. *Patiala State.*—No.

28. *Mayurbhanj State.*—All judicial records including that of the High Court are kept in the Record Room.

29. *Cochin State.*—No.

30. *Kolhapur State.*—The High Court records are transferred to the Provincial record.

31. *Manipur State.*—No remarks necessary.

32. *Cooch Behar State.*—Records of the High Court are preserved in Council Records Office. Records of other Civil Courts, of Small Causes are kept in the Records Office of the Civil and Sessions Judge. Criminal records are kept in the Criminal Record Room under the District Magistrate.

33. *Tripura State.*—No reply received.

34. *Pudukkottai State*.—The Darbar will examine the question of transferring to its own office or the State Museum, documents or Copper Plates of historical interest kept in the old and 'disposed of' files of the Chief Court.

35. *Sangli State*.—There is a separate Records Office for the Civil Courts. (Information in this connection will have to be obtained from the Civil Record Keeper.)

36. *Patna State*.—No remarks, (vide answer to Question No. 1.)

37. *Tehri Garhwal State*.—Ditto.

38. *Dhenkanal State*.—No remarks. (vide answer to Question No. 13).

Question No. 17.—Are the records belonging to the Courts mentioned in question No. 16 weeded periodically. If so, what rules are followed for weeding these records? If there be no rules does the Provincial Government/India State Government think it desirable to consult the Indian Historical Records Commission before framing any such rules?

REPLIES.

1. *India Government*.—Not concerned.

2. *Madras Government*.—Rules have been framed by the High Court for the destruction of valueless records under Act V of 1917.

3. *Bombay Government*.—Yes. The rules for the weeding of the old records of the Bombay High Court and the Court of Small Causes, Bombay, are framed by His Majesty's High Court of Judicature at Bombay, under Section 3 of the Destruction of Records Act, 1917. The rules for the destruction of records on the Appellate Side of the High Court are published in Chapter XXII of the "Rules of the High Court of Judicature at Bombay, Appellate Side, 1936". The rules for the records on the Original Side of the High Court are published as Rules 906 and 907 of the "Rules and Forms of the High Court of Judicature at Bombay, on the Original Side in its several Jurisdiction". The rules regarding the records of the Court of Small Causes, Bombay, are published under High Court Notification No. 1110 dated the 16th February 1924. (A copy each of the rules placed before the Commission.)

4. *Bengal Government*.—The Government have no definite information about the records of the Small Causes Court or how the weeding is done there or whether the weeding is done at all. The High Court records are weeded periodically under the supervision of responsible officers. The Government have no information about rules for weeding of undesirable records in the High Court. This point was referred to the Judicial Department of this Government some time back on a similar question raised by the Indian Historical Records Commission and is still under consideration. The Provincial Government would be only too glad to consult the Indian Historical Records Commission when the question of framing rules for the weeding of High Court or Small Causes Court records are taken up. But the present moment does not seem opportune for the purpose.

5. *The Punjab Government*.—Yes, these records are weeded by the Keeper of the Records at his own discretion. The Punjab Government do not contemplate framing any rules in this connection.

6. *United Provinces Government*.—The weeding rules are contained in Chapter XXII of the Rules of the High Court, chapter VII of the General Rules (Civil), Volume I, Rules of the Chief Court of Oudh and the Oudh Civil Rules, Volume I.

7. *Central Provinces Government*.—No reply received.

8. *Bihar Government*.—No remarks.

9. *Assam Government*.—Court records are preserved and destroyed according to the High Court rules Nos. 552-562 and the Calcutta High Court may be referred to on this point.

10. *N. W. F. P. Government*.—

11. *Orissa Government*.—Not answered.

12. *Sind Government*.—Yes. (A copy of the rules has been sent to the Indian Historical Records Commission).

13. *Chief Commissioner, Delhi*.—Please see answers to Questions Nos. 13—15.

14. *Chief Commissioner, Baluchistan*.—

15. *Chief Commissioner, Ajmer-Merwara*.—No remarks.

16. *Hyderabad State*.—The records of the Courts are weeded out periodically the procedure of weeding out being governed by special rules obtaining in most Departments of the State. These rules are made under an Act applicable to the whole of the Dominions. (If the Historical Records Commission has been consulted in the framing of any such rules by Provincial or State Government, could the Daftar-i-Dewani be supplied with a copy of such suggestions for their revision as may have been made by the Historical Records Commission as, in that event, the Standing Committee appointed to regulate the preservation, editing and publication of documents in the Daftar-i-Dewani will be able to bear them in mind when revising the rules obtaining in the state in the different Departments. The question of revising those rules has already been referred to the Standing Committee and it would much help that Committee if the suggestions of the Historical Records Commission were to be placed before it.)

17. *Mysore State*.—Yes. The rules already framed in this respect are in force. A copy of the rules is placed before the Commission.

18. *Baroda State*.—There are rules governing the weeding out of unnecessary parts from the Court records.

19. *Travancore State*.—See answer to Question No. 16.

20. *Gwalior State*.—Files are weeded in accordance 6. with the Records Manual.

21. *Kashmir State*.—No reply received.

22. *Jaipur State*.—No remarks. (vide answer to Question No. 1).

23. *Indore State*.—

24. *Jodhpur State*.—No reply received.

25. *Bikaner State*.—No reply received.

26. *Mewar State*.—No reply received.

27. *Patiala State*.—Not answered.

28. *Mayurbhanj State*.—There is no necessity for it.

29. *Cochin State*.—Rules laid down by the High Court.

30. *Kolhapur State*.—These records are weeded out according to High Court Circular Orders.

31. *Manipur State*.—No remarks necessary.

32. *Cooch Behar State*.—Rules of Calcutta High Court are followed in this matter.

33. *Tripura State*.—No reply received.

34. *Pudukkottai State*.—Vide reply to Question No. 16.

35. *Sangli State*.—Answer as No. 16.

36. *Patna State*.—No remarks, (vide answer to Question No. 1).

37. *Tehri Garhwal State*.—Ditto.

38. *Dhenkanal State*.—No remarks, (vide answer to Question No. 13.)

Secretary's Note.—The Calcutta High Court has agreed to consult a member of the Commission in assessing the value of their records marked for weeding.

Question No. 18.—Does the Provincial Government/Indian State Government extend its patronage to any learned Society of the Province/State possessing valuable manuscript records? If so, is there any condition attending the patronage that research facilities should be given by the Society?

REPLIES.

1. *India Government*.—The Government of India grant annual subventions to certain leading institution.

2. *Madras Government*.—No.

3. *Bombay Government*.—Grants are at present given by the Government of Bombay to 10 research societies in the Province. Of these (i) the Bharat Itihas Samshodhaka Mandala, Poona, (ii) The Rajwade Samshodhak Mandal, Dhulia, (iii) the Karnatak Historical Research Society, Dharwar, (iv) the Gujarat Vernacular Society, Ahmedabad, and (v) the Deccan College Post-graduate and Research Institute, Poona, are in possession of manuscript records. There is, however, no condition attached to the payment of grant to these bodies that they should give research facilities.

The Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute, Poona, which is in receipt of a special grant from the Government of Bombay for the Government Manuscript Library, has framed definite rules, relating to the grant of research facilities, as this is a condition of the grant. The Institute accordingly gives the necessary facilities to research scholars and, in certain cases, manuscripts are given on loan to scholars in and out of India.

Government also gives grants to the Bombay Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society. The Society affords free facilities to all interested in historical archives.

The Kanada Research Institute, Dharwar, which is a Government Institute, also provides for the necessary research facilities.

4. *Bengal Government*.—No learned Society has so far approached the Provincial Government for this purpose.

5. *The Punjab Government*.—There is no learned Society in the Punjab possessing valuable manuscript records. The Punjab University, which is a properly aided body, offers all facilities to scholars for consulting the old manuscripts preserved in its library.

6. *United Provinces Government*.—The United Provinces Historical Society which receives a recurring grant of Rs. 1,500 per annum possesses certain Sanskrit manuscripts which are now housed in the Provincial Museum, Lucknow. The Curator of the Museum who is also the Editor of the Society's Journal, gives facilities for study and reference.

7. *Central Provinces Government*.—No reply received.

8. *Bihar Government*.—Yes, to the Bihar and Orissa Research Society, but no condition has been imposed that the Society should give research facilities. The Society however of its own accord give such facilities to casual Research Scholars and the Scholars are advised by the Society to be members in which case books are lent to them.

9. *Assam Government*.—Yes, but the patronage is extended (to Kamrup Anusandhan Samity & Antiquarian Studies, Sreehatta Sahitya Parishad, Muslim Sahitya Sangsad, Sylhet and Assam Sahitya Sabha) without any conditions.

10. *N. W. F. P. Government*.—

11. *Orissa Government*.—Yes, to Utkal Sahitya Samaj, and the Provincial Museum. They possess valuable Manuscript records which are open for bonafide research.

12. *Sind Government*.—No.

13. *Chief Commissioner, Delhi*.—Please see answers to Questions Nos. 13—15.

14. *Chief Commissioner, Baluchistan*.—

15. *Chief Commissioner, Ajmer-Merwara*.—No remarks.

16. *Hyderabad State*.—In extending patronage to learned societies so far, no such condition has been observed but the suggestion is an excellent one and will be borne in mind in cases of future patronage being extended to such societies. It is also intended to bear the suggestion in mind when such societies already getting grants approach Governments for annual renewal of the grant of any increase.

17. *Mysore State*.—No such society (in the State) has so far prayed for any patronage from this Government.

18. *Baroda State*.—The State gave patronage by cash donation to (1) the Mimamsa Grantha Prasarak Samiti, Poona, (ii) the Vaidik Sansodhana Mandal, Poona, (iii) the Swadhyaya Mandal Aundh, and (iv) the International Academy of Indian Culture, Lahore, to promote their activities in general or to help them in bringing out research publications. No such condition as stated in the question has been imposed. His Highness the Maharaja Gaekwad is also the patron of the Mahabodhi Society and Buddhist Association, Calcutta; the Gujarat Research Society, Bombay, and the Bombay Natural History Society.

19. *Travancore State*.—There is no such society in the State.

20. *Gwalior State*.—No grants are given from the Record Department to Societies of the nature mentioned.

21. *Kashmir State*.—No reply received.

22. *Jaipur State*.—No remarks (*vide answer to Question No. 1*).

23. *Indore State*.—

24. *Jodhpur State*.—No reply received.

25. *Bikaner State*.—No reply received.

26. *Mewar State*.—No reply received.

27. *Patiala State*.—Not answered.

28. *Mayurbhanj State*.—The Archaeological Department of the State is maintained for research work in the State.

29. *Cochin State*.—Yes.

30. *Kolhapur State*.—No such patronage is extended nor is it demanded.

31. *Manipur State*.—No remarks necessary.

32. *Cooch Behar State*.—An annual grant is made to Cooch Bihar Sahitya Sabha. H. H. the Maharaja Bhup Bahadur being himself the patron no condition is deemed to be necessary that research facilities should be granted. Please see in this connection answer to Question No. 7.

33. *Tripura State*.—No reply received.

34. *Pudukkottai State*.—The Darbar are giving a monthly grant of Rs. 50 to the Tamil Sangam at Madura, one of the foremost learned Societies in the Tamil Country. They believed that the manuscript in the Sangam Library are open to research scholars.

35. *Sangli State*.—Not answered.

36. *Patna State*.—No remarks. (*vide answer to Question No. 1*.)

37. *Tehri Garhwal State*.—Ditto.

38. *Dhenkanal State*.—No remarks (*vide answer to Question No. 13*.)

Question No. 19.—Does the Provincial Government/Indian State Government think that the Indian Historical Records Commission can be of any service to it in connection with any of the points mentioned above.

REPLIES.

1. *India Government*.—The Indian Historical Records Commission was reconstituted with an adjunct, Local Records Sub-Committee. It always welcomes suggestions and advice from these bodies.

2. *Madras Government*.—Since the Province has organised a Central Records Office on scientific lines and taken all the necessary measures for the safe custody and preservation of the archives of the Province for the services of the Commission are not at present required in connection with any of the foregoing points. The advice of the Commission will be sought for whenever it is necessary.

3. *Bombay Government*.—For the present, the Government of Bombay does not require any help from the Indian Historical Records Commission on any specific point. The Government has in the past taken the help of the Indian Historical Records Commission when necessary, e.g., with regard to the Peshwas' Daftar, and it will do so in future also.

4. *Bengal Government*.—There can be no doubt about the usefulness of the Indian Historical Records Commission in connection with some of the points in the Questionnaire. The Provincial Government would welcome help in any form from this body but during the period of emergency this Government would prefer postponement of any new enterprise.

5. *The Punjab Government*.—The Punjab Government is regularly represented on the Indian Historical Records Commission and is, therefore, in direct touch with that body and its Research and Publication Committee. It is presumed that the Punjab Representative consults the Commission when he feels the need of doing so and the recommendations of the Commission receive careful consideration by Government.

6. *United Provinces Government*.—The Government will be glad to consult the Commission whenever necessary.

7. *Central Provinces Government*.—No reply received.

8. *Bihar Government*.—Not at present.

9. *Assam Government*.—Not at present.

10. *N. W. F. P. Government*.—

11. *Orissa Government*.—May be requisitioned whenever necessary.

12. *Sind Government*.—Yes, but the assistance of the Commission will be sought after the war, as most of its recommendations have been postponed for the duration of the war.

13. *Chief Commissioner, Delhi*.—Please see answers to Questions Nos. 13^a–15.

14. *Chief Commissioner, Baluchistan*.—

15. *Chief Commissioner, Ajmer-Merwara*.—No remarks.

16. *Hyderabad State*.—The Government of H. E. H. the Nizam has already appointed a Special Standing Committee which advises in this connection, and the Department has also the benefit of the experience and knowledge of the representatives of the Government, on Indian Historical Records Commission. The Standing Committee and the Department have always given the greatest attention to the recommendations of the Indian Historical Records Commission and have found them in general to be of great value.

17. *Mysore State*.—The Commission will be consulted if a need should arise.

18. *Baroda State*.—The State has in the past availed itself of the services of the members of the Commission, like Mr. H. G. Rawlinson and Dr. Balakrishna.

19. *Travancore State*.—This Government will consult the Commission whenever it is deemed necessary.

20. *Gwalior State*.—At present there does not appear any necessity for assistance. As and when occasions arise, assistance from the Commission will be sought.

21. *Kashmir State*.—No reply received.

22. *Jaipur State*.—No remarks. (*vide answer to Question No. 1*).

23. *Indore State*.—His Highness' Government would welcome every help and advice offered by the Indian Historical Records Commission.

24. *Jodhpur State*.—No reply received.

25. *Bikaner State*.—No reply received.

26. *Mewar State*.—No reply received.

27. *Patiala State*.—His Highness' Government are grateful for the services volunteered by the Secretary, Indian Historical Records Commission in respect of the organisation of records. The offer will be thankfully availed of should the need for it arise in the future.

28. *Mayurbhanj State*.—The State Government will always seek advice from the Indian Historical Records Commission when occasion will arise.

29. *Cochin State*.—The commission has already been of great service to the State and the Government will continue to avail of their services whenever necessity arises.

30. *Kolhapur State*.—The Indian Historical Records Commission is certainly a very useful body and its services will be requisitioned at the right time.

31. *Manipur State*.—The Indian Historical Records Commission will be of immense service to the State in all the points.

32. *Cooch Behar State*.—No.

33. *Tripura State*.—No reply received.

34. *Pudukkottai State*.—The Darbar will gladly apply to the Commission for any help or advice of which they may be in need. One of their officers represents them on the Commission and they refer to him for report, all questions bearing on historical research.

35. *Sangli State*.—Any general instructions from the Indian Historical Records Commission will be guiding to the State Department in preserving the records.

36. *Patna State*.—No remarks. (*vide answer to Question No. 1*).

37. *Tehri Garhwal State*.—Ditto.

38. *Dhenkanal State*.—No remarks. (*vide answer to Question No. 13*).

Secretary's Note.—It is a matter of great satisfaction that the Provincial and State Governments appreciate the services of the Commission.

APPENDIX D.

Summaries of the replies received from the Provincial Governments and Indian States who were addressed to set up Regional Survey Committees in accordance with Resolutions V and I of the Third and Fourth meetings of the Research and Publication Committee respectively.

1. The following Provinces and Indian States have set up Committees:—

1. *Madras*.—Rao Bahadur C. S. Srinivasachari has constituted the Committee with the following persons as members:—

(1) Rao Bahadur Dr. B. S. Baliga, M.A., Ph.D., Chittoor, (2) Prof. K. A. Nilakantha Sastriar M.A., Madras University, (3) Dr. N. Venkataramaniam, M.A., Ph.D., Madras University, (4) Mr. V. R. Ramchandra Dikshitar, Madras University, (5) Mr. R. Satyanatha Aiyar, M.A., Annamalai University, Guntur, (6) Mr. Gurty Venkat Rao, M.A., Andhra University, (7) Mr. K.R. Venkatarama Aiyar, M.A., L.T., Pudukottah, (8) Mons. Gnanou Diagou Mudaliar, Advocate, Singirikoil-P.O., Pondicherry, French India, (9) Mr. T. N. Ramachandran, M.A., Superintendent, Archaeological Survey, Southern Circle, Chandragiri, (10) Mr. T. G. Aravamudhan, M.A., B.L., Advocate, Kilpauk, Madras, (11) Dr. P. Srinivasachari, M.A., Ph.D., Principal, S. B. College, Bezvada, (12) Dr. M. Rama Rao, M.A., Ph.D., Hindu College, Guntur, (13) Diwan Bahadur T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai, B.A., B.L., President, Hindu Religious Endowments Board, Madras, (14) Rao Bahadur C. M. Ramchandran Chettiar, B.A., B.L., Member, Hindu Religious Endowments Board, Madras, (15) Mr. A. S. Manuadi Nayar, M.A., B.L., Member, Hindu Religious Endowments Board, Madras, (16) Mr. B. V. Krishna Rao, M.A., B.L., Member, Hindu Religious Endowments Board, Madras, (17) The Secretary, Office of the Hindu Religious Endowments, Madras, (18) Mr. J. M. Somasundaram, B.A., B.L., Manager, Devasthanam, Palni, (19) Mr. C. Sivaramurti, M.A., Curator, Archaeological Section, Government Museum, Madras, (20) The Editor, Andhra Historical Research Society Journal, Rajahmundry, (21) Diwan Bahadur Dr. S. Krishnaswami Aiyangar, M.A., Ph.D., 143 Brodie's Road, Mylapore, Madras, (22) Rao Bahadur K. V. Rangaswami Aiyangar, M.A., Bimanpet, Mylapore, Madras, (23) Diwan Bahadur K. S. Ramaswami Sastriar, B.A., B.L., Retired District Judge, Lloyd's Lane, Royapettah, Madras

(24) D. S. Reddy, Esq., Divisional Inspector of Schools, Anantapur, (25) Dr. S. M. H. Nainar M.A., Ph.D., Head of the Dept. of Arabic and Urdu, University of Madras, (26) Bashir Ahmed Sayyid Sahib Bahadur, M.A., B.L., Advocate, 25, Angappa Naicken Street, G.T. Madras, (27) Khan Bahadur P. Kalifullah Sahib Bahadur, First Councillor, Pudukottah, (28) Khan Bahadur Dr. M. Abdul Huq Sahib Bahadur, Principal, Government Muhammadan College, Madras, (29) Ahmed Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur, Advocate, Madras, (30) P. Anujan Achan Esq., B.A., State Archaeologist, Cochin, Ernakulam, (31) Prof. K. Rama Pisharoti, M.A., Maharaja's College, Ernakulam, Cochin, (32) Prof. K. R. Subrahmanyam, M.A., L.T., Ph.D., Maharaja's College, Vizianagram.

2. *United Provinces*.—Dr. Tara Chand has set up the Committee with the following persons as members :—

(1) *President*.—Dr. Tara Chand, Principal, Kayastha Pathshala, University College, Allahabad. (2) *Secretary*.—Mr. Shanti Swarup Gupta (Co-opted), Lecturer in History, University of Allahabad.

(3) *Associate Members*.—(i) Dr. Bisheshwar Prasad, Lecturer in History, University of Allahabad. (ii) Prof. Mohammad Habib, Professor of History, Muslim University, Aligarh, (iii) Dr. Radha Kumud Mookerji, Prof. of History, University of Lucknow, (iv) Prof. S. V. Puntambekar, Professor of History, University of Benares, (v) Prof. J. C. Taluqdar, Professor of History, St. John's College, Agra, (vi) Sk. Abdur Rashid, Lecturer in History, Muslim University, Aligarh.

(4) *Corresponding Members*.—(i) Dr. Nandlal Chatterje, Lecturer in History, University of Lucknow, (ii) Dr. Bool Chand, Lecturer in History, University of Benares, (iii) Ch. Mujtaba Hussain, C.B.E., 9 Butler Road, Lucknow, (iv) Dr. A. Halim, Lecturer in History, Muslim University, Aligarh.

3. *Punjab*.—H. E. the Governor is pleased to constitute a Committee (permanent) to be known as "The Punjab Regional Committee for the Survey of Historical Records" and to appoint the following gentlemen to serve thereon :—

(i) Dr. G. L. Chopra, M.A., Ph.D., Bar-at-Law, Keeper of Records, Punjab Govt., Lahore. (*Chairman*), (ii) Dr. Muhammad Nazim, M.A., Ph.D., Superintendent, Archaeological Survey of India, Frontier Circle, Lahore, *member* (iii) Sardar Ganda Singh, M.A., Sikh History Research Department, Khalsa College, Amritsar, *member* (iv) Dr. Inder Kishen, M.A., Lecturer in History, Dayal Singh College, Lahore, *member* (v) Mr. Muhammad Sadullah, M.A., F.R.H.S. Assistant to the Keeper of Records, Punjab Government, Lahore (*Secretary*).

Note.—The attention of the Punjab Government was drawn to the omission of Professor J. F. Bruce, Associate Member (since resigned and Professor R. R. Sethi appointed in his place) and Lala Sita Ram Kohli (Corresponding Member) from the personnel of the Committee as envisaged in Resolution V of the 18th Session.

Report of the work done by the Punjab Regional Survey Committee.—The programme of work outlined by the Punjab Regional Committee for the Survey of Historical Records is published on page 19 of Part I of the Proceedings of the Indian Historical Records Commission, Vol. XIX.

The provision for the travelling allowances of the members of the Committee having been made, touring of the Ambala division was commenced in February 1943. Nine tours have since been undertaken reports on which have been submitted to the Punjab Government from time to time.

The work so far done comprises a survey of all official records in the Ambala Division preserved in the office of the Commissioner, Ambala and the six district offices and of records in private custody in the Gurgaon, Hissar and Simla districts and in the town of Panipat, district Karnal.

The eight reports submitted to Government on the nine tours cover 205 typed foolscap pages. These contain mention of important old papers preserved in the district offices, e.g., English and Vernacular mutiny records, Moghal *Farmanas*, boundary disputes and the like. The office of the Commissioner Ambala Division contains records as far back as 1803 dealing with the Cis-Sutlej and Simla Hill States and political correspondence about the Lahore Kingdom. The office of the Political Agent, Punjab Hill States, Simla, is similarly rich in materials concerning the history of the Simla Hill States from the Gurkha War. Such of these records as are not required for reference in the district offices are being transferred to the Punjab Record Office for better preservation and utilisation by scholars of history.

Of the records discovered in private custody mention may be made of about three centuries' old Sanskrit and Persian manuscripts discovered in Rewari, Mughal *firmans* dating back to Humayun in the Gurgaon and Karnal districts, coins and ornaments of the Khilji dynasty in the possession of *deotas* in the Simla district and of paintings, old arms and publications housed in the "Viceregal Lodge", "Snowdon" and "Barnes Court" and in the United Service Institution of India, Simla.

4. *North West Frontier Province*.—Mr. S. M. Jaffar has set up the Committee with the following gentlemen as members :—

1. Mr. Q. M. Farid, B.A. (Oxon), Professor of History, Islamia College, Peshawar, 2. Mr. S. S. Gandhi, M.A., Professor of History, Edwards College, Peshawar, 3. Dost Mohammad Khan Kamil, M.A., Advocate Peshawar, 4. Mr. S. M. Jaffar, B.A., M.R.A.S. (Lond.), (*convener*).

The names of a few influential persons in the outlying districts who have also been approached will be communicated later.

5. *Central Provinces and Berar*.—Mr. Y. K. Deshpande has set up the Committee with the following persons as members :—

Associated Members.—1. Mr. Y. K. Deshpande, M.A., LL.B., Sharadashrama, Yeotmal-Berar, 2. Prof. S. N. Banhatti, M.A., LL.B., King Edward College, Amraoti-Berar, 3. Prof. H.

N. Sinha, M.A., Ph.D., Morris College, Nagpur, C.P., 4. Pandit Lochan Prasad Pandeya Mahakosal Historical Society, P.O. Chandrapur, via Raigarh, B.N. Rly., Chattisgarh, C.P.

Co-opted Members (from Hindi C.P.).—1. Mr. Beohar Rajendra Sinha, M.L.A., Landlord and Rais, Jabbalpur City, C.P., 2. Mr. B. L. Saraf, B.A., LL.B., Advocate, Sagar, C.P., 3. Mr. V. B. Rai, B.A., LL.B., Pleader, Rai Bada, P.O. Katani, C.P., 4. Mr. Sukhanandlal Agarwal, B.A., LL.B., Pleader, Raipur, 5. Mr. Rai Sharda Prasad, B.A., LL.B., Pleader, Balaghat, 6. Pandit K. B. L. Agnihotri, B.A., LL.B., Advocate, Bilaspur, 7. Mr. Ratnakar Jha, B.A., LL.B., Pleader, Drug, C.P., 8. Mr. Kasturchand Jain, B.A., LL.B., Advocate, Professor, Law College, Golbazar, Jabbalpur, 9. Mr. Sumerchand Diwakar Jain, B.A., LL.B., Seoni, C.P., 10. Mr. Balchand Malaiya, B.Sc., Proprietor, Hira Oil Mills, Sagar, C.P., 11. Mr. Fulchand Jain, B.A., LL.B., Sub Judge, Khurai, C.P., 12. Mr. Jamna Prasad Jain, M.A., LL.B., M.R.A.S., Bar-at-law, Additional District and Sessions Judge, Chhindawara, 13. Mr. Samir Mal Jain, M.A., LL.B., Banker and Landlord, Sadar Bazar, Nagpur, C.P., 14. Mr. S. L. Katare, M.A., D.Litt., Jabbalpur City, C.P.

Members from Marathi, C.P.—15. Mr. A. R. Deshpande, B.A., LL.B., Sub Judge, Nagpur, C.P., 16. Dr. G. Deshamukha, M.A., LL.B., Ph.D., Professor, Women's College, Nagpur, C.P., 17. Principal, Pandaripande, M.A., City College, Nagpur, 18. Mr. Chatte, Teacher, c/o C.P. Research Association, Nagpur, 19. Major Aga Haidar Hasan, M.A., Professor of Persian, Morris College, Nagpur, 20. Mr. Prayag Datta Sukla, Landlord, Nagpur, 21. Mr. D. G. Landage, B.A., LL.B., Assistant Manager, Provincial Bank Ltd., Nagpur, 22. Professor Hiralal Jain, M.A., LL.B., Morris College, Nagpur, 23. Mr. Anandrao Joshi, M.A., LL.B., Mahal, Nagpur City, 24. Mr. R. Y. Pendsey, M.A., LL.B., Bhandoli, Nagpur, 25. Professor R. M. Sinha, M.A., LL.B., King Edward College, Amraoti, Berar.

Members from Berar.—26. Professor Ghulam Mustafa Khan, M.A., LL.B., King Edward College, Amraoti, 27. Mr. D. B. Mahajan, B.A., Tahsildar, at Pusad, Dist. Yeotmal, 28. Mr. Deolal Ganpatrao Mahajan, Working President, C.P. & Berar, Jain Research Institute, Yeotmal, 29. Mr. Vishnupant Kavimandan, B.A., LL.B., Pleader, Mehkar (District—Bulthana), 30. Mr. S. Y. Sangai, B.A., LL.B., Pleader, at Anjangaon Surji, (Dist.—Amraoti), 31. Mr. Dhanagare, B.A., LL.B., Pleader, Washim (Dist.—Akola), 32. Vidyaraj V. K. Dani, at Darwah (Dist.—Yeotmal), 33. Mr. Agnihotri, Teacher, Government High School, at Basino, Berar.

6. *Delhi*.—An *ad hoc* Committee has been set up consisting of the following Associate and Corresponding members of the Commission :—

1. Dr. S.N. Sen, M.A., Ph.D., B. Litt. (Oxon), Secretary, Indian Historical Records Commission (*Chairman*), 2. Dr. I. H. Qureshi, M.A., Ph.D., (Cantab.), Head of the Department of History, University of Delhi, Delhi (*Member*), 3. Dr. T. G. P. Spear, M.A., Ph.D., (Cantab.), Deputy Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Information and Broadcasting, New Delhi (*Member*), 4. Khan Bahadur Maulvi Zafar Hassan, O.B.E., B.A., Nashiman, Delhi Gate, Delhi (*Member*).

Arrangement is being made to co-opt influential local persons possessing local knowledge.

7. *Bengal and Assam*.—Dr. R. C. Majumdar has submitted names to the Government of Bengal for approval.

8. *Sirmur State*.—has set up a Committee, consisting of following persons as members:

1. Mr. M. L. Jain (*Chairman*), 2. Mr. S. D. S. Chauhan (*Convener*), 3. Captain Pandit Madhusudhan Datta, 4. Mr. Beni Prasad, Pleader, 5. Mr. Gopal Singh.

9. *Bharatpur Durbat*.—has formed a Committee with the following persons as members :—

1. Mr. Ayodhya Pershad, M.A., D.P.I. (*Chairman*), 2. Pandit Kishen Chand Sharma, M.A., Lecturer, M.S.J. Inter College, 3. Lala Hari Har Lal, B.A., B.T., Assistant Teacher, M.S.J. Inter College, 4. Pandit Raghuraj Dayal, Headmaster, V. F. School, 5. Mr. Abdul Hasan, Hakim, Bayana, 6. Pandit Gokal Chand Dikshit (Bharatpur), 7. Pandit Laksmikant Shastri, Raj Pandit, 8. Ch. Chaturbhuj Dass Sahitacharya, 9. Mr. D. N. Verma, B.A., B.T., Headmaster, Government High School, 10. Mirza Mohammad Basir, M.A., Lecturer, M.S.J. Inter College.

The following steps have been taken to commence the survey of historical records in the Bharatpur State.

1. Wide propaganda has been made in the State to enlist the support of private individuals by means of local papers and pamphlets.

2. Permission is being sought to survey the records existing in the State Departments.

3. The Committee is also availing this opportunity to take notice of the Historical ruins, buildings and cenotaphs, etc. which may be of historical value.

10. *Pudukkottai Darbar* has set up a local Committee consisting of the following persons as members :—

1. Mr. N.P. Swaminatha Ayyar, B.A., Dewan Peishkar, 2. Mr. K. R. Srinivasa Ayyar, M.A., Curator, State Museum and 3. Mr. K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar, B.A., L.T., State Manual officer cum Historical Records Officer.

Mr. Ayyar, the Historical Records Officer, has been making a close study of the Records in the State and has contributed to the Commission and to other academies and conferences, monographs based upon unpublished documents. Both the Historical Records Officer and the Curator of the State Museum have acquired some Copper Plates and copies of old grants, which are now exhibited in the State Museum.

Mr. Ayyar recently examined records belonging to Natthar Valli Darga at Trichinopoly; Venkateswara Varadaraja Perumal temple at Trichinopoly; copper plates in possession of two families one in the State and the other in the Ramnad District; and some old copper plates in the files of the Chief Court of the State. These will be indexed shortly.

The Darbar are anxious to bring about closer co-ordination between the research scholars of the State and those of the Madras Presidency, and will be glad if Rao Bahadur C. S. Srinivasa-chari, gets into touch with Messrs. K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar and K. R. Srinivasa Ayyar.

11. *The Baroda Government* have created a committee consisting of the following persons as members:—

1. Mr. R. S. Mane Patil, Member of the State Executive Council—Chairman, 2. Mr. R. K. Ranadive, 3. Professor K. H. Kamdar, 4. Mr. M. E. Lokhandwala, 5. Dr. M. R. Majumdar, 6. Mr. Manilal Dwivedi, 7. Mr. C. V. Joshi (*convener*).

The Committee's address: The Rajdaftardar's Office, Baroda.

12. *The Bamra State* has set up a committee with the following persons as members:—

1. Md. Ashraf Khan, B.A., D.Ed., Second Officer, 2. Mr. Dharanidhar Dehury, B.A., D.Ed., Head Master, Rajkumar High School, 3. Mr. Sadhu Charan Jagdeb, B.A., Lt., Superintendent of Education, Deogarh—P.O. (Sambalpur) via Bamra Station, B. N. Rly.

13. *The Kolhapur State* have decided to create a Survey Committee and has empowered Dr. A. G. Pawar to do the needful. He will be given all facilities. The list of members are awaited.

14. *The Khairpur Darbar* has decided to get the task done through the Educational Department of the State and the Director of Public Instruction will be able to secure the help of teachers in unearthing old records. They will be granted all facilities of leave, travelling allowance, etc.

15. *Mysore Government* stated that Dr. K. N. V. Sastri, Corresponding member of the Commission will co-operate with any *ad hoc* Committee that may be appointed.

Note.—It is for the Mysore Government to set up a Committee.

16. *Bundi State* say that if any Regional Survey Committee is created for Rajputana or neighbouring State, the Darbar will give all reasonable facilities.

II. *The following Indian States do not propose to create any Committee*—

Tehri Garhwal, Dungarpur, Kotah, Kanker, Kalsia, Malerkotla, Mayurbhaj, Cochin, Bastar.

III. *The replies are still awaited from the following Indian States*—

Hyderabad, Travancore, Aundh, Sangli, Gwalior, Lorea, Jodhpur, Patiala, Kashmir, Holkar, Kores, Kalhandi, Nandgaon, Sarangarh, Raigarh, Keonjhar, Seraikela, Cooch Behar, Tripura, Jhalwar, Bikaner, Dholpur, Jaipur, Mandi, Suket, Loharu, Faridkot, Kapurthala, Jhind, Rampur, Junagadh, Rajpipla, Mewar, Banswara, Alwar, Bilaspur, Patna, Surguja, Khairagarh, Gangpur, Dhenkanal, Nayagarh, Manipur.

APPENDIX E.

General Instructions for the guidance of the Regional Survey Committees.

The Secretary has been asked by the Research and Publication Committee to indicate the general policy which the *ad hoc* Committees appointed by the Indian Historical Records Commission at its Aligarh Session should keep in view in conducting the regional survey in their respective areas. Conditions widely differ in different Provinces and States and it is well nigh impossible to frame an exhaustive set of rules to cover all possible cases. Only one province has so far appointed a regional survey committee. The provincial governments are naturally anxious to see the war through and disinclined to divert their energy to purely academic objectives not likely to further war efforts. They are however prepared to lend their support to private or non-official enterprise organised by the members of the Indian Historical Records Commission. But it will not be wise to forget that the Commission is not at present in possession of detailed information about the localities where the *ad hoc* Committees are to operate and such suggestions as the Secretary may offer must be tentative.

2. The first difficulty with which the Committees will be confronted is the general ignorance about the value of old records and a certain amount of suspicion on the part of the owners. The Committees will have to educate public opinion and remove the general suspicion, if any, about the purpose of the survey. A uniform system of propaganda may not prove successful in every case. Whereas one owner may yield to official persuasion another may react very differently to even indirect approach from official quarters. Individual cases must therefore be left to the discretion of the members of the Committee but a systematic propaganda for creating public interest in old records and their preservation may very well be carried through newspapers, popular magazines, radio and public meetings. University teachers may successfully exploit the enthusiasm of students and the survey can be simultaneously started in widely separated areas through their agency particularly when University students disperse for the long vacation. Every effort should be made to utilise the services of local enthusiasts.

3. The need of public cooperation cannot be too much emphasised. In co-opting new members the *Ad hoc* Committees should try their best to enlist the services of all influential sections of the society. As far as possible all interests should be represented on the Committees and every effort should be made to inspire public confidence. It will defeat its own purpose if the Committee is suspected to be an official organisation nor will it be wise to allow it to be closely associated with any particular organisation or institution, political or otherwise. Every means should be taken to convince the public that the only object of the Committee is to preserve for the future generations one of their rightful heritages viz. the raw materials of Indian History.

4. This leads to another important question. Should the Committee limit its enquiries to manuscript records only and if so, should non-historical records be left out of the scope of the proposed survey. The Secretary can offer his personal opinion only. The Committee in the course of its survey may come across important historical materials relating to periods with which

the Indian Historical Records Commission is not primarily concerned. The Chairman of the Punjab Regional Survey Committee found that most of the manuscripts unearthed by him were of non-historical character. It will not be to the best interest of the country to ignore such manuscripts and withhold the information thus collected. All the finds should be carefully catalogued and steps should be taken to bring them to the notice of the interested scholars through learned journals and official publications. If the finds happen to be of Archaeological interest the discovery should at once be communicated to the Director General of Archaeology and it is expected that his department will similarly co-operate with the Indian Historical Records Commission. Briefly care should be taken to give the country the maximum benefit from the survey and narrow interpretation of its scope and function should as far as possible be avoided.

5. While important manuscripts may be found in unsuspected quarters the most likely places should be first tried. Religious establishments, municipal offices etc. may have in their custody very important records. Attempts should be made to trace the present representatives of historical families and descendants of persons who played any part however insignificant in shaping the history of their country and it is not unlikely that among the family papers will be found important political correspondence or other valuable records. To the students of economic history papers belonging to old banking families may be equally useful.

6. It is very likely that the Committees will find the manuscripts discovered by them in an advanced state of decay. Efforts should be made to secure the consent of the owner for their repair and transcription whenever the necessary funds and facilities are available. In any case an exhaustive report of the year's work should be placed before the annual meeting of the Indian Historical Records Commission. The Committee may entrust this duty to its Chairman or appoint a sub-committee for this purpose but the following information is likely to be useful:—

Location (*viz.* Madras, Bombay, etc. Districts, Towns, etc.); Buildings; Dates from which the records are available; General Subjects; Number of Volumes or bundles or boxes etc.; State of Preservation; whether the owner is agreeable to part with his collection under certain conditions; if not, whether free services for the preservation of documents will be acceptable to the owner on condition that copies will be made available to the public; whether check-list available.

7. When the survey is actually in progress the Committees may be unable to find a solution for unforeseen problems. These may be appropriately referred to the Indian Historical Records Commission and the Indian Historical Records Commission will be competent to appoint a Committee to deal with questions of special urgency when it is not in session.

APPENDIX F.

Report on the Post-War Reorganisation of Archives Offices and Historical Researches in India.

Before 1891 the Government of India had no organised Record Office of its own, each department took what care of its records it could and their importance as raw materials of history was not adequately recognised. When the Imperial Record Department came into existence only pre-mutiny records were transferred to its custody but the current or post-mutiny records remained as before with the departments of origin. Though no body could claim access to these papers, as a matter of right, their historical value was fully appreciated and officers in charge of the Records continued to be recruited from the Indian Education Service until 1912. They were expected to explore these untapped sources and bring the results of their researches to light for the benefit of the ordinary students. Professor (afterwards Sir) G. W. Forrest, the first Officer in charge, published 4 volumes of selections from the records in his custody and he had previous to his appointment edited similar selections both from Bombay and Central records. Three of his successors, Mr. S. C. Hill, Mr. N. L. Hallward and Dr. C. R. Wilson brought out valuable monographs based on the unpublished records of the Government of India. The record office, however, still remained inaccessible to the non-official research students. Denied access to their sources at home they went in a steadily increasing number to England and the continent where the rules were more liberal and the restrictions less stringent. In 1919 the Indian Historical Records Commission was appointed with a view to stimulating original research in this country and for the first time the Government committed itself unequivocally to a policy of providing suitable facilities for historical investigation in India. The Commission offered Indian scholars a convenient platform from which they could make known their needs and requirements and the Government was prepared to consider their demands with sympathy. The rules regulating access to the Central Archives were amended from time to time in accordance with the Commission's recommendation and the provincial governments usually followed suit. In 1939 the Government of India threw open all official records from the earliest time to 1880 to *bonafide* research students. The facilities thus made available have been utilised by research students from many parts of India and the number of scholars working in the Imperial Record Department rose from three in 1921 to 49 in 1942. We find among them not only students of history and economics but students of languages, political institutions and different branches of science as well. For their convenience the Government of India has permitted the Imperial Record Department to prepare exhaustive indexes of the unpublished pre-mutiny records on scientific lines but we should not be surprised if fresh facilities are demanded now and more is expected after the conclusion of the War.

2. In 1939 a resolution was tabled (pages 8-10, Part III, I.H.R.C. Procs., Vol. XVI.) by the late Principal Balkrishna at the Calcutta Session of the Indian Historical Records Commission requesting the Government of India to secure transcripts of all historical manuscripts relating to India now available in foreign countries. A small sub-committee was appointed to con-

sider this suggestion but it was of opinion that nothing could be done to implement the resolution during the pendency of the War. Now that the War is perceptibly drawing to a close the Research and Publication Committee at its fourth meeting held at New Delhi on the 3rd March 1944 re-opened the question from a wider point of view—viz.,—the post-war re-construction of archives in India with particular reference to the Imperial Record Department. Its recommendations fall under three main categories.—

- (1) Manuscript records.
- (2) Library facilities.
- (3) Technical equipments.

3. There is a general consensus of opinion that the Imperial Record Department should greatly extend its activities with a view to affording the fullest possible facilities to Indian students for studying their country's past.

I

1. The manuscript records in the custody of the Imperial Record Department start from 1748 and it is well known that some of the series are incomplete. For the earliest years there are wide gaps which can in many cases be filled by transcripts of missing documents from the India Office. In the past attempt was made to remove this deficiency by a method of mutual exchange but since 1922 the work has been in suspension and it cannot be resumed before peace is restored. This will be however, comparatively speaking, a minor item in the post-war programme. Even when all the existing gaps are filled up the Imperial Record Department will not be able to furnish the inquisitive student with all the sources he would like to study. The India Office, the Public Records Office and the British Museum have a mass of relevant manuscript materials without which his study cannot in any sense be complete. Besides there are scattered all over Great Britain and Ireland the private correspondence and family papers of those eminent servants of the East India Company who took a leading part in shaping the history of this country. The official records in India and England must be supplemented by such semi-official and non-official sources. Nor can a serious student ignore those foreign sources which give the French, Portuguese or Dutch version of an incident. If the Indian student has to avoid an expensive journey to lands beyond the sea and if he is to make the maximum use of his time and energy, transcripts of these foreign records should also be available at a central place in India, i.e. the Imperial Record Department.

2. Besides the official and private archives in the British Isles which, to the best of our knowledge, are fairly well preserved, there must be lying unnoticed and uncared for a huge mass of records in India which when unearthed may throw considerable light on the country's past. Some historical manuscripts were in the past taken by non-Indian scholars and collectors out of the country. It is also necessary to prevent further export of such materials.

3. To provide the Indian research students with all the unpublished sources of Indian history it will therefore be necessary—

- (i) to obtain copies of records from the India Office to fill up the existing gaps in the Imperial Record Department records;
- (ii) to obtain copies of records relating to India from the Public Record Office, London;
- (iii) to obtain copies of records relating to India from the British Museum, the Bodleian Library, the Royal Asiatic Society of England and similar institutions;
- (iv) to obtain copies of such contemporary correspondence and family papers in private custody in the British Isles as may throw light on Indian History;
- (v) to obtain copies of records relating to India in the European countries and United States of America;
- (vi) to unearth records in private custody in India;
- (vii) to prevent export of historical materials outside this country.

4. Before entering into a detailed discussion as to the ways and means of securing the above-mentioned end it is necessary to define the scope of this work. Only records of the Government of India have been so far entrusted to the custody and care of the Imperial Record Department. The Indian Historical Records Commission is professedly interested in the British period of Indian history though papers on other periods have also been read at its public meetings. The Archaeological Survey on the other hand has the care of ancient and medieval monuments as its special domain. Should our present quest therefore be limited to manuscripts relating to Indo-British history or should it be extended to manuscripts relating to earlier periods as well? It is felt that every effort should be made to make an exhaustive collection of manuscripts dealing with the modern period but as Indo-British history properly speaking began with early British commercial enterprise in India we cannot therefore legitimately ignore original materials for the late 16th and 17th centuries though the country was then under Muslim and Hindu rulers. The earlier manuscripts will be, as at present, the concern of the Archaeological Survey of India. But if instead of going indiscriminately for all manuscripts, irrespective of their character and origin, our immediate objective is limited to records alone the task of collecting all the available materials for modern Indian history may not be so stupendous as it may at first sight appear. When the present programme is carried out attempt may reasonably be made for securing copies of such manuscripts as cannot be technically termed as records, e.g. chronicles, narratives, etc.

5. It may be mentioned in this connection that the Committee's proposal to supplement our archives with copies of relevant records from other countries is not without a precedent. The India Office deputed the Late Mr. F. C. Danvers to examine the archives of Portugal and Holland and to secure transcripts of the more important Portuguese and Dutch records relating to India. Danvers's Selections now form an important part of the records in the custody of the India Office and several Indian students have drawn upon these valuable sources. In more recent

years a Dutch scholar made a survey of the Dutch colonial records available in oriental countries. India among others and the results of his labours have been embodied in a handy volume. When the treasures of the Tun Huang Library were discovered from their sand-buried depository the Chinese Government did not get timely notice of the find and many manuscripts were acquired by England, Japan, U.S.A. and other progressive countries. But China promptly put an embargo on the export of the remaining manuscripts and arranged to secure microfilm copies of the manuscripts already exported. The Committee's scheme however is more ambitious as it felt that every effort should be made to make available in India all records that relate to her.

6. Recent progress in microphotography has considerably minimised the difficulties and expense which such a project would have involved thirty years ago. The needed records can be microfilmed with the greatest possible expedition and when the work is done on a large scale under favourable conditions the cost may be reduced to incredibly low figures. Mr. Hilary Jenkinson suggests "two thirds of 1d. per shot as a fair average". The problem of storage and cataloguing of microfilms have been carefully gone into both in England and U.S.A. While microphotography will secure all round economy of time, storing, space and expenditure it is recognised that a film copy can only be read with a projector in a specially equipped reading room. But the student will prefer this comparative inconvenience to the indefinite delay which any other method of duplication will necessarily cause.

7. The scheme, so far as records in England are concerned, will not be very difficult to execute. Except for the unexplored family archives it is more or less precisely known where to go for records about India and which records are to be microphotographed. During the war a large number of manuscripts and printed works have been microfilmed, thanks to the Rockefeller Foundation, and the necessary technical knowledge and experience are abundantly available. But some of the continental archives may offer considerable difficulties. France, Portugal and Holland have rich collections of Indian records. Denmark played but a minor part in Indian History but Danish records on India, if still extant in any number, cannot be ignored. The same remark applies to the records of short-lived Ostend Company. When the two crowns were united some of the Luso-Indian records found their way to Spain. Nearer home the archives of the French and the Portuguese India and the Dutch East Indies will also have to be explored. It is not known how the French and Dutch archives have fared during the war but in the pre-war days the main bulk of records relating to India was available at Paris in the Archive Nationale, Archive Coloniale and Bibliotheque Nationale, etc. Some of the most important Dutch records were available in print and the rest were preserved mainly at the Hague. It may be reasonably expected that what survives the ravages of war will be as before available at their previous depositories. The Portuguese records have not so far as is known, suffered from the consequences of war, and will be found at one centre, viz., Lisbon as the valuable manuscripts formerly in the Public Library of Evora have also been removed there. But whereas up-to-date microfilming appliances may, when the Committee's recommendation is implemented, be available at Paris and the Hague it is doubtful whether Lisbon can supply the latest scientific apparatus for duplicating manuscript records. The Portuguese archives moreover, are not so well organised as the French and the Dutch Record Offices used to be before the War and the scrutiny of Indian records in Portugal may cost more time and labour than elsewhere. Only a few records of any value may have gone to U.S.A. American catalogues and handbooks are ordinarily so exhaustive that it should not be difficult to spot them.

8. Records in India have long been sadly neglected. Few provinces have well organised record offices with whole-time officers at their head. The District record rooms often furnish models of what they should not be. It is not therefore surprising that records in private custody should decay and deteriorate from lack of care. The value of old manuscripts particularly in rural areas is seldom recognised and they are sometimes reconverted into pulp. To rescue such old manuscripts from their inevitable doom extensive propaganda will, in the first instance, be necessary. Nothing effective can be achieved until the confidence of the owners is won and their suspicion removed. The Indian Historical Records Commission has already emphasised the need of instituting an India-wide (Resolution V of the Mysore Session in 1942) survey but the provinces with one exception found the present time inopportune. When the resolution is implemented and the co-operation of the owners enlisted it may be necessary for the Provincial and Central Record offices to take custody and provide for the renovation of huge masses of brittle records.—Here British and American analogies may be of service to India. Some of the better organised Record Offices may be authorised like the Public Record Office of London to take charge of family papers and other manuscripts when the owners are willing to transfer their custody. For this as well as for preventing unwarranted destruction of records legislation on the British lines will be necessary. The Indian Historical Records Commission has already urged upon the Government of India the need of such legislation (Resolution VIII of Patna Session, 1930 and Resolution VII, Trivandrum Session, 1942). It may also be necessary to make the technical services of the Government Record Offices available to private owners for the repair and renovation of the old manuscripts in their possession and as Resolution XVII of Mysore Session 1942 shows the Indian Historical Records Commission is of opinion that smaller record offices in British India and the States unable to go for costly scientific apparatus should ordinarily be entitled to such services as better equipped record offices, the Imperial Record Department in particular, may be able to render.

9. While the Committee was of opinion that its present programme of acquisition should be limited to records relating to the modern period only it was emphatically held that no such restriction should be put on the regional survey programme. Attempt should be made to bring

to the notice of the interested public all and every manuscript discovered by the survey committees and learned societies should be encouraged to take charge of manuscripts of non-historical character if the owners are willing to part with them. But record offices should be competent to acquire either by purchase or as a free gift all historical documents including manuscripts dealing with the ancient and medieval periods as they are better equipped to provide for their preservation.

10. Further migration of manuscripts is easy to prevent and here a simple preventive law and a little vigilance on the part of the port and customs authorities will suffice.

11. Under the first head the Research and Publication Committee's recommendations are as follows:—

(i) Microfilm copies of all unpublished records relating to modern Indian history not available in this country should be obtained and preserved in the Imperial Record Department.

(ii) All necessary steps should be taken for salvaging privately owned manuscripts in India. The Central and Provincial Record Offices should be legally authorised to take charge of such manuscripts when their respective owners are willing to transfer their custody on such terms as may be mutually agreed upon. Such owners as may be prepared to provide for the better preservation of their manuscripts should be given such technical advice and service as they may require.

(iii) Unwarranted destruction and export of historical manuscripts should be legally prohibited.

II.

1. Printed books stand on a different category from manuscript records but to the research student they are equally indispensable. He must inform himself about the ground already covered and he must constantly refer to previous workers. Theoretically a printed book is the property of the public at large and he who can pay is able to read any book he likes but unfortunately books go out of print and rare publications cannot sometimes be had for love or money. A student working in a record office must, therefore, have a good reference library at hand if he is to make the maximum use of his time, but the facilities that Delhi at present affords in this respect are hopelessly inadequate. Even for the routine work of the Imperial Record Department rare books have to be requisitioned from the Imperial Library of Calcutta. If the number of research students has increased thirteen times during the last twenty-one years their number will go higher and higher after the war as the Sargent scheme of education is implemented. If we expect from our research scholars the same standard of work as prevails in western countries we must obviously create the same environments and offer the same facilities. There is no library in India that will stand comparison with the Bodleian, the British Museum and the Bibliothèque Nationale. In this respect even Spain and Portugal are far ahead of India and the leeway cannot be made up by purchase alone even if the country is prepared to strain its financial resources to the utmost limit. Of many rare books and pamphlets only two or three copies are known to have survived and if they are in the custody of any public institution acquisition by any means is out of the question. But microphotographic copies of the rarest publications can be obtained and multiplied *ad infinitum* at a nominal cost and any student will prefer the inconvenience of reading through a projector to a long and expensive journey to London, Paris, Berlin or Washington.

2. The Research and Publication Committee thought that in acquiring microphotographic copies of rare publications our selection should not be confined to books bearing on the modern period only and the microfilm of publications relating to previous periods need not be handed over to the department or departments immediately interested in them. In the Committee's opinion it will be more economic to keep all microphotographic materials collected under this scheme in the custody of the Imperial Record Department. At present no administrative department or library in India has a technical staff competent to catalogue, classify and store microfilms of manuscripts and printed works. The Imperial Record Department will in any case have to look after the microphotographic copies of records secured from other countries and it may as well be entrusted with the custody and care of the entire stock of films acquired by the Government of India. Concentration in this respect will not only lead to greater economy but will guarantee speedy and inexpensive service and supply.

3. It is presumed that locally made copies of microfilms of records and rare publication will be supplied at a fair price not only to the Universities, learned societies and Public Libraries of India but to private individuals as well. The Imperial Record Department has already purchased an up-to-date Microstat machine capable, in theory, of thousand shots per hour. In practice however allowance will have to be made for the time required for supplying and removing the original manuscripts. If another machine specially designed for microfilming pages of bound volumes is acquired the Imperial Record Department should be in a position to meet out side demands after doing its scheduled routine work. The department will in any case need its airconditioned storage rooms and microfilming laboratory and these may be suitably expanded for the extra work that the custody of microphotographic copies of rare publications on India will necessitate. The Committee does not propose to go into the question of expansion of the Imperial Record Department Library, the need of which is generally admitted and expects that it will be departmentally dealt with as no new principle is involved.

4. The Research and Publication Committee's recommendations are as follows:—

(i) Microphotographic copies of all rare publications on India not available in this country should be obtained irrespective of the period they deal with and placed in the custody of the Imperial Record Department.

(ii) All *bonafide* students should have access to these copies.

(iii) The Imperial Record Department should supply at a reasonable price copies made out of the microfilms mentioned above to the Universities, learned societies, Public libraries and such persons as may apply for them.

III.

1. If the Imperial Record Department is to function efficiently as a Central Records Office and depository of microphotographs and to serve the cause of historical research in India in the manner indicated above its technical services will have to be mechanised and human labour in its preservation branch should be replaced as far as practicable by machine. The official records in the custody of the Imperial Record Department occupy at present a running shelf space of more than nine miles. If the bundles are kept horizontally on the shelves, as the Director of Archives proposes to do, greater shelf space will necessarily be required. The present rate of accession of new records is about 750 bundles and 600 volumes per annum. The influx of records during the first few years of peace may conceivably be much larger. The Imperial Record Department is further expected to take charge of a fair percentage of old manuscripts salvaged by the Regional Survey Committees and most, if not all, of the manuscripts so brought to light will need thorough doctoring. Of the present stock of records under the care of the Department over twenty five per cent need renovation and over sixty per cent stand in need of minor repairs. Moreover, there are about 4,300 bundles of folded records covering about 42,80,000 folio pages, which will have to be flattened and repaired. Lack of sufficient repairing materials leaves no alternative but to expedite flattening and postpone all repair and binding work, except the most urgent during the pendency of the war. The Department will therefore be faced with accumulated arrears in this respect when the war comes to a close. It is precisely then that the smaller Record Offices are likely to requisition the services of its technical staff. The Committee is glad to learn that the Government of India is not unaware of the necessity of reinforcing the staff of trained menders with the requisite machinery and but for the present war the process of mechanisation would have made notable progress if not altogether completed. The Committee therefore deems it unnecessary to examine in detail the proposals now under the consideration of the Government of India.

2. If the technical staff of the Imperial Record Department is to assume new responsibilities it logically follows that it should be relieved, to some extent, from the present pressure of work which fall mainly under the head—preservation. It has been abundantly proved that the climate of Delhi does not normally offer optimum conditions for preserving old and brittle papers. The following figures show the wide variation of temperature and relative humidity which cannot but adversely affect the longevity of papers:—

Year	Temp. in Fahrenheit				Relative Humidity			
	Ground Floor		Second Floor		Ground Floor		Second Floor	
	Max.	Min.	Max.	Min.	Max.	Min.	Max.	Min.
1940	97°.0	61°.6	103°.0	50°.5	83%	9%	80%	13%
1941	98°.2	61°.02	105°.0	51°.2	87%	21%	80%	15%
1942	100°.0	59°.0	107°.0	52°.5	85%	19%	93%	17%
1943	92°.0	58°.5	103°.0	55°.0	100%	16%	97%	15%

There is only one way of combating this natural disadvantage viz. air-conditioning of the muniment rooms to secure uniformity of temperature and relative humidity and to get the incoming air current properly filtered. Air-conditioning will partly though not wholly keep the insect pests also under control. But to reduce the repairing work within practicable limits these pests will have to be completely exterminated. Not only old papers will have to be fumigated in a vacuum chamber with suitable lethal gases but new papers will have to be similarly treated before they are introduced into the muniment rooms to avoid further troubles. It is understood that a hydraulic press was ordered from the U.S.A. for laminating brittle records with Cellulose Acetate Foil but it could not be imported on account of the prevailing war conditions. The maximum service from the laminating machine however cannot be obtained unless a constant supply of flattened records can be arranged. At present folded records are flattened with ordinary hand presses and the daily output is about 500 sheets. The average output can be considerably increased if electrical ironers are used.

3. The Committee visited the small laboratory attached to the Imperial Record Department. At present it is the only place in India where problems of preserving old papers and other cognate subjects are investigated. In spite of its limited resources the laboratory has done good work but it cannot play its legitimate part in the post-war organisation of record offices unless it is vastly expanded.

4. Lastly, the Committee observes that a large number of trained archivists will be needed when each of the eleven Governor's Provinces in British India and the leading Indian States will put their record Offices on a proper basis as they are expected to do after the war. In anticipation of this demand the Imperial Record Department has already formulated a training

scheme and with the approval of the Government of India has been imparting instructions in the theory and practice of archives keeping to suitable persons deputed by the Provincial Governments, Universities and Indian States. Though only a few students have so far come for the complete course, the Committee feels that the newly offered training facilities should not be restricted but if possible the training classes should form a permanent feature of the normal activities of the Imperial Record Department and in due course developed into a regular school. Meanwhile the Government of India will be well advised to encourage students to come in larger number for the full course of training by awarding suitable stipends and scholarships.

5. The Committee recommends that—

- (i) Early steps be taken to air-condition the muniment rooms of the Imperial Record Department with a view to secure uniformity of temperature and relative humidity.
- (ii) That Vacuum fumigatorium and laminating machines be installed in the Imperial Record Department at an early date.
- (iii) That imparting instructions in theory and practice in Archives-Keeping be recognised as one of the normal duties of the Imperial Record Department.

IV.

1. The Committee feels that it should briefly indicate the financial implications of its recommendations. Though the Committee realises that the expansion of its activities will demand a corresponding addition to the Imperial Record Department staff and the installation of the Microstat, Vacuum Fumigatorium and Laminating machine will involve additional recurring expenditure, which may or may not be offset by a proportional reduction in the staff, it is of opinion that these are details of administrative character which should be dealt with by the appropriate department or departments of the Government of India. If the Committee's recommendations are accepted provision will have to be made for purchase of such privately owned records as may be offered for sale. Unless necessary steps are taken for preservation and defeated. While some owners may volunteer to place their manuscripts in the custody of the Central or Provincial Record Offices others may not be prepared to part with them except for a money consideration. In certain cases the prospects of a fair price may induce the poorer owners to shake off their secretive inclinations. In the opinion of the Committee a minimum sum of Rs. 10,000 per annum should be placed at the disposal of the Director of Archives of the Government of India and similar grants should be made by the provincial governments to their Offices. A part of the provincial grant may be utilised for the touring expenses of the Survey Committee and the remainder may be devoted to the purchase and preservation of old manuscripts.

2. An Officer will have to be deputed to European countries and U.S.A. to secure microphotographs of records and other relevant manuscripts. In some cases he may be able to select his material from a catalogue or hand-book but in many cases he will have to grope through a mass of manuscripts before he can find the correspondence or note that he would like to include in his collection. Bussy's Indian correspondence is, for instance, scattered through fifty manuscripts volumes which contains other matters not directly bearing on India. The Officer will need the minimum period of three years at least to finish his work and the expense of his mission will approximately be Rs. 3,00,000. It is difficult to estimate accurately before the war concludes the number of pages that will have to be microphotographed. At present the catalogues of French, Dutch and Danish archives are not available in India. The Portuguese records have not been properly catalogued at all. If a sum of 84,000 Rupees is set apart as the pay and travelling expenses of the officer for three years Rupees 2,18,000 will be available for the operational expenses. According to Mr. Jenkinson's estimate 54 shots will cost a Rupee. Making allowances for all contingencies our cost can be reasonably estimated a 40 pages per Rupee. It will, therefore be possible to microphotograph 80,00,000 pages at the total cost of 2,00,000 Rupees. But actually some deduction may have to be made for countries like Portugal where microphotographic facilities may not be available and where the more expensive method of transcription will have to be adopted. The extra cost for which is expected to be covered by the remaining sum of Rs. 18,000.

3. It is easier to give a more accurate estimate for the machinery required. Considering that the price and the freight will not materially vary in the years immediately after the war the cost of the apparatus will be as follows leaving out of account the expenditure of the additional accommodation necessary for the machinery, men and new accessions—

	Rs.
Air Conditioning	2,50,000
Laminating Machine	40,000
Vacuum Fumigatorium	25,000
Air Cleaning Unit	5,000
Boilers, etc.	20,000
10 Microfilm Readers	5,000
Another Microfilm apparatus for bound volumes	20,000
Laboratory	10,000
Library	10,000

4. Briefly the reorganisation of the Central Record Office as outlined in the Committee's report will need a capital expenditure of Rs. 7,00,000 in round figures. This cannot be regarded as too high or extravagant a price for an up-to-date Central Record Office in India with the latest equipment affording the research students all the facilities that they may require. When the Committee's recommendations are fully implemented students of India history will no longer have any reasonable excuse for going abroad in search of their materials except in rare

cases where careful examination of the original itself is necessary. The money spent from the Central Revenue therefore, will effect a corresponding saving in India's expenditure abroad, an end desirable in itself but which gains still more in importance when it is noted that this will in all likelihood save a fairly large number of Indian students from going adrift from their social and cultural moorings at an impressionable age. In conclusion the Committee observes that besides a capital grant of Rs. 7,00,000 and a recurring grant of Rs. 10,000 the Government will have to meet further expenditure for expanded accommodation and additional staff an estimate for which should be called for from the Department concerned.

Chairman.....

D. V. Potdar
Mohammad Habib
C. S. Srinivasachari
R. C. Majumdar
G. L. Chopra
M. Nasiruddin Khan
Bisheshwar Nath Redu
Bisheshwar Prasad

Member.

K. K. Dutta
H. N. Sinha
S. M. Jaffar
D. N. Banerji
J. C. Taluqdar
I. H. Qureshi
T. G. P. Spear

Member.

S. N. Sen.

Secretary.

Additional suggestions offered by the signatories on the Report of the Post-War Reconstruction of Archives Offices in India

1. Dr. R. C. Majumdar.—I endorse this masterly report and would only suggest the addition of the words "Universities and learned societies like the Royal Asiatic Society of Bengal" after "Archaeological Survey of India" on page 47, para. 4, line 13.

2. Prof. D. V. Potdar.—I am in general agreement with the Report. One thing has just come to my mind which may be included if you like it. It is this.

In Italy, Venice and also in India a vast mass of records dealing with India are reported to be available with the Catholic Missions. The Madura Mission papers are also well-known for instance. At Venice a friend reported to me years ago a large mass of reports from Catholic Missionaries and others who had been in India too are lying in heaps.

I suggest that these also be included for scrutiny and microfilming in our scheme. The Vatican, also, should not be forgotten.

3. Rao Bahadur C. S. Srinivasachari.—(1) While the proposal to collect original materials for the late sixteenth and seventeenth centuries as being necessary for an understanding of early British commercial enterprise in the fullest sense is to be welcomed, liberty is taken to suggest an extension of our activity to the collection of every kind of relevant material, bearing on the history of Portuguese enterprise as well, for which source material may have to be scoured from the last quarter of the fifteenth century. European enterprise in India from its earliest manifestation can be justifiably brought under the academic jurisdiction of the Historical Record Commission.

(2) The acquisition of microphotographic copies of rare books and pamphlets would be very welcome as they would serve particularly the needs of scholars living at a distance from the Central Records Office. The microfilm of publications relating to previous periods is also bound to be fruitful in its use to a number of historical scholars.

(3) I should also suggest that a definite course of instruction to scholars working at the Record Office, lasting for about two or three weeks and bearing on the usefulness of the resources available and the most efficient methods of their utilisation at the I. R. O. by some competent scholar, under the general direction and guidance of the Director of Archives, may be given. For this purpose, the employment in the permanent service of the Department of a person with an intensive knowledge of Modern History and of all its sources may be necessary. I commend this suggestion to the Director, particularly as the guidance and direction of scholars working on the Indian Record Department is bound to expand both extensively and intensively in the post-war period.

4. *Dr. H. N. Sinha*.—I agree with the above.

5. *Dr. K. K. Datta*.—I endorse this comprehensive and masterly report. I beg to suggest only the addition of the sentence 'Provinces having no Central Record Offices of their own should establish them in their respective areas as soon as possible on the termination of the present war' after "to do after the war" in line 3 in paragraph 4 on page 50.

6. *Mr. D. N. Banerji*.—I approve of this beautiful report: it is as lucid as it is comprehensive. It is really masterly. I was wondering, however, whether there had not occurred one slight omission. There is a faint recollection in my mind—I may be wrong—that we discussed in some detail both the questions of the desirability and the practicability of a greater co-operation and co-ordination, in the interest of research scholars, between the Imperial Record Office and the Provincial (and State) Record Offices in India. For instance, it was discussed whether some system could not be devised in the post-war period under which a research scholar working, say, in the Imperial Record Office and without having, ordinarily, to move from place to place, might not have access to microfilmed or microphotographed copies of records in the Provincial (or State) Record Offices, which he might require for his researches. There was, as far as I remember some discussion on these lines; but I do not remember if any definite decision was reached. However, I have felt that attention should be drawn to this.

7. *Mr. S. M. Jaffar*.—It is a lucid and faithful exposition of the points discussed at the 4th meeting of the Research and Publication Committee held in New Delhi on the 3rd March, 1944.

Apropos of para. 4 under Section I, I would like to add that manuscripts (especially of Correspondence) of historical importance, relating to the pre-British Period when India was under Hindu and Muslim Rulers, in addition to those relating exclusively to the British Period, ought to be the concern of the Imperial Record Department and Provincial Record Offices. If India's past is to be explored and illuminated the records relating to the earlier period should not be ignored.

As regards the financial aspect of the report, I shall be excused if I say that I am not in a position to pronounce any opinion. I do, however, agree that a sum of Rs. 7,00,000 cannot be regarded as too high or extravagant a price for an up-to-date Central Record Office in India with the latest equipment affording the research students all the facilities that they may require.



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