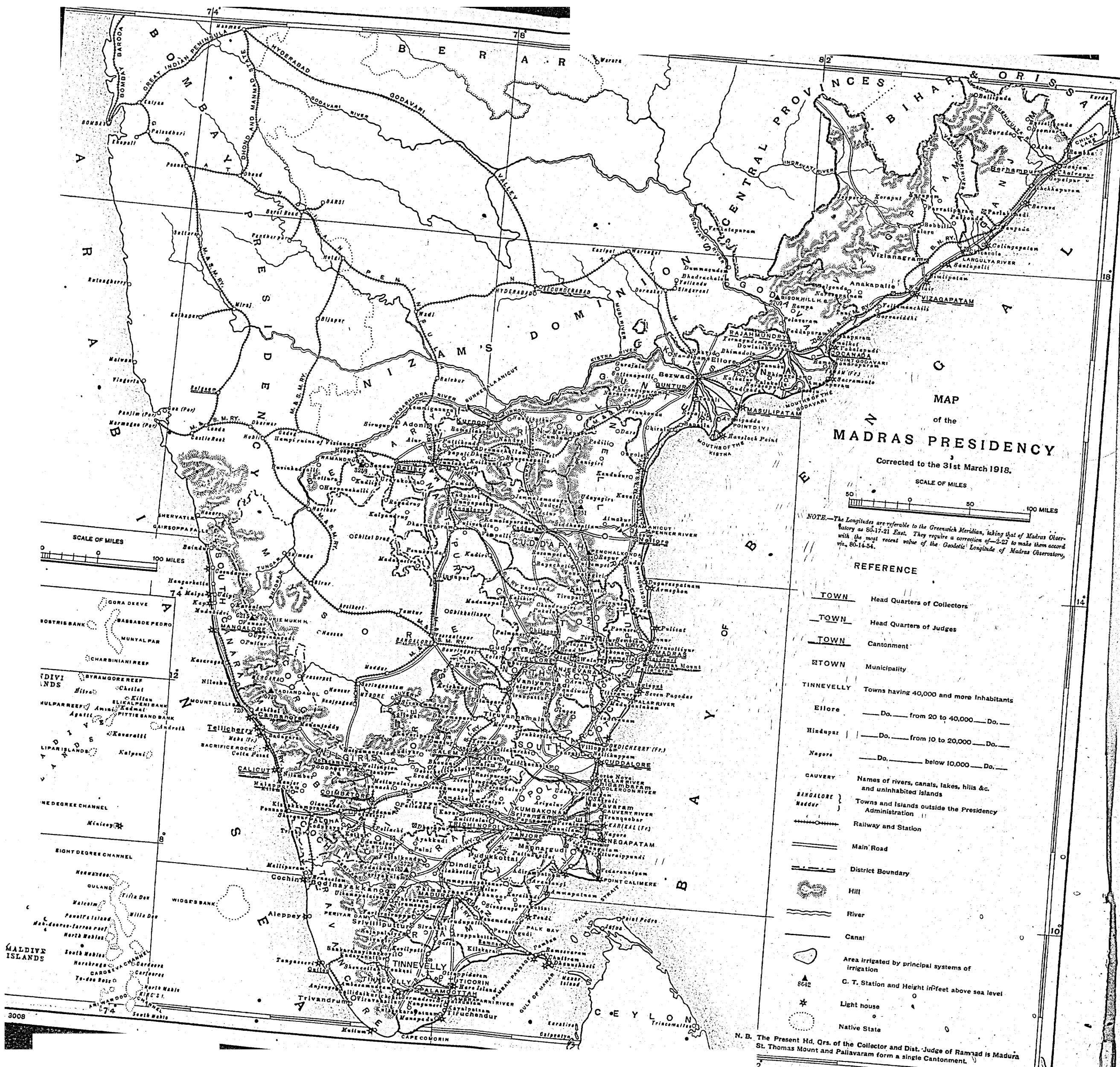




REPORT ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE MADRAS PRESIDENCY

FOR THE YEAR
1917-18



MADRAS
PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS
1918

N. B. The Present Hd. Qrs. of the Collector and Dist. Judge of Ramnad is Madura.
St. Thomas Mount and Pallavaram form a single Cantonment.

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PREFATORY NOTE

IN this publication, Part I—the General Summary—is omitted and an introductory chapter takes its place. The report will, in future, be prepared in the present form.

INTRODUCTION

SUMMARY.

Political situation.—1. During the period under review the political activities of the Presidency are mainly traceable to three more or less distinct movements—the earlier agitation of the Home Rule party ; their later action which culminated in the foundation of the Madras Presidency Association and their labour campaign ; and the steadily-growing opposition of the non-Brahman element. Friction arose early in May as the result of a Government order prohibiting students from attendance at political meetings and from joining political associations. The extremist outcry which followed this order eventually crystallized into a scheme for the furtherance of “National Education” ; but this venture, though placed in the forefront of the extremist propaganda and steadily pressed with various ingenious devices, made but a laboured progress. Throughout the month of May the party press indulged in unusually violent and provocative language, and at the Legislative Council meeting of the 24th His Excellency Lord Pentland sounded a deliberate note of warning on the Home Rule question and the attitude of Government towards the agitation. This was consistently disregarded and as a result, on the 16th June, there issued an order directing Mrs. Besant with Messrs. Arundale and Wadia to abstain from attending political meetings or making speeches and to take up their residence in one of six areas. They selected Ootacamund, which at once became a mischievous political centre and place of pilgrimage for Home Rule workers until in August Mrs. Besant was permitted, on grounds of health, to transfer her residence to Coimbatore. Her principal press organ, *New India*, after a few days’ cessation in June, was taken over by a group of journalists from Bombay, who devoted themselves to vilification of the Government and agitation for the release of the interned persons accompanied by efforts to secure the sympathies of the Muhammadan community by advocating the cause, as “fellow-martyrs,” of the détenus Muhammad Ali and Shaukat Ali. Though projected with great energy this agitation produced little in the way of genuine popular protest and manifested itself principally in the forms of engineered “protest meetings,” where resolutions addressed to the Premier, the Viceroy and other high authorities were passed, of institution of funds, and of violent newspaper polemics. On the 18th September, however, the Madras Government, acting in deference to the wishes of the Government of India, issued a communiqué announcing the withdrawal of the restrictions imposed on the interned persons ; the first fruits of this action were a decided accession of influence to Mrs. Besant whose position in the advanced party was materially strengthened, and a vigorous counter-movement towards organization and expression on the part both of the non-official European community and of the conservative non-Brahmans. The latter had for

some time been making steady headway, more especially in the mufassal, and the foundation of their newspaper *Justice* did much to unite their several elements and supplied them with a weapon of attack and defence. Brahman and non-Brahman controversies were lively in many districts, and in August in Coimbatore, where Mrs. Besant was even then residing, the non-Brahmans were actually able to organize and hold an opposition district conference, which, according to the majority of accounts, was the more successful and the better attended of the two. In the previous month the leading Madras zamindars had, by a published manifesto, definitely dissociated themselves from the principle of Home Rule. The contemporary efforts of the Home Rule party to enlist the ryot and female elements and the Muhammadan community were unattended by any considerable measure of success. In November the Shiah and Sunni Maulavis of Madras town rejected the Home Rule policy and the Presidency Muslim League began to break up. Mrs. Besant's abandonment of the cause of Muhammad Ali and Shaukat Ali led to dissensions within the party itself and there was besides a sharp and bitter schism over the question of passive resistance.

Similar division of feeling manifested itself in connexion with the movement, favoured in advanced circles, for the formation of an Andhra or Telugu province. The conflict between opposing schools of thought culminated at the time of the visit paid to Madras by His Excellency the Viceroy and Mr. Montagu in connexion with the reform proposals, when the political atmosphere of Southern India was generally characterized by an unprecedented degree of disturbance and mutual recriminations were exceptionally rife.

The subsequent energies of the Home Rule party during the year under review were devoted to an attempt at labour organization. *New India* had always endeavoured to enlist the sympathies of the Labour Party at home with a view to valuable political support; the extremists now turned their attention to the labourer at their door as a potential instrument of unrest. In January 1918 the non-Brahman wing of the Home Rule party represented by a body styling itself the Madras Presidency Association secured as their organ in the press the *Indian Patriot* and proceeded to publish articles upon the hardships of mill hands in which labour organization was demanded and the principle of passive resistance again loudly advocated. The period closed with a threatening of strikes in various quarters and with the establishment of a Labour Association.

War attitude.—2. The political progress of the year has been placed before a discussion of its war aspects because it is beyond question that these two factors so presented themselves to the popular mind. The war was constantly overshadowed by political excitements—first by the internments and their sequel and subsequently by the visit of the Viceroy and the Secretary of State. Save where Mrs. Besant had specially been active in its behalf the recruitment for the Indian branch of the Indian Defence Force aroused but little interest; here and there it met with active opposition for political ends. To the recruiting campaign for the regular army a similar attitude was generally adopted; where the matter gained attention or

discussion in the press, it was commonly under its political rather than its national or imperial aspects. Ill-informed or misinformed communities naturally read into the release of Mrs. Besant and her colleagues the interpretation that the allied cause was failing and that concessions from weakness were to be the order of the day—an impression which may have had far-reaching results beyond the period at present dealt with.

War effort.—3. The response to the War Fund appeal was at first disappointing but made a marked improvement as the year went on. A Provincial Recruiting Board was established in August 1917: recruiting began slowly and up to the opening of the period under review was decidedly below the desired level; by July, however, the monthly total of combatants had risen to 878 and by December to 1,466; non-combatant recruiting also doubled its figures in the same period. It is not to be denied, however, that the idea was never popular in this Presidency, where long habituation to non-military conditions rendered the awakening of the old martial spirit which fed the armies of Cornwallis and Wellesley no easy task. A signalling company raised at the instance of Sir Sivaswami Ayyar was fully filled, however, and all services were denuded of officers to supply the I.A.R.O. During the year the Indian Defence Force as newly constituted came into being, the thirteen volunteer corps under the area of the 9th (Secunderabad) Division being reorganized into ten I.D.F. units with a total strength of over seven thousand men. This force bore its full share of garrison and guard duties. The Indian branch of the Force undoubtedly owed much, in the initial stages of its inauguration, to the advocacy of Mrs. Besant, but on the other hand the protest withdrawals which a section of the press strove to organize at the time of the internments came to very little. Over eleven hundred were enrolled by August 1917 and the training of the first batch, the reports on which were satisfactory, was commenced on the 1st October. Apart from all other considerations, there is no doubt that as a healthy counter-attraction to politics in the case of the younger men the institution of the force fulfilled a function whose utility it would be hard to over-emphasize.

Finance.—4. The financial policy in Indian affairs is directed by the Imperial Government and will therefore be properly summarized in the general précis to be written by them for the whole of India. Provincial revenues advanced from Rs. 794.79 lakhs to Rs. 834.32 lakhs, the increase occurring mainly under Excise, Income-tax and Forests, while the Provincial balance rose to over Rs. 200 lakhs in consequence of the restrictions on expenditure. The enhancement of the *ad valorem* duty on cotton piece-goods under the revised tariff of March 1917 and the general rise in prices produced an appreciable increase under import duty, but half of this was neutralized under export duty by the drop in the exports of tea and rice. A highly unfavourable season did much to annul the projected exploitation of the Bengal salt market which war conditions in that Presidency had opened to the Madras supply. The auction sale of Government salt was resorted to with the intention of countering the high and fluctuating prices of excise salt but resulted in a gain of Rs. 15 lakhs to Government owing to speculative buying by Calcutta dealers.

There was an increase in the receipts from income-tax and the proceeds of the first year's working of the super-tax under Act VIII of 1917 amounted to nearly Rs. 5 lakhs. The military market contributed to a very considerable enhancement of the revenue from Forests.

Agriculture.—5. A season, favourable so far as the total quantity of rainfall went, was considerably marred by unequal distributions in the monsoons: breaks occurred at abnormal periods and the usual break between the monsoons was practically, and in some districts entirely, unmarked. In spite of these seasonal disadvantages, however, the Agricultural Department were able to carry through their programme of experimental work almost unhindered, and the advance made in this sphere of activity is striking not less in kind than in degree. The measures recently undertaken in Egypt have been imitated in India and the gratifying result has been attained that, in the Tinnevely district, the main cotton growing area of the Presidency, *Pulichai* cotton has been almost entirely eradicated, and the substitution of pure improved strains for the country mixture has been accomplished. The experimental work on paddy cultivation has assumed a definite shape and it is believed that the value of the Presidency crop can in time, as a result of these most important investigations, be increased by 20 per cent, or by no less a sum than twelve crores. Scientific work on the coconut has been inaugurated and a start has been made with apiculture. The projected scheme under which, in certain areas, the agricultural and co-operative credit departments will work in joint harness should produce a beneficial effect.

A shortage of labour impeded the activities of the Horticultural branch, but the experimental work carried out on medicinal plants is in itself of considerable value. On the other hand, one of the most prominent and satisfactory features of the period under review is the record year—in every sense—of the Government Cinchona Factory at Naduvattam which supplied no less than 20,000 lb. of quinine for the armies in East Africa and Mesopotamia and worked during the year at a profit of Rs. 7½ lakhs or nearly double the annual expenditure.

Forests.—6. The policy of abandoning small isolated reserves and converting all valuable reserved lands into reserved forests was continued and some progress, though not a great deal, was made with the forest panchayat system. In common with all other departments the Forest Department suffered serious dislocation from the absence of its officers on military duty; in addition to this the war services of the department were considerable. The marketing of tanning stuffs was handed over to the Munitions Board and the department was thereby involved in a loss of revenue approximating to Rs. 3 lakhs, which may be regarded as a portion of the Presidency's financial contribution to the war. Tanning-barks and hay as well as timber were supplied to the Military Departments in considerable quantity and the financial results of the year exhibited a notable profit.

Trade.—7. The total value of the sea-borne trade of the Presidency, which approached five thousand lakhs, showed a decrease, as against last year's figures, of five hundred lakhs; Government transactions

were, however, very high on account of the purchase of tanned hides for the War Office. The general effect of the war was, as might be expected, to increase the British Empire's share in the Presidency's trade. The export statistics for the Presidency port show the highest figure for fourteen years, the principal increases being in ores, groundnut, oil-cake and vegetable oils. There was, of course, a corresponding decrease in imports, the commodities involved being such as the stoppage of shipping facilities from Europe would most naturally affect. Abnormal quantities, however, of sugar, rice, raw hides and mineral oils entered the country. The depletion of steam tonnage and the various export and import restrictions were a more serious blow to the small ports than ever, but led to an interesting revival in wooden ship-building for the coasting trade, which was increasing in volume towards the close of the year. In the absence of connexion with Europe, the exploitation of the Straits Settlements and Australian markets was markedly successful.

As regards internal trade, there were constant complaints over the unavoidable shortage of rolling-stock and raw products formerly exported to Europe were seriously held up. The feature of the year—a feature with effects of a far-reaching nature—was the upward leap in the price of cotton, in sympathy with the rise in America. Rice rose steadily in price throughout the year, and though actual producers and middlemen secured almost universal profits, there was considerable pressure on persons with fixed incomes. The improvement in registration noticed in the previous year was not maintained.

Industries.—8. Spinning and weaving concerns were fully employed throughout the year—principally in meeting the orders of the Military authorities; the tanning and leather industries similarly enjoyed a period of exceptional prosperity, and the coir industries of the West Coast, at first adversely affected, recovered owing to the placing of large orders for coir screening for camouflage purposes in France. Rice factories, however,—especially in the northern districts—were hard hit by the shortage of rolling-stock and many were forced to close down. Factory sanitation made a marked advance, but with factories working intermittently or not at all there was no regular demand for factory labour, and factory wages, as compared with those outside, ruled low. In such a year the Department of Industries had of necessity numerous obstacles with which to contend: the shortage of rolling-stock, the scarcity of tonnage of all classes, the anxiety as to the supply of coal, and most of all the increasing extent of Government control, all made against the progress of industrial enterprise. The Government Pencil Factory and the Government Soap Works increased their outturn and profits to a considerable degree; but the energies of the department were naturally devoted mainly to war effort and war production and in such a year the development of indigenous industries other than those of military utility was unavoidably somewhat shelved. A second exhibition of Indian arts and industries, opened by His Excellency the Viceroy in December at Madras, attracted a very large number of exhibits, brought in a notable contribution to the War Fund, and, as emphasized in His Excellency's

opening speech, vindicated by its existence the policy of industrial development pursued patiently, though without encouragement, by this Government for a couple of decades.

Co-operative Societies.—9. The outstanding features of the year's working were the activities shown by agricultural societies and unions in the way of joint purchase and sale, the opening of new societies more especially among the weavers and fishermen, and the expansion and development of supervision by local unions. No great headway was made with the attempt to convert the Provincial Bank into a genuine federation, but its progress was otherwise satisfactory. New central banks were registered and made a satisfactory start upon their careers. The improvement in collection by agricultural societies previously noticed was maintained during the year, but the arrears still remain heavy. A movement was made to bring the Co-operative Credit Department more closely into touch with the Department of Industries and to define the functions of these two departments and the lines along which their joint efforts might most profitably be directed. It is gratifying to record that the attitude of the general public was cordial and helpful throughout.

Public Works and Railways.—10. The activities of the Public Works Department continued to be curtailed by the causes which have operated against them since the commencement of hostilities—shortage of transport by land and sea, control of materials and prohibitive cost. In spite of these disabilities and the highly creditable fact that no fewer than fifty officers of the department were on military duty during the year, a number of important projects were investigated and the detailed working-out of the principal schemes at present under contemplation proceeded. Two branch railways were completed and opened during the year.

Police: Criminal and Civil Justice.—11. A common consequence of a period of high prices and abnormal popular excitement is an uprush of petty crime, and this is naturally a distinguishing feature of the year under review. The number of murders was also high. Organized crime, however,—ever the principal object of police vigilance—was kept thoroughly in hand,—a circumstance which reflects no little credit on a force depleted in strength and harassed by the innumerable petty contingencies of an abnormal season. A pleasing feature of the year's administration was the close co-operation and mutual relationship of the police and village officers, which in the past has left so much to be desired. A notable case of the year was that in which a dismissed Revenue Inspector of Chingleput attempted to correspond with high German officials through the consuls of neutral powers in Bombay.

The majority of judges report that the jury system worked fairly satisfactorily. In the civil courts institutions still ran to a figure much in excess of that of 1914; there are indications, however, that the rush of litigation which followed the outbreak of the war in consequence of the natural anxiety of creditors to call in their outstanding debts has to some extent spent itself and it seems probable that the statistics of the next few years will show totals more nearly approximating to pre-war figures. There was a large and regrettable increase in the number of debtors imprisoned in execution.

Public Health.—12. Both the birth-rate and the death-rate exhibited a slight rise on the previous year; the infantile mortality throughout the Presidency was distressingly high and steps are being taken, wherever possible, to combat this evil. Cholera and plague both claimed a toll of victims very much in excess of the previous years; the latter disease has indeed given rise, by its outbreak in an apparently indigenous form, to a good deal of anxiety. The results of the year's work in vaccination were unsatisfactory, and an extension of the provisions as to compulsory vaccination is contemplated. The Medical Department was again exceedingly short-handed, only eighteen I.M.S. officers being on duty, of whom twelve had perforce to be posted to the Presidency town.

Municipal and Local Board Administration.—13. It is regrettable to observe that in the mufassal nearly one hundred meetings had to be adjourned for want of a quorum and that the average attendance of councillors continues to decrease towards the region of 50 per cent. The Madras Corporation proceeded with its activities in the direction of combating malaria along the approved lines.

Education.—14. The year was marked by the permanent retention of the Queen Mary High School, Vizagapatam, and the Ceded Districts College, Anantapur, by amendments in the Educational Rules relating to the classification of secondary schools and the incidence of teachers to pupils, and by the creation of research professorships open to qualified Indians in the Universities. Muhammadan and Panchama education continued to advance slowly. Literary activities proceeded along the accustomed lines. *New India* and the *Hindu* increased their circulation, but the Home Rule agitation called into being as a counter-blast three new papers—notably the non-Brahman organ *Justice* which joined in the controversy with much energy and bitterness. The rise in price of paper caused a decline in the mufassal press. The New India Printing Works were forced to forfeit security in August. Tamil was the leading literary language and at least one work of permanent value was published in that tongue. Publications, however, generally took the form of pamphlets, treatises on the somewhat indefinite theme of "politics", or crude detective tales, the influence of the cinema being in the last instance again evident.

General Condition of the People.—15. Allusion has already been made to the high prices of rice and cotton and their attendant effects, but on the whole the vast majority of the people were loyal, prosperous and contented. Public peace was well-maintained, and the clash of the Muharram and Dasara festivals gave rise to only a single serious disturbance. The difficulties which beset the tea and coffee planters of the Presidency eventually reached a more or less satisfactory solution. To combat the dispossession of the lands of the hill tribes in the Agency tracts in favour of the money-lending classes and to check the levy of extortionate interest an Act was passed to regulate the transfer of land and the rate of interest in these areas which is expected to have widely beneficial effects. Excise administration received particular attention during the year and a committee appointed to examine the liquor question

in the city of Madras arrived at the interesting conclusion that consumption was practically stationary and that drunkenness had not increased. Excise ~~Advisory Committees~~ were everywhere reconstituted to admit of a larger proportion of non-official members, and in the city of Madras gave way to a Licensing Board with enhanced powers. The experiment of introducing tea and coffee shops as a counter-attraction to liquor shops was generally a failure, but Government have realized that such ventures when backed by private enthusiasm have a distinct chance of success, and have accordingly promised subsidies in appropriate cases. The rural areas remained largely unaffected by the war—as by the political excitements of the period.

THE REPORT

CHAPTER I

PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY

PHYSICAL

PHYSICAL FEATURES OF THE COUNTRY, AREA, CLIMATE AND CHIEF STAPLES

1. *Vide* pages 1 to 10 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1911-12.

POLITICAL

HISTORICAL SUMMARY

2. *Vide* pages 11 to 33 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1911-12.

FORM OF ADMINISTRATION

3. *Vide* pages 34 to 54 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1911-12.

CHARACTER OF LAND TENURES

4. *Vide* pages 55 to 60 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1911-12.

SYSTEM OF SURVEY

5. *Vide* pages 61 to 72 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1911-12.

SYSTEM OF SETTLEMENTS

6. *Vide* pages 73 to 86 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1911-12.

CIVIL DIVISIONS OF THE BRITISH TERRITORY

7. *Vide* pages 87 to 100 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1911-12.

DETAILS OF THE CENSUS OF 1911—TRIBES AND LANGUAGES

8. *Vide* pages 101 to 104 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1911-12.

CHANGES IN THE ADMINISTRATION (1917-18)

9. There were no changes in the personnel of the Executive Government during the year.

THE MADRAS WAR FUND

10. With effect from the 1st June 1918 the Hospital Ships "Madras" and "Sikkim" were taken over by the Government of India and all obligations in regard to expenditure upon them by the Madras War Fund ceased from that date. The Fund, however, continued its activities in other directions or assumed new responsibilities and the demands on its resources and on the activity of the Ladies' Depot centres throughout the Presidency still remain considerable and will continue to expand with every addition to the number of units raised and to the number of hospitals or convalescent depots maintained in this Presidency. It has undertaken to supply, as far as possible, all Red Cross comforts required by the various military hospitals and convalescent depots for both British and Indian troops in this Presidency. There are at present 22 of such hospitals and depots and the work of supplying comforts to them has been carried on for some considerable time and is now fully organized. Ever since the Fund was established, it has from time to time supplied articles to various hospitals overseas. It was recently decided to discontinue this system of direct supply and to send definite quantities of the articles required to the Central Red Cross Depot at Bombay, which would assume all responsibility for distribution. Some of these articles were despatched and others were being made and collected by the various Red Cross centres, of which there are 83 in this Presidency. The Fund has been asked by the Indian War Works Committee to assist in supplying sundry articles for the recreation huts which have been and are being organized in Mesopotamia for British and Indian troops. It has also been sending regular supplies of comforts to those overseas units which are closely connected with the Madras Presidency. At the request of the Officer in charge of War Gifts, Baghdad, the Fund has undertaken to assist in supplying Christmas cheer for the troops in Mesopotamia. The collections made in the Madras Presidency on behalf of "Our Day" on the 12th December 1917 amounted to Rs. 6,10,089. This sum, which was credited to Madras in the "Our Day" accounts for all India, was specially retained for the maintenance of the two hospital ships. The transfer of these ships to the Government of India has placed the Madras War Fund in a position to offer to remit the amount to the Joint War Committee of the British Red Cross Society and the Order of St. John of Jerusalem, and His Excellency the Governor, as President of the Fund, has made the offer to His Excellency the Viceroy who has passed it on to the Joint War Committee. The total sum contributed by the Madras War Fund from the beginning of the war up to the 31st March 1918 was Rs. 68.35 lakhs.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR'S TOURS

11. In May 1917, His Excellency the Governor visited the Malabar Wynaad from Ootacamund by motor for a day and held a conference with the planters at Meppadi in regard to various matters affecting the planting industry. In June His Excellency attended the cattle show at Tiruppur and presided at the prize distribution. On his way from Ootacamund to Madras in October, His Excellency visited Mangalore, Calicut, Madura and Trichinopoly. At Mangalore he held a Recruiting Conference and another conference on the subject of the development of railway communications affecting the South Kanara district, and received deputations from local planters, the South Kanara District Association, the Roman Catholics of Mangalore and the Muhammadans. His Excellency also visited several institutions, laid the foundation of the Mahila Sabha, and presided at the prize distributions at the St. Aloysius' College and at the Government College. At Calicut His Excellency held a Recruiting Conference and received deputations from the United Planters' Association of Southern India, the Kerala Jenmi Sabha, the Nambudri Yogakshema Sabha, the Calicut Municipal Council and the Manjeri Hidayut-ul-Muslimin Sabha. He also accorded many private interviews and visited several of the local institutions. On his way to Madura from Calicut, His Excellency halted for a few hours at Shoranur to open an Ayurvedic hospital at Cheruthuruthi in the Cochin State. At Madura and Trichinopoly His Excellency granted several private interviews and visited various institutions. At Madura he received deputations from the Muhammadans of Dindigul, the Nadars and the Madura-Ramnad Indian Christian Association and opened the North Masi Street Dispensary. At Trichinopoly he inspected the Indian detachment of the Indian Defence Force which was then undergoing training. In January 1918, His Excellency proceeded to Delhi on the invitation of His Excellency the Viceroy to attend the Conference of Heads of Provinces convened for the discussion of the proposed constitutional reforms. His Excellency visited Calcutta, Lucknow and Cawnpore en route and made a stay of six days at Delhi. On the return journey His Excellency spent a day at Ajmere and two days at Bombay. He visited the Colvin Talukdars' School at Lucknow and the Mayo College at Ajmere in connexion with the proposed establishment of a Rajkumar College in Madras. In response to an invitation from His Excellency Monsieur Martineau, Governor of the French Settlements in India, Their Excellencies Lord and Lady Pentland paid a visit to Pondicherry in February 1918. Visits were paid to the Rodier Mills of Messrs. Best & Co., the St. Elizabeth's Iron Works of Messrs. Gaudart & Co. and the Banque de l'Indo-Chine.

RELATIONS WITH TRIBUTARY STATES**TRAVANCORE STATE**

(M.E. 1092—16TH AUGUST 1916 TO 15TH AUGUST 1917)

[*Report on the administration of the Travancore State for the year 1092 M.E.*]

[The Maharaja, His Highness Sri Padmanabha Dasa Vanchi Pala Sir Rama Varma Kula-sekhara Kiritapati Manne Sultan Maharaja Raja Ramraja Bahadur Shamsher Jang, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., is a Kshatriya. His age is 61. He has a male heir. The area of the State is 7,129 square miles and the population according to the census of 1911 is 3,428,975. The annual subsidy paid to the British Government is Rs. 8,10,652. The gross revenue is estimated at Rs. 1,63,43,576. The strength of the military force maintained during the year was 1,466.]

12. In August 1917, His Highness the Maharaja went on a short tour to Cape Comorin and stayed there for a week. General and political

13. The war continued to affect the revenues of the State adversely. Nevertheless there was an increase in revenue over that of the year 1091 by Rs. 10,64,190. This was general and was shared by all the main heads Revenue and finance

of revenue, the receipts from Forest, Stamps, Excise and Customs reaching a higher figure than that of any previous year. Under Land Revenue the current demand was Rs. 35.71 lakhs against Rs. 36.54 lakhs in the previous year, but the collections rose from Rs. 35.50 lakhs to Rs. 35.70 lakhs. The volume of coercive action taken continued to increase under all the heads and this was again due to the prevailing scarcity of money. The expenditure of the Darbar rose from Rs. 156.24 lakhs to Rs. 165.17 lakhs due to increases under all heads. The latter figure, which includes the expenditure of Rs. 11.93 lakhs on the Quilon-Trivandrum Railway extension, exceeded the year's revenue by Rs. 1.74 lakhs resulting in the reduction of the Darbar balance from Rs. 45.57 lakhs to Rs. 43.83 lakhs.

Protection
and legis-
lation

Police

Criminal
justice

14. Four ordinary meetings of the Legislative Council were held during the year and eight Regulations were passed by that body. The most important of these measures relates to intestate succession among Indian Christians in Travancore and the law relating to trading companies. The appointment of Inspector of motor buses was created during the year with a view to the more effective control of motor bus traffic. The actual strength of the police force at the close of the year stood at 1,872 against a sanctioned strength of 1,908. The percentage of judicial punishments was only 1.2 and the percentage of conviction of policemen prosecuted by private parties was much lower. There was a slight rise in the number of departmental punishments. There were no remarkable variations in the number of cognizable cases dealt with. The number of undetected cases showed an appreciable decrease, having been only 277 against 411 in the previous year. The number of courts which exercised criminal jurisdiction was 74, or one more than in the previous year. There was a slight fall (375) in the total number of offences reported which stood at 21,475. The number of offences under the Penal Code fell, by over 600, to 13,794, the decrease occurring mainly under theft, criminal force and assault. The number of juvenile accused fell from 274 to 185: and the ratio of those committed to the Reformatory to the number convicted was 50 per cent against 28 per cent in the previous year. The number of public servants prosecuted rose from 225 to 296, but the percentage of conviction fell from 5 to 2. Sixteen of the prosecutions were initiated by heads of departments and only one of these ended in conviction. The total number of cases for disposal by magistrates was 22,501, of which all but 690 were disposed of during the year. The number of cases pending for more than three months decreased from 51 to 45. There was no change in the percentage (80) of convicted persons who were sentenced to fines only. The number of magistrates with appellate jurisdiction continued to be 12. The number of appeals for disposal was 1,462 against 1,598 in the previous year. The number disposed of fell from 1,553 to 1,388, and the average duration of an appeal rose from 33 days to 37 days. The number of cases committed to Sessions Courts was 148 against 177 in the previous year, and there was no marked change in the percentage of convictions which stood at 50. The number of cases referred to the High Court rose from 5 to 11, but there was a fall both in the number of appeals (163 against 210) and revision cases (479 against 642) dealt with. At the commencement of the year there were 585 prisoners of all classes in the jails of the State. The number admitted during the year was 805 and the number discharged 810, leaving at the close of the year 559 convicted, 9 undertrial, 10 civil and 2 State prisoners, or a total of 580. The total number of courts which exercised civil jurisdiction inclusive of the High Court and village panchayat courts was 52 against 44 in the previous year. The year opened with heavy arrears in the High Court and in some of the District Courts. Two temporary Judges and a temporary Additional Bench in the High Court were therefore constituted. Six village panchayat courts were also established during the year. There was an increase in all these courts of 2,391 cases under original suits and appeals together. In Munsifs' Courts the institutions fell from 70,308 to

Prisons

Civil justice

69,595, the decrease occurring under small causes. Ordinary suits rose from 28,076 to 31,028. The disposals formed 75 per cent of the total number against 77 per cent in the previous year. The arrears increased, by 2,169, to 23,454. There was a rise both in the number of suits of between one and two years' pendency and in that of over two years' pendency. The average duration of contested suits rose from 9 months and 23 days to 9 months and 29 days. In District Courts also there was a rise in ordinary suits instituted and a fall in small causes. The average duration of contested suits rose from 15 months to 17 months and 1 day. Original litigation in the year under report was the heaviest recorded, being in excess of the previous year by 2,707 suits. The increase occurred exclusively in suits relating to land, the file of suits for money or movable property having slightly fallen. Of the appellate work before District Courts 54 per cent was disposed of against 46 per cent in the previous year. There was a rise in the average duration of all classes of appellate work. The High Court disposed of 57 per cent of first and second appeals against 41 per cent in the preceding year. There was a rise in the total number of documents presented for registration and in the aggregate value of the transactions. The ratio of the expenditure to the gross income was 38 per cent against 39 per cent in the previous year.

Registration

15. The rainfall was 13.71 inches less than in the previous year. The season was, therefore, not very favourable to agriculture and there was a further advance in the prices of food-grains and the wages of labour. The Manager of the Experimental Silk Farm at Trivandrum was deputed to Upper India to study the latest methods of sericulture. The cultivation of mulberry was largely extended and several experimental broods of silk-worms were raised in the farms at Trivandrum and Tiruvalla. The silk school opened at Nanthancode under the management of the Salvation Army made good progress. The Agricultural Department was engaged throughout the year in various activities for the benefit of the ryots of the State who continued to evince increasing interest in agricultural progress generally. The number of factories at the end of the year was 109 against 94 in the previous year and the total number of operatives at work rose from 6,143 to 7,917 including 1,021 women and 1,380 children. An industrial survey of the State has been undertaken with a view to organizing a system of industrial and technical education, to promoting indigenous industries and to introducing such new industries as are likely to thrive under local conditions. As compared with the previous year there was an increase of about Rs. 41.35 lakhs in the value of exports, the principal commodities in respect of which this increase occurred being pepper, timber, tea and rubber, and a fall of about Rs. 21.60 lakhs in that of imports, the decrease occurring chiefly under rice, paddy, hardware and machinery. There was a decrease in the exports of most coconut products. There was little change in the relative proportions of the volume of external trade carried by the various routes, sea, backwater and land. The bulk of the trade, both exports and imports, was as usual with British India. The total expenditure on Public Works was Rs. 26.82 lakhs as against Rs. 27.23 lakhs in the previous year. The total capital outlay on the Kodayar Project amounted to Rs. 89,740. Against this a sum of over Rs. 91,069 was realized from the sale of tank-beds. The total expenditure on the project stood therefore at much the same figure as in the previous year, viz., about Rs. 80 lakhs. The total area under irrigation for which water-cess was levied was 53,544 acres against 45,541 acres in the previous year. There was no marked variation in the expenditure on the maintenance of main roads, which amounted to Rs. 4.50 lakhs, or in the average cost of maintenance, which was Rs. 178 per mile, or in the expenditure on new roads, canals and bridges, which stood at Rs. 5.14 lakhs. The Shencottah-Quilon Railway continued to be worked at a loss. The construction of the Quilon-Trivandrum extension was almost completed. The amount spent on account of the latter was Rs. 11.93 lakhs as against Rs. 10.49 lakhs in the

Production
and distri-
butionFactories and
industries

Trade

Public works

Railways

previous year, the total expenditure till the end of the year being Rs. 41.48 lakhs.

Vital
statistics
and medical
services

Diseases

Vaccination

Medical relief

Education

16. The total number of births registered during the year was 74,991 against 70,404 in the previous year and the number of deaths 48,241 against 46,707, the birth and death rates being 21.9 and 14.1 per mille against 20.5 and 13.6. There was a decrease in mortality from cholera and small-pox, the fall under the former being marked, while deaths from fevers and other causes showed a perceptible increase. The total number of vaccinations performed rose by over 3,800 to 206,852, but there was a fall in the number of infants under one year who were vaccinated, the percentage of these to registered births being 17 against 18.5 in the previous year. Twenty-seven hospitals, as in the previous year, and twenty-nine dispensaries, or three more than in 1091, were maintained. The total number of patients who obtained relief was 883,917 against 869,563, but the number of in-patients treated fell from 19,430 to 18,083. The number of midwives at work decreased by 2 to 47 and the number of cases of labour attended to by them worked to an average of 78 per midwife against 77 in the previous year.

17. The principal features of the year were the provision of facilities for higher education in the vernacular, the opening of rural schools to impart elementary education to poor people near their homes, the training of men to give instruction in the lower forms of manual training in elementary schools, the initiation of measures to bring under departmental control the very large number of indigenous educational institutions ("pial schools") which exist in the State and the conversion of boys' schools into mixed schools for the education of boys and girls in localities where no educational facilities exist for the latter class. In order to induce the Muhammadan community to send their children in large numbers to the ordinary public schools Arabic munshis were appointed in 36 elementary schools of both grades and were sanctioned in three departmental higher grade secondary schools. Of the total population of the State, according to the census of 1911, 10.14 per cent were receiving instruction in recognized schools as against 9.31 per cent in the previous year. Taking unrecognized schools also into account the percentage was 11.7 against 10.62. The percentage of pupils attending recognized schools to the total population of school-going age was 67.61 against 62 in the previous year. Taking into consideration the strength in unrecognized schools also the percentage was 78.30 against 71.11. There was no change in the number of collegiate institutions affiliated to the University of Madras, which continued to be five. The strength of the colleges increased from 863 to 927. The number of recognized secondary schools rose by 7 to 86. One of the seven was a departmental institution and the other six private.

COCHIN STATE

(M.E. 1092—16TH AUGUST 1916 TO 15TH AUGUST 1917)

[Report on the administration of the Cochin State for the year 1092 M.E.]

[The Raja, His Highness Sir Sri Rama Varma, G.C.I.E., is a Kshatriya. He is 59 years of age and has male heirs. He pays a tribute of Rs. 2,00,089 and maintains a military force of 290 men. According to the census of 1911 the population of the State was 918,110. The gross revenue was Rs. 43.46 lakhs. The Resident for Travancore is also Resident for Cochin.]

General and
political

18. The principal event of the year was the visit of His Highness the Raja to Delhi to attend the Conference of Ruling Chiefs held there under the presidency of His Excellency the Viceroy on the 30th October 1916 and succeeding days. His Highness availed himself of this opportunity to visit Bombay, Baroda and Ajmere on his way to Delhi and on the return journey he made halts at Agra, Allahabad, Benares and Calcutta and at certain important stations on the east coast of the Madras Presidency.

His Highness spent the hot weather (April to June 1917) at Coonoor, as usual, except for a short period when he returned to his State to attend the funeral ceremonies of his aunt, Her Highness the Senior Rani, who died on the 30th April 1917.

19. The actual gross revenue and expenditure during the year were respectively Rs. 46.36 lakhs and Rs. 43.46 lakhs leaving a net surplus of Rs. 2.89 lakhs. Compared with the actuals of the previous year the revenue showed a decrease of Rs. 1.81 lakhs. But this is only apparent as a sum of Rs. 1.70 lakhs due from the British Government on account of customs revenue under the Inter-Portal Trade Convention was not taken to account in the year, whereas it was credited to receipts in the accounts of the previous year. There was a fall of nearly Rs. 2 lakhs in forest revenue, but this was in large measure counterbalanced by a rise in railway earnings and salt revenue. After providing completely for all liabilities the State had at the end of the year a net surplus of Rs. 19.98 lakhs as against Rs. 17.09 lakhs at the beginning.

Revenue and
finance

20. Four Regulations were passed during the year, including one amending the Criminal Procedure Code so as to admit of the appointment of honorary magistrates, and a large and varied programme of legislative measures was under consideration. Under the latter class comes a Regulation which has for its object the removal of disabilities under which certain classes of agriculturists are labouring. The police force consisted of 92 officers and 499 men against 91 and 495, respectively, in the previous year. Of this number 87 officers and 474 men were employed on purely executive work, the ratio of effective police to population and area being 1 to 1,636 persons and 1 to 2.52 square miles as against 1 to 1,651 persons and 1 to 2.54 square miles in the previous year. None of the men in the force were illiterate. There was a fall in the total number of departmental punishments awarded and a rise in the number of cases of good service which were recognized by promotion and otherwise. The total number of cases reported under the Penal Code and local and special laws decreased slightly from 1,206 to 1,179, and including the number with which the year opened there were 1,199 cases for investigation of which 98.2 per cent were disposed of as against 98.3 per cent in the previous year. The percentage of conviction of cases charged before the courts fell from 89.1 to 86.6. There was some decrease in the number of grave crimes reported during the year and a slight rise in the percentage of detection. The percentage of conviction rose from 81.7 to 85.2. The amount of lost property recovered was 68.94 per cent as against 53.10 per cent in the previous year. The average cost of a policeman was Rs. 196.38 as against Rs. 202.07 in 1091. The net cost per head of population continued to be two annas. There was no striking variation in the number of cases which came before magistrates or in that disposed of by them. Including arrears these amounted to 3,518 and 3,363 respectively. The percentage of conviction fell from 31.7 to 31.1. Appeals were filed in 27.7 per cent of appealable judgments of second-class magistrates against 26.2 per cent in the previous year, but the original decisions were confirmed in only 50.01 per cent of these as against 62.98 per cent in 1091. Sessions Judges had for disposal 44 appeals as against 26 in the previous year and disposed of all excepting one. The Chief Court disposed of all the appeals which came before it. The number of prisons which were maintained for the accommodation of prisoners remained the same as in the previous year. The admissions under all classes rose slightly to 443 convicts, 11 undertrials and 111 civil prisoners, and the daily average number was 134.08 against 113.08 in the previous year. The usual jail industries were carried on and they fetched a net profit of over Rs. 1,000. The total number of suits instituted and appeals filed during the year was respectively 15,999 and 1,136, a slight rise under both heads over the figures of the previous year. There was however no proportionate increase in the number disposed of, which fell from 15,609 suits, and 1,036 appeals to 15,512 suits and 968

Protection
and legis-
lation

Police

Criminal
justice

Prisons

Civil justice

appeals. The pendency rose from 1,240 to 1,667 suits and there was a marked increase amongst them of cases which were over one year and over six months old. The percentage of the appealable decisions of the Munsifs appealed against and the percentage of such decisions confirmed on appeal were 12.53 and 53.1 against 11.08 and 52.73, respectively, in the previous year. Including the arrears the District Judges had 1,030 appeals for disposal against 982 in the previous year, but the number disposed of fell from 713 to 664. There was a satisfactory decrease in the average duration of contested regular and second appeals disposed of by the Chief Court, which was 160 days and 155 days, respectively, as against 267 days and 202 days in the previous year. Eight more village panchayats were organized bringing the total number to 25 having jurisdiction over 55 villages. Six of the early constituted panchayats were for the first time invested with judicial powers and they dealt with a considerable volume of judicial work. Some of these bodies showed commendable zeal and initiative in various useful directions such as the holding of rural exhibitions and assisting in the establishment of rural industrial schools. The number of registration offices continued to be 21 and the number of documents registered rose by over 3,000 to 54,615.

Village
panchayats

Registration

Production
and distri-
butionLand
revenue

Agriculture

21. There was an increase of over 1,000 acres in the total area under cultivation, which amounted to 501,187 acres. The increase occurred mostly under dry, the area under wet rising only by about 200 acres to 207,477 acres. Under Land Revenue proper the total current demand rose by about Rs. 2,000 to Rs. 10,74,033. The aggregate demand under all heads amounted to Rs. 11,63,347, of which the percentage of collection continued to be 99.9. The Agricultural Department received special attention and did much useful work during the year. It was entirely reorganized, largely augmented and furnished with a definite programme of work to ensure orderly and systematic development. At its instance manurial and cultural experiments in paddy lands were tried by the ryots in several parts of the State. Trials were undertaken with good results in the cultivation of exotic varieties of paddy and the single seedling system of transplantation was adopted with considerable success. The department also supervised the cultivation of sugarcane, cotton and rubber conducted by private agencies, demonstrated to the ryots the use of improved varieties of agricultural implements and machinery and supplied them largely with seed, implements and manures. It continued the measures adopted in the previous year to combat the diseases of the arecanut palm and the coconut leaf. Sixteen co-operative societies were registered during the year as against 15 in the previous year, and these include the first society registered for purely agricultural purposes. All but three or four maintained a generally high standard of efficiency and there was a marked improvement in punctuality of repayment. As in the previous year most of the loans issued by agricultural societies were for productive and useful purposes and these amounted to Rs. 52,046 as against Rs. 24,418 in 1901. The system of selection felling and extraction of timber of specified girths continued to be followed in the working of the forests. The Darbar passed orders during the year on a scheme drawn up by the Working Plan Officer for the improved working of the Madugal reserved forests. This is the first working plan to be put into actual execution to regulate the working of such forests. The receipts fell from Rs. 5.89 lakhs to Rs. 3.97 lakhs, while the expenditure rose from Rs. 2.45 lakhs to Rs. 2.82 lakhs. The net revenue of the department amounted to Rs. 1.15 lakhs, against which has to be set off a sum of Rs. 1.24 lakhs, the expenditure under the Forest tramway which is debitable to the Forest Department. The expenditure on State works was Rs. 5.71 lakhs against Rs. 5.17 lakhs in the previous year. The Committee appointed by the Darbar to formulate a scheme for the improvement of roads and waterways submitted their report during the year. The investigation of irrigation projects continued and the preparation of important schemes in one taluk was approaching completion. The total length of the permanent way opened up for traffic remained

Co-operative
societies

Forests

Public works

Tramway

the same as in the previous year, viz., a little over 52 miles. The cost of maintenance was Rs. 1.02 lakhs as against Rs. 1.15 lakhs in the previous year. The receipts from private traffic fell from Rs. 24,687 to Rs. 18,613. The South Indian Railway Company continued to work the State Railway. The gross receipts rose by nearly a lakh to Rs. 7.93 lakhs and the net earnings of the year gave a return of 5.54 per cent on the capital outlay as against 2.91 per cent in the previous year.

Railway

22. The number of births registered during the year (15,414) was almost the same as in the previous year, but the number of deaths rose from 10,037 to 10,297. The percentage of births to population was 1.67 as in the previous year and that of deaths was 1.12 as against 1.09. Public health continued to be satisfactory. There was a decrease, from 48 to 17, in the mortality from small-pox. The number of medical institutions was increased during the year from 27 to 28, the addition being an itinerating dispensary started in the Chittoor taluk. This institution did much useful work though started towards the close of the year and in addition to dispensing drugs, instructed the people in sanitation, the advantages of vaccination, the prevention of malaria and the precautions against cholera, plague and other epidemics. The total number of patients treated during the year by all institutions was 304,085 as against 289,283 in the previous year. The number of women and children treated by female medical subordinates rose from 40,779 to 59,189, the increase being due to the Trichur Maternity Hospital having worked during the year and to a female sub-assistant surgeon having attended the women patients of the Ernakulam General Hospital throughout the year. The training of the local midwives in the State hospitals continued. Attention was bestowed to the modernization of the chief medical institutions so as to render it unnecessary except in very special cases for subjects of the State to seek treatment elsewhere. The expenditure on medical relief was nearly Rs. 1.46 lakhs as against Rs. 1.44 lakhs in the previous year.

Vital
statistics
and medical
services

Medical relief

23. The steady progress of the previous year in the Department of Education was maintained and the Darbar continued to insist on the priority of the claims of primary education to State aid over those of secondary and collegiate education, not less than 61.8 per cent of the total expenditure of the department having been devoted to that object as against 59.4 per cent in the previous year. The total number of State schools was 137 as against 133 in the previous year and that of aided schools rose from 177 to 193. The State institutions did 36.7 per cent of the educational work as against 35.1 per cent in the previous year. The number of pupils under instruction rose by nearly 5,000 to 79,232. The percentage of boys and girls under instruction to the male and female population of school-going age was 79.4 and 35.8, respectively, as against 75.5 and 32.8 in 1901. Upper secondary education was imparted in 16 schools as against 15 in the previous year. Of these the number of aided schools continued to be six, but the average cost to the State per pupil instructed rose from Rs. 9 to Rs. 14. There were 40 lower secondary schools as against 36 in the previous year, and 17 of these were aided. The number of schools in which primary education was given rose by 18 to 1,372. There were 69 schools for girls as against 63 in the previous year and the number of pupils attending these institutions rose by over 2,000 to 18,252. A grant of Rs. 1.33 lakhs as against Rs. 1.29 lakhs in the previous year was disbursed by the State and a sum of Rs. 9,502 was spent on stipends and scholarships.

Education

PUDUKKÖTTAI STATE

(FASLI 1327—1ST JULY 1917 TO 30TH JUNE 1918)

[Report on the administration of Pudukkōttai for fasli 1327]

[The Raja, His Highness Sri Brihadamba Das Raja Sir Martanda Bhairava Tondaiman Bahadur, G.C.I.E., is a Kallar by caste and is 42 years of age. The population of the State according to the census of 1911 is 411,878. The Raja pays no tribute and maintains a military force of 110 infantry and 18 cavalry. The Collector of Trichinopoly is ex-officio Political Agent for the State.]

General and
political

24. Throughout the fasli His Highness the Raja stayed in Australia with the Rani.

Revenue and
finance

25. The receipts amounted to Rs. 20.03 lakhs as against Rs. 19.06 lakhs in the previous fasli. The increase of Rs. 0.97 lakh was contributed by almost all the principal heads of revenue, the bulk occurring under Civil Works and Interest. The total demand under Land Revenue was Rs. 9.64 lakhs against Rs. 9.81 lakhs in the previous fasli and a sum of Rs. 9.56 lakhs was either collected, written off or adjusted from over-payment made in the previous year, the percentage of collection to the demand being 99.08 as against 98.95 in the preceding fasli. The incidence of land revenue assessment per head of the population was Rs. 1-12-11. The land revenue charges amounted to Rs. 1.21 lakhs or 12.33 per cent of the actual collections against Rs. 1.13 lakhs or 11.57 per cent of the collections in the previous fasli. The total revenue under Salt and Abkari, inclusive of the contribution from the British Government, was Rs. 2.98 lakhs against Rs. 2.93 lakhs in the previous year and the expenditure amounted to Rs. 0.32 lakh against Rs. 0.31 lakh. The receipts from Stamps aggregated Rs. 2.31 lakhs as against Rs. 2.27 lakhs, the increase being chiefly contributed by the sale of non-judicial stamps. The total expenditure rose from Rs. 16.93 lakhs to Rs. 19.73 lakhs, the principal items which contributed to the increase being the special contribution of Rs. 1 lakh made to the Madras Hospital Ship and the net loss of Rs. 2.43 lakhs incurred in the conversion of $\frac{3}{4}$ per cent Government securities into the Indian War Loan of 1929-1947. The opening balance of the fasli was Rs. 30.63 lakhs and the closing balance Rs. 30.93 lakhs, out of which a sum of Rs. 19.94 lakhs was invested in the Indian War Loan and Rs. 9.25 lakhs in fixed deposits with the Bank of Madras.

Land
revenueSalt, Abkari
and StampsProduction
and distri-
butionSeason and
crops

26. The total rainfall was 38.57 inches as against 33.57 inches in the preceding fasli and an average of 34.02 inches for the past five years. It was timely and well-distributed and the season was on the whole good and remarkably favourable for wet cultivation in all parts of the State although in many parts the dry crops suffered at the beginning of the fasli from excess and at the end from deficiency of rain. Of the total area of the State, about 67 per cent was available for cultivation, and 75.5 per cent of the latter was cultivated. As much as 39 per cent of the cultivated area was irrigated and 28.6 per cent was under rice. Notwithstanding the favourable season the prices of food-grains, with the exception of ragi, showed a tendency to rise. The condition of the labouring classes was, however, on the whole good. Considerable progress was made during the year in the Department of Co-operative Credit. The number of societies increased from 22 to 27, the membership from 4,194 to 7,132, the shares from 12,562 to 17,360 and the working capital from Rs. 3.79 lakhs to Rs. 4.90 lakhs. Inam survey work was almost completed during the fasli.

Protection
and legis-
lation

Police

27. The Legislative Advisory Council met thrice during the year and passed seven Regulations. A proclamation to control tanning and tanning materials was issued by the Darbar. The sixteenth session of the Representative Assembly was held in September 1917. Twenty-two members were present out of a strength of thirty. There were 109 interpellations and six subjects were discussed. The police force consisted of a Deputy Superintendent, two Inspectors, 11 sub-inspectors, 28 head constables and 202 constables or one Inspector less and one head constable and seven

constables more than in the previous fasli. There was still a shortage of 29 men against 36 men in the previous year. The Superintendent of Police, Trichinopoly, continued to be ex-officio Superintendent of the State Police. The number of cases of all kinds reported during the fasli decreased by about 100 to 2,052, those under the Penal Code falling correspondingly from 538 to 514. There was a slight improvement in the percentage of detection under both heads as also in that of the value of property recovered. Grave crimes fell from 312 to 262. Detective results somewhat improved but still left much to be desired. The system of abolishing circles and placing sub-inspectors under the direct guidance of the Deputy Superintendent was introduced during the year. It gives some promise of success and of better results in the future. Of the 19 magistrates (including the Town Bench) four (including the Chief Magistrate) exercised first-class powers, seven second-class powers, and eight third-class powers. The Court of the Special First-class Magistrate was abolished in the latter part of the fasli. The total number of cases for disposal in all these courts was 4,219 as against 4,011 in the previous fasli, and 4,058 or 96.18 per cent were disposed of as against 3,859 or 96.21 per cent. The percentage of conviction fell from 38.58 to 37.67. In the Court of Sessions there were ten cases for disposal including the two pending at the end of the previous fasli. Of these nine cases involving 12 persons were disposed of and eight persons were convicted. In the Chief Magistrate's Court there were 103 appeals and 54 revision petitions. All the latter and 98 of the former were disposed of. The Original Side of the Chief Court had eight appeals for disposal and the original decisions were reversed in no less than 50 per cent of these as in the previous year. On the Appellate Side there were eight criminal appeals for disposal, all of which were against the decisions of a single Judge on the Original Side in sessions cases. Seven appeals were disposed of, in six of which the original decisions were confirmed. There were 54 revision petitions, including the previous year's pendency, of which 48 were disposed of. There were eight prisons as in the previous fasli, viz., the Central Jail at Pudukkōttai and seven sub-jails. At the commencement of the fasli there were 77 prisoners, 288 of all classes were admitted and 306 discharged during the year, leaving at the close 59 prisoners, consisting of 51 convicts, three under-trials, four civil prisoners and one lunatic. The daily average of the jail population was 67.63 as against 60.79 in the previous year. The accommodation for the prisoners was sufficient and their health was good. There were no escapes. A sum of Rs. 537 was realized by the sale of garden produce and an income of Rs. 1,703 was derived from jail industries on an outlay of Rs. 6,722. The expenditure on the Central Jail amounted to Rs. 9,475 or Rs. 140 per head of the average daily population as against Rs. 126 in the previous year. The rise was due mainly to the purchase of larger quantities of food-grains. The tribunals which dispensed civil justice were, as usual, the Chief Court and its Registrar and eleven rural small cause courts. Including the cases pending at the commencement of the fasli and re-admissions, the number of original suits for disposal was 9,988 against 10,631 in the previous year. Of these 8,764 suits were disposed of and the pendency rose from 1,028 to 1,224 suits. Regular suits were tried by the Chief Court only. The number of such suits for disposal was 2,850 against 2,872 in the preceding fasli and 2,199 were disposed of. The number left pending at the end of the year rose from 565 to 651, of which 40 were pending for over one year and 363 for over three months. The percentage of disposal fell from 78.49 to 77.15. The average duration of contested suits rose from 164 days to 187 days. The percentage of disposal of small cause suits fell from 92 to 90.95, but the average duration of contested suits was 78 days as against 81 days in the previous year. In the Registrar's Court the percentage of disposal fell from 93.79 to 90.70 and the average duration of contested suits rose from 59 days to 65 days. There was a fall, from 95.37 to 93.02, in the percentage of disposals by rural Small Cause Judges. There was improvement both in the percentage of disposal and in the average duration of regular appeals. The

Criminal
justice

Prisons

Civil justice

Local bodies

municipal council consisted of a paid chairman and eight councillors, of whom four were elected and the rest nominated. A general election was held in March 1918 and the new council entered upon its duties on the 1st April. Twenty-eight meetings were held or two less than in the previous year; and five were adjourned for want of a quorum against seven in the previous year. The average attendance slightly improved and the attendance of non-officials was better than that of officials. The several conserved tanks in the town were carefully watched and preserved undefiled. Filtered water was as usual supplied to the main part of the town by means of pipes from a reservoir and the cost of pumping rose from Rs. 2,927 to Rs. 3,273. The Sanitary Engineer to the Government of Madras drew up a drainage scheme for the town during the year. Including the opening balance and excluding the State grant the municipal revenues of the year amounted to Rs. 67,711 and the expenditure to Rs. 55,623, leaving a surplus of Rs. 12,088. It is a matter for congratulation that the municipality was able to be independent of State aid. The number of union panchayats continued to be five and two had non-official chairmen. The total receipts including the State grant were Rs. 13,479 as against Rs. 8,564 in the previous fasli, and the expenditure was Rs. 11,117 as against Rs. 6,734. A sum of Rs. 2,290 was spent by the Revenue Department in the improvement and conservancy of drinking-water ponds and in sweeping and lighting the streets in a few of the larger villages.

Vital statistics and medical services

28. Cholera, from which the State was free in the previous fasli, prevailed in several parts and caused 501 deaths. Deaths from smallpox decreased from 309 to 209. There were no other epidemics. The total number of births was 7,805 as against 7,551 in the previous fasli and there was a regrettable increase, from 7,022 to 7,715, in the number of deaths. The number of medical institutions remained the same as in the previous year. There was a fall in the number both of in-patients and out-patients treated. In the case of the rural dispensaries this was ascribed to the prevalence of cholera in several parts of the State. The Town Hospital and the several dispensaries continued to do useful work and two trained nurses were added to the staff of the former. The total expenditure of the department rose from Rs. 0.53 lakh to Rs. 0.56 lakh. There was a slight rise in the total number of cases vaccinated, much of it occurring under revaccination, but the percentage of success fell from 92.24 to 91.18. The number of persons successfully vaccinated per mille of the population was 26.46 against 26.06 in the previous fasli.

Education

29. The total number of educational institutions at work in the State was 420 as against 407 in the previous fasli. Of these 188 schools and a second-grade college were under direct State management, and the number of private elementary schools which received grants-in-aid from the State increased from 152 to 161. There was a slight increase in the strength of all the schools, the total number of boys under instruction being 15,238, or 51.7 per cent of the male population of school-going age, against 14,029, or 47.58 per cent, in the previous fasli. There was one school for every 2.8 square miles of the area and for every 980 persons of the population. Elementary education is free throughout the State except for boys in the capital. Seventeen elementary schools were set apart solely for the education of girls, 13 of which were State schools and 4 aided. The Town Sirkar Girls' School was raised to the standard of a secondary school. The total number of girls under instruction during the year was 1,812 against 1,751 in the previous fasli. School boards were formed during the year at the headquarters of taluks to enlist the co-operation and sympathy of non-officials in the spread of free primary education. A competent teacher was appointed to inspect all the Muhammadan schools and to report from time to time on the progress made by them in the teaching of the Koran, Arabic and Urdu. The number of pupils on the rolls of the college fell from 663 to 631. The results in the intermediate examination were poor but in the secondary school-leaving

certificate examination the average marks obtained were above the Presidency average in all the subjects. The expenditure of the Educational Department exclusive of the college was Rs. 0.81 lakh against Rs. 0.77 lakh in the previous fasli. The expenditure on the college was Rs. 0.27 lakh against Rs. 0.24 lakh. The receipts from college fees remained the same as in the previous year, viz., Rs. 0.18 lakh.

BANGANAPALLE STATE

[Administration Report of the Banganapalle State for the official year 1917-18]

[Nawab Saiyid Ghulam 'Ali Khan Bahadur, a Muhammadan of the Shiah sect, is the ruler of the State. He is 44 years old and has male heirs. He pays no tribute and maintains no military force. The population of the State is 39,356 (1911 census). The Collector of Kurnool is Political Agent.]

30. The season was very favourable and agriculturists were highly benefited by timely rains, good crops and high prices of cotton and food-grains. The State was slowly recovering from the effects of the floods of October 1916. The construction of houses was proceeding in the devastated portion of Banganapalle town, which had been surveyed and mapped with broad streets; but progress was slow owing to dearth of labour. Some reconstruction and repairs to the damaged portions of roads, culverts and slab drains were carried out, but much more remains to be done. The restoration of two of the chief irrigation bunds across the Zureru which had been completely washed away was commenced during the year. Preliminaries were arranged for the execution of repairs to the Jolapuram tank. A sum of nearly half a lakh of rupees was spent during the year on public works. The weaving branch of the Industrial Department was engaged during the year in a variety of activities. Exhibits were sent to four exhibitions and they were awarded a certificate of merit in one and three prizes in another, one for a carpet, the second for towels and carpets and the third for artificial silk cloth. A building for rearing silk worms was under rapid progress. Meanwhile sericultural operations were confined to the upkeep and extension of mulberry plantations.

31. The total receipts during the year were Rs. 2.74 lakhs against Rs. 2.69 lakhs in the previous year. The principal increase occurred under Land Revenue and was chiefly due to prompt collections. The total expenditure rose from Rs. 2.49 lakhs to Rs. 2.56 lakhs. A sum of Rs. 1,000 was contributed to the Madras War Fund besides the contribution of Rs. 4,200 to the Madras Hospital Ship Fund.

32. Much activity was shown by the police in the prevention of crime and in patrolling the roads. Detective work was, however, poor and the percentage of convictions of accused persons sent for trial fell from 30.3 to 18.75. There was a rise in the percentage of stolen property recovered which was 64.23 against 18.088 in the previous year.

33. The year was most unsatisfactory as regards public health. Plague which broke out in Kurnool and Nandyal threatened the State but was kept out by precautionary measures. Cholera and fevers claimed many victims. The mortality, which was unprecedented, was 49.3 per mille as against 17.28 in the previous year. The State hospital continued to do good work, the daily average number of out-door and in-door patients having been 136 and 11, respectively, as against 116 and 8 in the previous year.

34. Including the Lower Secondary School, Banganapalle, and two girls' schools, there were 26 State schools as against 27 in the previous year, one elementary school having been abolished in January 1917. The results of the annual examination were satisfactory, but the attendance continued to be discouraging. The daily average number present was

772 against 918 in the previous year, the number on the rolls being respectively 1,278 and 1,324. The fall is ascribed to the prevalence of sickness throughout the State. The number of mission schools which received grants-in-aid from the State rose from seven to nine and the number of State-aided private schools continued to be four.

SANDUR STATE

[Administration Report of the Sandur State for the official year 1917-18]

[The Raja of Sandur, Raja Srimant Venkatrao Rao Sahib, Hindu Rao Ghorapade Mamlukattamar, Senapati, is a Mahratta. He is 26 years of age. He pays no tribute and maintains no military force. The population of the State is 13,517 (1911 census). The Collector of Bellary is ex-officio Political Agent and exercises a general supervision over the administration. He is also Sessions Judge for sessions cases and appeals.]

General and
political

35. The Raja remained in the State during the whole year except for about a month which he spent at Bombay.

Revenue and
finance

36. The chief sources of income are land revenue, forests, abkari and mines. No rents were realized under mines and none are expected until after the close of the war. Excluding this source the total receipts amounted to Rs. 68,571 as against Rs. 73,620 in the previous year. The former figure, however, does not take into account the amount realized as interest on loans and Government securities about which information was not available. The expenditure rose from Rs. 63,166 to Rs. 74,685.

Protection
Police

37. In order to improve the police force it is proposed to increase the strength from 32 to 40 and to raise the pay of constables. There were ten paid talaiyaris who were employed in the prevention and detection of crime in rural areas in addition to other work. These and the regular police combined gave a ratio of one man to every 282 of the population and every 3½ miles of area and were sufficient for the maintenance of peace and order. There was no grave crime during the year, but the number of thefts and petty offences charged rose by about 40 per cent and the percentage of conviction fell from 87.5 to 72.09. The value of property stolen rose from about Rs. 400 to over Rs. 4,000, but the percentage of recovery was satisfactory having been 83.84 against 50.15 in the previous year. The Diwan exercised first-class magisterial powers as usual and disposed of 171 out of 173 cases filed; they were mostly thefts and other petty offences. There were no appeals or revision petitions before the Raja. As District Munsif the Diwan had 33 suits for disposal and disposed of 26, several of which were keenly contested. The three appeals pending in the Raja's Court were disposed of during the year and no original suit or appeal was filed. The cost of maintaining the jail at Sandur, the only one in the State, was Rs. 59 and wages amounting to Rs. 42 were earned by the prisoners and credited to State funds.

Courts

Jail

Production
and distri-
bution

38. The total rainfall was 45.48 inches against 40.19 inches in the previous year and an average of the past five years of 34.38 inches. But the rains were not opportune and crops did not prosper. Cholan, one of the principal food-grains, was selling so abnormally high as to necessitate State interference in the matter of fixing its price. The poorer classes were however not seriously affected by these conditions as employment was plentiful, especially grass and fuel cutting in the forests, and wages were high. The forest revenue (Rs. 18,544) remained much the same as in the previous year. The work of the agricultural bank was not satisfactory, but measures were taken to render it popular and really helpful to the ryots.

Vital
statistics
and medical
services

39. Public health was generally fair. Cholera brought by pilgrims from the Hampi festival in Hospet prevailed in a few villages in a sporadic form but was soon stamped out. A few villages were infected with plague, imported from Bellary, Hospet and Kudligi in November, but evacuation was prompt as the villagers understand the advantage

of this from past experience and the disease completely disappeared in February. In consequence of this evacuation of villages the number of patients who received medical relief in the State dispensary at Sandur fell by nearly 1,000 to 10,718. The number of labour cases conducted by the midwife also decreased for the same reason from 151 to 126. The ratios of births and deaths rose to 36 and 31 per mille from 27 and 20 in the previous year.

40. There were thirteen elementary schools of which two were opened during the year. Two of these were Muhammadan schools, one a girls' school maintained by the London Mission Society with a grant from the Darbar and three were maintained from the funds of the local Hindu temple. The rest were State schools. There was no marked variation in attendance or in the cost of maintenance of these institutions.

Education

CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE

(FASLI 1327—1ST JULY 1917 TO 30TH JUNE 1918)

[Season and Crop Report for fasli 1327 (1917-18)]

41. The harvest price of rice was cheaper than in the previous year in twelve districts, dearer in eleven, and stationary in two; that of ragi was cheaper in six of the districts in which it formed the principal food-grain, dearer in thirteen, and stationary in one; the price of cholam was higher than in the previous year in thirteen districts and stationary in one; while cumbu was cheaper in six districts, dearer in seven and stationary in two. The prices of cholam were above the warning rates in three districts, but in no district did the harvest prices of the principal food-grains reach the scarcity rates. The chief feature of the year was the extraordinary rise in the price of cotton in sympathy with the rise in America. This rise took place in spite of the difficulty of exporting, a very strong local demand having arisen, especially for the longer staples, from Indian mills, which required this cotton to spin the finer and stronger yarns, which had previously been spun from imported American cotton. The cotton crop was short all over India and this tended to keep the prices up. One effect of this rise was that some ryots and dealers were tempted to sell their crop forward in December. The crop proving a short one and the prices steadily going up against them, many of these were unable to produce cotton against their contracts or—even, if able to do so,—found it much more profitable to allege that they were unable and to sell their cotton for cash at the higher price. The local cotton markets were thus much demoralized. On the whole, however, the ryots obtained a fair share of the profits due to the increased price and agricultural labourers obtained their share also in the shape of increased wages. Ryots were thus induced to put every possible acre under cotton and in the south much Cambodia was grown as a second crop on wet lands. This naturally led to a scarcity of fodder and to some extent of food-grains. The area under groundnut was some 21 per cent lower than in the previous year. A number of new markets were exploited during the year and the crop was absorbed without difficulty. From February 1918 prices steadily rose, and it was clear that the market was recovering from the shock caused by the stoppage of exports to France in 1916. Indigo was badly hit by the lack of export and prices fell considerably. There was a slow recovery of the market since January 1918 owing to increased exports to Japan and China. The price of rice was steadily rising throughout the year not on account of wholly local shortage but in general sympathy with the rise in price of cotton and other commodities and also because of the lack of freight. Much rice was imported into the Ceded districts to take the place of cholam which was badly damaged by heavy rains and disease and was consequently selling high. The outstanding feature of the year was the rapidly increasing

prices which everywhere upset rural economics. In the cotton tracts the actual ryots and the middlemen made very good profits and the cooly classes were getting excellent wages up to 8 annas per day for men in the Ceded districts and 4 to 6 annas per day for women in Tinnevely. But the cost of food-grains and clothing was rapidly increasing also and there can be no doubt that the working classes were feeling the pinch in many places owing to the rise of wages not keeping pace with the rise in the cost of living. Similarly in the rice tracts all actual producers benefited, but the cooly classes, although securing sufficient actual food from their wages paid in kind, were hard put to it to purchase cloths. The west coast suffered owing to the failure of the staple product—the coconut—to rise in price in sympathy with other produce.

POLITICAL PENSIONS (1917)

42. The political pensions in force on the 1st January 1917 amounted to Rs. 2,99,362-12-0 per annum and were distributed among 478 pensioners. During the year pensions amounting to Rs. 9,095-8-0 were either newly sanctioned or were transferred from other provinces, and pensions amounting to Rs. 29,463-13-0 either lapsed or were transferred to other provinces. Twenty-three pensioners died during the year and 22 new pensioners were added to the list. The pensions of two persons were commuted in full and that of a third in part. The pensions in force on the 1st January 1918 amounted to Rs. 2,78,994-7-0 and were distributed among 475 pensioners. The payments made to Carnatic stipendiaries and to the Tanjore family aggregated Rs. 2,00,851-11-0 and Rs. 38,321-3-5 respectively. The former amount includes the commuted value of the three pensions referred to above.

CHAPTER II

ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND

REALIZATION OF LAND REVENUE

(FASLI 1326—1ST JULY 1916 TO 30TH JUNE 1917)

[Report on the settlement of Land Revenue for fasli 1326]

43. Of the five sources from which the Government derived their land revenue there was little variation under peshkash or revenue from permanently settled estates, which amounted to Rs. 49·88 lakhs against Rs. 49·87 lakhs in the previous fasli, and shrotriyam jodi or quit-rent levied on inam villages which remained at much the same figure as in the previous fasli (Rs. 7·57 lakhs). The net ryotwari demand rose by Rs. 9·27 lakhs to Rs. 641·18 lakhs. Increases occurred under assessment on holdings (Rs. 1·33 lakhs), water-rate and second crop charge (Rs. 3·25 lakhs), remissions (Rs. 0·95 lakh) and miscellaneous revenue (Rs. 5·64 lakhs). The total extent of ryotwari holdings during the year was 25·79 million acres or an excess of 112,570 acres over that of the previous year. The increase was marked in Anantapur, South Kanara and Malabar, due in the first two districts to the extensive assignment of waste lands on darkhast and in the third to the transfer of "unoccupied dry" lands to "occupied dry." The total assessment on holdings rose from Rs. 518·17 lakhs to Rs. 519·51 lakhs. The increase was marked in Madura, South Kanara and Malabar, which together contributed about 50 per cent of the total. In the first-named district it was due mostly to the introduction of the resettlement rates of assessment in the Periyakulam taluk and in the others to expansion of cultivation. There was a decrease of 91,346 acres under dry and an increase of 28,707 acres under wet, or a net decrease of 62,639 acres in the total area cropped on ryotwari holdings which amounted to 20·478 million acres. Dry waste charged showed an increase of 197,202 acres, wet waste charged showed a decrease of 21,280 acres and wet waste remitted fell by 678 acres. Including the area under "miscellaneous" cultivation, the total area cropped amounted to 21·74 million acres against 21·81 million acres in the previous year. The revenue from water-rate and second crop charge rose from Rs. 34·78 lakhs to Rs. 38·03 lakhs. Remissions and deductions amounted to Rs. 16·62 lakhs against Rs. 15·66 lakhs in the previous fasli. Season remissions showed an increase of Rs. 1·18 lakhs, while fixed remissions and beriz deductions showed decreases. The remissions under "waste remitted" amounted to Rs. 1·80 lakhs or Rs. 0·04 lakh more than those of the previous year. Under "shavi" or short crop the total remissions amounted to Rs. 1·37 lakhs or an increase of Rs. 0·52 lakh over the previous year's figure. Almost the whole of this related to wet lands. A remission of Rs. 1,600 was granted under "short crop." As "tirvakammi" (difference between wet and dry rates of assessment on wet lands cultivated with dry crops owing to insufficiency or failure of the water-supply) a sum of Rs. 1·59 lakhs was remitted against Rs. 1·87 lakhs in the previous year. The amount remitted on account of "injury by floods" rose by Rs. 0·84 lakh to Rs. 1·53 lakhs, Kistna alone showing the largest increase of Rs. 0·98 lakh. Fixed remissions (abatment of the demand granted for reasons unconnected with the season) amounted to Rs. 1·21 lakhs against Rs. 1·30 lakhs in the previous year. "Beriz deductions" (deductions made from village collections in favour of inamdars

Sources of
land
revenue
Peshkash
Shrotriyam
jodi
Ryotwari

Remissions

Miscellaneous
revenue

and religious institutions) fell by Rs. 13,300 to Rs. 8.97 lakhs. Most of this decrease was contributed by Tinnevely owing to the decrease in the payment of tasdik allowance. The receipts under "Miscellaneous revenue" amounted to Rs. 100.25 lakhs against Rs. 94.61 lakhs in the previous year. The increase was mainly derived from the sale-proceeds of lands, under which head Madras showed the largest increase, viz., Rs. 2.46 lakhs. This was due in the main to the sale of Badsha Sahib's buildings. Kistna came next with an increase of Rs. 1.09 lakhs due to the sale of tank bed and assessed waste lands under the Divi pumping system. Other items under which increases occurred were water-rate on minor inams in ryotwari villages (Rs. 0.52 lakh), charge for water in zamindari and inam villages including tirvajasti and fasaljasti (Rs. 0.36 lakh), revenue from tree pattas (Rs. 0.78 lakh), rent of lankas (Rs. 0.48 lakh) and other items (Rs. 0.55 lakh). On the other hand there was a decrease of Rs. 0.68 lakh in the revenue derived from enhanced charges imposed on encroachment of porambokes. The current demand under cesses rose from Rs. 71.61 lakhs to Rs. 73.16 lakhs. The increase occurred in permanently-settled estates and whole inam villages and also under ryotwari and miscellaneous. In the case of the first two it was marked in Vizagapatam and was due to the introduction of a railway cess during the fasli, to the triennial revision of land-cess on permanently-settled estates and to the revision of assessments consequent on the survey and classification of whole inam villages. The increase under the last item mainly followed the increase in the revenue.

Cesses

Collections

44. Including both arrears and current the balance outstanding on the 1st July 1917 was Rs. 12.06 lakhs. Up to the end of October 1917, Rs. 9.46 lakhs or 78.5 per cent had been collected, Rs. 3,905 written off the accounts and Rs. 791 held to be irrecoverable. The net recoverable balance on 1st November 1917 was Rs. 2.55 lakhs. The charges of district administration including salaries and allowances of revenue inspectors but excluding those of village establishments amounted to Rs. 52.67 lakhs or 6.8 per cent of the land revenue and cesses realized. The ratio was the same as in the preceding year. The village service charges (including proprietary estates) were Rs. 55.75 lakhs. Including this sum the total charges amounted as in the preceding fasli to about 14 per cent of the collections of land revenue and cesses.

Coercive
processes

45. There was a further decrease in the number of processes issued during the year for the realization of Government dues which fell by about 170,000 to 1,123,483. The number of demand notices issued decreased in eighteen districts and increased in seven districts. The increases were marked in Kurnool and Madura due in the case of the former to the poorness of the harvest and in that of the latter to exceptional promptness on the part of the taluk officers in the collection of revenue. The number of distraints or attachments fell by 18,230 to 61,216. There was again a decrease in the percentage borne by the number of distraints and attachments to that of demand notices as compared with the previous fasli. The number of defaulters whose immovable property was attached further fell from 14,871 to 11,520. The number of defaulters whose property was sold was greater than in the previous fasli. The percentage of actual sales to sale notices was 5.55 against 4.22 and the percentage of defaulters whose property was actually sold to the total number of pattas was .06 against .05 in the preceding fasli. Immoveable property of the estimated value of Rs. 1.65 lakhs was sold for the recovery of arrears amounting to Rs. 0.25 lakh and realized Rs. 0.58 lakh. The prices fetched were higher than in the previous year both in the case of wet and dry lands. The total area of lands bought in by Government for want of bidders decreased both under dry and wet from 3,025 to 2,071 acres in the case of the former and from 361 to 244 acres in the case of the latter.

Transfer of
registration

46. The number of applications for transfer of revenue registration received through officers of the Registration Department rose by 42,309 or 17.43 per cent to 285,052. The increase was especially large in North

Arcot, Trichinopoly, Coimbatore, Tinnevely and Rāmnād. The number of applications presented direct to revenue officers fell by 7,980 or 11.34 per cent to 62,392. The number of cases which revenue officers dealt with on their own initiative also fell by over 7,000 to 20,316. The largest decrease (nearly 4,500) was in Tanjore. The total number of applications received under all the three heads specified above together with the number pending disposal at the beginning of the fasli was 449,298; of these 344,769 were disposed of, leaving a balance of 104,529. Of the total number disposed of, 5 per cent were rejected and the rest accepted.

47. An aggregate sum of Rs. 7.44 lakhs as against Rs. 7.51 lakhs in the previous year was advanced under the Land Improvement and the Agriculturists' Loans Acts. The fall is the net result of decreases in fourteen districts and of increases in nine districts. Of the sums repayable under these Acts on account of principal 91.2 per cent under the Land Improvement Loans Act and 86.8 per cent under the Agriculturists' Loans Act were collected. Advances amounting to Rs. 21,479 and Rs. 20,709 under the two respective Acts were repaid by borrowers on account of loans the repayment of which had not fallen due, while sums amounting to Rs. 865 under the first Act and Rs. 620 under the second were written off as irrecoverable. The aggregate amount of principal and interest repayable during the year under both the Acts was Rs. 11.31 lakhs. Out of this amount Rs. 3.17 lakhs or 28.0 per cent were collected without resort to coercion, Rs. 6.31 lakhs or 55.8 per cent after the issue of demand notices and Rs. 0.56 lakh after attachment but before sale. Over Rs. 3,500 were collected by the sale of movable property and a slightly smaller sum, or Rs. 10,000 less than in the previous year, by that of immovable property. The balance outstanding at the end of the year was Rs. 1.20 lakhs, the arrears being heaviest in Madura, Tanjore and South Arcot. With the aid of loans under the Land Improvement Loans Act, 362 wells capable of irrigating 1,782 acres of land were constructed during the fasli at an aggregate cost of Rs. 1.10 lakhs against 433 wells in the previous year, and 200 wells (against 326) were repaired. A sum of Rs. 23,930 was spent on the reclamation of 660 acres, Rs. 7,970 on the purchase of oil-engines or pumps and Rs. 27,384 on other improvements. The largest number of wells constructed and repaired was in the Coimbatore district. Under the Agriculturists' Loans Act 7,810 head of cattle were purchased at an aggregate cost of Rs. 4.62 lakhs and 78 houses were rebuilt. Seed-grain was purchased for Rs. 1,527 and a sum of Rs. 27,968 was spent for other purposes.

Loans and
advances

SURVEYS (1917-18)

[Report on the administration of the Survey, Settlement and Land Records Departments for the year 1917-18 (G.O. No. 3261, Revenue, dated the 17th September 1918)]

48. All the parties (including one solely employed on estate surveys) Operations and the two town survey detachments which were at work in the previous year continued their operations. These operations consisted mainly of the cadastral resurvey of Government tracts in Guntūr, North Arcot, South Arcot, Tanjore, Madura and Rāmnād. They also comprised the cadastral survey of Government lands excluded from former surveys or only topographically surveyed in three districts and of proprietary estates in eleven districts; the special cadastral survey of towns in ten districts; the block survey of whole inam villages in one district; the correction of topographical details in revenue maps of municipal towns; the collation and arrangement of Madras Survey traverse records and the preparation of one-inch outline sheets for the Survey of India and the publication of maps.

Parties
District
operations
No. I Party

No. II Party

No. III Party

No. IV Party

No. V Party

No. VI Party

49. No. I Party was employed in the Northern Circars. In Ganjam its outturn comprised the cadastral survey of 51 square miles in two proprietary estates and of 2 square miles of disafforested blocks in a reserved forest. Eighty-one out of a total of 95 linear miles of roads passing through non-Government areas were also surveyed, the final survey of the boundary between Dharakota and Bodogodo was carried out and an area of 6 square miles in the former estate was credited on completion of mapping. In Godavari the experimental survey of two selected villages was conducted in the Nugur taluk. In Kistna an area of 15 square miles in Mirzapuram-Medur estate was credited. In Guntur 109 square miles in Tenali and 230 square miles in Repalle were resurveyed and street surveys were completed in six unions and were in progress in five others. The Town Survey Section credited in all 14.27 square miles in Parlakimedi, Chicacole, Vizianagram, Vizagapatam, Cocanada and Ellore. All the towns were finished excepting the last two. In Nellore and Guntur No. II Party finished under the Punganur system the taluks of Pellur, Darsi and Marella. In addition it surveyed 6 square miles in Mallam taluk and the Yedlurpadu shrotriyam. In Cuddapah half a square mile of irrigable area in three shrotriyams in Cuddapah and Proddatur taluks were finished. In Chittoor 11 linear miles of roads in Karvetnagar were finished. The outturn of No. III Party comprised the resurvey of 111 square miles in Tirumangalam taluk, Madura district, and the cadastral survey of 2.6 square miles in Erasakkanayakanur zamindari and 35 square miles in devasthanam villages. Street surveys were completed in two unions. In Ramnad 32 square miles were resurveyed in Aruppukkottai and Paramagudi and 29 square miles in Settur and Raghunathapuram estates were surveyed cadastrally. In South Arcot 198 square miles were resurveyed in Gingee taluk. The cadastral section of No. IV Party finished the resurvey of the Melur taluk, Madura district, the year's outturn being 201 square miles, completed 0.59 square mile out of 1 square mile in Inam Ramayyanpatti in Dindigul taluk and credited 7 out of 37 square miles in certain whole inam villages taken up for block survey. Street surveys were completed in the Chinnalapatti union and 16,988 supplemental subdivisions were measured in the Dindigul and Melur taluks by surveyors placed at the disposal of the Special Settlement Officer. In Ramnad street surveys were completed in five unions. The records of the Pamban Island were received back from the Raja of Ramnad after final check, but it was observed that this check was more a revision of the survey. A conference was accordingly held by the officer in charge with the Diwan and leading ryots at Mandapam and it was agreed that the survey registry should follow more or less the state of affairs which prevailed during the initial survey and prior to the final check. In North Arcot the resurvey of Tiruvannamalai taluk was conducted under the Punganur system, the special staff and the Survey Party working concurrently and 162 square miles were completed. The Town Survey section worked in Tinnevely extension, in Tuticorin, in Mayavaram extension, in Madura extension, in Bodinayakanur, in Srivilliputtur, in Coimbatore extension, in Dharampuram and in Chingleput, finished all but the last two and credited 8.01 square miles in all. The section was also entrusted with the survey of streets in four unions in the "triangles" taluks of the Tanjore district and work was in progress in all these. As in the previous two years the scene of operations of No. V Party lay almost exclusively in the South Arcot district where it surveyed 412 square miles. The cadastral survey of Chennappanayakanpalaiyam and Naduvirappattu estates was taken up and 4 square miles credited. Street surveys were finished in Tindivanam and Valavanur unions. In North Arcot the survey of Marudalam-Muttavadi mutta was taken up late in the year and 1 square mile finished. No. VI Party resurveyed 1 square mile in Mannargudi, 101 square miles in Tanjore South, 25 square miles in Papanasam, and 27 square miles in Nannilam. The cadastral survey of 21 square miles of the Palace estate lands was also finished and street surveys were completed

in three unions. Further work could not be carried on in the Tanjore district for lack of stones and the Party moved to North Arcot where it resurveyed 221 square miles in Tiruvannamalai. In Trichinopoly the cadastral survey of the Agrahavalavandi estate was completed, the area credited during the year being 14.5 square miles.

50. The area of village maps printed during the year was 5,002 square miles, including 344 square miles of proprietary estates and 97 square miles of Coorg Province, as against 4,295 square miles printed in the previous year. The arrears of printing at the end of the year were 5,172 square miles as against 7,270 square miles in the preceding year. There was a marked improvement in the printing output at the Central Office.

51. The total cadastral outturn for the year comprised the initial survey of 565 square miles in estates and 3 square miles in Government villages, the resurvey of 1,830 square miles of Government land, the block survey of 7 square miles of whole inam villages, and the survey of streets in 19 unions as well as of 92 linear miles of roads. The Town Survey Detachments completed on the detailed system the survey of seven towns and of extensions to four towns and partly finished or commenced work in four others. The gross expenditure was Rs. 11.81 lakhs, of which Rs. 8.51 lakhs is chargeable to Government and Rs. 3.30 lakhs to proprietary estates, municipalities, etc. The amount chargeable to outturn was Rs. 10.89 lakhs.

SETTLEMENTS (1917-18)

[G.O. No. 3261, Revenue, dated the 17th September 1918]

52. All the five settlement parties which were at work at the end of the previous year continued their operations. The work of the old Settlement Party No. I in the North Arcot district having been completed by the end of the previous year its designation was attached to the Special Settlement Officer, Tanjore, and its establishment transferred to Party No. II, which continued its work in South Arcot, Trichinopoly, Coimbatore and Salem and in the Tiruvannamalai taluk of North Arcot. Party No. III worked in Chittoor and Bellary, No. IV in Madura and Ramnad and No. V in Ganjam, Vizagapatam, Godavari, Kistna and Nellore. A Special Settlement Officer was at work in connexion with the preparation of a scheme report for the resettlement of the Nilgiri and Malabar Wynaads.

53. In Ganjam rough pattas were issued in the resumed inam villages of Bejjiputti and Kumarasingi in the Kallikota estate and in the twelve whole inam villages of the Karakavalasa estate. The classification of the resumed inam village of Balajipuram in the Parlakimedi maliahs was completed and the localization and classification of Paiks' inams in the Pondakhol mutta was started. In Vizagapatam the revision of adangals was completed in 126 villages of the Palkonda taluk, nine villages of the Sarvasiddhi taluk and three villages of the Gologonda taluk; while subdivisions were measured in 95 villages of the Palkonda taluk. Progress was made in the collection of materials for a scheme report for the resettlement of the three ryotwari taluks of the district. Fair adangals for 770 whole inam villages of the district and for the resumed inam village of Kilantra were prepared and handed over to the Revenue Department. In Godavari the classification of the agraharam village of Chikkullapalem was completed and a report on the results of the classification submitted. The diglot registers of three resumed inam villages in the Peddapuram taluk and a report on the introduction of the settlement in those villages were also submitted. The fair adangals of the

Nellore

Bellary

Chittoor

North Arcot

South Arcot

Tanjore

Trichinopoly

Madura

Rāmnād

Salem

The Nilgiris
Malabar

Registers

Finance

two whole inam villages in the Gūdūr taluk of the Nellore district were handed over to the Revenue Department. The diglot registers of the resumed inam villages of Pentapādu in the Gūdūr taluk and of Ramapuram in the Kāvali taluk and reports on the introduction of settlement in those villages were submitted. In the Bellary district materials were collected for a scheme report for the resettlement of Adōni, Alūr and Siruguppa taluks. The revision of adangals was completed in 93 ryotwari and two shrotriyam villages of the Adōni taluk and subdivisions were measured in 108 ryotwari and two shrotriyam villages. The diglot register of one shrotriyam village in the Palmanēr taluk of the Chittoor district was submitted. In the Tiruvannāmalai taluk of the North Arcot district the revision of adangals was finished in 166 villages and a scheme report for the resettlement of the taluk was submitted. In the South Arcot district the revision of adangals was completed in the remaining 169 villages of the Tirukkōyilūr taluk and in 132 villages of the Kallakurchi taluk. The final scrutiny of survey records was carried out in respect of 185 villages of the Tindivanam taluk and in the remaining five villages of the Cuddalore taluk and 148 villages of the Villupuram taluk. Field inspection preliminary to the introduction of resettlement was completed in the remaining 24 villages of the Cuddalore taluk, in all the 279 villages of the Villupuram taluk, and in 53 villages of the Tindivanam taluk. Rough pattas were issued for 141 villages in the Cuddalore taluk and objections thereto heard in 101 villages. In Tanjore the revision of adangals was completed in the remaining 102 villages of the Nannilam taluk, in 85 villages of the Negapatam taluk and in one village in each of the taluks of Kumbakōnam and Pāpanāsam. Rough chittas were issued for the remaining 51 villages of the Māyavaram taluk and the final check of survey records was completed in all the villages of the Mannārgudi taluk. In the Trichinopoly district the fair accounts of all the remaining villages of the Trichinopoly and Nāmakkal taluks except those included within the municipalities of Trichinopoly and Srīrangam were handed over to the Revenue Department. The diglot registers of 65 villages in the Palni taluk of the Madura district were submitted. The scrutiny of survey records was completed in 115 villages of the Madura taluk, 69 villages of the Mēlūr taluk and 127 villages of the Tirumangalam taluk. Field inspection preliminary to the introduction of resettlement was finished in the remaining 2 and 41 villages, respectively, of the Dindigul and Nilakkōttai taluks and in 93 villages of the Madura taluk, 25 villages of the Mēlūr taluk and 59 villages of the Tirumangalam taluk. Resettlement rates were introduced in the Periyār-affected villages of the Periyakulam taluk, the whole of the Dindigul taluk, and 29 non-Periyār villages of the Nilakkōttai taluk. The fair accounts of 4 villages of the Periyakulam taluk, of all the villages of Dindigul taluk, and of 29 villages of the Nilakkōttai taluk were transmitted to the Revenue Department. A scheme report for the resettlement of the four ayan villages in the Paramagudi taluk and of eight villages in the Aruppukkōttai taluk of the Rāmnād district was submitted. Diglot registers were prepared for 16 of the 22 resumed inam villages in the Rāmnād and Sivaganga zamindaris. The fair accounts of the Jarugumalai hill villages in the Salem taluk were handed over to the Revenue Department and a report on the introduction of settlement was submitted. Enquiries into the economic conditions of the Nilgiri and Malabar Wynaads were carried out and some progress was made in the collection of materials for the compilation of a scheme report. A preliminary report was submitted in regard to the lines on which the resettlement should be conducted.

54. During the year 144 manuscript registers were received, 568 were scrutinized, 1,473 were printed and 1,359 issued to Collectors.

55. The total expenditure was Rs. 4.67 lakhs against Rs. 5.52 lakhs in the previous year. A sum of Rs. 1.26 lakhs was spent on the controlling

office against Rs. 1.46 lakhs in the previous year. The cost of printing and binding settlement registers also fell from Rs. 0.61 lakh to Rs. 0.54 lakh and the expenditure on settlement parties from Rs. 3.46 lakhs to Rs. 2.87 lakhs.

LAND RECORDS (1917-18)

[G.O. No. 3261, Revenue, dated the 17th September 1918]

56. Land Records staffs were employed throughout the year in all the districts of the Presidency, and in most districts efforts were concentrated on regular maintenance work. In South Arcot, however, where resurvey and resettlement operations were in progress the Land Records staff was mainly engaged in the overcheck of current subdivision work and in the inspection of maintenance accounts and registers of taluk offices. The year was, generally speaking, one of steady and continued progress. As the result of stricter scrutiny there was improvement in the quality of work turned out. There was a fall in the number of cases of patta transfer wrongly rejected and the details of acquisition procedure were attended to with more care than in the past. Topographical work, too long and too generally neglected, was receiving attention in places. Stone accounts were no longer in the confusion of a few years ago. The co-operation of the ryots was secured to an increasing extent in the maintenance of their own marks. This was particularly good in Chittoor, Coimbatore, Chingleput and North Arcot.

57. Pre-maintenance work was practically completed in all the taluks of the Ganjam district. In North Arcot, where there was a noticeable increase in the work done both by the ryots and the Land Records staff, it was completed in all taluks except in nineteen hill villages of the Polur taluk. In Madura two new taluks, Dindigul and Nilakkōttai, were brought under maintenance during the year. Maintenance was in progress in Palni and Periyakulam taluks and the remaining taluks were under resurvey. Good work was done in Palni.

58. The balance under survey marks requiring repair or renewal was considerably reduced. The work done in this direction by the Land Records staff was particularly satisfactory in Coimbatore, Tanjore and Kistna and the outturn by the ryots was good in Chittoor, Coimbatore, North Arcot, Chingleput and Tanjore. Karnams were tentatively appointed survey officers in the districts of Nellore, Kurnool, Tinnevely and Coimbatore and authorized to repair and renew survey marks. In other districts they were permitted to repair them and receive fees from the landholders. These measures are expected to result in a further reduction in the number of survey marks missing or requiring repair. A slight increase occurred during the year in the number of subdivisions pending checkmeasurement and a very considerable increase in the number remaining to be plotted. In almost every district the arrears of mapping were heavy, a result of the general increased supervision over, and closer scrutiny of, proposed subdivisions by Land Records Tahsildars, which will eventually lead to improvement in the quality of the maintained survey records.

59. Two schools for the training of Assistant and Deputy Collectors were held during the year in the Bellary and Coimbatore districts. A school for the training of Land Records Tahsildars was held in the Chingleput district. All schools were attended by the Director. The specific training of Land Records Tahsildars by officers of the department has already been in some measure justified by the results obtained. Schools for the training of revenue subordinates and karnams were also held.

General

Operations
preliminary
to main-
tenanceCurrent
maintenanceTraining of
staff

WASTE LANDS

(FASLI 1327—1ST JULY 1917 TO 30TH JUNE 1918)

[Season and Crop Report for the agricultural year 1917-18]

60. The total area of the Presidency is 89·702 million acres as against 89·533 million acres in the previous year, of which a net extent of 34·056 million acres was under cultivation during the year, 13·012 million acres were classed as forest and 21·966 million acres were not available for cultivation. Of the remainder 9·075 million acres were fallow as against 8·474 million acres in the previous year, and 11·593 million acres formed culturable waste other than fallow as against 11·452 million acres in 1916-17. There was a slight rise in the areas reserved for forest and not available for cultivation and a fall in the acreage under cultivation.

GOVERNMENT ESTATES

61. There is nothing to record under this head.

WARDS' ESTATES

(FASLI 1326—1ST JULY 1916 TO 30TH JUNE 1917)

[Report on the administration of the Estates under the Court of Wards in the Madras Presidency for fasli 1326 (1916-17)]

62. Of the nineteen estates under the Court's superintendence in the previous fasli Mirzapuram was handed over to its senior proprietor on his coming of age in October 1916. Arni and Bāgalūr were brought under the Court's management in August 1916 and March 1917, respectively. There were thus twenty estates under management at the close of the fasli.

Estates
under
manage-
mentFinance
Demand,
collection and
balance

63. The gross current demand of the estates amounted to Rs. 22·53 lakhs. Excluding season and other remissions the net demand was Rs. 22·11 lakhs against Rs. 23·60 lakhs in fasli 1325. Of this amount Rs. 18·99 lakhs were collected and Rs. 0·01 lakh written off leaving a balance of Rs. 3·11 lakhs at the end of the fasli. In two estates, viz., Kadambūr and Thimmajiyamma's estates, there were no outstanding balances and in three, viz., Madukkūr, Nandigām and Urkkādu, the balances exceeded 25 per cent. In the remaining fifteen estates they stood at various figures below 25 per cent. The arrear demand at the beginning of the fasli and the balance at its close showed no noticeable variations from the figures of the previous fasli. They stood, respectively, at about Rs. 11½ lakhs and Rs. 7½ lakhs. In eleven they varied between Rs. 1,000 and Rs. 15,000. In the remaining four, viz., Madugula, Madukkūr, Sāptūr and the Zamorin's estate, they exceeded the latter figure. In the last-named estate the bulk of the balance related to the period prior to its assumption by the Court and the greater part will have to be written off as irrecoverable. At the beginning of the fasli the total cash balance of all the estates excluding Mirzapuram was Rs. 5·07 lakhs. The cash receipts during the fasli and the expenditure amounted, respectively, to Rs. 31·03 lakhs and Rs. 28·36 lakhs, leaving a cash balance of Rs. 7·74 lakhs at the end of the year. Including the estimated value of grain on hand and Government promissory notes and other securities which were of the aggregate face value of Rs. 8·65 lakhs as against securities to the value of Rs. 23·36 lakhs in the previous year—the total closing balance to the credit of the estates was Rs. 17·12 lakhs against Rs. 31·30 lakhs at the end of the preceding fasli. The difference is accounted for mainly by the release of Mirzapuram from the Court's management. Kallikōta-Atagada, South Vallūru and Kangundi continued to have surplus balances of over a lakh

Surplus
balances

each. Arni and Urkkādu also came under that category. The Court was considering the question of utilizing a considerable portion of the five lakhs' balance in Kallikōta for works of permanent benefit to the estate. In South Vallūru nearly Rs. 3½ lakhs of the balance which was available last year was utilized in the purchase of three villages. The balance in Kangundi was reserved mainly for improvements to the palace buildings and for the construction of a veterinary dispensary. The balance in Arni was held in reserve pending the settlement of a scheme for the liquidation of the Jaghirdar's debts amounting to over Rs. 6 lakhs. A part of the surplus in Urkkādu was invested in the war loan. Madugula, Sāptūr and Ūttumalai were the more prosperous of the remaining estates. In the first named of these a portion of the balance was invested in the war loan. In Sāptūr arrangements were made to contribute from the surplus half the cost of a new dispensary proposed to be constructed by the taluk board. In Ūttumalai a portion of the fund will be utilized in the construction of a veterinary dispensary. The average percentage for all the estates of the establishment charges and Government commission to the normal receipts rose from 15·5 to 15·7. No curtailment of these charges was possible.

Establish-
ment charges

64. The total allotment for maramat works, including those of religious and charitable institutions attached to estates, was Rs. 5·20 lakhs, of which Rs. 3·60 lakhs, or 69·2 per cent was actually spent against 77·8 per cent in the previous fasli. Including the aggregate value of work done but not paid for, the total value of the work executed during the year was Rs. 4·23 lakhs or 81·4 per cent of the allotment against 92·5 per cent in the previous year. The total expenditure was distributed amongst irrigation works (Rs. 1·96 lakhs), buildings (Rs. 0·89 lakh), road and other works (Rs. 0·27 lakh) and establishment and contingencies (Rs. 0·48 lakh). The aggregate outlay was 16 per cent of the total ordinary charges as against 19·4 per cent in the previous year. The possibility of opening agricultural arms in Sāptūr and Ūttumalai was under consideration during the fasli.

Works

Agricultural
improve-
ments

65. At the beginning of the fasli the debts due to the estates were Rs. 1·07 lakhs. Including loans newly granted, debts newly brought to account and interest and costs which accrued during the year, the aggregate amount due was Rs. 1·29 lakhs, of which Rs. 0·39 lakh was collected and Rs. 0·05 lakh written off, leaving a balance of Rs. 0·85 lakh appertaining to thirteen estates. The outstanding debts were again large in Kallikōta-Atagada and in South Vallūru. The liabilities of the estates at the beginning of the year were Rs. 13·45 lakhs, exclusive of the two debenture loans repayable in fixed annual instalments from the income of the Kallikōta-Atagada estate. Including the debts newly contracted during the year, loans newly brought to account and interests and costs which accrued and excluding the amount repaid during the year, there was a net sum of Rs. 15·23 lakhs which was payable by eleven estates. The debts payable by Arni amounted to Rs. 7·11 lakhs. They exceeded Rs. 2 lakhs in Nandigām, and were over one lakh of rupees each in Madukkūr, Kadavūr and the Zamorin's estate. In Kadavūr, in which the provisions of section 45 of the Madras Court of Wards Act, 1902, were in operation, the balance of debts remaining to be paid off amounted to Rs. 1·91 lakhs. The sale of the "pannai" lands was the only means by which this could be discharged and orders have been issued for the conduct of the sales according to a well-considered programme. Nothing came of the proposals to issue licences for prospecting for minerals in the estate.

Debts
Debts due to
the estatesDebts due by
the estatesEncumbered
estates

66. There were eight minors in residence at Newington—two of them not being wards of the Court. They made satisfactory progress in their studies and paid attention also to the usual out-door exercises. The Kallikōta ward was preparing for the Intermediate and the Sāptūr ward for the Matriculation examination. They visited Parlākimedi, Pithāram, Nuzvid and Kavalapara at the invitation of the proprietors of those estates who are all old Newington boys. Their stay in Ootacamund, which was longer than usual, did them a great deal of good. On their

Education of
the wards

way back they spent a fortnight in Coimbatore, where the Principal of the Agricultural College arranged lectures for them in elementary science and also practical demonstrations in the field. They also visited the veterinary hospital, the farm and dairy, the sugar factory at Singanallūr, the coffee curing works and the spinning and weaving mills of Messrs. Stanes & Co. The minor Zamindar of Berikai, an estate noted for its sericulture, was given lessons in the breeding of silk worms. The celebration of "Newington Day" on the 3rd January 1917 was a great success.

Miscella-
neous

67. The educational institutions maintained by some of the estates continued to do good work during the year except the Raja's High School, Sivaganga, in which the results of the public examinations were not satisfactory. The forests in all the estates specified in the reports for the previous fasli were worked as usual under the rules sanctioned by Government. In Madugula a large increase of forest revenue was secured by careful and systematic working, and in Kallikōta the causes which led to the decrease of forest revenue were partially removed. The survey of Nandigām was completed. In most of the estates the majority of the ryots were solvent. In those where they were heavily indebted owing to a succession of unfavourable seasons or to the high rents levied from them in the past by their zamindars the Court dealt with them in a conciliatory spirit, remitting arrears of rent or taking other measures to improve their condition. An exhaustive inquiry into the condition of the ryots in the Zamorin's estate showed that the familiar picture of the rack-rented Malabar tenant was incorrect. It is gratifying to record that the more solvent of the estates under the Court's management invested as much of the surplus balance as they could spare in the war loan.

REVENUE AND RENT-PAYING CLASSES

(FASLI 1326—1ST JULY 1916 TO 30TH JUNE 1917)

*[Report on the settlement of Land Revenue for fasli 1326]*Revenue
paying
classes

68. The principal revenue-paying classes of the Presidency are the zamindars, whole inamdars, minor inamdars and ryotwari pattadars. The approximate area of the zamindaris in fasli 1326 was 19,085,910 acres, the total estimated revenue realized by the zamindars and the peshkash payable to Government being, respectively, Rs. 2,40,70,796 and Rs. 49,88,219. The quit-rent payable on shrotriyam villages was Rs. 7,56,840. The total extent of ryotwari holdings was 25,794,929 acres and the assessment thereon amounted to Rs. 5,19,50,893 which formed the bulk of the land revenue. The number of ryotwari villages rose by 3 to 22,324, the increase being the net result of increases in Nellore, Tanjore and Rāmnād and of decreases in Kistna and Guntūr.

Rent-
paying
classes

69. In ryotwari tracts subletting was chiefly resorted to by those engaged in professions other than agriculture, such as merchants, pleaders and Government servants, or by large and wealthy landholders. It was on the increase in Ganjām, in the Kāvāli division of Nellore, and in a few kumeri villages of the Kasaragod taluk of South Kanara where kumeri lands were sublet for the cultivation of pepper. The Madras Estates Land Act was reported to have embittered rather than allayed disputes between landholders and their tenants in the Chandragiri division of the Chittoor district.

CHAPTER III

PROTECTION

LEGISLATING AUTHORITY

70. *Vide* pages 128 to 131 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1911-12.

COURSE OF LEGISLATION (1917-18)

71. Six official Additional Members of the Legislative Council resigned during the year, two when proceeding on leave, two on their retirement from service and the rest on being nominated to the Legislative Council of the Governor-General. All these vacancies were filled in the course of the year. There was no change among non-official Additional Members. Fifteen meetings of the Council were held, including ten adjourned meetings. The average attendance of Additional Members was 38.9 (13.4 official and 25.5 non-official).

72. An Act to regulate the rate of interest and the transfer of land in the Agency tracts of the Ganjām, Vizagapatam and Gōdāvari districts was passed during the year. The object of the measure is to check the dispossession of the Khonds and other tribes in the above tracts from their more valuable lands by Uriyas and other money-lending classes and to limit the rate of interest on loans advanced to members of hill tribes. Three Bills were introduced into the Council and referred to Select Committees, viz., (i) a Bill to amend the Madras Village Courts Act, 1888, so as to provide for the establishment of village panchayat courts with power to try petty civil and criminal cases, (ii) the Madras Children Bill intended to make further provision for the custody, trial and punishment of youthful offenders and for the protection of children and young persons, and (iii) a Bill to amend and define the law applicable to intestate succession among the Mappillas governed by the Marumakkattayam or the Aliyasantana Law of Inheritance. All these Bills were pending before the Council at the close of the year. The business rules of the Legislative Council were amended so as to provide that, in future, any member desiring to move for leave to introduce a Bill into the Council should give the Secretary at least two months' notice (instead of six days' notice) of his intention and should, together with the notice, send a copy of the Bill and a full Statement of Objects and Reasons.

73. During the year no draft Bills were sent by the Local Government to the Government of India for introduction in the Legislative Council of the Governor-General.

POLICE (1917)

[Report on the administration of the Police of the Madras Presidency for the year 1917; Statistics of British India, Part VI, Administrative and Judicial—Police]

74. The retention of the Southern range was sanctioned during the year as a permanent measure and the temporary appointment of Deputy Inspector-General created for charge of that range was made a permanent

addition to the cadre. The scheme of abolition of Circle Inspectors, already under trial in the districts of Trichinopoly and Kurnool, was extended during the year to the Coimbatore district where two additional subdivisions were formed. The subdivision in the Guntur district was reconstituted with headquarters at Narasaraopet. Transfers among District officers were fewer than in 1916. There were none in eighteen districts. At the close of the year the Superintendents of sixteen districts had the services of personal assistants. There was one death among officers during the year, viz., that of a Deputy Inspector-General who was obliged to take long leave from the 13th November owing to ill-health but died during the voyage home. No Assistant Superintendent was recruited during the year. Eleven officers of the Imperial Police Service were given commissions in the Indian Army Reserve of Officers and the total number of officers on military duty at the end of the year was fourteen. The services of two Deputy Superintendents were lent to the Military Department to assist recruiting for the Army.

The Police
force
Strength

75. The sanctioned strength of the permanent force increased slightly and stood at a little less than 33,000 on the last day of the year. There was a rise of over 300 in the temporary additional forces employed which stood at nearly 2,200, the increase occurring mainly under plague police. The number of vacancies in the constabulary was slightly larger than in the previous year (1,177 against 1,127), Madras City showing the highest number. Various factors contributed to this falling off in recruitment. The present rates of constables' pay have ceased to be a living wage owing to the prevailing high prices. Recruiting for the Army and the difficulty in constructing lines or providing proper accommodation for policemen on the same scale as that which obtained in pre-war times are some of the other contributory causes. Considering these exceptional circumstances the results are far from disquieting. And there have been some encouraging features, viz., a further decrease in the number of resignations and discharges and a notable drop in desertions from the Central Recruits' School, Vizianagram. Difficulty was again generally felt in getting suitable men. Orders have been issued permitting the direct recruitment of a certain proportion of head constables. In Madras City a scheme was introduced raising the pay of constables and reducing the strength of the constabulary. There was a slight rise in the percentage of the number of admissions into hospitals on the actual strength of the force, but there was no noticeable change in the percentage of the daily average of absence on account of sickness and in the number of deaths. There was no appreciable change in the percentage of punishments for all offences. The decrease noticed in the previous year in the percentage of punishments for absence without leave continued. Still better results in this regard are expected from the extension of the system of granting compensation leave to the subordinate staff which is already reported to be popular. The increase in punishments for offences other than absence without leave was slight. There was a rise both in the number of dismissals (317 against 294) as well as in that of suspensions (453 against 357). The higher officers of the department have drawn the attention of Superintendents to the fact that as a form of punishment suspension should generally be avoided. There was no appreciable change in the proportion of blackmarks awarded to the actual strength of the constabulary. Resort was freely had as before to the system of deferred punishments. Judicial punishments were again fewer and there was a satisfactory decrease in the number of convictions for extortion. Five officers received the King's Police Medal and titles were conferred on an Inspector of Police and the Inspector-General's circuit clerk. The practice of granting liberal rewards to private individuals for good work and co-operation in the prevention of crime was extended during the year and energetically pursued in the Coimbatore district where there was in consequence a steady and remarkable falling off in crime. The Government have commended its adoption in other districts. The percentage of head constables, who were classed as illiterate, remained

Health

Conduct

Education.

the same as in 1916, and there was a slight fall in the number of constables coming under that category. In the Provincial Training School, Vellore, a very large number of the subordinate officers who appeared in the final examination in October failed in "Police Orders". The Principal reports that these young men find it difficult to understand law terms and technical phraseology. The Shorthand examination in English, which was hitherto optional, was made compulsory for all sub-inspectors under training and a special allowance of Rs. 10 per mensem has been sanctioned for officers below the rank of Inspector who attain a certain degree of proficiency in it. The preliminary selection of sub-inspectors for the District Police was made by District Committees as in the previous year and the final selection by the Inspector-General. All the four central recruits' schools, including that newly opened at Anantapur, were at work during the year. In one of them (Vizianagram) a class was started for teaching English to recruits during leisure hours, the attendance being voluntary.

76. As was observed in the report for the previous year nothing could now be done in the direction of increasing or reorganizing the village police staff. But a gratifying feature of the year's administration is a growing cordiality of relationship between village officials and the police and a larger measure of co-operation from the former. The number of village officials rewarded during the year was 752 as against 591 in 1916. Some progress was made during the year in granting land to ghat talaiyaris for cultivation in the vicinity of the ghat posts.

Village
police

77. The armed reserves and special forces continued to be efficient and up to strength. Measures were taken for the introduction of Swedish drill in each reserve and for the formation of an ambulance section and a signalling party of 2 head constables and 10 constables. The grant to the latter of a local allowance of Re. 1 per man was also sanctioned.

Armed
reserves

78. No serious outbreak of crime occurred on the railways, but there was a general increase in the number of thefts, especially of railway materials made of metal owing to the prevailing high prices. The amount of property lost was larger, the percentage of recovery was slightly less and detection was somewhat poorer. A system of joint checking of carriage fittings by the railway police and railway staff was introduced in the Trichinopoly Railway Police district. In the other district the seal-checking of wagons was done independently by the railway police. There were only four attempts to derail trains and the damage caused was slight. The number of cases of throwing stones at trains was 32. Two of these ended in conviction and one was committed to the sessions. The number of persons run over and killed was 213 against 198 in the previous year. The relations between the railway police and the railway staff were generally cordial.

Railway
police

79. The year was marked by an increase in the volume of crime which occurred mainly under "house-breaking" (+ 602) and "ordinary theft" (+ 1,248) mostly attributable to the inflation of prices owing to war conditions. The amount of property stolen was also larger. These figures are no more than natural as a depleted force cannot fairly be expected to keep pace with the uprush of petty crime consequent on abnormal conditions. What is worthy of comment is the fact that, in spite of disabilities, organized crime—ever the principal object of police vigilance—has been kept so well in hand as actually to show a decrease. The number of dacoities and robberies fell from 1,452 to 1,314 and there was a decrease of nearly Rs. 70,000 in the value of the property lost in them. Notwithstanding the high prices of hides there was a further falling off under "cattle theft". The number of murders was 728, the highest figure on record. The Dasara and Muharram festivals synchronized in the year and special arrangements to keep the peace were made in several places. A disturbance which occurred at Chennur in the Cuddapah district was, however, so grave as to necessitate the use of fire-arms by

Statistics
of crime

the police. The number of true cases relating to coin remained the same as in the preceding year. A goldsmith undergoing incarceration in the Rajahmundry Central Jail contrived to manufacture anna pieces even in jail. Moulds and counterfeit coins were found concealed in his cell. He was prosecuted and convicted. The only other case deserving mention is that of treason in which a dismissed revenue inspector living in Conjeeveram, Chingleput district, attempted to communicate under a fictitious name with certain high officials in Germany through Consuls of neutral European powers at Bombay with a view to subvert British rule in India. The correspondence was seized and he was charged with offences under the Defence of India Act and the Indian Penal Code and convicted in the Sessions.

Detection
and preven-
tion of crime

80. There was a slight retrogression in detective work. Omitting cases in which investigation was refused, the ratio between the number of true cases of cognizable crime under the Indian Penal Code (excluding nuisances) disposed of in the year and the number of cases which ended in conviction was 31.1 per cent against 32.2 per cent in 1916. This result was contributed almost entirely by thefts (ordinary) in which the percentage of detection fell from 35.1 in 1916 to 32.9 in the year under report. Under the more important heads of crime detective results showed no deterioration. The percentage of murders detected was 27.8 against 22.5 and of the persons tried for murder 27.6 per cent were convicted against 21.6 per cent in the preceding year. The results are on the whole not discouraging considering the peculiar conditions under which the police had to perform their task and the additional work thrown on them outside their ordinary line such as coast patrol duties. The quality of investigation by sub-inspectors improved. The experimental scheme of abolition of Circle Inspectors was productive of gratifying results. The extension of this system coupled with that which has been sanctioned by Government of directly enlisting a certain proportion of head constables will, it is hoped, make for great improvement in the detection and prevention of crime. Investigation was refused in 7.9 per cent of the cases reported to the police against 6.6 per cent in 1916. There is further room for the exercise of this power provided it is resorted to in a judicious manner. There was a further rise in the amount of property lost and a slight fall in the percentage recovered. In some of the districts the police prosecuting staff was strengthened and as a consequence there occurred a slight rise in the percentage of success both in original cases and appeals handled by them. There was a further satisfactory decline in the number of cases struck off as "wilfully and maliciously false." The number of suspects newly registered in the year was slightly larger than in 1916, but the number of known depredators and receivers registered again showed a decrease. There was no appreciable change in the number of bad characters at large at the end of the year, while there was a slight fall in the percentage of these who were out of view. Relations between the British police and the French police and those of the Native States of Mysore and Hyderabad continued to be cordial. Six tribes were declared to be criminal tribes under section 3 of the Criminal Tribes Act and section 10 (b) of the Act (notifying residence) was applied to every registered member of these tribes. Section 10 (a) (reporting at fixed intervals) was applied to some of them and to most of those declared to be criminal tribes in previous years. The number of persons registered under the Act during the year was 5,303 against 3,476 in 1916 and the number of persons convicted under the Act was 1,711 against 1,323. The number on the rolls at the close of the year in the various schools attached to settlements was 1,049 (604 boys and 445 girls) against 984 (616 boys and 368 girls) in 1916. The working of the Act has had a salutary effect in several districts.

Preventive
work and
criminal
gangsCriminal
Investiga-
tion depart-
ment

81. The special branch staff previously borne on the executive list was regraded into a clerical staff. There was an increase in the volume of seditious literature seized, the bulk of which was as usual from

Finger-print
bureau

Pondicherry. The staff of the Finger-print Bureau was temporarily strengthened by the addition of five clerks to cope with the extra work consequent on the extended operation of the Criminal Tribes Act. The number of references to the Bureau was almost the same as in the previous year, but there was a slight fall, from 24.4 to 23.7, in the percentage of successful identifications. There was little variation in the number of finger impression slips received for record, the total at the close of the year being nearly 180,000.

82. The cost of the department in the official year 1917-18 was Rs. 98.81 lakhs against Rs. 99.04 lakhs during the calendar year 1916. The former figure does not represent the entire expenditure of the year as the accounts have not been finally closed.

Finance

CRIMINAL JUSTICE (1917)

[Statistics of the Criminal Courts in the Madras Presidency for the year 1917; Statistics of British India, Part VI, Administrative and Judicial—Criminal Justice]

83. There were several changes in the number of courts which exercised criminal jurisdiction during the year. The number of Additional District Magistrates, Subdivisional Magistrates and Tahsildar-Magistrates each rose by one, while there was a fall of eight in Courts of Assistant and Deputy Magistrates without divisional charges, of six in Subordinate Magistrates' Courts, of four in Special Magistrates' Courts and of two in Courts of Honorary Magistrates who sat singly. Seventeen new Bench Courts were established, no less than ten of which were in the Rāmnād district, and there was a net addition of thirteen to the total number of these tribunals which exercised jurisdiction during the year and of 88 to the number of Honorary Magistrates who had seats on them. The other classes of criminal courts which exercised jurisdiction, except village magistrates' courts, remained the same as in the previous year. The four Benches of Magistrates established for the town of Madras worked throughout the year and gave substantial relief to the stipendiary magistrates, having disposed of more than 50 per cent of the cases coming before the courts. It is a matter for satisfaction that an increasing measure of assistance was being rendered to the regular magistracy by honorary officers throughout the Presidency. The qualifications demanded of presidents of first-class Benches of Magistrates were recently relaxed so as to give District Magistrates a wider latitude in their selection and it may be expected that more benches of this description will shortly come into being. The number of original cases instituted in all the criminal courts during the year fell by 24,352 to 319,000 and the number of appeals by 540 to 9,660. The number of village magistrates who exercised jurisdiction fell by 314 to 3,985, the average for the preceding five years being 4,426. In the case of one district this unsatisfactory result was attributed to a prevailing lack of confidence in this class of tribunal and to an increasing tendency on the part of the public to seek redress in the higher courts. Matters will, it is hoped, improve when the Village Courts Act Amendment Bill, which gives criminal jurisdiction to village courts constituted under Act I of 1888, becomes law.

Courts

84. The number of cases instituted in Village Magistrates' Courts fell by 124 to 11,948 and the number of persons tried by those courts by 143 to 20,954. The percentage of conviction was 16.06 against 16.57 in the previous year. In the regular Magistrates' Courts 260,560 cases were instituted or 11,693 less than in the previous year, and 4,268 were pending at the end of the year against 3,715 at the end of 1916. The average duration, from the beginning to the end of a trial, of cases disposed of by these courts was 7.3 days against 6.9 days in the previous year. The average duration was 2 days before Bench Courts and Special Magistrates, 10 days before Sub-Magistrates, 29 days before Deputy Magistrates and Joint Magistrates and

Original
cases
Village
courts
Regular
Magistrates'
courts

Sessions
courtsThe High
CourtAppeals
Magistrates'
courts.Sessions
courtsThe High
CourtReference
and revision

15 days before Assistant Magistrates. The Government have for the third time called the attention of District Magistrates to the extreme undesirability of protracted proceedings. In one district under the orders of the District Magistrate the subordinate magistracy set apart certain days of the week for the exclusive trial of police cases, the police binding over accused and witnesses to appear on the earliest appointed day. There has in consequence been a slight fall in average duration; but the effect of the arrangement will be further watched. The number of cases instituted in the Presidency Magistrates' Courts fell by nearly 12,500 to 45,040. The increase occurred chiefly under the City Police Act and the Municipal Act and is attributable to the better observance of the traffic regulations by the public and their promptness in complying with municipal rules. To Sessions Courts in the mufassal 1,427 cases were committed against 1,473 in the previous year. The largest number of commitments were again made in Coimbatore. The pendency at the end of the year in all the courts rose from 37 to 81, to which South Arcot contributed as many as 17. The average duration before Sessions Courts again rose from 41 to 43 days. It was highest in South Arcot (72 days). Of those under trial, 45.34 per cent were discharged or acquitted against 48.71 per cent in the previous year. The number of cases committed to the High Court Sessions was 38 against 43 in 1916, and two cases were pending at the end of the year.

85. The number of persons who appealed to first-class magistrates against the decisions of second and third-class magistrates fell by 1,510 to 13,540 and the appeals of 756 persons were pending at the end of the year as against 744 at the end of the previous year. The average duration of an appeal in courts of subdivisional magistrates was 19 days against 18 in the previous year and the percentage of successful appellants rose from 31 to 32. The number of persons who appealed to Sessions Courts against the decisions of first-class magistrates rose by 25 to 2,665, while the pendency at the end of the year fell from 225 to 160. The average duration of an appeal again fell from 27 to 23 days. It was highest in South Arcot (43 days). The percentage of successful appellants was 20.8 against 19.4 in the previous year. The number of appellants to the High Court rose by over 40 to 1,044. The Government appealed against the acquittal of 62 persons. Of this total number (1,106) the appeals of 466 persons were rejected in limine, the convictions of 65 were set aside, the order of acquittal of six persons concerned in the appeals preferred by Government was altered into one of conviction, the sentences on 291 were confirmed after notice, and those on 103 were reduced or otherwise altered and new trial or further enquiry was ordered in the case of 30 persons. The appeals of 145 persons, including six concerned in the Government appeals, were pending at the end of the year against 133 in 1916. The average duration of an appeal rose from 43 to 52 days.

86. There were 630 applications for revision in District Magistrates' Courts against 587 in the previous year. The number of cases which these magistrates took up *suo motu* or on reports from their subdivisional magistrates fell from 38 to 29. In Sessions Courts there were 455 applications for revision, or 31 more than in the previous year; and the number of cases taken up *suo motu* fell from 67 to 59. The High Court received 869 revision petitions, or 46 less than in the previous year; 123 cases were reported by District Magistrates and Sessions Judges and 43 were taken up by the High Court *suo motu*. Of the 111 persons whose death sentences were referred to the High Court for confirmation under section 374 of the Criminal Procedure Code, the sentences on 65 were confirmed, those on 28 were commuted to transportation for life and 18 persons were acquitted. Sessions Judges referred the cases of 39 persons to the High Court under section 307 of the Code of Criminal Procedure as against 61 in the previous year and that court upheld the verdicts on seven persons against 32 in the previous year and reversed those on the remainder.

87. The number of persons tried by jury fell by about 230 to 1,090 and the Judge approved of their verdict in the case of 1,035 persons. Assessors tried 1,745 persons and in the case of 1,149 the Judge agreed with all of them. None of the Sessions Judges had any serious complaints to make against jurors or assessors and most of them considered that the jury system worked with fairly satisfactory results.

The jury
system

88. There was a considerable increase in the number of witnesses detained for more than three days in the courts of Sub-Magistrates and Deputy Magistrates. Among Sessions Courts, that of South Arcot was responsible for the largest number (337) of witnesses so detained. No witness was detained for more than three days in Madura and Tanjore Sessions Courts, and in several districts the number detained was under ten. The state of crime during the year presented few features of interest. With a fall in institutions there was a drop in the total number of sentences passed during the year. The amount of fines imposed (Rs. 10.18 lakhs) and of compensation (Rs. 0.46 lakh) paid to complainants under section 545, Criminal Procedure Code, remained much the same as in the previous year. The number of persons bound over to keep the peace was 1,001, and 1,545 were ordered to give security for good behaviour. Of the former 707 were not given any additional punishment and of the latter 1,129 were imprisoned for failure to give security. Notwithstanding a fall in the total number of cases for disposal there was a satisfactory increase, from 14.19 per cent to 14.84 per cent, in the number of cases rejected under section 203, Criminal Procedure Code. But there was a regrettable fall, from 2,319 to 1,984, in the number of complaints ordered to pay compensation under section 250, Criminal Procedure Code, in spite of repeated instructions enjoining a free use of that section. The Government of India have emphasized the importance of a legitimate use of this provision, and District Magistrates have been instructed to regard this as a cardinal point in their scrutiny of magisterial calendars. The number of sentences of imprisonment for 15 days and less rose during the year by 252 to 3,722. This result is disappointing in view of the strict injunctions conveyed by the Government last year against the tendency to impose short sentences. An alternative method of dealing with offences for which such sentence might be awarded is release upon probation of good conduct under section 562, Criminal Procedure Code, but the instructions issued by Government in regard to the more liberal use of this section produced no effect and the number of cases under this head actually fell from 329 to 311. There was again a considerable reduction, from 346 to 233, in the number of persons punished by confinement in stocks. There was a satisfactory fall in the number of juveniles who were committed to imprisonment, and as many as 172 were delivered to their parents or guardians as against 22 in the previous year.

Miscella-
neous

Punishments

PRISONS (1917)

[Report on the administration of the Jails of the Madras Presidency, 1917; Statistics of British India, Part VI, Administrative and Judicial—Jails]

89. There was no change in the total number of central and district jails (9 and 5 respectively) which were open for the accommodation of prisoners. The number of sub-jails stood at 318, or one less than in the previous year, the sub-jail attached to a Sub-Magistrate's office in the Chingleput district having ceased to exist with the abolition of that appointment consequent on the redistribution of divisions and taluks in that district. Sufficient accommodation was available for prisoners of all classes and there was no overcrowding to any serious extent except among civil prisoners in a few jails for short periods.

Accommoda-
tion

90. The total population of prisoners of all classes which remained in the jails and sub-jails together on the 1st January 1917, the number which remained in confinement at the close of the year, the daily average

Prisoners of
all classes

Under-trial
prisonersCivil prisoners
State prisoners

Convicts

Juveniles

Conduct

Habituals

number and the number for which accommodation was available in all the jails showed no striking variations from the figures of the previous year. Each of these totals stood at a figure above 12,000 and under 12,500. As compared with 1916 there was a decrease of over 300 in the daily average number under confinement. The number of prisoners received and discharged during the year was a little over 93,500 and 93,600 respectively against an approximate figure of 92,000 under both the heads in 1916. The number of under-trial prisoners in confinement at the beginning of the year was under 1,800 or slightly less than the figure of the preceding year; but the number received and discharged, which stood at a little over 40,000 under each head in 1916, rose during the year by over 2,500 and 2,000 respectively, leaving nearly 2,300 at the end of the year. The daily average number confined, which was about 2,004 in 1916, rose during the year by about 150. Of the total under-trial population dealt with, 52·67 per cent were released and 38·25 per cent were convicted. There was a regrettable increase in the average period of detention both of Sessions prisoners and those awaiting trial before Magistrates—32·66 days against 26·52 days in the case of the former and 17·51 days against 15·52 days in the case of the latter. There were 23 escapes as against 33 in the previous year and 34 deaths against 16. There is nothing worth recording in regard to the civil prisoners dealt with during the year or in respect to State prisoners.

91. The strength of the convict population, which was 9,854 men and 250 women on the 1st January 1917, showed very little variation from the corresponding figures of the previous year. The number received by direct committal was 20,215 males and 929 females or 1,317 males and 175 females less than the previous year. The total number of convicts received by transfer was 25,336 as against 24,979 in 1916. Of those discharged during the year 2,664 were released on appeal, 16,109 on expiry of sentence and 2,940 under the remission rules. Twenty-five convicts were released by Government on account of sickness and 1,007 on other grounds including those released for service in Basra. One hundred and twenty-six convicts were deported to Port Blair, 18 were sent to the Lunatic Asylum, one of the convicts who escaped remained at large at the close of the year, 60 were executed and 147 died. The daily average number fell from 9,962 to 9,488 and 9,425 remained in confinement on the last day of the year. As usual, the great bulk of the admissions were Hindus (all except about 12 per cent). Muhammadans formed a little over 9 per cent and Christians a little less than 3 per cent. There was again a satisfactory drop—from 94 to 64—in the number of convicts admitted under sixteen years of age. There was a fall also in the number of juvenile offenders under fifteen years of age admitted (29 against 39) and the number of girls fell from 15 to 3. Seven boys were transferred to the Reformatory School, Chingleput. The jail for adolescents at Tanjore continued to work satisfactorily. The usual course of instruction in general education, physical and moral training and teaching of industries was followed. Besides technical instruction given in carpentry, weaving, sandal-making, tailoring and various other industries, practical instruction in agriculture was imparted by a graduate from the Agricultural College, Coimbatore, employed for the purpose.

92. The number of escapes fell from 21 to 7 (3 from central and district jails and 4 from sub-jails). Six of the latter were recaptured besides six others who had escaped in previous years. There was a fall of over 100 in the number of offences dealt with by superintendents and a similar drop in the grand total of punishments awarded; the actual numbers being, respectively, 8,413 and 8,501. Whipping was awarded in only 9 cases as against 19 in the previous year. The conduct of the prisoners was generally satisfactory and there was no disturbance or combination against authority in any jail. The total number of habituals dealt with was 7,302 forming 27·14 per cent of the convict population. They received no less than 4,530 or 53·85 per cent of the total number of punishments. Eight of

the nine whippings were awarded to them and one of them received that punishment twice. During the year 2,940 convicts were released under the remission rules as against 3,070 in the preceding year. Special remission for continuous good conduct for one year was awarded to 1,884 convicts. Extra remission was earned by 338 convicts for work done in addition to the prescribed task, while 22 convicts earned Rs. 101-6-10 in the shape of money grants for extra task performed by them. The jail schools were fairly full. Education was confined to reading, writing and arithmetic imparted in the vernaculars. English was taught to a few convicts in the Coimbatore Central Jail for press work. Almost all the schools were inspected by officers of the Educational department whose opinion on the progress made was favourable. Lectures were given to convicts on moral and religious subjects. The jail libraries were added to during the year and continued to serve a useful purpose.

93. There was an increase of nearly 850 in the number of admissions to hospital which stood at 5,334. The number of deaths rose from 150 to 188 and the death-rate from 12·06 to 15·49 per mille. In the Trichinopoly Central Jail an overhead cistern capable of holding 4,000 gallons of water was constructed, the municipal water being pumped into it and distributed by means of pipes and hydrants. A new fly-proof kitchen was under construction in that jail; another was completed and brought into use in the Salem Central Jail. An oil-engine was installed over the drinking-water well in the Cuddalore District Jail, and improvements in the pumping arrangements of the drinking-water were effected in the Tanjore Jail. The civil debtors' kitchen in the latter jail was rendered fly-proof. The hospital kitchen at Vellore was improved and fitted with fly-proof wire netting. Masonry latrines in that hospital were replaced by cage latrines. Latrines were made fly-proof in Rajahmundry and Trichinopoly.

94. Excluding the outlay by the Public Works Department on jail buildings, the total expenditure of the year amounted to Rs. 16·17 lakhs or Rs. 0·70 lakh more than that of the previous year. This increase was chiefly due to a larger outlay on manufactures and to increased expenditure under establishment and extraordinary charges. The total cost and the cost per head under dieting and clothing and bedding of prisoners declined. The cash earnings of the year amounted to Rs. 2·12 lakhs and was the highest on record. As a result of larger cash earnings, the net cost of maintaining prisoners fell from Rs. 8·58 lakhs to Rs. 7·85 lakhs and the net cost per head of average strength also declined from Rs. 65-3-0 to Rs. 59-7-0. The total expenditure on jail and sub-jail buildings amounted to Rs. 1·26 lakhs, of which Rs. 0·92 lakh was spent by the Public Works Department and the remainder by the Jail Department.

CIVIL JUSTICE (1917)

[*Statistics of the Civil Courts in the Madras Presidency for the year 1917; Statistics of British India, Part VI, Administrative and Judicial—Civil Justice*]

95. There was no change in the total number of permanent courts which dispensed civil justice during the year. Two temporary Subordinate Judges' Courts were established at Tanjore and Vellore, while those at Salem and Cuddapah were abolished. The number of these courts thus continued to be 20. The Additional Sessions Judge at Bellary was appointed Subordinate Judge and worked almost throughout the year. The two special small cause courts continued to work. The temporary Additional District Munsif's Court at Vellore was abolished, thus reducing the total number of these courts to 28. The Government propose to make

Litigation
Number,
nature and
value of suits

11 of the temporary sub-courts and 14 of the temporary munsifs' courts permanent. One of the two I.C.S. officers who were undergoing judicial training completed his training in June, while the other continued to work in Vizagapatam till the end of the year. In addition to the regular courts, 5,712 village courts exercised civil jurisdiction as against 5,817 in the previous year.

96. The total number of suits instituted in the Presidency fell by nearly 27,000 to 516,734. The figure is still considerably in excess of the institutions for 1914 (488,979), although there are clear indications that the rush in litigation which followed the war in consequence of the anxiety of creditors to recover outstanding debts has to some extent spent itself. One suit was instituted for every 80 persons of the population as against one for every 76 in the previous year. Judged by this standard North Malabar was the most litigious district in the mufassal and Bellary continued to be the least litigious. The largest number of suits was instituted in Tanjore, and Kurnool again contributed the smallest number. Suits instituted for money or movable property formed 89.03 per cent of the total institutions as against 89.25 per cent in the previous year. Suits for immovable property, including mortgage suits, fell from 50,375 to 48,120 and suits for specific relief from 4,856 to 4,760. The total value of suits instituted in courts other than village and revenue courts and unpaid tribunals was Rs. 985 lakhs, or Rs. 49 lakhs more than in the previous year. Apart from revenue courts, 37 per cent of the suits instituted were of the value of Rs. 20 and less and 58 per cent between the values of Rs. 20 and Rs. 500. The number of suits above Rs. 500 in value was 22,870, the highest figure on record. The number of suits triable by village courts which were filed before the higher tribunals fell by 5,000 to 55,345. There is no reason to suppose that there was any purely speculative litigation during the year as, out of every 100 suits instituted, plaintiffs were successful either wholly or in part in no fewer than 77 and were found to possess a well-grounded cause of action in 72 per cent of contested cases. The total number of appeals preferred in 1917 rose by about 600 to 17,000.

Courts of
original
jurisdiction
Village
courts

97. The total number of suits instituted in village courts decreased by about 10,000 to 126,600. South Arcot, Tanjore and Madura contributed largely to this falling off. The decrease in South Arcot was the heaviest and was due to the failure of the groundnut trade and to scarcity of money. On the other hand large increases occurred in North Malabar, Kistna and South Malabar owing, in the case of the first-named district, to the establishment of Additional Bench Courts and in that of the last to the growth of petty litigation generally. The number of suits disposed of by village munsifs sitting singly fell by over 10 per cent, but there was a marked rise in the number disposed of by benches. The total number of suits filed in revenue courts other than in Agency tracts rose by about 3,300 to 23,600. Rāmnād contributed the largest number of suits (4,360) as in previous years; Madura and Trichinopoly came next. There was no marked change in the average duration of contested suits but that of uncontested suits rose from 66 to 94 days. The percentage of appeals preferred from the decisions of revenue courts to the appealable decrees passed by them fell from 10.24 to 8.11. The percentage of appeals in which original decrees were confirmed was 34.83 against 48.3 in the previous year. There was no noticeable variation in the volume of litigation which came before Agency courts, but there was a satisfactory fall, from 131 to 93 days, in the average duration of contested suits. The number of ordinary suits filed in District Munsifs' Courts, other than those for the Agency tracts, was 108,700 or 1,200 less than in the previous year. The number of small cause suits filed fell by 15,400 to 203,400. There was thus a decrease of 16,600 in the total of both classes of suits. But the arrears at the end of the year especially of ordinary suits practically remained untouched; and the average total disposal of each court further fell from 2,111 to 2,025. The average duration of contested

Revenue
courtsAgency
courts
District
Munsif's
courts

ordinary suits decreased from 323 to 312 days. In Subordinate Judges' Courts, other than those for the Agency tracts, the number of ordinary suits instituted fell by about 240 to 2,160 and the number of small cause suits by about 1,400 to 19,800. But the arrears remained at much the same figures as in the previous year as the disposals of both classes of suits also decreased—ordinary suits from 2,800 to 2,600 and small causes from 23,000 to 20,000. The average duration of contested ordinary suits fell from 559 days to 512 but still exceeded 250 days in all except two courts. The files of ordinary suits and disposals in District Courts showed no marked variations from the figures of the previous year. The work of these courts was generally satisfactory, but the average duration of contested suits which they had to deal with rose from 463 to 477 days. In the Special Small Cause Courts the institutions fell by nearly 1,000 to 13,200; but there was a corresponding decrease in disposals also and the pendency rose from 1,340 to 1,420 suits. The average duration of contested suits increased from 65 to 93 days. A similar state of things obtained in the Presidency Court of Small Causes, viz., a fall in institutions and disposals followed by a rise in pendency; but there was a slight improvement in the average duration both of contested and uncontested suits. In the Madras City Civil Court 549 suits were instituted and 525 were disposed of as against 501 and 504 in 1916. The number of contested suits disposed of was 338, almost the same number as in the previous year, but the average duration of these suits fell from 234 to 215 days. The number of suits (520) instituted in the High Court of received by transfer was only slightly in excess of the figure for the previous year, but the disposals fell from 598 to 475 and this is ascribed to the fact that only one court sat for a longer period than in former years. The arrears increased from 287 to 329. There was, however, a satisfactory fall from 438 to 331 days in the average duration of contested suits.

Subordinate
Judges'
courtsDistrict
courtsCourts of
small
causesMadras City
Civil CourtThe High
CourtAppellate
courtsDistrict and
Subordinate
Judges'
courtsThe High
CourtReference
and revision

98. The number of appeals filed in the Agency tracts was 121 or double that of the previous year, of which 102 were disposed of. There was a slight rise in the average duration, but the percentage of confirmation further improved from 55 to 61. The number of appeals filed in District and Subordinate Judges' Courts was 13,300 as in the previous year. The arrears in the latter rose from 2,300 to 2,700, but in the former they fell from 7,100 to 6,500. The average duration of contested and uncontested appeals fell in both classes of courts, the fall in the case of District Courts being marked. The number of appeals filed in the High Court from original decrees of mufassal courts was 430 as in the previous year. The number disposed of was 530 as against 550 in the previous year and the arrears decreased by 100. The average duration of appeals disposed of fell from 548 to 466 days. One hundred and ninety-three Letters Patent appeals (other than original side appeals) were filed against 289 in the previous year; but the disposals fell from 504 to 232. The arrears were reduced from 118 to 79. The number of appeals received against appellate decrees was 2,500 against 2,000 in 1916. The number disposed of was 2,500 against 3,100 in 1916 and the arrears slightly rose from 2,300 to 2,350. The number of revision petitions filed in the High Court fell by 100 to 1,320, of which 800, the same number as in the previous year, were for the revision of the decisions in small cause suits. The number disposed of was 1,380 against 1,650 in the previous year and the arrears decreased slightly to 1,000. There were no noticeable variations in the receipts and disposals of cases referred to the High Court by the lower courts.

99. The steady increase noticed in the past in the number of Insolvency petitions presented to mufassal courts was maintained during the year. The institutions rose by 350 to 2,700 and the disposals by 600 to 4,540. The number of persons adjudged insolvent was 1,660 or 260 more than in the previous year. Creditors' claims to the extent of Rs. 19.52 lakhs were admitted against Rs. 11.03 lakhs in the previous year and assets amounting to Rs. 4.28 lakhs were distributed against

Rs. 4.51 lakhs in 1916. In the High Court 251 petitions were presented against 274 in 1916, and 266 were disposed of against 278 in the previous year. The total amount of claims admitted was Rs. 11.27 lakhs and the dividends paid to creditors Rs. 3.05 lakhs.

Miscellaneous
Execution

100. The total number of applications for execution received in all the courts in the mufassal taken together, except village courts, was 356,000 against 357,000 in the previous year. Satisfaction in full was obtained in 16.3 per cent of the applications disposed of and satisfaction in part in 7.8 per cent, and the number of wholly infructuous applications rose from 266,000 to 270,000. There was a regrettable increase, from 2,300 to 3,500, in the number of debtors imprisoned in execution. One hundred and thirty-one District Munsifs inspected the records of over 2,700 village courts, and 117 District Munsifs' and Subordinate Judges' Courts were inspected during the year as against 95 in the previous year.

Finance

101. The total receipts of civil and criminal courts amounted to Rs. 109.70 lakhs and the charges to Rs. 88.67 lakhs.

REGISTRATION (1917) AND COMPANIES (1917-18)

[G.Os. No. 1129, Home (Judicial), dated the 13th May 1918, and No. 1452, Home (Judicial), dated the 19th June 1918; the Statistics of British India, Part II, Commercial, and Part VI, Administrative and Judicial—Registration—Indian Companies Act]

Registration
Offices

102. The revenue districts of Vizagapatam and Nellore, which had been amalgamated for registration purposes since January 1913 with Gōdāvari and Guntūr, respectively, were reconstituted as separate registration districts with effect from the 1st June 1917 and the 1st October 1917; the registration district of Madura, comprising the two revenue districts of Madura and Rāmnād, was divided into two separate districts, both with headquarters at Madura. The number of district charges in the Presidency thus rose to 21. No new sub-districts were formed, the number of sub-offices standing at 490 and that of sub-registrars at 513. Registrations fell from 1,377,135 to 1,359,634 or by 1.27 per cent, the chief contributory causes being the slackness in trade and mercantile activities and the unsettled condition of the money market in consequence of the war. As compared with the pre-war year 1913 the decrease was only .7 per cent. The decline occurred in all the important classes of documents except sales of the value of Rs. 100 and upwards, where it was negligible, and gifts, where an increase occurred owing to a change in classification. The average value and the average fee per document increased from Rs. 331 to Rs. 340 and from Rs. 1-7-10 to Rs. 1-8-1 respectively. The number of documents registered by or on behalf of co-operative societies increased from 12,016 to 13,630 and the fees leviable but foregone amounted to Rs. 36,116 against Rs. 30,675. Eight cases under the Act were pending at the opening of the year and 16 were newly instituted. Twelve of these ended in conviction and four in acquittal, leaving eight pending. The total income rose from Rs. 24.66 lakhs to Rs. 24.75 lakhs and the expenditure from Rs. 13.58 lakhs to Rs. 14.17 lakhs.

Prosecutions

Finance

Registered
companies

103. There were 374 working companies at the beginning of the year, 332 limited by shares and 42 by guarantee. Forty-nine were registered, one public company which was removed from the register in the previous year under section 247 of the Act was restored by the High Court, 26 companies, all public, ceased to work, 2 public companies were converted into private companies and 2 private companies into public companies. There were at the close of the year 398 companies, 355 limited by shares, one an unlimited private company and 42 limited by guarantee. There

were 52 mills and presses, of which 22 were European and 30 Indian, the 9 rice mills falling under this class being all Indian. Among planting companies, 16 were European and 3 Indian. The 3 mining concerns were mixed—European and Indian. Of the 2 breweries, one was European and the other Indian. The only sugar manufacturing concern was European. The number of registrations, (49) was the highest on record since the introduction on the 1st April 1914 of the Indian Companies Act, 1913, and was double the average for the three years 1914-17. The 18 trading companies registered were the outcome of the swadesi movement and of Indian enterprise. Licences under section 26 of the Act were granted to four associations—the Manamadura Vidya Abivardhani Sangam, the Edward VII Tuberculosis Institute, Madras, the Cocanada Chamber of Commerce and the Madras Medical Association. Of the 26 companies which ceased to exist 11 were banking and lending firms, 5 were insurance companies and 6 were trading concerns. The new companies registered include 22 banking and lending companies, 18 trading houses and 3 planting companies. The increase in registrations from 17 to 49 as against the decline from 29 to 26 in the number of companies which ceased to exist establishes the fact that there is no practical difficulty on the part of companies in complying with the requirements of the Act. The aggregate increases in the authorized, subscribed and paid-up capital amounted to Rs. 37.21 lakhs, Rs. 49.08 lakhs and Rs. 44.19 lakhs, respectively. Of the last increase mills and presses absorbed about Rs. 17 lakhs, banking and lending companies (mostly nidhis) about Rs. 15 lakhs and trading companies about Rs. 10 lakhs. The number of certificated auditors at the close of the year was 57, viz., 3 permanent unrestricted, 10 permanent restricted and 44 temporary restricted. The receipts rose from Rs. 9,817 to Rs. 12,625 and the expenditure from Rs. 11,825 to Rs. 12,045. Five provident insurance societies ceased to work during the year and there were no new registrations. The number of working societies was thus reduced from 18 to 12. All the societies which ceased to work during the year were dividing societies, the constitution and working of which were described in the report for the previous year. There now remain only 2 out of the 16 societies of this class which were in existence four years ago. Revised rules under the Provident Insurance Societies Act came into force in May 1917.

Provident
Insurance
Societies
Act, 1912

104. There were 141 notarial stations and 182 registering officers exercising the functions of Notaries Public as against 140 and 178, respectively, in 1916-17, the increase being the result of the reconstitution during the year of three registration districts, the Registrars of which were appointed Notaries Public. The operations were confined to seventeen stations. Bills of Exchange increased from 26 in 1916-17 to 51 in 1917-18. Seven bills of exchange dealt with in Coimbatore were foreign bills of the Bank of Madras dishonoured in four cases for the reason that the goods to which they related were not up to sample and in two on account of the non-receipt of goods which were lost at sea. The increase in the other stations was consequent on the inability of merchants to meet bills in time on account of the restrictions in transport facilities, both foreign and inland, and the stringency of the money market. The rise in the aggregate value of transactions from Rs. 0.74 lakh to Rs. 2.18 lakhs was disproportionate to that in the number of operations. This was due to the fact that seven promissory notes of the aggregate value of Rs. 1.50 lakhs drawn against a single individual were noted for non-payment in Tuticorin. The fees realized amounted to Rs. 284-1-6 against Rs. 255-6-0 in 1916-17 and a sum of Rs. 59-7-0 was expended by Notaries Public. The balance of Rs. 224-10-6 was remitted into the treasury during the year.

Notaries
Public
(1917-18)

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES

(1ST JULY 1917 TO 30TH JUNE 1918)

[Annual Report on the working of the Co-operative Societies Act for the year 1917-18; Statistics of British India, Part II, Commercial]

General

105. The outstanding features of the year's working were the activities shown by agricultural societies and unions in doing a good deal of joint purchase and sale, the starting of new societies for the benefit of weavers, fishermen and the Badagas of the Nilgiris, attempts towards the introduction of co-operation into the Agency tracts of the north and the expansion and development of supervision by local unions. There were 56 administrative unions at the beginning of the year and 18 local unions were newly registered, thus bringing the total number of purely administrative unions to 74. The total number of societies under the control of unions (local, supervising or banking) for purposes of supervision was 2,415 as against 1,758 in the previous year. The result was seen in a general improvement in collections over that of the previous year. The number of societies which were registered was 515 as against 421 in the previous year, and the registration of thirteen was cancelled. Excluding unions and liquidated societies there were 2,644 societies at the close of the year as against 2,216 at its beginning. The number of individual members rose from 163,121 to 191,041, giving an average of 72 members to a society against 74 in the previous year. The number of Panchamas admitted into agricultural societies increased by 1,455 to 7,078. The total working capital of all societies rose from Rs. 204.99 lakhs to Rs. 234.92 lakhs, their paid-up share capital from Rs. 20.49 lakhs to Rs. 26.13 lakhs and their reserve funds from Rs. 9.66 lakhs to Rs. 11.88 lakhs. The total deposits attracted from outside the movement amounted to Rs. 66.04 lakhs as against Rs. 60.23 lakhs in the previous year. In spite of war conditions the loans by central societies to primary societies increased from Rs. 71 lakhs to Rs. 79.81 lakhs. The net profits for the year amounted to Rs. 3.34 lakhs as against Rs. 1.99 lakhs in the previous year, the marked increase being due to the inclusion of accrued interest on loans in the profit account of primary societies. The total cost of working the Act to Government was equivalent to 810 of the total working capital as against 807 in the previous year. The total cost of societies on account of supervision was Rs. 0.47 lakh as against Rs. 0.26 lakh in the previous year.

Working of
societies
Provincial
and District
banks

106. No great headway was made towards the conversion of the Provincial Bank into a genuine federation, but in other respects the bank showed satisfactory progress. Its operations were as usual almost entirely confined to financing central banks and to lending direct to societies in districts where there are no central banks. There was no large increase in share capital but there was a substantial increase in deposits and working capital, and the reserve fund was also increasing satisfactorily. The net profits were not so high as in the previous year. Five central banks were registered during the year and a sixth was formed at Cuddalore by the conversion of the South Arcot district supervising union into a financing institution. There were thus nineteen central banks at the end of the year: and negotiations were in progress for the formation of new banks in seven districts in five of which there are no central financing institutions. The new central banks registered during the year made a fairly good start, the share capital and deposits secured by them being respectively Rs. 0.58 lakh and Rs. 0.91 lakh. They all followed, with minor modifications, the banking union model in which both individuals and societies participate and in which provision is made for supervision both by the central bank and by local unions. The Salem Central Bank definitely adopted the banking union constitution, having admitted as many as 101 societies as members and having elected two society delegates to their

Board of Directors. The Christian Central Bank did a good deal of business with old and new Panchama societies. In some cases their dealings were on the ordinary terms; and in some cases they lent more than one-eighth of the estimated assets of the members of the society, which is the standard of maximum borrowing power generally followed by financing institutions. The share capital of all the financing banks in the Presidency rose from Rs. 6.30 lakhs to Rs. 8.31 lakhs and their reserve funds from Rs. 1.51 lakhs to Rs. 2.02 lakhs. Their owned capital, therefore, amounted to Rs. 10.32 lakhs, which represents nearly 16 per cent of the total amount of the loans and deposits from outside the movement. In spite of the conditions arising out of the war the uncollected balance, under instalments of current principal and interest, showed a marked improvement over the previous year. There was a considerable rise in the percentage of balance to demand in arrear interest, but the sum involved under this head was comparatively insignificant. The profits made by financing banks were, generally speaking, normal. The number of agricultural credit societies was 2,271 on the 30th June 1918 as against 1,907 in the previous year, of which eight were on a limited liability basis and 2,263 with unlimited liability. The working capital of these societies rose from Rs. 88.03 lakhs to Rs. 97.93 lakhs. Their paid-up share capital was Rs. 7.22 lakhs against Rs. 5.87 lakhs in the previous year, and the increase amounted to over 40 per cent in no less than fourteen districts. The improvement is really greater than these figures show, since the figures of previous years were vitiated by the inclusion of the share capital of liquidated societies. There was also an encouraging increase from Rs. 8.52 lakhs to Rs. 8.99 lakhs in the local deposits secured by agricultural credit societies. As a result of the orders issued by Government during the year permitting the inclusion by primary societies of accrued but not overdue interest on profits, 1,257 societies worked at a profit of Rs. 2.01 lakhs. The other societies were unable to wipe off the losses accrued during the previous years. Deducting this loss there was a net profit of Rs. 0.47 lakh under the head of agricultural credit societies. The improvement in collection by these societies was maintained during the year, but there were still heavy arrears. Loans amounting to Rs. 78.29 lakhs were due by members at the end of the previous year as against Rs. 64.87 lakhs at the end of 1916-17 and the amount overdue fell from 17.95 per cent to 14.93 per cent. The percentage of the previous year's unpaid interest overdue at the end of the year continued to be 50.48. Agricultural societies granted loans to the extent of Rs. 49.69 lakhs as against Rs. 45.38 lakhs in the previous year. The increase occurs mostly under loans for productive purposes, which amounted to Rs. 29.77 lakhs as against Rs. 25.99 lakhs in the previous year. It is a matter for regret that long-term loans were too readily given, especially in the Tamil country. This is apt to be demoralizing to the borrower and it tends to restrict the credit both of the society and of the members and thus to prevent the regular financing of ordinary agricultural operations. The number of non-credit societies rose from 14 to 19, of which 17 were purchase societies and two were for production and sale. The articles purchased were chiefly agricultural implements, seed and manure and also the ordinary necessities of life. Similar activities were attempted by 24 ordinary credit societies and four local unions. Non-agricultural credit societies numbered 283 at the end of the year as against 196 at the beginning. The number of limited liability societies increased from 140 to 206 and that of unlimited liability societies from 56 to 77. Their total working capital increased from Rs. 25.62 lakhs to Rs. 31.35 lakhs and the profits from Rs. 0.83 lakh to Rs. 1.19 lakhs. There was a slight falling off in collection, but the figures for this class of societies are better than for agricultural societies. The actual percentages of balance to demand under principal, overdue interest and current interest were 9.24, 34.39 and 10.60 against 9.00, 35.76 and 8.15 in the previous year. The share capital held by these societies rose from Rs. 7.22 lakhs to Rs. 9.08 lakhs and their deposits amounted

Agricultural
societiesNon-agricul-
tural societies

to Rs. 17.72 lakhs as against Rs. 15 lakhs in the previous year. Their borrowings from central and other societies rose from Rs. 2.26 lakhs to Rs. 3.11 lakhs. There is no doubt that these societies conferred great benefit on the urban population. There were 39 societies for purchase, purchase and sale and production as against 17 in the previous year and 18 new urban stores were opened. The total sales to members amounted to over Rs. 8 lakhs and the profits to Rs. 33,000, out of which over Rs. 5 lakhs and over Rs. 23,000 were contributed by the Triplicane Stores alone. A number of societies for the exclusive benefit of particular classes, such as cotton and silk weavers, cobblers and fishermen, several building societies and a co-operative printing society were at work during the year. A secondary school at Mangalore made the interesting experiment of forming itself into an unregistered society on co-operative lines for the benefit of its students. There were at the end of the year 43 societies exclusively composed of Panchamas as against 15 in the previous year.

Miscella-
neous

107. There was a further recognition of the principle of supervision by local unions and the number of local unions rose from 56 to 74 with 1,725 societies affiliated to them as against 1,283 societies in the previous year. There remained only 209 primary societies which were not enjoying union supervision of some sort or other. Owing to the introduction of the arbitration rules there was a considerable decrease in the extent to which societies resorted to civil courts. The number of Assistant Registrars' charges was increased from seven to eight and 14 additional Inspectors were sanctioned. The annual provincial conference was held in Madras in December 1917 under the presidency of the Hon'ble Mr. P. Rajagopala Achariyar, Member of Council, and a large number of important subjects was discussed and some interesting resolutions passed. There were district conferences at Ponnur in the Guntur district and at Cuddalore at which the Collectors presided, and a large number of union conferences were held all over the Presidency. A great measure of assistance was received from the other departments of Government, particularly the Agricultural and Industrial departments. The attitude of the general public to the co-operative movement was, as before, most cordial and benevolent, and ready and enthusiastic co-operation was forthcoming from numerous public-spirited gentlemen of all classes.

LOCAL BOARD ADMINISTRATION (1917-18)

[Statistics of British India, Part VIII, Local Funds—Local Boards]

General

Constitution
and strength
of boardsDistrict
boards

Taluk boards

108. There were 25 district boards as in the previous year and their constitution remained unchanged. At the end of the year 769 members, or ten more than in the previous year, took part in the deliberations of the district boards in the Presidency. Of these, 125 were ex-officio, 278 nominated by Government, and the remaining 366 elected by taluk boards, the corresponding figures for the previous year being respectively 124, 283 and 352. Two hundred and ninety-two meetings were held by district boards as against 286 in 1916-17. There were 96 taluk boards, as in the previous year, and their constitution remained unchanged. The number of boards which elected their own presidents was raised from three to four and 33 others, or five more than in the previous year, had non-official presidents. The sanctioned strength (1,764) of the taluk boards remained unchanged, but the actual number of members at the end of the year rose, by 21, to 1,669, of whom 370 were officials and 1,299 non-officials, as against 383 and 1,265 respectively in the previous year. Of the 269 seats open to election in the year, 234 were actually so filled, and in the case of elections actually contested 51.6 per cent of the registered voters came to the poll as against 33.6 per cent in 1916-17. The number of seats which had to be filled up by presidents of district boards by nomination because

no candidates were proposed rose from 17 to 31. One thousand two hundred and forty-two meetings, or six less than in the previous year, were held by taluk boards. The number of union panchayats which assisted in the administration of local affairs in important villages rose, by 53, to 464 and there was no change in their constitution or functions. The number of panchayatdars rose, by 413, to 4,331, of whom 943 were village headmen, 3,327 were nominated and 61 elected.

109. The land-cess was levied at As. 2 on every rupee of the land receipts assessment in the Nilgiris, at rates varying from As. 2 to As. 1-3 in Malabar; at As. 1-6 in South Kanara and at 1 anna in the remaining districts. In addition to that cess a special cess of 3 pies in the rupee on the annual rent value of all occupied lands was levied in sixteen districts for the construction of railways. Tolls upon carriages, carts and animals were collected in all districts except in Guntur. House-tax was levied in all unions except nineteen which were constituted late in the year; the maximum rates were in force in 374 cases, three-fourths in 62, and half rates in the remaining nine. Excluding the transactions under debt heads, the year opened with a balance of Rs. 185.85 lakhs or Rs. 9.15 lakhs more than in the previous year. The receipts rose by Rs. 21.96 lakhs to Rs. 201.70 lakhs; excluding the receipts from the special railway cess the revenue from rates and taxes rose, by Rs. 3.55 lakhs, to Rs. 104.48 lakhs. Increases occurred under land-cess, house-tax and tolls. There was a rise under land-cess in thirteen districts, and a fall in twelve districts. The income from tolls showed an improvement in seventeen districts, noticeable increases occurring in Madura, Coimbatore and Tanjore. The grants received from Provincial funds amounted to Rs. 56.94 lakhs, of which Rs. 17.13 lakhs were contributed in aid of the general resources of local boards, Rs. 9.78 lakhs were granted for roads and bridges, Rs. 0.68 lakh for hospitals and dispensaries, Rs. 1.17 lakhs for medical buildings, Rs. 2.98 lakhs for minor sanitary works and Rs. 0.32 lakh for choultries. The grants for public works were paid as usual to the District Boards of the Nilgiris (Rs. 1.08 lakhs) and Koraput (Rs. 0.27 lakh) in consideration of the smallness of their revenues. The contributions to the general resources of local boards included lump assignments intended to enable them to equip and maintain their own elementary schools adequately. The grants towards hospitals and dispensaries were intended to meet the Provincial share of the pay and allowances of medical subordinates employed by local boards and half the cost of the maintenance and equipment of hospitals and dispensaries opened after 1915; the grants for choultries consisted mainly of lump payments made in lieu of the income from lands originally endowed therefor by their founders but subsequently resumed by Government.

Finance
Receipts

110. Excluding the charges relating to debt heads and the contribution from one district board to another and an expenditure of Rs. 2.77 lakhs, which, though debited to service heads, was met from loans that were credited to debt heads, and adding repayments of loans amounting to Rs. 10.94 lakhs, the total expenditure of the local boards rose, by Rs. 7.15 lakhs, to Rs. 178.63 lakhs and the year closed with a balance of Rs. 208.91 lakhs. The outlay on public works rose, by Rs. 2.29 lakhs, to Rs. 79.49 lakhs; Rs. 23.65 lakhs were spent on the construction of roads, bridges, school houses, dispensaries, markets and other miscellaneous public improvements and the remainder on repairs to existing works. The length of the new roads constructed was 146 miles or 21 miles more than in the previous year; the expenditure on this account rose by over Rs. 13,000 to Rs. 2.72 lakhs. A length of 13,833 miles of roads was repaired as against 24,796 miles in the previous year, and the outlay thereon fell from Rs. 44.13 lakhs to Rs. 37.35 lakhs. At the close of the year local boards maintained 40 sessional schools for the training of teachers, one Sanskrit College, 75 secondary schools and 6,884 elementary schools. In the sessional schools 1,121 students received

Expendi

Public wor

Education

Medical
institutions

Vaccination

Sanitation

Railways

instruction and the attendance at all schools rose, by 3,631 boys and 8,662 girls, to 330,545 boys and 82,549 girls. The total expenditure of local boards on education was Rs. 31.22 lakhs as against Rs. 29.89 lakhs in the previous year, towards which fees contributed Rs. 4.36 lakhs and Provincial funds Rs. 16.39 lakhs. The net local fund outlay was thus Rs. 10.47 lakhs or 12.3 per cent of the total ordinary income of the local boards as against 13.3 per cent in the previous year. The number of hospitals (122) maintained by the local boards remained the same as in the previous year, while the number of dispensaries rose, by one, to 280. The cost of maintenance increased, by Rs. 0.29 lakh, to Rs. 9.57 lakhs, but the number of patients treated at them fell by 73,190 to 4,472,212. The number of vaccinators including probationers employed by district boards was 708 or eight less than in the previous year. The average cost of each successful operation fell from As. 3-11 to As. 2-8. The expenditure on sanitation decreased by Rs. 1.62 lakhs to Rs. 10.95 lakhs; special attention was paid to rural water-supply as in the previous year.

111. The District Boards of Coimbatore, Tanjore, Guntūr, Kistna and Salem possess open railways. The balance in Government securities in favour of the railway fund of the Tanjore District Board at the beginning of the year was the same as in the previous year, viz., Rs. 28.56 lakhs; there was, besides, a balance of Rs. 0.90 lakh in cash as against Rs. 0.73 lakh in the previous year. The gross traffic earnings decreased, by Rs. 0.78 lakh, to Rs. 9.41 lakhs, and the working expenses also fell, by Rs. 1.15 lakhs, to Rs. 4.68 lakhs. The district board repaid Rs. 0.71 lakh to Provincial funds towards the recoupment of the Government share in the railway, which is treated as a loan, paid Rs. 0.23 lakh to debenture holders as interest and Rs. 0.56 lakh to the sinking fund towards the liquidation of the debenture loan. The profit derived from the working of the railway was Rs. 4.73 lakhs or 8.7 per cent of the capital outlay as against 8.04 per cent in the previous year, and at the end of the year the balance in favour of the fund after taking into account all charges and receipts was Rs. 28.56 lakhs in Government securities and Rs. 15,425 in cash. In Kistna the opening balance of the railway cess fund was Rs. 19.70 lakhs in Government securities and Rs. 2.76 lakhs in cash; the gross earnings of the railway declined, by nearly Rs. 11,000, to Rs. 3.72 lakhs and the working expenses also fell, by over Rs. 5,500, to Rs. 1.68 lakhs. The district board repaid a sum of Rs. 1.35 lakhs to Provincial funds towards the Government loan taken for the construction of the line. The profit on the working of the railway was Rs. 2.04 lakhs or 9.1 per cent of the capital outlay as against 9.4 per cent in the previous year, and the closing balance in favour of the fund was Rs. 21.50 lakhs in Government securities and Rs. 1.82 lakhs in cash. The opening balance of the railway cess fund in Coimbatore was Rs. 7.08 lakhs in Government securities with a cash deficit of Rs. 0.40 lakh. The gross earnings of the railway were Rs. 1.80 lakhs and the working expenses Rs. 0.86 lakh. The district board paid Rs. 0.48 lakh towards the capital and interest on the loan borrowed from the public and from the Bank of Madras. The profit on the working of the railway was Rs. 0.94 lakh or 8.3 per cent of the capital outlay as against 7.8 per cent in the previous year, and at the end of the year the balance in favour of the fund was a little over Rs. 6 lakhs in Government securities and a cash deficit of Rs. 5,541. The net earnings of the railway in Guntūr amounted to Rs. 0.54 lakh or 3.7 per cent on the capital outlay as in the previous year. The net earnings of the railway in Salem which commenced working during the year amounted to Rs. 3,730 or 0.75 per cent on the capital outlay.

MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION—MUFASSAL (1917-18)

[Statistics of British India, Part VIII, Local Funds—Municipalities]

112. The unions of Tiruppūr and Udamalpet were constituted municipalities in the year. Two new councils were opened and the maximum strength of all the councils (72) increased from 1,162 to 1,183 members, the actual strength at the end of the year being 1,090 as against 1,089 in the previous year, of whom 89 were ex-officio, 448 nominated by Government and the remaining 553 elected by the rate-payers. The system of appointing councillors by election was in force in 62 municipalities. The proportion of Indian to European and Eurasian members increased slightly and, as in the previous year, 21 councils consisted entirely of Indian members. The councils held 1,856 meetings, or 18 less than in the previous year, and 89 others were adjourned for want of a quorum. The average attendance of councillors at each meeting fell from 59.2 per cent of the total strength to 57.5 per cent.

General
Constitution
and strength
of councils

113. The opening balance was Rs. 33.98 lakhs against Rs. 39.42 lakhs in 1916-17 and the current receipts increased, by Rs. 4.45 lakhs, to Rs. 91.76 lakhs, the increase occurring mainly under "rates and taxes" and "grants and contributions", compensated partly by a reduction under "extraordinary and debt". The income from the tax on buildings and lands rose from Rs. 16.81 lakhs to Rs. 17.62 lakhs, that from the water and drainage tax from Rs. 8.36 lakhs to Rs. 8.78 lakhs, the tax on arts and professions from Rs. 2.94 lakhs to Rs. 3.04 lakhs, the receipts from tolls from Rs. 7.59 lakhs to Rs. 8.30 lakhs and those from educational institutions from Rs. 2.87 lakhs to Rs. 3.20 lakhs. The average incidence of taxation per head of the population again rose from Rs. 1-12-2 to Rs. 1-15-4. It was as usual relatively high, and higher than in the previous year, in the hill municipalities where it ranged from Rs. 5-13-2 to Rs. 9-15-7; in the plains it ranged from Rs. 3-14-9 to As. 14-0. There was an increase of Rs. 1.29 lakhs in the grants and contributions paid by Government which amounted to Rs. 15.08 lakhs. These were devoted to general purposes (Rs. 7.44 lakhs), education (Rs. 5.62 lakhs) and medical purposes (Rs. 2.02 lakhs). Loans amounting to Rs. 2.29 lakhs were advanced to municipal councils by Government as against Rs. 2.16 lakhs in the previous year. These consisted of a loan of Rs. 0.67 lakh to the Madura Municipal Council for the extension of the water-supply scheme, of sums aggregating Rs. 0.64 lakh lent to six municipal councils for expenditure on survey, of Rs. 0.35 lakh borrowed by the Ellore Municipal Council for the construction of a building for the Municipal office, of a loan of Rs. 0.34 lakh given to the Vellore Municipal Council for drainage works and of several smaller sums borrowed by other municipal councils for various purposes. Besides the sum borrowed from the Government, the Madura Municipal Council raised a loan of Rs. 0.21 lakh in the open market for special drainage and water-supply schemes.

Finance
Receipts

Loans

114. The expenditure fell, by about Rs. 1.05 lakhs, to Rs. 91.70 lakhs. The expenditure on public works fell, by Rs. 11.91 lakhs, to Rs. 29.02 lakhs or about 31 per cent of the total charges, of which Rs. 7.62 lakhs were spent on communications. Water-works in nine municipal towns, improvements and extensions to existing water-works in six municipalities and drainage schemes for two towns were under execution by the Public Works Department. Water-supply schemes for twelve municipalities, improvements to existing works in five municipalities, drainage schemes for twelve municipal towns, and improvements to the drainage works in two towns were either under investigation or preparation by the Sanitary Engineer or under the consideration of the Sanitary Board or the Government. In Tiruppūr and Udamalpet, which were newly constituted municipalities, the local boards continued to maintain the hospitals. The hospitals in Bellary were taken over by the Government with effect from the 1st December 1917. The arrangements for medical relief to the public in the other municipalities continued to

Expenditure
Public works

Medical

Education

Sanitation

Debt

be the same as in the previous year. The number of in-patients treated rose, by 4,841, to 50,195 and that of out-patients, by 47,991, to 2,551,708. The cost of maintenance increased, by Rs. 1.32 lakhs, to Rs. 7.86 lakhs. There were 654 educational institutions maintained by municipal councils, or 92 more than in the previous year. The increase occurred entirely under elementary schools. On the other hand the number of elementary schools, which the councils aided with teaching grants, fell by 37 to 329. The net educational charges amounted to 6.6 per cent of the income from general taxation. The expenditure on conservancy was Rs. 11.94 lakhs and that on lighting Rs. 3.51 lakhs as against Rs. 11.49 lakhs and Rs. 3.13 lakhs, respectively, in the previous year. The closing balance of the year was Rs. 34.03 lakhs.

115. The public debt outstanding against municipalities fell from Rs. 30.63 lakhs to Rs. 30.28 lakhs. It was about one-third of the annual revenues and there were sinking funds towards its repayment to the extent of Rs. 1.16 lakhs or about 3.8 per cent.

MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION—CITY OF MADRAS (1917-18)

[Statistics of British India, Part VIII, Local Funds—Municipalities]

Finance

116. Including the opening balance the total receipts of the Corporation amounted to Rs. 49.25 lakhs as against Rs. 55.74 lakhs in the previous year and the expenditure was Rs. 39.32 lakhs against Rs. 46.34 lakhs. The income from municipal rates and taxes was Rs. 23.57 lakhs or Rs. 1.13 lakhs more than in the previous year. This increase was chiefly due to cursory as well as general revisions of assessment. The incidence of taxation per head of the population was Rs. 4-8-9 against Rs. 4-5-3 in 1916-17. The revenue derived from municipal property and powers apart from taxation was Rs. 6.07 lakhs or Rs. 41,094 more than in the previous year. This increase was chiefly due to the sale of lands and buildings not required for the Corporation and to the realization of interest on investments of the surplus funds during the year. The grants and contributions from Government amounted to Rs. 2.90 lakhs as against Rs. 1.38 lakhs in 1916-17 and were made up of the usual annual contribution of Rs. 40,126 and a special grant of Rs. 2.50 lakhs for improvement of water-supply and drainage and for sanitary works. The miscellaneous receipts rose from Rs. 2.09 lakhs to Rs. 2.26 lakhs. A loan of four lakhs of rupees was received from Government for the improvement of water-supply and drainage. Government promissory notes pledged with the Bank of Madras were sold during the year and the loan due to the Bank was discharged and the excess of Rs. 27,468 was credited to general revenues. The debt at the close of the year was Rs. 99.98 lakhs. A sum of Rs. 40,415 was paid towards Government instalment loans and Rs. 4.02 lakhs towards interest on all loans. The sinking funds at the end of the year on account of the several loans, excluding the Government instalment loans, amounted to Rs. 25.29 lakhs in Government promissory notes and stock certificates and Madras municipal debentures and Rs. 1,740 in cash.

Works

Communi-
cations

117. The expenditure on works amounted in all to Rs. 18.48 lakhs or 46.9 per cent of the total expenditure as against Rs. 26.67 lakhs in the previous year. Of this sum Rs. 6.54 lakhs or 16.6 per cent were spent on new works, Rs. 10.18 lakhs or 25.9 per cent on repairs, Rs. 1.44 lakhs or 3.6 per cent on establishment and Rs. 32,193 or 0.8 per cent on tools and plant. A sum of Rs. 8,488 was spent on new works such as acquisition of lands and buildings for widening roads and rounding off corners, and the construction of a foot-path. The amount spent on repairs was Rs. 3.50 lakhs against Rs. 3.10 lakhs in 1916-17. During the year, 45.21 miles of road were re-formed against 43.46 miles in the previous year. Two

miles, 3 furlongs and 192 yards of unmetalled roads were metalled and 2 furlongs and 77½ yards of roads were tarred for the first time. In addition, 1 mile, 4 furlongs and 100 yards of roads were re-tarred and an experimental length of asphaltic road surface was laid in Georgetown. An experimental concrete road surface was laid over a bridge and works of reconstruction and improvement were in progress on certain other bridges. The expenditure on new works was Rs. 77,583 and that on repairs Rs. 35,452. Certain additions and improvements were carried out in Raja Sir Ramaswami Mudaliyar's Lying-in Hospital and the Royapetta Hospital. Land was acquired for a model school in Oobrapalaiyam and the construction of another model school in Edapalaiyam was in progress. The drainage arrangements to the model milch cow house in Basin Bridge Road were completed and improvements to the mangers of the cattle sheds were made. A flush-out latrine was completed and the construction of two others was in progress. Land was acquired for a latrine and for a rubbish dumping depot. A pail depot was completed and another was under construction. A new dhobikhana was being erected and extensions were being carried out to the existing dhobikhana. The amount spent on drainage works was Rs. 5.67 lakhs and on maintenance Rs. 4.48 lakhs. The construction of a gravitation main which will convey all the sewage from the southern and western areas of the city was continued up to the end of October 1917, when, owing to the rise in the level of the subsoil water, it was decided to stop the work. The laying of cast iron pipes in a section of the Purasawakam gravitation main was completed. Similar work was commenced in Perambur but had to be stopped owing chiefly to the difficulty in obtaining cast iron pipes. The construction of the foundations for the Napier Park Pumping Station was completed and stoneware pipes were laid in the Purasawakam area. The DeCaster Road scheme and a portion of the main channel in connexion with the anti-malarial drainage work were completed. In 450 houses house drains were connected with the syphons and in 513 houses, connexions were made from the syphons to the municipal sewer and sewers were laid and the storm water and side drains were constructed in various parts of the city. The expenditure on water-supply works was Rs. 87,282 and that on maintenance was Rs. 1.82 lakhs. A length of 96,360 feet of water pipes was laid under the new scheme making a total of 434,800 feet. The restricted programme was completed with an appreciable saving, due partly to the reduction in the cost of pipe laying and partly to the high prices obtained for unserviceable pipes. In consequence, the laying of the most urgently required pipes that were omitted from the restricted programme was started. The quantity of water supplied during the year was 5,038.08 million gallons, which was equivalent to 27 gallons per head per day. The maximum average daily consumption per head in any month was 30 gallons and the minimum 26 gallons. During the year, the waste detection staff examined 21,000 houses and brought to notice over 3,000 defects in the services. Under ordinary works 622 new services were laid by the licensed plumbers and 3,652 were repaired, cleaned, altered or extended. The total number of house service connexions in the city on the 31st March 1918 was 29,326. During the year 7,469 feet of old pipes were cleaned and relaid, 4,994 feet of new mains were laid and 8 valves, 31 stopcocks, 1 hydrant and 118 meters were fixed. The quantity of water supplied to the city as measured at Red Hills was 803,180,745 cubic feet as against 848,983,248 cubic feet in the previous year.

118. The expenditure on education was Rs. 40,983 against Rs. 39,416 in the previous year, the increase being due to the maintenance of the five new schools opened at the close of the year 1916-17. The total number of schools maintained by the Corporation was 21, the same as at the end of the previous year, and there were 2,822 boys and 480 girls on the rolls of these schools on 31st March 1918. There were 126 teachers in the Corporation schools and most of them were qualified. Permission was granted to philanthropic associations and societies to conduct

free night-schools for the poor in 19 of the Corporation school buildings and a few of the teachers of the Corporation schools were also granted permission to be on the staff of those schools. Twelve teachers were under training in the Government Training School, Triplicane, and stipends were paid to these.

Sanitation
and medical
services

119. The cost of maintenance of the Corporation hospitals and dispensaries amounted to Rs. 78,425 against Rs. 86,652 in 1916-17. The total number of patients treated in them was 175,277 as against 172,359 in the previous year. The usual contribution of Rs. 20,000 to Government on account of hospitals and contributions to other medical institutions amounting to Rs. 14,994 were paid. The amount spent on vaccination was Rs. 15,143 against Rs. 15,250 in 1916-17 and the total number of cases vaccinated in the city in the calendar year 1917 was 38,061. The percentages of success in primary vaccination and re-vaccination cases were 98.27 and 54.49 respectively, as against 96.87 and 65.52 in 1916-17. The number of children under one year vaccinated was 20,732. The expenditure on registration of births and deaths was Rs. 20,577 as against Rs. 18,704 in 1916-17. The number of births and deaths registered in 1917 was 23,296 and 19,917 as against 21,675 and 17,872 respectively in 1916. The birth and death rates were respectively 44.9 and 38.4 per mille as against 41.8 and 34.5 per mille in 1916. There were one indigenous and seven imported cases of plague of which six proved fatal. The number of rats caught and destroyed was 158,863, making a total of 2,255,419 since the beginning of the operations in July 1898. A sum of Rs. 5.25 lakhs or 13.36 per cent of the total expenditure was spent on sanitation and conservancy during the year as against Rs. 4.54 lakhs in 1916-17. The activities of the Corporation executive in combating malaria were chiefly directed towards minimising the mosquito nuisance and the subsequent danger to public health. Nine hundred and twenty-seven tanks and ponds were cleaned and re-cleaned; 4,542 pits and cess-pools, 501 tanks, 897 ponds, 19 low marshes and 30 wells were petrolized every week in addition to numerous other small pools and puddles that were formed soon after the rains in several low-lying tracts and tank-beds; 2,270 wells were examined to ascertain whether fish that has been introduced were living in them and in 614 or 27.04 per cent the wells were found fishless. Malaria accounted for 4.3 per cent of the total deaths as against the same rate in 1916, which gives a death-rate of 1.7 per mille.

Miscella-
neous

120. A sum of Rs. 2.40 lakhs was spent on lighting, and the cost of maintenance alone amounted to Rs. 80,409. Two hundred and seventy-five new electric lights were installed and one was removed. The number of electric lights on 31st March 1918 was 2,412. There were also 4,189 oil lamps and one power lamp. The public parks were maintained at a cost of Rs. 41,846 as against Rs. 38,653 in the previous year. The cost of the maintenance of fire-engines was Rs. 21,158 against Rs. 14,925 in 1916-17. These engines were requisitioned for ten fires as against twelve in 1916-17.

MILITARY (VOLUNTEERING) (1917-18)

121. The inauguration of the Indian Defence Force put a stop to volunteering as such and the new conditions were fully operative during the year. The thirteen volunteer corps which were attached to the 9th (Secunderabad) Division were reorganized into ten Units of the Defence Force with a total strength of 7,302 men. The Yercaud Rifles and the South Indian Railway Rifles were formed into a single Battalion—the 29th South Indian Railway Battalion. The Nilgiri Rifles and Malabar Rifles were similarly amalgamated, as were also the Bangalore Rifles and Coorg and Mysore Rifles, their new designations being, respectively, the

20th Nilgiri-Malabar Battalion and the 6th Bangalore-Coorg and Mysore Battalion. Considerable bodies of these Units consisting of officers, non-commissioned officers and men were mobilized for guard and other duties. In the 1st Madras Guards an average of 310 non-commissioned officers and men with six officers were continuously mobilized for duty at Fort St. George. In the 2nd (Madras) Group of Garrison Artillery 141 of all ranks were on service; a Captain was awarded the Order of the White Eagle 5th class (with Swords), and a Sergeant the meritorious service medal for distinguished service in the field. The 20th Nilgiri-Malabar Battalion also sent several officers and men for active service, some of whom joined the Indian Army Reserve of Officers and the army at home. For the third year in succession the regimental team of the 43rd Kolar Gold Fields Battalion won the shield presented by His Excellency the Governor for ambulance work.

MARINE (1917-18)

[Reports of the Madras Port Trust and the Madras Port Department for 1917-18; Statistics of British India, Part VIII—Local Funds]

122. The receipts of the Port Trust on Revenue account from all sources were Rs. 16.07 lakhs against Rs. 13.13 lakhs in 1916-17, an increase of about 22.35 per cent. But a sum of Rs. 2.92 lakhs of this increase was consequent on the imposition on imports and exports of 25 per cent super-dues till the 22nd August 1917 and of 50 per cent from that date to the end of the year. Omitting contributions made by Revenue to Capital, which amounted to Rs. 5.67 lakhs, gross working expenses were Rs. 12.25 lakhs or 76.21 per cent of gross receipts. Excluding interest on loans (Rs. 5.32 lakhs) the actual working expenses came to about 43 per cent of harbour earnings against 53.35 per cent in 1916-17. The average cost per ton of goods passed through the port by the Trust's own agency was Rs. 3.16. If the whole of the goods passing through be counted, the average cost was Rs. 2.25 per ton. The harbour dues alone, excluding charges for specific services such as cranes and storage, came to Rs. 10.12 lakhs. The average charges paid by shipping came to about Rs. 2.45 per registered ton. The cost given above, of facilities offered to shipping and to goods, have increased comparatively rapidly in the last four years especially since the super-dues were imposed. Prior to the war the rise in cost had been comparatively slight, but some rise was to be expected as the result of the improvement of the various facilities offered to shipping and to goods.

Madras Port
Trust

123. The west quay of the Madras Harbour was practically completed during the year. Each of the four berths was supplied with fresh water and telephone connexions. Much useful work was done at the two northern berths of the quay, especially in respect to the export of munitions. The reconstruction of the wrecked breakwater head could not be carried out on the intended design because of the impossibility, during war time, of getting certain steel required for the building of a caisson which it was intended to float to site, drop on the bottom and sink to a depth of 30 feet into the sea-bed, precisely like a bridge foundation-well. The design therefore had to be changed, and a semi-permanent head was contrived to be built up of horizontal 20 to 30-ton concrete blocks, held together by some 70 to 80 tons of 5-inch and 6-inch diameter steel bars got out of certain dismantled screw piers. This semi-permanent head will stand on a wide-spreading apron, or bed, of rubble stone not standing as the wrecked one did above sea-bed but laid 10 feet deep in a hole to be dredged below sea-bed. The newly designed or repaired breakwater bends away on a 400 feet curve to the westward of north, thus avoiding, and leaving to seawards of itself, the fallen 5,000-ton monolith and a great part of the wreck of the former structure. These wrecks are expected greatly to aid in the stability of the semi-permanent head and to hold it safe until war conditions permit

of the resumption and completion of the original caisson-well design, the site of which has been located so far in advance of that of the semi-permanent head that the sinking of the caisson will, it is expected, not be interfered with by the rubble stone underlying the latter. During the year 255 slice and wavebreaker blocks were removed from the wrecked work, the total removed from the beginning being 461 blocks of 185,000 cubic feet. A length of 109 feet was restored comprising 18 slices equivalent to 147,000 cubic feet. The total number of blocks manufactured from the beginning of operations, viz., February 1917 to end of March 1918 was 1,158.

Trade

124. The total tonnage which passed through the port during the year amounted to 631,000 tons, of which imports showed a decrease of 23,000 tons and exports an increase of 55,000 tons as compared with the previous year. The exports of the year, amounting to 225,120 tons, were the largest on record for the past fourteen years. The chief items of export contributing to this increase were (1) ores of which some 22,000 tons, or nearly 6,000 tons in excess of the previous year, were exported; (2) ground-nuts of which 100,000 tons left the port; (3) 10,000 tons of oil-cake to Java; (4) vegetable oil, a comparatively new item of export, of which 7,000 tons went to London, Rangoon and Singapore; and (5) 13,000 tons of castor seed to London for the Air Craft Board. The decrease in imports was mainly due to the conditions of shipping owing to the war, the chief items affected being piece-goods, railway materials, hardware, machinery, paper, provisions, soap, yarn and Government stores. There were increases under some of the other heads, namely, 30,000 tons of sugar, more than double the figure for the previous year, were imported from Java; some 49,000 tons of rice and 5,000 tons of raw hides came from Burma; and 108,000 tons of mineral oil—the highest on record for the past 14 years—of which 90,000 tons, or nearly 20 per cent more than in 1916-17, were kerosene oil and 18,000 tons fuel oil, which is well above the 14,000-ton average of the four previous years. The value of the private trade in foreign merchandise from foreign ports amounted to Rs. 982.47 lakhs against Rs. 1,047.16 lakhs in the previous year. Imports from Japan increased by over 80 per cent, being valued at Rs. 48 lakhs against Rs. 26 lakhs in the previous year, the chief items of increase being matches, brass and copper wire and rods and hardware. There was a fall of 20 per cent in imports from America. In Indian merchandise from Indian ports the trade rose to Rs. 203.13 lakhs from Rs. 169.96 lakhs, showing an increase of about 19.5 per cent. There was a considerable decrease in the value of trade of Indian merchandise to foreign ports, which was only Rs. 384.63 lakhs against Rs. 954.87 lakhs. The value of Indian merchandise to Indian ports was Rs. 154.35 lakhs against Rs. 95.03 lakhs, showing an increase of Rs. 59.32 lakhs.

Minor Ports
Finance

125. The trade of the ports during 1917-18 received a severer set-back than in any of the other war years owing chiefly to the further depletion of steam tonnage and the various import and export restrictions. The receipts of Port, Marine and Coast Light Funds amounted to Rs. 5.93 lakhs and the expenditure to Rs. 8.12 lakhs. The closing balance consisted of Rs. 4.21 lakhs in cash and Rs. 13.60 lakhs in Government securities. The port dues collections amounted to Rs. 1.24 lakhs against Rs. 1.75 lakhs and the coast light dues to Rs. 0.71 lakh against Rs. 0.78 lakh in the preceding year. The aggregate value of the sea-borne trade on private account at the outports was Rs. 24.79 crores against Rs. 27.48 crores in the previous year. Its volume declined to a much larger extent than what is indicated in these figures as the values for most of the commodities were higher than in preceding years. Tuticorin continued to maintain its place at the head of the outports in spite of a marked expansion in the volume of trade at Dhanushkodi. The trade of Mangalore showed a noticeable improvement. The number and tonnage of vessels that entered the outports during the year were, respectively, 19,769 and 2,097,074 tons as against 17,295 and 2,826,686 tons in 1916-17. A larger number of country

craft was engaged in the coastal trade which accounts for the decrease in tonnage in spite of an increase in the number of vessels. The total number of passengers that arrived at and sailed from the various ports was 349,031 against 504,127 in the previous year. As usual the largest traffic was carried on at Dhanushkodi. A sum of Rs. 2.49 lakhs was spent on public works. The expert sent out by the Secretary of State to report on the improvements of the Cochin harbour visited the port during the year and concluded his investigations. The work of diversion of the Upper Odai, which was believed to be the cause of the silting up of the Tuticorin harbour, was put in hand during the year.

126. As a result of the prevailing high rates of freight and the scarcity of tonnage there was a remarkable development in the output of fresh wooden tonnage for coasting trade and no less than six vessels of about 300 tons each and a large number of smaller craft were laid down during the year. Cocanada, Talarevu, Coringa, Masulipatam, Calicut and Mangalore were all busy with the construction of new vessels. Dredging operations for the maintenance of boat channels were carried on by four dredgers at the ports of Cocanada, Cuddalore and Negapatam and nearly 103,000 tons of silt were removed. There were 19 shipping casualties during the year as against 20 in 1917, and two fire accidents, one of which was attended with considerable loss of life. The cause of the fire could not be traced in either of the cases. Coast lights were exhibited at all the outports throughout the year without interruption and the Madras Light which had been extinguished for military reasons towards the close of the previous year was relit in February 1918. All the port lights were also exhibited throughout the year with the exception of the Hare Island light (Tuticorin) which was relit only at the beginning of March. The working of the port rules and regulations was satisfactory and the boat supply at the several ports was up to requirements.

MORTALITY FROM WILD ANIMALS AND SNAKES (1917)

[Report on the measures adopted for the destruction of wild animals and snakes during the year 1917; Statistics of British India, Part V, Area, Population and Public Health]

127. The number of persons killed by wild animals and snakes was 531 and 1,464, respectively, against 452 and 1,505, the totals for the previous year. The mortality from wild animals was as usual highest in Ganjam and Vizagapatam and was as in previous years caused mostly by tigers some of which in the first-named district were man-eaters. More than 100 deaths from snake-bite occurred in each of the districts of South Arcot, Trichinopoly, Tanjore and Malabar. Vizagapatam and North Arcot also returned high numbers.

Mortality

Wild animal

Snakes

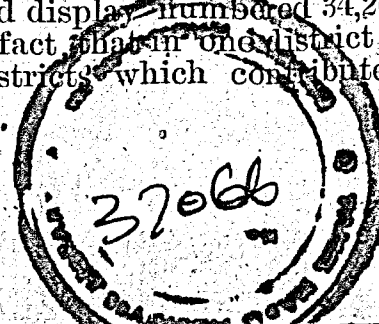
128. A total sum of Rs. 17,269 was disbursed as rewards for the destruction of wild animals and a sum of Rs. 12,963 was spent in clearing rank undergrowth from the neighbourhood of villages.

Rewards

MISCELLANEOUS (1917)

[Reports on the working of the Indian Arms and Explosives Acts, and of the Poisons Act, 1904; Return of sulphur licences in force during the year 1917]

129. There was an increase of over a thousand in the number of licences for arms which stood at 47,990. Licences to carry arms for sport, protection and display numbered 34,264, or an increase of 171 notwithstanding the fact that in one district (Malabar) there was a fall of over 500. The districts which contributed largely to this increase were

Arms,
explosives
and sulphurR
V211 8 8 1917
N18

Coimbatore, Salem, Madura, Trichinopoly and South Kanara. The total number of licences for the destruction of wild animals doing injury to crops or cattle was 12,367 as against 11,423 in 1916, the increase occurring principally in Malabar where the number rose by nearly 800. There has been a steady increase in recent years in the number of licences issued for breech-loading guns which rose during 1917 by nearly 900. There was again a regrettable increase (+ 70) in the number of revolver licences and this occurred in the districts of Coimbatore, Trichinopoly, Madura and Rāmnād. The total number of licences under the Explosives Act again fell from 10,583 to 9,683 and this was due to the decrease in blasting operations. The continued fall in the number of prosecutions under the Arms and Explosives Acts was again kept up. There were only 456 against 695 in 1916, and the percentage of conviction was lower. There was a slight increase in the number of sulphur licences granted and the quantity for which licences were obtained rose by over 60 tons.

Poisons Act

130. The number of licences under the Indian Poisons Act, 1904, rose from 151 to 186. The increase was mainly contributed by Madras City where the number rose from 4 to 50. The number exceeded 10 in Malabar, Gōdāvari, Kistna and Tinnevely. There were fourteen prosecutions under the Act against only one in the previous year. Twelve of these ended in conviction. No less than nine of the prosecutions were instituted in the Gōdāvari district. There were none in Madras City.

CHAPTER IV

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION

AGRICULTURE (1917-18)

[*Reports on the working of the Agricultural and Civil Veterinary Departments, Madras Presidency, for the year 1917-18 (G.Os. No. 3248, Revenue, dated the 14th September 1918, and No. 3054, Revenue, dated the 26th August 1918); Agricultural Statistics of British India*]

131. The superior staff of the department, which is inadequate even in normal times, was depleted during the year by the deputation of a Deputy Director to Mesopotamia. One additional Assistant Director was appointed for charge of the seventh circle and a second Assistant Agricultural Engineer was also sanctioned temporarily for one year in the first instance to investigate the possibilities of the expansion of the cultivable area under well irrigation. The Government Economic Botanist was permitted to visit Burma to study the work on rice improvement which is being carried on there. The Government Sugarcane Expert deputed his assistant to visit the various farms in the United Provinces and Bihar and the Central Provinces to study the sugarcane growing there and to conduct certain measurements of selected varieties of cane. The Dyeing Expert was deputed to investigate the condition of Madras indigo manufacture. The Government Entomologist and his establishment, originally sanctioned only for five years, were placed on a permanent footing from the 24th April 1917. The Director of Statistics visited the Presidency in November 1917 and discussed with the Director of Agriculture the possibility of improving the published forecasts and statistics of crop production with special reference to cotton. The Indian Cotton Committee visited all the important cotton tracts of the Presidency in February and March 1918 and the agricultural stations at Hagari, Nandyal, Kovilpatti and Coimbatore and the Director of Agriculture toured with the members in the Guntūr, Kistna, Madura, Tinnevely and Coimbatore districts. At Coimbatore the President of the Committee inspected the sugarcane station and the general work of the central farm in his capacity as Agricultural Adviser to the Government of India. The four coconut stations in the South Kanara district, the sheep and the seed farm in the Alur taluk of the Bellary district and the potato seed farm at Nanjanad in the Ootacamund taluk of the Nilgiri district commenced regular work during the year. A sub-station near the Palur Agricultural farm for testing varieties of groundnut and a demonstration farm near Gudiyāttam in the North Arcot district were sanctioned. The sugarcane breeding station at Coimbatore was extended and a site for an agricultural station for Cambodia cotton was selected near Pollachi in that district. The year witnessed the passing out of the Agricultural College of the first batch of diplomates under the revised curriculum inaugurated in June 1914, all the eight students who appeared for examination coming out successful. In the agricultural or first two years' course, 32 students passed, the percentage of passes being 94 against 72 in the previous year. Forty-two candidates were selected for admission into the college out of 205 applicants. Nine resigned subsequently so that the number that remained at the end of the year was 33. Besides

General

the decrease in the number of applicants there was deterioration in the quality of the students selected. It is a matter for regret that in a province in which 70 per cent of the population depend on agriculture for their subsistence, the desire for improved and scientific knowledge of the subject is so poor.

Agricultural
research and
experiments

132. The season at most of the agricultural stations was not very favourable. The rainfall was up to or above the average, but was badly distributed, the breaks in the monsoons coming at abnormal times, and there being no break between the two monsoons. The only serious result however so far as the work of the department was concerned was the failure of certain experiments on cotton at Hagari and on paddy at Manganallur. The distribution of varieties of sugarcane suited to the several tracts was continued. New varieties were tried at Anakāpalle, Samalkot and Palur and some of them gave very good yields. At the last-mentioned station "Fiji B" yielded at the rate of nearly 44 tons of cane per acre. Seed-farms for the multiplication of varieties of cane were organized and improvements in cultivation, in crushing and in the manufacture of jaggery continued to be popularized. Owing to the high price of iron pans and mills the ryots had some difficulty in getting their canes crushed. But the department assisted them by arranging loans of the necessary plant. The spacing experiment with paddy which had been in progress at Coimbatore since 1910 was brought to a close during the year. Single seedlings gave the best results in certain varieties and thicker planting in certain others. The value of the several methods depends also on the relative value of grain and straw. But the experiments as a whole entirely justified the advice given by the department to ryots to plant their paddy very much more economically than they are accustomed to do. The practice of reducing the seed-rate of paddy continued to spread in all districts. To cope with the increased demand for seed of improved strains a system of seed-farms was started during the year. The experiment at Samalkot to test the value of hot weather cultivation on the succeeding paddy crop was brought to a conclusion, the results of four years being uniformly in favour of the practice. An experiment has been in progress since 1914-15 to test the correctness of the contention of the ryots that they must get their crop transplanted before the end of July if they were to obtain full crops. The results showed conclusively that late planting leads to poorer yields and that close spacing or heavy manuring cannot counteract this. The use of green manure crops and of bonemeal, fish guano and fish manure continued to spread and to be encouraged. The important experiments on paddy manuring at Manganallur were continued, but the unfavourable physical condition of the soils was a limiting factor which prevented any large difference being shown. It was, however, clear from these experiments that it is possible to increase the yields of paddy in the Tanjore delta very considerably by the application of suitable manures containing phosphorus and nitrogen. The department was therefore starting a large scale demonstration experiment in that delta giving out a manure mixture, based on experience gained at Manganallur, for trial by ryots on a large number of plots. Drill cultivation in the Tinnevelly tract was growing more popular among the ryots. Owing to the efforts made by the department in close co-operation with cotton firms and Revenue officials, Pulichai cotton may be said to be practically extinct in the Tinnevelly tract. As a result of thirteen years' work of the department the country cotton in Tinnevelly has been replaced to a large extent by superior strains of selected cotton under which there were at least 250,000 acres during the year benefiting the ryots to an extent of Rs. 50 lakhs. In Tinnevelly much progress was made in the organization of seed unions for the multiplication of seed of improved strains of Tinnevelly cotton. The selection, testing and multiplication of single plant selections of cotton were continued on the agricultural stations at Nandyal, Hagari and Kovilpatti. Experiments on introducing groundnuts, Cambodia cotton and fibre crops into the local rotation on dry, garden and wet

Sugarcane

Paddy

Cotton

Dry grains

lands, respectively, were in progress at Anakāpalle. The experiments at Nandyal as to whether a main leguminous crop cannot profitably be introduced into the local rotation were continued. Rotation experiments with castor, field beans and cholam were in progress at Coimbatore. Experiments on wide spacing of cholam were continued at Coimbatore and Nandyal. The comparison between fodder cholam and guinea grass was continued at Coimbatore. Lucerne did not do so well as in the previous year and Rhodes grass which did well before on small plots was a failure when tried on a large scale. Fodder maize again did well. A variety of lucerne (*alfalfa*) obtained from Baghdad through the Commandant of the Madras Gardeners' Corps was tried at Hagari and Coimbatore and showed considerable promise. A new sub-station for carrying out the tests of varieties of groundnut was selected and leased during the year. Endeavours were made to obtain fresh seed of groundnut from the principal foreign countries growing it, but a quantity was received only from Spain. The single plant selections were being continued and showed some promise. The year under report marked the beginning of scientific work on the coconut at the new stations on the West Coast. The germination of several varieties of nuts was studied and various indigenous methods of germinating were compared. At one of the stations a detailed study of the plant was made with a view to laying out definite experiments in future. The pepper crop, which is peculiarly sensitive to the season, was adversely affected at Taliparamba by the absence of rain in May and the long break in the monsoon. The experiments on potatoes at Hagari were repeated but the crop was again destroyed by heavy rain. A trial was made with various vegetables at Kovilpatti. Henbane did not do well. At the request of the Board of Revenue Indian hemp (*Cannabis sativa*) was grown at Coimbatore for seed. Marked variation was noticed in the crop and there can be no doubt that selection for vigour and yield of ganja would be profitable. By the purchase of a number of half-bred dairy cattle the value of the Coimbatore dairy herd was brought up by nearly 50 per cent. But a large number of cattle succumbed at the end of the year to rinderpest which appeared in a severe form in spite of the prompt application of the recognized remedy of inoculation. The dairy work continued to expand. Preliminaries were put in hand for the location of a cattle farm in the Ongole tract in Chintalapudi village, Kavali taluk, Nellore district. Attention was paid to improving the present breed of buffalo, a valuable dairy animal, which supplies most of the ghee and butter consumed in the Madras Presidency. The sheep from Hagari and Nandyal were transferred during the year to the new farm at Bantanahal and the flock was increased by outside purchase. It will be further enlarged as the farm is developed and an attempt will be made to breed out some economic breeds. The stock of poultry at Coimbatore was increasing, but very slowly, owing to heavy losses from chicken-pox, which it seems impossible to keep down.

133. Researches were continued into the availability of mineral phosphates in paddy soils in conjunction with green manure. There are large deposits of mineral phosphates, in the form of nodules, in the Trichinopoly district within a few miles of the Tanjore Delta. Up to the present these nodules have been little used owing to the fact that they cannot profitably be converted into soluble superphosphates. Experiments made by the department showed the great possibilities of these deposits as a source of phosphatic manure which is readily used by the paddy plant. The study of the effect of manurial treatment on the composition of food-grains was continued, the grains from the permanent manurial plots at Coimbatore being analysed and the result indicating that phosphorus was the limiting factor. The analysis of the Kistna soil samples was completed. The most important work undertaken by the Chemical section of the Agricultural College during the year was the preparation for the Madras Exhibition held during Christmas, 1917, of substitutes for imported food and other products from local raw materials. The

Fodder crops
and grasses

Groundnut

Coconut

Miscellaneous
crops

Live-stock

Scientific
research and
experimentsAgricultural
chemistry

Government Economic Botanist continued his experiments on paddy at the Paddy Breeding Station. As a result of his study of the inheritance of characters in paddy two points of special interest have been definitely proved, viz., a very definite connexion between a certain type of golden colouring and the shape and size of the grain and some connexion between another type of that colouring and duration of the plant. At Manganallur the selections from two varieties were tested for yield against the farm bulk selections for which there is already a great demand, especially in the Tanjore district. Certain of the selections yielded from 15 to 24 per cent higher than the farm seed and these have been selected for multiplication this year. The work on paddy is becoming more definite as experience is gained and will proceed at a faster rate in future. The annual value of the paddy crop in this Presidency exceeds sixty crores of rupees and the experiments now carried on show that this crop may eventually be increased by 20 per cent or so by the sowing of pure seeds of selected strains. The value and importance of these investigations cannot therefore be overrated. Several tours were made by the Government Entomologist and his staff to investigate insect pests—in particular pests of paddy—and to organize a campaign for spraying mangoes in the Vizagapatam district. Some further work was carried out on the stem weevil (*Pemphres*) which is so serious a pest of Cambodia cotton and which has invaded new districts, apparently with consignments of seeds; but so far no successful method of combating the pest had been discovered. No radical cure appears feasible against fresh water crabs which cause serious damage to paddy seedlings at Manganallur, but certain methods of control were adopted with success, and these will have to be repeated each year. A start was made with apiculture and a small hive of the common Indian bee was established at Coimbatore. The experiments on the fungus causing secondary leaf fall in Hevea rubber were continued and an economically sound method of treatment devised. A number of other fungoid diseases of rubber were under investigation. Bleeding disease of coconut was found to be increasing in several districts and was under investigation. The season was a good one for arrowing and 421 different cane varieties were in flower as against 96 in the previous year. The number of seedlings raised from these was however 77,000 as against 99,000 in the previous year. The fall was due to the rejection of a large group of seedlings which have been proved to be useless. The year in fact marks the beginning of concentration on smaller numbers sufficient experience having been gained to admit of this. The number of canes selected from the previous years' crosses as being probably suited to Northern India was 150. Nearly 5,000 seedlings were grown to maturity and analysed for their sugar content, and about 11,000 analyses were made in the year. Investigation into the growth of canes both above and below ground and into methods of testing arrows for fertility was continued.

134. The system of examining for disease all palmyra trees in Kistna and Gōdāvari within fifty yards of previously recorded sources of infection was continued. Up to the end of May 1918 the examination was completed in all but thirty villages; but a disagreeable feature of the year was the discovery of a serious recrudescence of the disease in certain villages in Kistna which had been declared free from infection two years ago and removed from the area of operations of the special staff. There was a somewhat similar recrudescence in certain villages in the eastern Gōdāvari Delta and the adjacent uplands. This was due to the failure of village officials to report cases of disease promptly and the special staff was therefore suitably increased to deal with the recrudescence. The disease has been reduced to about the lowest terms possible with the available agency. The campaign against the Mahali disease on areca nuts and the preventive treatment against smut on cholam, cumbu and Italian millet was continued; but co-operation on the part of the ryots was lacking as they could not be induced to pay the cost of the operations. The demand for sugarcane setts was increasing rapidly. Some 52,000 setts

were sold from the Anakāpalle and Samalkota farms and about 114,000 in the IV Circle. The area under cane cultivation was extended particularly in South Arcot where Messrs. Parry & Co. set up two out-stations for making jaggery, each installation being capable of dealing with some 700 acres of cane in a season. The price of cotton rose unexpectedly in March 1918 by nearly 75 per cent, and this brought great prosperity to the cotton districts. On the other hand it has led to much cotton—especially Cambodia—being grown on unsuitable land. The department continued its activities in the matter of supplying seeds to the ryots of good strains of cotton. In the Tinnevely tract 2,320 acres were sown as seed farm in 1916-17 season to supply seed for this year's season as against 552 acres in the previous year. The large increase was due to the necessity of supplying large quantities of seed of a particular strain as a part of the campaign against pulichai. The end of the first stage of the work of the Agricultural Department is in sight, viz., the substitution of pure improved strains for the country cotton mixture. The latter will soon practically disappear and there will be ample seed of company cotton for every one. Measures will be taken to ensure that a continued supply of fresh seed is always available in order to prevent deterioration and the number of seed unions, which are progressing well, will be increased and scattered uniformly all over the cotton tract, so that they may supply the bulk of each year's seed. Over 160,000 lb. of seed paddy were sold from the various Government farms. The practice of reducing the seed rate of paddy has spread in all districts to such an extent as to render it beyond the capacity of the department to keep track of it. A demand for concentrated manures for paddy is rapidly springing up, especially in the south, and several orders for the more expensive varieties were complied with by the department, although 234,363 lb. of seed of green manure crops were sold as compared with 166,457 lb. in the previous year; and it is satisfactory that the demand continues to keep ahead of the department's powers of supply with the result that ryots are induced to provide for their own supplies of seed and private merchants take up the business to an increasing extent. Attempts to grow Daincha (*Sesbania aculeata*) on a large scale on seed farms failed almost without exception. The steadily rising price of all iron implements has stood in the way of any expansion in their sale to ryots.

135. In July 1917 a conference was held at Coimbatore of the gazetted officers of the Agricultural and Co-operative Credit Departments at which the lines on which the two departments could work more closely together were threshed out. The first points which were emphasized at the conference were that in the past one department has often exploited a tract which the other could not take up but that in future both should concentrate on the same tracts; that in many tracts the progress of agricultural improvement was hampered by the poverty of the non-occupancy subtenants, who were the real cultivators of the soil and that it was essential that the Co-operative Credit Department should supply cheap credit to this class. The general lines were laid down on which co-operative societies could take up non-credit work of the nature of joint purchase of seed manures and implements and joint sale of agricultural produce and the methods were formulated in which the officers of the two departments should co-operate for this work. Some progress in this direction was made during the year and considerable experience gained.

136. The Agricultural Engineering section was reorganized during the year and its sphere of work definitely separated from that of the Department of Industries. The continued rise in the price of machinery and the scarcity of oil fuel have prevented any expansion in the work of this section during the year; and until the end of the war the department cannot hope to be able to do more than to maintain things as they are and prepare for future expansion. Some 57 enquiries from ryots regarding new pumping installations were received in the year, but all except five came to nothing owing to the difficulties set forth above. There

PRODUC-
TION AND
DISTRIBUTION

Boring

were 23 installations under erection at the beginning of the year and 21 new installations were taken up during the year. Of these 44 only 8 comprised new machinery. The difficulty of obtaining steel pipes for lining borings and the high price of those that could be had greatly hampered the extension of boring work. The department was in fact compelled to employ most of its boring sets in the inland districts where the sub-soil is mainly hard rock in which lining pipes are not needed, rather than in the coast districts where soft alluvial sub-soil makes lining pipes imperative. In consequence of this and in spite of an increase in the number of boring sets the total depth bored fell from 22,323 feet to 16,267 feet and the number of bore holes from 379 to 307. Only one of the two sugarcane crushing and jaggery making plants was in use during the year.

Finance

137. The receipts and expenditure of the department amounted to Rs. 1.63 lakhs and Rs. 7.76 lakhs, respectively.

Civil
Veterinary
department

138. At the close of the year the Civil Veterinary Department consisted of a Superintendent, two Deputy Superintendents (including the appointment created during the year on the formation of a second circle), twelve Inspectors (including the Glanders and Farcy Inspector attached to the Madras Veterinary College and the Assistant in Veterinary Science in the Agricultural College, Coimbatore) and 113 assistants. Sixteen graduates were newly entertained on the 1st March 1918. One Inspector and three assistants were on military duty throughout the year. In December 1917 there were 103 students in the Veterinary College. Seventeen out of the twenty-five candidates who appeared graduated from the College. The Principal of the College was in charge of the Office of the Superintendent, Civil Veterinary Department, in addition to his own duties for nine months from the middle of February 1917. Two dispensaries were opened at Palghat and Kumbakonam and the number of these institutions at the close of the year was 39, excluding the Madras Veterinary College hospital. As in the previous year the hospitals at Berhampur and Rajahmundry and the dispensary at Tinnevely did creditable work, the total number of in-patients and out-patients admitted in each of these institutions exceeding 2,000. There was a regrettable increase from 68,588 to 70,018 in cattle mortality from contagious disease, and this was due entirely to the ravages of rinderpest which has been increasing in severity during each of the last five years. There was a fall under every other head. The districts where the disease wrought most havoc were Anantapur, North Arcot, South Arcot, South Kanara, Malabar and Chingleput and in each of these additional assistants were posted to work from the reserve staff. The number of inoculations against hæmorrhagic septicæmia performed during the year was 12,807 as compared with 7,238 in the previous year. In horses glanders and surra were much more prevalent than they have ever been before and the Deputy Superintendents of the department were therefore appointed veterinary practitioners under the Glanders and Farcy Act of 1899. The Act has been extended to the whole Presidency in respect of surra, and this has enabled the department to take measures to prevent the spread of the disease. Enquiries were, however, in progress as to whether there was any use notifying only equines for surra under the Act as there was evidence to show that actual epidemics of the disease occur amongst bovines occasionally.

Diseases

Miscellaneous

Breeding
operations

139. A Deputy Director of Live-Stock was appointed in the Agricultural Department for the control of all cattle-breeding operations. The seven stud bulls remaining in the department were disposed of during the year by sale and otherwise as none of them were required. The department has in the past devoted a good deal of its time and energies to pony-breeding operations. These have, however, been a failure owing to several causes and it was definitely decided during the year to abandon these activities. Two horse shows and twenty-four cattle fairs and shows were held in the year. The shows at Tiruppūr, Ongole and Madura were all successful.

Fairs and
shows

WEATHER AND CROPS

(FASLI 1327—1ST JULY 1917 TO 30TH JUNE 1918)

[Season and Crop Report for fasli 1327; Agricultural Statistics of India; and Area and Yield of certain principal Crops in India]

140. The year on the whole was favourable to agricultural operations. Rainfall. The south-west monsoon commenced earlier than usual, about the beginning of June, with good showers in the Northern Circars, the Deccan, the Carnatic, the Central group of districts excepting Coimbatore and Trichinopoly, the West Coast and the Hills. The early showers gave a good start for agricultural operations in most of the Circars and the Ceded districts. The rainfall in July was generally below the average in the majority of districts; that of August and September was generally above the average throughout the Presidency and was excessive in places. The total rainfall during this monsoon was above the average in all the districts except Vizagapatam Littoral and Malabar. The north-east monsoon commenced as usual in October with good showers throughout the Presidency, the rainfall in that month being above the average in the majority of districts. There was practically no rain in the Presidency in the first week of November except in the Circars. Prospects, however, improved during the second week and the improvement was maintained till the last week of the month, when the weather became dry in the Circars and in the Deccan. The fall in November was above the average in many of the districts and the monsoon began to slacken by the beginning of December and gradually ceased towards the close of the month. The total rainfall during this monsoon was above the average in the Deccan, Nellore, the West Coast and the Circars and was excessive in parts of Gōdāvari and Guntūr. The dry and the hot weather rains were above the average in the majority of districts. The heavy fall in May on the West Coast caused damage to standing crops in Malabar.

141. There was an increase of cultivation in many districts, but on account of the abnormally heavy rainfall in both the monsoons, especially in the south-west, standing crops were considerably affected in the Gōdāvari and the Kistna deltas and in the Deccan excepting Cuddapah. Submersion of crops by floods occurred in Ganjām and Kurnool. In Kistna particularly, there were floods in some of the lakes which necessitated the grant of remission on a large scale in five taluks; while in eight districts season remissions had to be granted. Further, the excess of rainfall also affected the outturn of crops in several districts, in eight of which it was below the normal. The area under first crop cultivation was 34,056,000 acres as against a normal extent of 33,767,000 acres. The total cropped area was 38,821,000 acres as against a normal area of 38,166,000 acres. Increases occurred under paddy, groundnut, sugarcane, cotton, indigo and tobacco, while there was a fall in the acreage under cholam, cumbu, ragi, gingelly and castors including lamp oil seeds. The increase under paddy was due to the general extension of wet cultivation, particularly in two districts, in which there was a marked rise of over 250,000 acres in the aggregate; the increase under sugarcane was consequent on the demand for locally manufactured jaggery on account of the decrease in the import of foreign sugar; and that under cotton was attributable to the high prices fetched by Cambodia at the close of the previous season and the great demand from Japan. The stoppage of the import of synthetic indigo from Germany gave a boom to the natural product and the extent under this crop, which at first gave indications of an abnormal increase, decreased in some of the Circars and the Ceded districts owing to the fall in prices. The increase in the extent under tobacco is ascribed to the lucrative nature of the crop and to its larger cultivation on dry lands under wells. The general fall in the area cultivated with dry food-grains and pulses was due to the preference shown in some districts for groundnut, cotton and indigo and for paddy where a good supply of water was available in the irrigation sources and to the abnormal season in certain other districts.

Crops

HORTICULTURE (1917-18)

[G.Os. No. 2522, Revenue, dated the 4th July 1918, and No. 3287, Revenue, dated the 20th September 1918; Report of the Agri-Horticultural Society of Madras for 1917]

Government
Botanic
Gardens and
Parks, the
Nilgiris

142. The labour difficulty in the Botanic Gardens at Ootacamund continued to be acute, and progress during the year was therefore on the economic rather than on the botanical side as evidenced by the cultivation of medicinal plants and the starting of a potato seed farm. The conservatories always contained orchids in bloom and the show of bloom in the upper conservatory was above the usual standard. A collection of new *Cinerarias* raised from imported seed made a fine show during February and March 1918. The plants were still at their best at the close of the year. The conservatories were constantly fed with fresh plants from the extensive range of nursery glass-houses at the top of the garden and were much appreciated by the public. The flower beds in the garden were as usual kept filled with plants and during July made a magnificent show, the unusually light rainfall that month being extremely favourable for the production of bloom. The potato garden was treated with cattle manure which improved the outturn. Out of 16 varieties planted, only two produced a lower return than in 1916-17 and this is attributed to a much larger quantity having been planted this year on ground which was exposed to wind. Efforts were made to obtain seeds of medicinal plants and several species were obtained and tried with varying success. In the Government Parks, the young trees were more thoroughly fenced in to protect them from stray cattle. Great difficulty was experienced also in Sim's Park, Coonoor, in obtaining suitable labour. More than the usual attention was paid to the young trees and shrubs in this park and several new species were planted. The turf was maintained in very fair order. The fruit trees grew fairly well and the plums planted in 1912 produced for the first time a good crop of fruit. Plums and peaches were propagated to supply the demand for fruit trees. On the whole the fruit trees grew satisfactorily and responded to liberal treatment with manure. In the Burliar experimental garden the removal of rubber trees was continued and the land cleared was terraced. Seedless bread-fruit plants were introduced and the mango-steen crop was again a good one, Rs. 571 having been realized from these. Fifty pounds of dry cocoa beans were collected, 17 lb. were sold and 12 lb. were supplied gratis to the Ootacamund War Fête. Many hundreds of cocoa seedlings were raised. The rubber trees in the Kullar experimental garden were tapped and 91 lb. of dry rubber obtained. During the year 352 lb. of rubber were sold for Rs. 554. A number of fruit trees were planted and the nursery beds filled with medicinal plants. The orange trees bore a good crop of excellent fruit, the sale of which realized Rs. 656. Most of the coffee plants at Benhope produced berries, but as hybridization had not yet been commenced they were of little value. Over 100 lb. of green leaves of *gaultheria fragrantissima* were collected and supplied to the Medical Storekeeper to the Government of Madras for the experimental distillation of gaultheria (winter green) oil. A small quantity was also distilled in the Botanic Gardens and a sample of this which was sent to the Medical Storekeeper was favourably reported on. A seed potato farm was established in Nanjanad village, Ootacamund, work was commenced in October and its progress watched with interest. The selection of suitable sites for fruit farms on the Nilgiris was engaging the attention of the Curator. The receipts in all amounted to Rs. 7,482 and the expenditure to Rs. 29,089.

The Agri-
Horticultural
Society,
Madras
(1917)

143. In the Agri-Horticultural Society's garden at Madras, several thousands of seedlings of annuals were raised during the year, but the continuous fall of rain and stormy weather destroyed and damaged a large number. The *Rosarium* was maintained in good condition and the older bushes were replaced by young plants. These bushes of roses supplied during the year the bulk of the flower orders for bouquets,

wreaths, crosses, button-holes and cut flowers. Fairly successful experiments were made in growing pears, peaches, plums, figs and other fruit trees. The income of the Society from all sources, excluding the Government grant, was Rs. 12,388, or Rs. 202 less than in 1916. This was due to economies adopted by the public and all Government departments during the war and to the absence of remunerative out-door work. The Government grant amounted to Rs. 5,800. The expenditure was Rs. 20,100 and the year closed with a balance of Rs. 1,041. The seventy-eighth annual flower show held on the 24th February was a one-day show. Business continued to be bad and sales decreased. Much less municipal water was used this year than in 1916, resulting in a saving of Rs. 225-12-0.

144. The Government cinchona plantations were reorganized during the year into the Dodabetta and Naduvattam plantations. The first comprises the Dodabetta and Kukal divisions and the second the Naduvattam and Hooker divisions. In view of the scarcity of bark the area under cultivation was increased by 235 acres. Fifty-four acres were uprooted and the acreage at the end of the year was 1,188 acres (Dodabetta plantation 253 acres and Naduvattam plantation 935 acres) against 1,007 at the beginning of the year. Under a scheme of reafforestation there was an area of about 700 acres, mostly of *Eucalyptus globulus* and *Grevillea robusta*. On Dodabetta 30 acres of *Cinchona officinalis* were planted and 40 acres of exhausted land were reafforested. On Naduvattam division 100 acres of *Cinchona robusta* were put out and this area was interplanted with nearly a lakh of seedlings of silver oak; 65 acres of land which had been for ten years under silver oak were prepared for planting with cinchona in 1918-19. In Hooker division 105 acres of cinchona were planted; 138 acres of scrub land in the old Wood estate were felled to receive cinchona trees. Very little bark was again taken from the plantations, the actual quantity being 87,037 lb. (Dodabetta 18,468 lb. and Naduvattam 68,569 lb.). The year was a busy and exceptionally prosperous one. The restrictions on shipping led to an increasing demand for the products of the Government Cinchona Factory resulting in sales of over Rs. 11 lakhs. The total quantity of cinchona bark worked up was 1,284,351 lb., of which the average analysis was 4.59 per cent sulphate of quinine. The output of quinine rose from 52,513 lb. in 1916-17 to 55,014 lb., an increase of over one ton, which gives an outturn figure of 93 per cent against 92.8 in the previous year. The increase was accomplished without any addition to the manufacturing plant. Over 20,000 lb. of quinine were sent to the Medical Stores, Bombay, a large part of this being meant for the army in Mesopotamia and East Africa. The quantities of the various products manufactured were 48,920 lb. of quinine sulphate, 1,567 lb. of quinine hydrochloride, 160 lb. of quinine bi-hydrochloride, 4,725 lb. of quinine sulphate tablets and 84 lb. of quinoidine. The gross receipts were Rs. 11.78 lakhs and the total expenditure Rs. 4.13 lakhs, of which the expenditure on factory account amounted to Rs. 3.29 lakhs. There was an increase of over 10 per cent in the sales of pice packets at the post offices, the quantity disposed of being 3,441 lb.

Government
cinchona
plantations

Quinine
factory

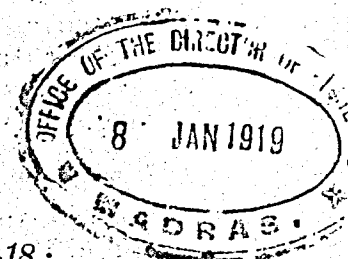
Finance.

FISHERIES

[1ST APRIL 1917 TO 30TH JUNE 1918]

[Administration Report of the Fisheries Department for 1917-18;
G.O. No. 3461, Revenue, dated the 17th October 1918]

145. The principal administrative event of the year was the separation of the Government Soap Works at Calicut from the Department of Fisheries and their affiliation to the Department of Industries. They, however, remained, under the general supervision of the Honorary



Director of Fisheries in his individual capacity. The Director's branch had charge of the general control of the department and also of the Tanur fish-curing yard, the Chaliyam (Beypore) cannery and socio-economic work. The Marine Biologist ran the Tuticorin fish farm and the edible oyster farm at Pulicat and undertook also the preparation of marine zoological specimens for educational work, beche-de-mer preparation, scientific and practical investigations and the writing of bulletins. As Superintendent of Pearl and Chank Fisheries, he was in charge of the pearl and chank work over the whole coast from Madras to Cape Comorin. The fish farms at Sunkesula and Ippur were under the supervision of the Assistant Director, who undertook also larvicidal work and a variety of breeding and cultural operations and economic experiments. At the Madras Industrial Exhibition, 1917-18, the department was awarded a gold medal and the diploma of excellence for canned and cured fish.

The West
Coast
stations

146. At Tanur cannery operations were somewhat larger than in the previous year, but quite insufficient to meet the general demand although the net profit was considerably greater than in 1916-17. An experimental scheme for the refrigeration of cheap shoal fish, sardines, mackerel, cat fish, etc., was elaborated at that station and freezing tanks were built in order to determine whether cheap but good and fresh fish can be successfully placed in distant markets by sharp freezing in ice and salt and in an extended zone of adjacent markets by simple chilling. Owing to the war and the consequent absence of freight and in part also to short distribution and lessened fat contents in the fish many of the numerous private oil and guano factories which have sprung up since, and in consequence of, the department's operations have had very bad times either from want of products or from inability to sell them, guano falling in price by nearly 60 per cent and oil by nearly 75 per cent. Fortunately the Controller of Munitions made requisitions upon the department for oil for military purposes and this, coupled with a sudden demand by the jute mills, brought prices back to normal. A similar restoration to normal conditions was effected in the case of guano by the formation of groups of producers acting as intermediaries for large customers. These groups will be formed into co-operative societies and will thus be further consolidated.

Piscicul-
tural work

147. A notable feature of the year in the Sunkesula fish farm was the successful breeding of the highly esteemed species *Etroplus suratensis* by providing artificial nests made of Cuddapah slabs. The operations have been so successful as to render it possible to stock the Kurnool-Cuddapah canal and tanks in the neighbourhood with the fry. This species was also raised in the ponds at the old Powder Factory, Madras, from which and from the Sunkesula farm many permanent water tanks in the districts of Kurnool, Cuddapah, Bellary, Salem, Chingleput and North Arcot were stocked with fish. During the year, the Gourami introduced into the old Powder Factory farm from Java and Mauritius two years ago bred for the first time. The species also began to breed in the tanks covered by the Pudur scheme, but in the absence of extensive rearing grounds, the provision of which is under investigation, the fry had to be transported to Ippur. The work of the Ippur fish farm progressed satisfactorily. It held a large head of Gourami and larvicides and was the main source of supply of the latter to the public and to local bodies in the Presidency. A number of estuarine food fish of indigenous species were being acclimatized to fresh water at the Ippur and Powder Factory farms for introduction into inland waters. One of the largest and esteemed local carp *Catla catla* which is non-indigenous to waters south of the Kistna was being introduced into a series of tanks in the south. An anti-malarial cum piscicultural scheme was started during the year at the Vellore Fort moat. Owing to the failure of seasonal floods in the Coleroon, the Hilsa fishery was almost a failure. The Avalanche hatchery on the Nilgiris was visited during the year and trout fingerlings were transferred as usual from the fry ponds to the streams.

Fishing
experiments

148. The agile Malabar canoe and large nets in use on the West Coast are especially fitted for the capture of valuable shoal fish and a very useful experiment was made during the year in bringing two such canoes, nets and men to Madras to fish Madras waters with the harbour as base. A large amount of fish was caught, but the operations were not a success from a financial point of view on account of the cost of bringing over boats and men and the high wages paid to them. The experiments will be continued on a larger scale and for a longer period, local crews being recruited if possible, and other boats and nets, lines and methods tried. One of the great drawbacks in tank fishing is the inability of the local fishermen due to their primitive methods and implements to capture fish except when a tank is about to dry up. With a view to remedying the evil, experiments were initiated during the year in some of the large irrigation tanks near Madras to devise methods and implements to fish tanks throughout the year. The live-fish market at Kurnool was reopened during the year for the sale of fish from July to January when fish is scarce in Kurnool and two ponds for storing the fish were under construction. The food fish in the Ippur Kamini tank was fished departmentally and marketed.

149. The quality of the Tinnevely chank shells continued to be most excellent and they maintained their reputation as the first in all round size and quality yielded by any fishery in India and Ceylon. But there was a marked drop in the yield owing to the unfavourable nature of the weather from the beginning of January to the middle of March which affected adversely the worms that constitute the food of the chank and resulted in the scattering of the latter in search of food. On the other hand good results were obtained at the Rāmnād Chank Fishery which compensated amply for the poor harvest of the Tinnevely beds. Four crews of divers were sent to participate in the Ceylon Fishery during the three months ending October 1917, partly to prevent the Tuticorin divers from drifting away to other employments during the six months when fishing cannot be carried on at Tuticorin and partly to gain exact knowledge of the fishing stations and general course of operations in the chank fishery in Ceylon. The experiment more than paid its way. At Tirupalakudi a beche-de-mer fishery was carried on in conjunction with the chank fishery. But the industry cannot be successfully run until after the return of normal conditions. A search for pearl oysters was again made during the year in the banks off the Tinnevely coast but none save a few scattered ones were found. At the Pulicat Oyster park the collection of spat and the supply of cultivated oysters continued to be carried on. The appreciation of their quality and of the care taken in cultivation resulted in a considerable extension of sales and in a further reduction of the initial loss which was incurred in working the industry. An increasing demand is springing up for zoological specimens and the activities of the department in supplying such specimens at a little over cost price continued to expand during the year.

Marine
work

150. At the beginning of the year there were in existence on the West Coast seven credit societies all based on thrift. Three credit societies and one productive society were registered during the year. Three co-operative societies were formed among the fishermen of the Rāmnād district, many of whom were divers who participated in the Rāmnāswaram fishery. Two temperance societies continued to do good work of a practical nature and their activities combined with a scheme for the education of the village boys which is occupying attention hold out great promise of bettering the condition and outlook of the fishing population.

Socio-
economic
work

THE GOVERNMENT SOAP WORKS (1917-18)

151. The year was a fairly prosperous one and there was considerable increase of business in the factory at Calicut. The quantity of soap made was a little over 227 tons, and with the balance of the previous year there was a total quantity of 261 tons of which 229 tons were sold. "Vegetol" continued to be the most popular, and a little over 111 tons of it were sold during the year and arrangements were made to stock it for sale in the remotest villages and hamlets. A little over 96 tons of "Washwell" was sold, of which not less than 40 tons were taken over by the military department for the use of our troops in Mesopotamia and elsewhere. There was an enormous demand for this soap from all parts of the Presidency which could not be met owing to the small output. Small quantities of "Coal Tar" and "Milled Toilet" soaps were also manufactured and sold. The manufacture of fish oil soap had to be considerably restricted owing to the scarcity of chemicals. Progress in glycerine recovery was again slow owing to the absence of a suitable recovery plant. The establishment of a larger factory capable of turning out about 12 tons of soap per week has been sanctioned. It will be located at Calicut as the West Coast coconut oil, with the proper blending of other oils, yields a soap of unsurpassed and generally unequalled purity and lathering power and the articles turned out at the present factory have, on account of their excellence and cheapness, been remarkably growing in popularity. The Government soap factory has tempted capitalists from all parts of India and outside to start soap and allied industries in the Presidency, and the success of the former will in future be gauged not by its own profits but by the profits of others, by the number of men whom it can and does train and send out, and by the number of private factories which it can stimulate into successful and profitable being.

FORESTS

(FASLI 1327--1ST JULY 1917 TO 30TH JUNE 1918)

[Annual Administration Report of the Forest Department of the Madras Presidency for the year ending the 30th June 1918; Statistics of British India, Part IV (b)—Finance and Revenue]

Area

152. The present policy of Government is to abandon small isolated reserves and to convert all valuable unreserved lands into reserved forests. In pursuance of this policy about 71 square miles were notified during the year under section 16 of the Forest Act. About 39 square miles were disafforested. Where possible, forest panchayats were formed for such areas, and in some cases the grazing fees were raised in order to induce the villagers to take them upon panchayat. Where panchayats cannot be formed the areas will be given up altogether. The total area of reserved forests increased slightly, by 28 square miles, to 18,838 square miles. The area of reserved lands further fell, by 57 square miles, to 668 square miles chiefly owing to the transfer of a large area to reserved forests. Only five square miles were finally settled during the year out of an area of 493 square miles. Of the remaining 488 square miles three blocks covering 418 square miles in the northern circle were still pending settlement. Two of them were once settled but the settlement was found faulty and the re-settlement of one of them was completed at the close of the year but the final notification in respect of it was not ready for submission. In the central circle three blocks in Anantapur, one in West Cuddapah and five in Nellore were finally settled. In the southern circle settlement was complete in all districts except North and South Salem. In the western circle five blocks aggregating 186 square mile were finally settled and transferred to reserved forests. The balance

Forest
settlement

Demarcation

under settlement was seven blocks of 407 square miles, but the settlement of six of these was practically completed. At the close of the year there was a total length of 35,195 miles of forest boundaries, of which 1,882 miles constituted natural boundaries not requiring artificial mark. There were 32,869 miles of artificially-marked boundaries, of which 60 miles were demarcated and 446 miles remained still to be demarcated at the close of the year, one-half of which was in Kollegal. A length of 17,996 miles of old boundaries was repaired during the year, as against 18,808 miles in 1916-17, of which 15,542 miles, or 3,283, more than in the previous year, were cleared by subordinates free of cost. There was a considerable rise in the average cost per mile of fresh demarcation and of repairs, the former rising from Rs. 37-1-8 to Rs. 96 and the latter from Rs. 3-3-2 to Rs. 7-10-8. In the northern circle the Survey of India did no work during the year on account of the war and in the southern circle no surveys were undertaken except in Tinnevely where the party surveyed the boundary line between Singampatti and Travancore and a portion of the line between Singampatti and Kalakad forests. In the central circle the party completed its operations in the Nellore district, the year's outturn being the survey of 45 square miles on the 4-inch scale and 134 square miles on the 2-inch scale. The party also worked in South Cuddapah and surveyed 10 square miles on the 2-inch scale. In the western circle the special surveyor deputed by the party completed the final (plane table) survey of eight plantations in two ranges in South Malabar. The Madras Survey party continued revision survey operations in South Vellore, South Arcot and Madura, and departmental surveyors undertook, as usual, a variety of miscellaneous work such as the survey of coupes and block lines, the verification and rectification of boundaries and the preparation of working plans and fire maps. The shortage of officers during the war and the dislocation of work caused by the requirements of the Indian Defence Force Act prevented much progress being made with working plans. Plans covering only 273 square miles were sanctioned during the year. Over 6,360 square miles, or about one-third of the area of the reserved forests of the Presidency, are not under any working plans. In Ganjam the collection of data and statistics for the preparation of a regular plan for the sal forests was continued. The reconnaissance report was prepared and approved and the final plan was under preparation. In South Coimbatore working plans were completed for the Tekkadi leased forests and the Mount Stuart Ghat forests. The revision of the working plan for Begur forests in North Malabar was taken up during the year and in South Malabar the preparation of a revised working plan for the teak plantations and the adjoining natural forests was in progress. Useful working plans already exist for some of the chief sandal areas and during the year a working plan was sanctioned for the South Salem sandal forests. Little progress could be made during the year with the Tinnevely working plan as the officer in charge was frequently called away on military duties. The reconnaissance report for the revision of the Kuttalam working plans was approved and the plan was under preparation.

Surveys

Working
plans

153. Strict economy was exercised in expenditure and only Rs. 1.55 lakhs were spent on roads and communications as against Rs. 1.62 lakhs in the previous year. The expenditure on buildings rose from Rs. 1.02 lakhs to Rs. 1.16 lakhs, the increase being chiefly due to the construction of quarters for subordinates in the Javadis and sandalwood godowns. The important road to Kommatiyeri in the Javadis was ready for opening and the Forest Engineer was completing the plans and estimates for the proposed steam tramway from Anamalai road station to the Mount Stuart forests which is expected to cost about Rs. 6½ lakhs, including the cost of construction of permanent way, rolling stock, buildings, and wells and the acquisition of land. The laying of temporary tram lines in connexion with the transport of fuel in Sriharikota forest and in the coast casuarina plantations in the Nellore district was continued and 105 tons were transported from the former as against 3,765 tons in the

Communica-
tions and
buildings

previous year. The bullock tramway in Tekkadi leased forests was further extended for four furlongs. No other new works of any magnitude were undertaken during the year, but programmes for opening up the forests of Cuddapah and Kurnool were called for with a view to increasing and cheapening the supply of fuel and timber in those districts.

Protection of
forests
Offences

154. The total number of offences reported during the year fell, by 996, to 27,091. The decrease is attributed generally to better protection although in a few districts other special causes are said to have operated to bring about this result. The formation of forest panchayats for forests in which grazing is the chief consideration must also have been a contributory factor. Unauthorized fellings formed the largest head of forest crime in all the circles. There was a satisfactory decrease under unauthorized grazing although cases were numerous in the central circle, especially in four districts where large numbers of goats are kept. The percentage of cases which were taken to court rose from 22.13 to 24.16, while that of cases compounded fell from 71.08 to 68.59. There was a slight rise, from 6.79 to 7.25, in the percentage of cases which were undetected. The total number of cases disposed of by Magistrates fell, by 767, to 6,671, while there was also a fall from 94 to 91.66 in the percentage of conviction. Rewards amounting to Rs. 1,122 were granted to informers and forest subordinates as against Rs. 772 in the previous year. The season was generally speaking dry and unfavourable to protection. Out of 7,142 square miles over which special protection was attempted 696 square miles were burnt. Instances of deliberate incendiarism were reported from three of the Ceded districts and from Nellore. The hill tribes in Ganjam, Gōdāvari and South Coimbatore were helpful in putting out fires. In South Kurnool the Chentsus did good work but in West Kurnool they were responsible for many fires. In addition to the specially protected areas, ordinary protection was attempted over 8,811 square miles and was successful over 8,059 square miles. The total number of offences connected with injury to forests by fire showed an appreciable increase (234) over that of the previous year and as many as 93 per cent of the cases remained undetected. The number of animals for which grazing licences were issued fell by 222,367 to 2,482,592. The decrease was partly due to the transfer of reserves to panchayats, to the extension of the kancha and forest village systems and to the success of the attempts made to reduce the excessive incidence of grazing in many of the reserves by the introduction of grazing schemes. The kancha system worked well in the Nellore district and was being introduced into the Chingleput district. Thirty-three silver medals and cash rewards amounting to Rs. 2,383 were awarded for good protection and were much appreciated. Defaulting kanchadars were fined where protection was specially bad. A special Extra Assistant Conservator was deputed to popularize the system and to hold the kancha sales. There were 370 kancha leases covering 256,379 acres open to grazing and 5,627 acres of forest closed to grazing were entrusted to kanchadars for protection. The aggregate receipts for the whole Presidency under grazing fees rose from Rs. 7.04 lakhs to Rs. 7.40 lakhs. The increase was consequent upon the enhanced grazing fees imposed in several districts with the object of stimulating the formation of panchayats and the introduction of the Forest Village system. Refunds amounting to Rs. 6,720 were granted to those forest villages which had earned it by good protection. The number of cattle impounded fell, by 24,106, to 118,806 and was 7 per cent in a total of 1,620,964 head of cattle which grazed in the forests either free or on payment.

Sylviculture

155. The areas under the various sylvicultural systems during the year were: clear felling, 130 square miles; selection felling, 1,016 square miles; simple coppice, 690 square miles; coppice with standards, 1,807 square miles; and improvement fellings, 1,224 square miles. In order to ensure the systematic working of these areas under the guidance of an

officer having a thorough knowledge of the sylviculture of the chief species, the appointment of a Provincial Sylviculturist was sanctioned during the year. Natural reproduction was satisfactory during the year in several districts in respect of teak, sandalwood and other species. At Nilambur the 27 acres of mature teak plantations felled in the previous year were successfully replanted and 17 acres were clear-felled and replanted. The regeneration of the natural forests at Nedungayam was also commenced, 46 acres of forests being sold for clear felling and with the intention of planting teak but owing to the abnormally early monsoon only 10 acres could be got ready for planting. Some experimental planting of *Terminalias* and other species besides teak was undertaken here as portions of the land are unsuited to teak. In all 69 acres were planted during the year in the Presidency. Other cultural operations were carried on over 9,086 acres.

156. Fuel coupes amounting to about 2,500 square miles were worked over during the year in addition to which a large quantity of fuel was worked out from the improvement fellings in Cuddapah and other districts. At Nilambur in South Malabar 70 acres of teak plantations were felled and in the Amarampalem reserve in the same district 46 acres of natural forest were clear-felled for the formation of a teak plantation. Fellings were also begun in the Karimpoya reserve to supply timber to the Munitions Board and 10,720 cubic feet were supplied to the Board from Tekkadi forests. The rest of the timber extracted was from selection and improvement fellings. Sandalwood has risen in price during the war and is now an important item of revenue. The value of the wood sold was Rs. 1.76 lakhs in 1914-15 and in 1917-18 it was Rs. 5.24 lakhs. This increased income was partly due to the higher prices and partly to the more systematic working of the Javadis and the North Salem areas under the new working plans and also to the large number of sandalwood trees blown down during the cyclone of November 1916. Bamboos are becoming an important item of revenue and the value of those sold during the year was Rs. 3.25 lakhs. The business of marketing *Cassia auriculata* and *Cassia fistula* was entirely handed over to the Munitions Board in return for a fixed payment based on the average revenue derived by the Forest Department from tan stuffs during the five years preceding the war. This arrangement necessarily involved a financial loss to the department of about Rs. 3 lakhs as compared with the previous year, which is part of the Madras contribution to the war. Large quantities of the bark of *Anogeissus latifolia* was also supplied to the Munitions Board for tanning purposes. The work of hay making which had been abandoned by the department under the orders of Government was taken up during the year in several districts of the Presidency to meet the requirements of the Army and about 2,500 tons of hay were supplied to the Military Grass Farms Department. The output of timber was 4.243 million cubic feet against 4.3 million cubic feet in the previous year and over 23 million cubic feet of fuel were removed from the forests as against 21 million cubic feet in 1916-17. Excluding the quantities extracted for the benefit of free grantees or right holders the output of timber and fuel was 26.476 million cubic feet as against 24.531 million cubic feet in the previous year. The districts which contributed chiefly to the increase in departmentally felled timber were South Malabar and South Coimbatore. Fuel was extracted departmentally chiefly in the Nilgiris. The value of the bamboos extracted departmentally increased by Rs. 5,623, while that of the produce removed by purchasers decreased by Rs. 19,883. The value of minor produce removed by departmental agency increased by Rs. 1.52 lakhs and that removed by purchasers by Rs. 1.69 lakhs. The high prices realized for tanning barks, the enhancement of grazing fees in several districts and the sale of hay to the Military Department chiefly contributed to the increase. The estimated value of forest produce removed by right holders and that of produce granted free fell from Rs. 55,684 and Rs. 47,766 respectively to Rs. 52,225 and Rs. 39,591.

Exploita-
tion
Fuel

Timber

Sandalwood

Bamboos

Tanning
stuffs

Hay making

Output

Finance

157. The financial results of the year were noteworthy. The gross revenue was Rs. 54.16 lakhs, an increase of Rs. 6.37 lakhs over that of the previous year. This increase was chiefly due to the high price of sandal, the sale of teak from the Nilambur plantations, the manufacture of hay for the Army, and the sale of forests no longer considered worth preserving in the South Arcot and Trichinopoly districts. The total expenditure was Rs. 29.20 lakhs and the net surplus rose from Rs. 19.95 lakhs to Rs. 24.97 lakhs, the highest on record.

Research
and experi-
ments

158. Experiments made during the year with *Sal* wood and with *Euphorbia* showed that the former was useless for making casks, being too brittle and porous, and that the latter was a failure as a pencil wood, being too knotty. The experiments initiated by the Imperial Sylviculturist for the purpose of determining the girth increment and development of heavily thinned red sanders and the conditions best suited for the natural regeneration of this species were concluded. Experiments in the inoculation of *Butea frondosa* and *Zizyphus xylopyza* with lac culture were made by the Government Entomologist in the Central Coimbatore division in consultation with the District Forest Officer. Thinnings of bamboo clumps were continued in certain reserves in the southern circle. Many of the tan stuffs which abound in that circle were tested and analysed by the Tanning Expert. The analyses made in the Leather Trade School show that *Anogeissus latifolia* bark contains a high percentage of tannin. The leaves of the same tree are also a valuable tanning material and it is possible that a trade in this may be developed both for local use and for export to Europe.

Miscella-
neous

159. Though the forests have all been classified in accordance with the recommendations of the Forest Committee, revision will prove necessary in some of the districts, specially in the central circle. The number of forest panchayats increased from 290 to 334 and the area under their management from 479 square miles to 496 square miles of reserved forests and unreserved lands. The chief irregularities reported were over-grazing, goat browsing, illicit felling of trees and removal of manure leaves. Only five panchayats were dissolved and the areas under their management were resumed on account of misconduct. The dissolution of a panchayat in Kistna and the resumption of the forest is reported to have had a salutary effect on the other panchayats in the district. In some cases the grazing fees have been raised in order to put pressure on the villagers to take up the forests on panchayat management. The results of the special Chentsu officer's work during the year were very promising and the period of his deputation has been further extended by two years. The period of the special duty of the Extra Assistant Conservator engaged in the investigation of "spike" in sandal was extended to October 1919. The efficiency of the department and the development of the forests have been retarded by the absence of many officers on military duty. During the year the sanction of the Secretary of State was received for the reorganization of the controlling staff of the department the cadre of which has been augmented by ten Imperial posts, including a Chief Conservator and ten Provincial posts.

Forest
College,
Coimbatore

160. The College continued to work satisfactorily. Out of the twenty-seven students who appeared for the final examination two Government students won the honours certificate, and one of them received several prizes. Twenty obtained the higher standard certificate and five the lower standard. The remarks of the examiners go to show that the instruction was thorough and that greater attention was paid to the practical side of the training; in the men at the bottom of the list however a lack of either intelligence or general education betrayed itself. The 1917-19 division started in August 1917 with thirty-three students of whom five were found unfit to continue the training and were weeded out by the close of the first term.

MINES (1917)

[G.O. No. 1697, Revenue, dated the 2nd May 1918; Statistics of British India, Part I, Industrial—Mines]

161. As in the previous year mining was carried on only in five districts—Anantapur, Kurnool, Nellore, Salem and Vizagapatam; and the minerals raised consisted as in the previous year of gold, manganese, magnesite, mica and steatite. There was no change in the small quantity of the last-mentioned mineral raised during the year. The output of magnesite in Salem rose, by 2,794 tons, to 16,048 tons, while there was a fall in the output of the other minerals. Manganese decreased, by 1,073 tons, to 1,682 tons in consequence of the closure of two mines at Vizagapatam and mica in Nellore fell, by 519 tons, to 298 tons as a large number of lessees of mines in patta land gave up operations as unprofitable and as general difficulty was felt by miners in financing their business. In Anantapur, 52,000 tons of quartz were raised from which 20,529 ounces (Troy) of fine gold and 1,281 ounces (Troy) of fine silver were extracted, the total output of both the minerals falling short of the previous year's figure by 1,842 ounces.

162. In Kurnool and Salem there were no epidemics. There were two cases of small-pox in Vizagapatam both of which recovered and there was some chicken-pox in one mine in the Nellore district. In Anantapur there were nine cases of cholera, six of which proved fatal: and cases of malaria were frequent between February and May. On the whole the general health of the employees continued to be good. In Vizagapatam and Nellore wages were normal. In the North Anantapur Gold mines the rate of wages underwent a change but it showed no marked variations in the other mines of the district. There was a slight rise in the scale of wages paid for unskilled labour in the Salem magnesite works: and in the mica mines of Nellore there was a substantial rise in the rates of wages allowed for underground male coolies and for surface coolies. The supply of labour was adequate throughout. Neither women nor children were employed below ground in Anantapur or in the mica mines of Salem and no children were employed at all in Kurnool. Women were employed below ground in Kurnool and both women and children were so employed in Vizagapatam, Nellore and in the magnesite mines in Salem. A boy was accidentally killed in Nellore and another was seriously injured. In Anantapur seven persons were killed and eleven seriously injured. In Salem one boy was injured and, as in the previous year, there were no accidents in Kurnool or Vizagapatam.

MANUFACTURES (1917-18)

[G.Os. No. 491, Home (Education), dated the 17th April 1918, and No. 783, Home (Education), dated the 11th June 1918]

163. Agriculture is the chief occupation of the people of the Madras Presidency and the proportion of the population which takes to industries is small. Of the existing industries spinning and weaving is one of the largest. There were eighteen mills in the Presidency inclusive of four in the French Settlements and one in the Cochin State, which employed on the average nearly 23,000 hands daily and had over 2,600 power looms and nearly 405,000 spindles at work. All excepting one of these concerns were worked as Joint Stock Companies. Besides these there were eight spinning and weaving concerns in Malabar, South Kanara and Travancore which employed over 1,000 hands but were not classed as mills. All these mills were fully engaged during the year in meeting army demands. Mention may be made in particular of the Buckingham and the Carnatic Mills in Madras which practically abandoned their civil connexion in order to devote themselves to the supply of clothing materials required by the army. The

Jute mills

Leather

Coir

Coffee works

Cotton

ginning

Rice mills

Tiles and
bricks

Sugar

Rubber

hand-loom weaving industry was however depressed by the very high price of yarn and shortage of dyes. Many looms were idle and there was an exodus of some weavers to the Calcutta Jute Mills from two districts of the Northern Circars. The three Jute Mills in the Northern Circars continued to work during the year. There were sixteen tanneries at work which gave employment to over 3,500 hands. Three of them came under the Factories Act. The tanning and leather industries of the Presidency enjoyed a period of great prosperity owing to the demands of the war office for tanned hides and of the Military departments in India for leather accoutrements of all descriptions. Many of the skin tanners were able to use their tanneries for the tanning of hides and three companies were engaged in Madras City in turning out very large quantities of leather accoutrements to meet military needs. The coir industry was represented by twenty concerns; all on the West Coast, including the Native States of Travancore and Cochin, six of which came under the Factories Act. They were engaged in the pressing and baling of coir yarn and in the manufacture of coir mats and matting and employed over 4,000 hands in all. The twisting of fibre into yarn is an important cottage industry on the West Coast, which was adversely affected by the slackness of the demand in the United Kingdom; owing, it is believed, to the existence of large stocks in London. The department of industries however placed large orders with these firms for articles required by the military department, and supplied 150,000 square yards of coir screening every month for camouflage purposes in France, 32,613 yards of coir matting, 61,786 fathoms of coir rope, 200 tons of coir string and 5,000 coir antifriction mats. There were nineteen coffee works which gave employment to some 5,400 operatives; thirteen of these came under the Factories Act. Some of them carried on other operations also, such as pepper and ginger bleaching and the preparing of fertilisers and general produce. The number of cotton ginning and pressing mills was 156, in which over 13,500 hands were employed. Many of them did also groundnut shelling and rice milling. There were 147 rice mills which employed over 9,000 operatives, but this number excludes many small concerns which have not been registered. The rice milling industry has developed rapidly in recent years, particularly in the Tanjore and Kistna districts. As recently as 1910 there were in the former district only some four or five mills worked by power and nearly the whole of the paddy grown in the delta was husked by hand. There are now some 215 mills representing an aggregate horse-power of 5,360. Most of them are small single hullers driven by oil engines and owing to the excessive multiplication of such installations many had to be closed down and the owners had to face heavy losses. Conditions have temporarily improved by the demand in Ceylon for Tanjore rice owing to the lack of freight between Rangoon and Colombo and some of these mills were reopened but if the industry is to prosper in future the numerous small concerns which now exist must give place to central factories operating on a comparatively large scale for the export of rice from the district. In the Kistna district the development of the industry has proceeded on altogether different lines and a considerable number of large scale steam driven mills have been installed. But their construction and equipment leave a great deal to be desired. The industry was passing through a time of difficulty and anxiety consequent on the shortage of rolling stock and the great majority of the mills, which in normal times produced boiled rice for export to the Malabar Coast, Coimbatore, Colombo and Mauritius and raw rice for export to the Bombay Presidency, were either closed down or were working short-time. There were 36 concerns engaged in tile and brick making which found employment for over 7,000 hands; ten sugar mills which employed over 3,500 hands; and eleven rubber works all in the States of Travancore and Cochin, which employed over 5,000 hands. There were sundry other industries which were small

Shipbuilding

Factories

The depart-
ment of
industries

local concerns and fifteen Government and Local Fund factories in which over 6,500 hands were employed. The revival of ship-building, which was consequent on the shortage of coasting steamers, was developing on a considerable scale both on the East and West Coasts of the Presidency and during the year upwards of fifty sailing ships, ranging in size from 30 to 300 tons, are reported to have been launched at or near Calicut and a private order for a motor cargo boat was placed with an enterprising West Coast firm.

164. Thirty-eight factories were registered during the year 1917 under the Indian Factories Act, 1911. These consisted of 13 rice mills, one weaving factory, two breweries, three sugar works, two printing presses, one binding factory, two saw mills, three tile works, one tannery, nine ginning factories and one engineering works. Six factories were removed from the register at the end of 1916. There was thus a net addition of 32, which increased the number of factories subject to control under the Act from 460 to 492. Of this number 24 were removed at the close of the year, 14 because they were dismantled and machinery removed, seven because they had been closed for more than two years and three because they employed less than fifty persons. There were thus 468 factories on the register at the end of the year. The average number of operatives employed daily was 95,920, an increase of 4,505 over the figure for the previous year. The number of women and children employed was, respectively, 16,214 and 7,274, or an increase of 415 under the former head and a decrease of 121 under the latter. The increase in the number of women was proportionate to the increase in the total number of operatives. The system of certification of children was working satisfactorily. The health of the operatives was generally good and there was great improvement in the sanitation of the factories and surroundings. By-laws were framed with a view to securing better conditions in factories newly constructed or reconstructed in municipal areas. Some of the larger industrial concerns were taking measures to provide house accommodation for factory hands. There was no increase in the average rate of wages of skilled and unskilled labour employed in factories generally in the Presidency during the year 1917 as compared with the wages for 1916. Owing to war conditions some factories stopped work and some others worked intermittently with the result that there was no steady demand for factory labour. Wages of skilled labour in factories were considerably lower than those prevailing outside. Factory owners experienced difficulty in securing sufficient unskilled labour during the agricultural seasons. There were two strikes during the year. Both were of short duration and were for higher wages. There were two fires resulting in loss of property amounting to Rs. 90,000, but there were no casualties. An interval of half an hour was observed in 416 factories and a system of shifts was adopted in 28. There was a slight increase in the number of accidents, from 420 to 422, nine of which were fatal.

165. There were further difficulties and obstacles during the year in the way of the development of industrial enterprise. Tonnage became scarcer and was strictly controlled from home. The shortage of coasting steamers imposed a heavy burden on the railways which were themselves handicapped by a shortage of rolling stock and by heavy military traffic. Most industrial concerns felt serious anxiety in respect to coal and coke and also experienced difficulty in obtaining wagons to move their finished products. Imports of hardware and metals from the United Kingdom almost ceased, local stocks became very depleted and prices went up correspondingly. The outstanding feature of the year was the increasing measure of control which the Government had to take over industry and trade. Coal and coke, railway traffic, the tanning industry, tanstuffs, wool and pig iron all came under some form of such control which is being extended in further directions. Notwithstanding these difficulties there was considerable industrial activity particularly in Madras itself. The weaving mills were all engaged to a greater or less extent on work for the Indian Munitions Board, and the demand

for yarn, owing to the shortage of imports from home, kept all the spinning mills fully active. Much useful work was again done during the year by the peripatetic weaving parties in popularizing the fly-shuttle. The tanning of skins was prohibited, owing to the necessity of conserving the supplies of *avaram* bark, but immense quantities of hides were tanned for army requirements. The finished leather industry also was very brisk owing to the urgent need for accoutrements and army equipment generally. Large quantities of metal fittings were also required for the army, and most of the blacksmiths as well as the Engineering shops of Madras were busily engaged in making buckles, shackles, and similar articles for the Madras Arsenal. A new company was established to assist in meeting this demand, and the manufacture of webbing and tape was also organized by a European firm for the purpose of supplying army demands. Tent making was revived on a small scale at the Madras Arsenal, and a private firm was also taking up this industry as a war enterprise. Among other new developments may be mentioned the manufacture of lathes, looms and loom parts and of pruning knives and planters' tools. A new and large tile factory entirely financed by an Indian Syndicate was opened on the West Coast. The Government pencil factory was so successful that it has been decided to hand it over to private enterprise.

SEA-BORNE TRADE (1917-18).

[Review of the Sea-Borne Trade of the Madras Presidency for the year 1917-18; Annual Volume of the Sea-Borne Trade and Navigation of the Madras Presidency; Statistics of British India, Part II, Commercial; Annual Statement of the Sea-Borne Trade with the British Empire and Foreign Countries; Annual Statement of the Coasting Trade and Navigation of British India; Review of the Trade of India for 1917-18]

General

166. The total value of the sea-borne trade of the Presidency, which was Rs. 4,833 lakhs, showed a decrease of Rs. 504 lakhs, or 9 per cent, as compared with that of the preceding year. Government transactions amounted to Rs. 598 lakhs, or Rs. 309 lakhs more than in 1916-17, the increase being due to purchases of tanned hides for the War Office at Home. The effect of the war on all foreign trade continued to be felt severely, and the difficulties in obtaining railway transport and steamer tonnage were accentuated. The restrictions imposed on a variety of imports and exports on account of military and political considerations continued and, with exchange difficulties, helped to hinder trade. The volume of trade actually declined to a much larger extent than that indicated in the above figures because the values of most of the commodities imported and exported were considerably higher than in the previous year. Including Government transactions, foreign trade declined from Rs. 4,153 lakhs to Rs. 3,473 lakhs, or by 16 per cent; while coasting trade improved from Rs. 1,183 lakhs to Rs. 1,359 lakhs, or by 15 per cent. Excluding Government transactions, foreign trade declined by 25 per cent, while coasting trade improved by 13 per cent. Under foreign trade, imports of private merchandise receded from Rs. 1,285.59 lakhs to Rs. 1,220.11 lakhs, or by 5 per cent, due to smaller receipts of metals, railway materials, motor vehicles, machinery and millwork, mineral oils, gold and silver thread, paper and pasteboard, provisions, soap, hardware and instruments, while there were increased values under copra, sugar, cotton twist and yarn, cotton manufactures, postal articles, matches and living animals. Exports declined from Rs. 2,591.27 lakhs to Rs. 1,694 lakhs, or by 35 per cent. If the figures for tanned hides and skins shipped under Government control are added, the shortage would be reduced to 24 per cent. The decrease occurred mainly under leather, seeds, indigo, raw cotton, coffee, spices, senna leaves, grain and pulse, coir manufactures, tea, raw jute, sugar, wood and timber, raw skins, palmyra fibre and cotton twist and yarn, but there were slight

increases under oils, rubber and cotton manufactures. Under coasting trade imports of private merchandise improved slightly from Rs. 612.75 lakhs to Rs. 613.99 lakhs, larger imports of raw and tanned hides, cotton twist and yarn and kerosene oil having been counterbalanced by smaller imports of grain and pulse and teakwood. Exports rose from Rs. 558.43 lakhs to Rs. 706.80 lakhs, or by 27 per cent, the result of larger shipments of raw cotton, groundnuts, coffee and spices. The excess of exports over imports was Rs. 796 lakhs as against Rs. 1,476 lakhs in the previous year. Balance of trade

167. The total gross customs revenue was Rs. 105.94 lakhs, an increase over the previous year of Rs. 4.25 lakhs, or 4 per cent. The amount of import duty realized improved from Rs. 87.50 lakhs to Rs. 94.98 lakhs, or by 8 per cent, partly as a result of enhanced rates of duty on cotton piece-goods leviable under the revised tariff of March 1917, whereby the duty was raised from $3\frac{1}{2}$ to $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent *ad valorem*, and partly as a result of the high prices of articles which increased the *ad valorem* duties. Larger payments of duty were made on cotton manufactures (+ Rs. 11.27 lakhs), articles of food and drink (+ Rs. 5.45 lakhs), sugar (+ Rs. 4.25 lakhs) and tobacco (+ Rs. 1.65 lakhs), but there were smaller collections under manufactured articles (- Rs. 3.64 lakhs), silver manufactures (- Rs. 1.94 lakhs), spirits and liquors (- Rs. 1.30 lakhs), iron and steel (- Rs. 1.16 lakhs), and cutlery, hardware, etc. (- Rs. 1.02 lakhs). Exports of both tea and rice decreased and consequently less duty was realized, the deficit being Rs. 3.22 lakhs, or 23 per cent. Customs revenue

168. The total value of foreign imports under food, drink and tobacco increased from Rs. 184.38 lakhs to Rs. 215.51 lakhs. The total imports of liquors showed a decline of 18 per cent in quantity, but the value rose by 9 per cent. Imports of spirits fell by 30,800 gallons, or 22 per cent, in quantity, but rose by Rs. 1.23 lakhs in value. Imports of whisky increased by 1,734 gallons or 3 per cent, and this is attributed to the desire of importers to hold stocks against anticipated difficulties in getting out supplies from home on account of the shortage of shipping. Imports of other sorts of spirits declined by 19 per cent. Imports of wines fell by 42 per cent, the decline being most marked under port wine. Imports of provisions and oilman's stores declined by Rs. 9.07 lakhs to Rs. 21.51 lakhs. There was a fall in the case of all varieties of stores excepting farinaceous and patent foods which rose from Rs. 9.52 lakhs to Rs. 12.72 lakhs, smaller supplies from the United Kingdom being made up by larger supplies from the Straits Settlements and the United States of America. Imports of spices declined from Rs. 56.69 lakhs to Rs. 53 lakhs. Betelnuts, which as usual formed the bulk of the imports, fell away slightly. Imports of pepper declined from Rs. 2.81 lakhs to Rs. 1.86 lakhs. Imports of sugar were practically confined to refined sugar which showed an increase of 162 per cent in quantity and 143 per cent in value. The sugar market in the United Kingdom continued to be under the control of the Royal Sugar Commission and prices did not show much fluctuation. In spite of the large demand for cane sugar in England, Java was unable to meet it for want of tonnage. With a shorter lead (a voyage of about three weeks compared with nearly as many months from the East via the Cape) sugar from Cuba filled the gap. The crop in Java was plentiful and hence larger quantities of Java sugar were available for India where they fetched favourable prices. Direct imports from Java declined by 39 per cent in quantity, but imports via the Straits Settlements increased sevenfold. This increase is probably largely accounted for by part of Bombay's requirements being imported through Madras. There were no imports of sugar from Mauritius. There was a decrease in the case of unrefined sugar and molasses which was due to abnormal imports in the previous year and to improved outturns of local jaggery. The total imports of tobacco again showed a considerable increase amounting to 65 per cent in quantity and 71 per cent in value. Imports of unmanufactured tobacco amounted to more than twice as much as in the previous year, and its value increased correspondingly. In previous years the Foreign imports
FOOD, DRINK AND TOBACCO
Liquors
Provisions and oilman's stores
Spices
Sugar
Tobacco

United States and 8 per cent from Japan. Instruments and apparatus showed a decline from Rs. 14.06 lakhs to Rs. 9.8 lakhs owing to smaller imports of electrical appliances. Imports of dyeing and tanning substances fell far below the days when Germany manufactured the world's supplies of dyes. There was a further increase in the prices of both alizarine and aniline, the imports of which came from the United Kingdom or from the United States. The average price of the former, which before the war was 8 annas per lb., rose to Rs. 6 in 1916-17 and to Rs. 9 in 1917-18. The price of aniline was Rs. 6-8-0 per lb. as compared with Rs. 4-8-0 in 1916-17 and 12 annas in the pre-war period. There were no imports of synthetic indigo. Imports of paints and painters' materials declined from Rs. 7.07 lakhs to Rs. 4.12 lakhs. Just as Germany formerly supplied all the dyes, so Austria supplied practically all our glassware, the value of which amounted to Rs. 20.63 lakhs in 1913-14, Rs. 8.25 lakhs in 1916-17 and Rs. 4.47 lakhs in 1917-18. In the year under review the United Kingdom's share amounted to 53 per cent and Japan's share to 26 per cent. The decrease was most marked under sheet and plate glass. The value of the imports of machinery declined by 39 per cent. There was a decrease all round but especially under electrical and mining machinery and prime-movers. The United Kingdom supplied 73 per cent and the United States 21 per cent. The Government control over the iron and steel industry in the United Kingdom was closer than in previous years and practically the whole of the production was required for war purposes. The output of private commercial work was insignificant and the tonnage for bringing any available supplies was also scarce. Consequently there was a further decline of 55 per cent in the quantity of iron and steel imported. The average value per ton rose from Rs. 310 to Rs. 390, compared with Rs. 140 in normal times. The United Kingdom supplied 62 per cent against 80 per cent in the previous year, the United States 18 per cent and Ceylon 13 per cent. Imports of bar iron declined by 40 per cent. The decrease was more than made up by larger arrivals of bar iron of Pondicherry manufacture which rose from 5,015 tons to 6,063 tons. Tin is chiefly imported from the Straits Settlements in the shape of unwrought blocks, ingots and slabs. The quantity imported declined by 35 per cent. Imports of lead fell by 34 per cent, but sheets for tea chests showed some improvement. Imports of copper declined by 71 per cent. The demand for copper in the United Kingdom for munition work was greater than ever and very little was left for private exports. Imports of yellow metal sheets which at first dwindled down considerably ceased altogether in September 1917. There was also a considerable shortage of braziers and sheets. There was a decrease of 25 per cent in the value of imports of paper and pasteboard. Of the total imports, the United Kingdom's share was 39 per cent against 71 per cent in the previous year and that of Norway and Sweden 29 per cent against 16 per cent. The shares of Japan, China and the United States were 18, 5 and 4 per cent respectively against 4, 0 and 7 per cent in 1916-17. The total imports of railway plant further declined by 75 per cent. Carriages and wagons declined from Rs. 18.71 lakhs to Rs. 4.46 lakhs, locomotive engines and tenders from Rs. 4.03 lakhs to Rs. 3.6 lakhs and materials for construction from Rs. 12.82 lakhs to Rs. 0.67 lakh. The value of imports of yarns and textile fabrics improved from Rs. 454.42 lakhs to Rs. 488.27 lakhs. The total value of imports of cotton goods, representing 37 per cent of the total foreign imports, increased by 8 per cent. The chief feature of the year was that values of all descriptions of cotton goods steadily rose. There was a 40 per cent increase in cost per piece on goods actually imported during the first ten months of the official year and this increase was even greater from September 1917 onwards but very few of these goods had arrived by the end of the year under review. All classes of goods have been consequently affected by this increase in price while quantities have been greatly reduced. Imports of cotton twist and yarn declined by 33 per cent in quantity but rose by 15 per cent in value. Mule yarn declined by 60

RAW
MATERIALS
AND PRO-
DUCE AND
ARTICLES
MAINLY
UNMANUFAC-
TURED

Oils

Seeds

Textile
materials
Wood and
timberMANUFAC-
TURES
ApparelCycles and
motor-carsChemicals,
drugs and
medicinesCutlery,
hardware,
implements
and instru-
ments

United Kingdom and Holland have supplied most of our tobacco, but it appears that purchases have now been made direct from the countries where the tobacco is grown. Imports from the United Kingdom and Holland therefore declined from 36,594 lb. and 31,705 lb. to 19,486 lb. and 20,860 lb. respectively, whereas imports direct from Sumatra and Java, which were formerly negligible, amounted to 29,325 lb. and 10,400 lb. respectively. The United States of America also sent increased quantities. Imports of cigarettes rose by 44 per cent in quantity. The United Kingdom supplied 192,581 lb. against 133,044 lb. The total value of raw materials and unmanufactured articles increased from Rs. 82.05 lakhs to Rs. 106.63 lakhs. The quantity of mineral oils showed a fall of 43 per cent and the value 32 per cent. There was a fall of 59 per cent in quantity and 50 per cent in value in the imports of foreign kerosene oil, which represented 51 per cent of the total quantity of foreign mineral oils imported. The whole quantity imported was supplied by the United States of America but want of 'tankers', many of which have been commandeered for war purposes, limited the supplies. Bulk oil declined by 70 per cent and case oil by 17 per cent. Imports of Burma oil slightly improved from 19 million gallons to 19.6 million gallons. About 2.4 million gallons of liquid fuel were imported, a decline of 14 per cent. Imports of foreign lubricating oils amounted to 711,306 gallons, a rise of 5 per cent, while those from Burma increased considerably from 178,680 gallons to 714,032 gallons. For the first time during the last four years a consignment of 224,990 gallons of foreign petrol was imported from Sumatra. Imports of Burma petrol amounted to 815,552 gallons against 1,337,206 gallons in the previous year. The total value of imports of seeds was Rs. 42.6 lakhs compared with Rs. 0.92 lakh in 1916-17. Copra, or coconut kernel, valued at Rs. 41.9 lakhs, from Ceylon formed the chief item under this head. Owing to insufficient freight during 1916-17 the trade in the products of the coconut palm in Ceylon was very dull and the values for these products fell so low that there was partial stagnation in the coconut industry. There was an accumulation of stocks of copra at the beginning of 1917-18 which found an outlet to this Presidency where there was a demand for crushing purposes. The imports of raw silk from China showed a further improvement and were valued at Rs. 8.28 lakhs against Rs. 4.81 lakhs in 1916-17. Imports of teakwood from Siam, declined from Rs. 1.67 lakhs to Rs. 1.44 lakhs, while the value of other timber from that country rose from Rs. 0.22 lakh to Rs. 1.23 lakhs. Palmyra rafters from Ceylon again declined. The total value of imports of manufactured articles declined from Rs. 981.99 lakhs to Rs. 842.08 lakhs. The fall of 47 per cent in the total value under this heading was chiefly due to further shortages of gold and silver thread and lametta from France which decreased from Rs. 31.77 lakhs to Rs. 14.15 lakhs. Imports of boots and shoes have been gradually declining since the war broke out and their value fell during the year below Rs. 1 lakh. Motor vehicles and accessories declined considerably from Rs. 30.49 lakhs to Rs. 5.54 lakhs. The prohibition imposed on the import of motor-cars and motor-cycles in December 1916 only came into full force during the course of 1917-18. Sixty-four cars and 64 motor-cycles were imported compared with 560 and 360 respectively in the previous year. Imports of cycles and accessories rose from Rs. 3.41 lakhs to Rs. 5.03 lakhs. Most of the consignments came from the United Kingdom. The value of chemicals imported (other than chemical manures) showed a slight increase. Imports of soda compounds increased by over Rs. 3 lakhs while other chemicals declined. Drugs and medicines declined from Rs. 11.37 lakhs to Rs. 8.61 lakhs. Imports of camphor declined by 42 per cent in quantity and 19 per cent in value, as smaller quantities were received from Japan. The average value rose from Rs. 1-5-0 to Rs. 1-13-0 per pound. Clocks and watches declined from Rs. 2.57 lakhs to Rs. 0.67 lakh and cutlery from Rs. 1.1 lakhs to Rs. 0.74 lakh. Imports of hardware amounted to Rs. 19.61 lakhs, a fall of 27 per cent. Forty-seven per cent of the total imports came from the United Kingdom, 26 per cent from the

Dyes and
coloursGlassware
and
earthenware

Machinery

Iron and steel

Other metals

Paper and
stationeryRailway plant
and rolling
stockYarns and
textile fabrics
Cotton goods

per cent in quantity, coloured yarn by 23 per cent and other descriptions by 33 per cent. Both coloured and plain yarns have been in strong demand throughout the year. The total imports of cotton piece-goods further declined by 21 per cent in quantity but increased by 6 per cent in value and the decrease was shared by all goods, viz., grey, white and coloured. Imports of coloured goods declined by 11 per cent in quantity but rose by 8 per cent in value. Imports of grey goods declined by 42 per cent in quantity and 14 per cent in value. The trade in cotton piece-goods was almost entirely confined to the United Kingdom, only 0.4 per cent coming from other sources. The decrease under other cotton fabrics was due to smaller receipts of hosiery from the United Kingdom and Japan and sewing thread from the United Kingdom. Imports of arms, ammunition and military stores fell from Rs. 10.85 lakhs to Rs. 9.19 lakhs. Imports of cement, mainly for the Madras Harbour works, improved from Rs. 8.58 lakhs to Rs. 11.56 lakhs. Almost all of it came from the United Kingdom. Imports of safety matches rose in value from Rs. 3.94 lakhs to Rs. 14.27 lakhs and other matches from Rs. 1.42 lakhs to Rs. 1.62 lakhs. Japan sent matches to the value of Rs. 12.12 lakhs. There were increased imports of rubber manufactures from Rs. 7.99 lakhs to Rs. 9.47 lakhs in consequence of larger imports of motor tyres from the United Kingdom and the United States of America. The total value of imports of miscellaneous and unclassified articles rose from Rs. 37.17 lakhs to Rs. 56 lakhs. The value of articles imported by post amounted to Rs. 40.21 lakhs against Rs. 26.13 lakhs in the previous year.

Foreign
exports

169. The total value of exports of food, drink and tobacco declined from Rs. 754.7 lakhs to Rs. 644.33 lakhs. The exports of grain and pulse declined by 10 per cent in quantity and 7 per cent in value. Exports of paddy decreased by 52 per cent both in quantity and value, and exports of rice by 6 per cent. Shipments of rice and paddy to Ceylon represented 94 per cent of the total exports under this head and receded by 6 per cent both in quantity and value. The decrease was due to curtailment of steamer services. The average value of rice per hundredweight was almost the same as in the previous year, viz., Rs. 8-8-0. Exports of spices declined by 28 per cent in volume and 38 per cent in value. There was a fall of 58 per cent in the quantity and value of pepper exported. The crop was an average one but tonnage was scarce and shipments to the United States, France and Italy declined, but the United Kingdom almost maintained her demand. There was a decline of 72 per cent in quantity and 64 per cent in value of exports of sugar which consisted mainly of unrefined sugar. The total area under sugarcane cultivation increased by 8 per cent due to favourable seasons and to the high price of jaggery at the time of planting. There were no shipments to the United Kingdom. Exports of tea from South India were confined to black tea and amounted to 23.07 million lb. valued at Rs. 157.18 lakhs against 24.91 million lb. valued at Rs. 175.85 lakhs in 1916-17, a decrease of 7 per cent in quantity and 11 per cent in value. The decrease was mainly due to the restrictions placed on exports to the United Kingdom in March 1917 on account of the scarcity of tonnage. Owing to unfavourable showers at the time of blossoming the season's crop was only about two-thirds of that of the previous season. In consequence of the prohibition of import into the United Kingdom and scarcity of tonnage to other destinations exports declined by 35 per cent in quantity and 42 per cent in value. Only 26 per cent went to the United Kingdom compared with 48 per cent in 1916-17 because shipments ceased in July 1917. France's share, however, was 31 per cent against 26 per cent in 1916-17. Exports of tobacco fell by Rs. 1.86 lakhs to Rs. 7.65 lakhs. The trade in leaf tobacco amounted to Rs. 5.86 lakhs. Shipments of cigars further declined from Rs. 3.11 lakhs to Rs. 1.36 lakhs. The total value of exports of raw materials decreased from Rs. 784.18 lakhs to Rs. 634.52 lakhs. Exports of raw hides from the Madras Presidency are comparatively unimportant. Exports of raw skins, 85 per cent of which were goat skins, weighed 1,430 tons valued at Rs. 38 lakhs and declined by 4 per cent in quantity and 17 per cent in value. Owing

restricted freight and scarcity of labour in the United Kingdom shipments to that country declined by 76 per cent in quantity and exports to France ceased altogether. Exports to Australia were about four times as much as to any other country. As exports of all finished leather from the United Kingdom have been prohibited, Australia has turned to India for her raw skins from which she is now producing *glacé* kid and other leathers. Exports to Japan also increased considerably. The export of coconut oil, representing 60 per cent of the quantity of all oils, amounted to 49 million gallons valued at Rs. 46.4 lakhs against 2.02 million gallons valued at Rs. 42.53 lakhs. There were large demands for this oil in the United Kingdom both for munition purposes for the manufacture of glycerine and for food for the manufacture of margarine. Exports of castor oil dropped to just below one million gallons but the value rose by just over a lakh to Rs. 15.47 lakhs. The decrease in quantity of oil exported was more than made up by the increased export of castor seeds. Almost all the oil was consumed by the United Kingdom. Shipments of groundnuts further increased and the increase was particularly marked in the case of consignments to the United Kingdom for use in the margarine industry. During the last two years there has been a considerable falling away in the exports of seeds amounting to 44 per cent in quantity in 1916-17 and further 10 per cent in 1917-18. The decline in value was 25 per cent and 30 per cent, respectively, but in both these years exports of seeds accounted for 8½ per cent of the total value of foreign exports. Groundnuts represented 71 per cent of the total exports of seeds. The average shipments of groundnuts before the war were three times greater, both in quantity and value. The exports for 1917-18 were less by 5 per cent in quantity and 24 per cent in value than those of 1916-17. Shipments to France declined by 89 per cent while those to the United Kingdom increased sevenfold. During 1916-17 very large shipments were made to Marseilles, where prices were considerably in advance of home prices and consequently very little was shipped to the United Kingdom. During 1917-18, however, there was practically no freight space offering for Marseilles, and during the first half of the year the United Kingdom became the only open market and hence any available space was filled up with kernels. Exports to the United Kingdom, however, ceased in October 1917. As the usual groundnut markets were practically closed to shippers, fresh outlets had to be sought for and shipments to the Straits Settlements were sixteen times greater than in 1916-17, the main supply now coming from Madras instead of from the Netherlands Indies. The opening of a factory at Singapore for extracting groundnut oil has increased the demand. The groundnut crop in China failed, and American buyers in Singapore purchased seeds sent from India. Considerable quantities of groundnuts were also reshipped from the Straits to Hongkong. The total quantity shipped at Madras was 100,446 tons compared with 56,819 tons in 1916-17, an increase of 77 per cent. There was a decrease of 75 per cent in exports from Pondicherry. Exports of castor seeds increased from 2,501 tons to 14,316 tons in quantity and from Rs. 3.66 lakhs to Rs. 26.52 lakhs in value. This enormous increase is due to the demand in England for war purposes, large quantities being supplied to the Air Board. To meet this demand groundnuts were removed from the list of essential cargo during the latter half of the year and thereby released large quantities of tonnage for castor seeds. Exports of copra or coconut kernel declined by 78 per cent in quantity and 80 per cent in value, and the decrease is attributed mainly to the scarcity of tonnage. Shipments to France decreased by 91 per cent and those to the United Kingdom by 19 per cent, the fall in the latter case having been made up by larger shipments of coconut oil. There were no shipments to the United States as export to that country was prohibited. The total value of exports of textile materials declined from Rs. 268.12 lakhs to Rs. 204.57 lakhs. Exports of raw cotton showed a decline of 42 per cent in volume and 17 per cent in value. The decrease is attributed chiefly to a shortage of tonnage. Shipments to all countries except the United Kingdom,

Rubber

MANU-
FACTURED
ARTICLES
Dyes and
coloursHides and
skins, tanned
or dressed,
and leatherYarns and
textile fabricsCoir manu-
factures

Oil-cakes

Re-exports

Government
trans-
actions

Shipping

Ceylon and Switzerland declined. The increase in the case of exports to the United Kingdom is attributed to continuous abnormal rise in the price of American cotton which induced buyers at home to go in for cheap Indian cotton to a greater extent than before. The decrease was most marked in the case of Japan and Italy where, owing to want of direct freight to these countries, there was a fall of 33 and 77 per cent, respectively; nevertheless Japan as usual received by far the largest quantity—roughly three-fourths of the whole. Exports of raw rubber have been advancing steadily in recent years, as larger areas of rubber came into bearing. Exports improved by 11 per cent in quantity and 5 per cent in value. The total value of exports of manufactured articles declined from Rs. 963 lakhs to Rs. 328.28 lakhs. Exports of dyeing and tanning substances further declined from Rs. 73.84 lakhs to Rs. 15.13 lakhs. Exports of indigo declined by 72 per cent in quantity and 83 per cent in value. Both the prices and demand at home were very poor and there was no inducement to ship. Shipments to the United Kingdom and the United States declined from Rs. 41.86 lakhs and Rs. 6.02 lakhs to Rs. 4.36 lakhs and Rs. 0.26 lakh, respectively. There were no shipments to Egypt and Italy. On the other hand shipments to Japan improved from Rs. 1.08 lakhs to Rs. 6.05 lakhs. The total exports of tanned hides and skins on private account decreased by 95 per cent in quantity and 90 per cent in value, while those on Government account increased by 131 per cent in quantity and 134 per cent in value. Exports of tanned hides on private account amounted to 3,186 cwt. valued at Rs. 3.63 lakhs against 142,954 cwt. valued at Rs. 185.07 lakhs. The decline was due to the purchase of hides by Government for war purposes. Shipments of hides made by Government to the United Kingdom amounted to 297,731 cwt. valued at Rs. 409.40 lakhs. Exports of tanned skins on private account declined by 92 per cent in weight and 85 per cent in value. Export to the United Kingdom declined by 90 per cent and there were no shipments to the United States of America. Exports on Government account, which consisted mainly of calf skins, amounted to 5,958 cwt. valued at Rs. 7.85 lakhs. There were none in 1916-17. The reason for the large decrease in exports of tanned skins is that an order was issued in April 1917 under the Defence of India Act prohibiting tanners from tanning skins, so that tanning stuffs should be conserved for use in tanning Government hides only. The export of tanned skins was absolutely prohibited from 15th May 1917. Exports of cotton twist and yarn further declined by 65 per cent in quantity and 51 per cent in value. Exports of cotton piece-goods declined by 3 per cent in quantity but rose by 6 per cent in value. Under coloured goods the value of lungis and saris declined from Rs. 108.55 lakhs to Rs. 97.02 lakhs, while other sorts rose from Rs. 6.05 lakhs to Rs. 23.40 lakhs. The export trade in Madras handkerchiefs made by handlooms further declined from Rs. 4.19 lakhs to Rs. 1.85 lakhs. Almost the whole went to the United Kingdom. Exports of coir manufactures, consisting chiefly of coir yarn and matting, amounted to Rs. 43.50 lakhs against Rs. 63.54 lakhs in 1916-17. Oil-cakes to the value of Rs. 49.29 lakhs were exported against Rs. 48.92 lakhs in 1916-17. Articles exported by post receded from Rs. 46.86 lakhs to Rs. 43.34 lakhs. The total value of re-exports amounted to Rs. 25.13 lakhs against Rs. 21.69 lakhs in the previous year.

170. The total value of Government stores imported and exported amounted to Rs. 118.54 lakhs and Rs. 440.74 lakhs compared with Rs. 97.12 lakhs and Rs. 179.23 lakhs, respectively, in the previous year. The increase under imports occurred under woollen piece-goods and chemicals. The imports were mostly from the United Kingdom except Rs. 5.12 lakhs' worth of chemicals which came from Japan. The increase under exports was the result of larger shipments of tanned hides, tea, tanned skins and railway plant and rolling-stock. The shipments were mostly to the United Kingdom.

171. The total number of vessels that entered and cleared declined from 4,161 to 3,793 and their tonnage from 2.28 million tons to 1.75 million

tons. As compared with the average figures previous to the war (3,343) the total number of vessels actually increased by 13 per cent but their tonnage declined by 56 per cent and consequently the average tonnage per vessel (461) declined. These figures, however, are not of much interest as the average tonnage is affected to a considerable extent by the ferry steamers plying daily between Dhanushkodi and Talaimannar, but if these are excluded the average tonnage of British vessels entering and clearing was 1,567 and that of foreign vessels 2,596. Of the ten vessels which entered under foreign colours there were two each under Dutch, Norwegian, American and Siamese colours and one under Italian and Japanese. British vessels accounted for 88 per cent of the whole tonnage and British Indian vessels and native craft for 7 per cent. The tonnage of foreign vessels declined from 6 to 5 per cent. The number of native craft engaged in foreign trade declined from 1,289 to 1,034 and their tonnage from 88,431 to 61,947.

172. One of the results of the war naturally has been to increase the British Empire's share of the aggregate trade of the Madras Presidency. This share was 63 per cent before the war, 75 per cent in 1916-17, and 81 per cent in 1917-18. The value of imports declined by 2 per cent and that of exports by 27 per cent; giving a total decline in trade of 18 per cent. The trade with other countries also declined by 44 per cent.

173. The trade with the United Kingdom represented 40 per cent of the total trade compared with 48 per cent in 1916-17 and declined by Rs. 696.46 lakhs or 37 per cent. If the tanned hides and skins shipped under Government control are included, the fall in the total trade would be reduced to 22 per cent. The trade with the British Empire representing 81 per cent of the aggregate trade of the Presidency declined by 18 per cent. The trade with the continent of Europe showed a decline of Rs. 271.43 lakhs or 73 per cent and the decline occurred mainly in the trade with France and Italy. Smaller trade with the Philippines, Java and Japan resulted in a decrease of Rs. 22.1 lakhs or 7 per cent in the trade with Asiatic ports. The trade with Africa declined by Rs. 3.05 lakhs owing to cessation of exports to Réunion, and that with America, which was practically confined to the United States, declined by Rs. 135.25 lakhs or 45 per cent.

174. The total value of coasting trade excluding Government transactions improved by Rs. 149.61 lakhs or 13 per cent. Imports of private merchandise improved slightly by Rs. 1.24 lakhs, larger imports of tanned and raw hides, cotton twist and yarn and kerosene oil having been counterbalanced by smaller imports of grain and pulse and teakwood. Exports rose by Rs. 148.37 lakhs or 27 per cent, the result of larger shipments of raw cotton, groundnuts, coffee and spices.

175. The relative importance of the trade of the outports remained much the same as in the previous year. Mangalore improved its position from sixth to fifth place at the expense of Calicut. Dhanushkodi was the only port to show an appreciable increase of trade but Mangalore and Cannanore both handled more merchandise than in 1916-17. The value of sea-borne trade on private account at the port of Madras represented nearly 42 per cent of the trade of the whole Presidency compared with 45 per cent in the previous year and 41 per cent in 1915-16.

176. The total revenue receipts for the Presidency increased from Rs. 107.86 lakhs to Rs. 115.03 lakhs or by 7 per cent. The total disbursements on account of Customs for the whole Presidency amounted to Rs. 6.65 lakhs compared with Rs. 7.01 lakhs in 1916-17. There were no customs cases of particular importance. The number of offences dealt with under the Sea Customs Act during the year was 936 against 1,494 in the previous year. Penalties realized amounted to Rs. 19,175 against Rs. 27,019 in 1916-17. Five hundred and four cases occurred at Madras and 432 at the outports.

General
effect of
the warTrade
according
to countriesCoasting
trade

Ports

Miscella-
neous

PUBLIC WORKS

GENERAL (1917-18)

[Administration Report of the Public Works Department, Madras
Presidency, for the year 1917-18]

Administra-
tive changes

177. There was no alteration in the permanent strength of either the Engineer or Upper Subordinate establishment. The report of the Public Works Department Reorganization Committee was received during the year, and the orders of the Government of India on the committee's recommendations are awaited. The services of 11 more officers and upper subordinates of the department were placed at the disposal of the Army Department, thus bringing the total number of officers and subordinates who have proceeded on military duty since the beginning of the war to 50. A Tank Restoration Scheme division was reformed in the I Circle and certain subdivisions were enlarged or re-arranged. The Tank Restoration Scheme division of the III Circle was abolished and a new division (the Madanapalle division) was formed. The territorial limits of the Bellary, Cuddapah and Kurnool divisions were curtailed, so as to conform with the limits of the revenue districts, and a few changes of subdivisional charges were also effected. The Tank Restoration Scheme division of the IV Circle was revived at the close of the year, and, in consequence, certain changes in the limits of the VI and VII Circles took place.

Chief Engi-
neer's office
Technical
section

178. Seventy-seven estimates of the aggregate value of Rs. 54.14 lakhs were scrutinized during the year. Seventeen of these totalling Rs. 15.48 lakhs related to water-supply, which included revised estimates for Masulipatam (Rs. 6.78 lakhs), and Erode with extension to a village in the Coimbatore district (Rs. 3.45 lakhs). Ten drainage schemes, estimated to cost Rs. 8.50 lakhs in the aggregate, were dealt with, of which an estimate of no less than Rs. 4.50 lakhs related to the opening of sanitary lanes in connexion with the drainage of Kumbakonam town. Twenty-five estimates totalling Rs. 17.91 lakhs were for roads and bridges, of which mention may be made of a girder bridge (Rs. 2.03 lakhs) across the Devakottah river in the Rāmnād district, the new Hindri river bridge (Rs. 1.78 lakhs) in the Kurnool district and the Amerdi-Nadanur Ghat road (Rs. 1.30 lakhs) in the Javadi hills of the North Vellore Forest division in the North Arcot district. The remaining twenty-five estimates totalling Rs. 12.25 lakhs were for miscellaneous works, the most important of which was the construction of a pier at Tellicherry in the Malabar district. Technical work in connexion with type-designs and the standardization of details was continued and a number of circulars of general interest was issued. Various matters of technical interest were examined such as the use of tar-macadum on causeways across rivers, the use of reinforced concrete in departmental works and the suitability and comparative strength of certain species of wood and timber for building purposes. Four hundred and ten drawings, as against 250 in the previous year, were prepared by the Consulting Architect to Government for various buildings with specifications and schedules of quantities for most of them. The most important of these are the new buildings for the General Hospital and the Engineering College. The former more than occupied all the Consulting Architect's spare time. The original scheme having been rejected by the Government of India it was discussed as a whole and considered again *ab initio* and was growing on radically different lines to those of the previous scheme. Numerous preliminary sketches were made and discussed and the new scheme is expected to be ready for submission before Christmas. Progress as regards the Engineering College was slow on account of the difficulty experienced in procuring materials. Several details were made during the year with a view to simplifying ornamental features which would be considered extravagant in war time. Eight revised type-designs were prepared during the year including designs for flag-staffs and bomb-proof magazines. In addition to this work 133 estimates and designs with an

Consulting
Architect's
section

aggregate value of Rs. 50.81 lakhs were scrutinized. Twelve of these were for buildings estimated to cost over one lakh of rupees each, of which mention may be made of the new Collector's office, Madura, the General Hospital, Cocanada, the Presidency Training School for Mistresses, Egmore, and the Ramakrishna Students' Home, Mylapore. The Hydro-Electric Scheme from the Siruvani river source for the supply of water and electricity to Coimbatore and Podanur and of electricity to the Nilgiri Hills was proceeded with. The supply of electrical energy by a private company to a portion of Tenali in the Guntūr district was commenced during the year and applications from such companies were under consideration for the supply of energy to Madura, Trichinopoly and Karaikudi in the Rāmnād district. The Bezwada Municipality had under consideration a scheme for the supply of electric light and power to the various mills and residences. The total number of estimates scrutinized by the Electrical Inspector during the year was 56 with an aggregate value of Rs. 1.78 lakhs. The more important of these are installations to the Lunatic Asylum, Kilpauk (Rs. 53,114) which was in progress during the year, and installations at the new Stationery stores, Madras (Rs. 70,554) and the King Institute, Guindy (Rs. 16,814), both of which were completed. The number of electric installations under Public Works department maintenance throughout the Presidency was 69, all of which were inspected and tested. The capital cost of these installations is Rs. 11.06 lakhs and the amount spent on their maintenance, apart from the actual consumption charges, was Rs. 55,260. Increased attention was bestowed on the voltage of supply of the Madras Electric Supply Corporation. The use of electricity is increasing in popularity; the last five years have witnessed a great advance not only in Madras City but also throughout the mufassal. In 1913, the number of consumers in Madras City was 1,335, with a consumption of 3,519,131 units; in 1917 the numbers were respectively 2,529 and 5,942,881. Street lighting in Madras City showed considerable progress; five years ago, only two small localities in Madras City were lighted with electricity, while there are now 24 miles of street lighting mains with over 2,400 lights. In the mufassal the number of private plants, which was 79 in 1913, rose to 167, the greater portion of the additional plants having been installed in the pre-war period.

Electrical
schemes and
works

CIVIL WORKS (1917-18)

179. The total expenditure during the year on civil works, including expenditure from contributions, minor works and repairs, was Rs. 46.76 lakhs as against Rs. 61.23 lakhs in the previous year. The construction of the civil hospital at Vizagapatam was started during the year and an outlay of Rs. 0.46 lakh incurred, bringing up the total outlay on the work, including the previous expenditure on "preliminaries", to nearly Rs. 0.60 lakh. Among the more important of the other works which were in progress during the year, mention may be made of the General Hospital at Guntūr, on which an outlay of Rs. 0.42 lakh was incurred, the new Engineering College, Guindy, on which the expenditure amounted to Rs. 3.02 lakhs, the Rāyapūram hospital on which a sum of Rs. 1.34 lakhs was spent, the Technical Institute, Madura, on which the expenditure amounted to nearly Rs. 0.60 lakh and the new District Court buildings at Trichinopoly on which an outlay of Rs. 0.74 lakh was incurred. Fair progress was made on improvements to the customs accommodation at Cochin and the total outlay, inclusive of the year's expenditure, was approaching the estimated cost of the work (Rs. 1.25 lakhs). An expenditure of over Rs. 39,000 was incurred on the Kalingia Ghat Road, bringing up the total outlay on the work to Rs. 1.40 lakhs, against an estimated cost of Rs. 1.86 lakhs. The construction of a girder bridge of seven spans of 50 feet over the Aliyar river at Yakkara was in progress and steel work was erected in four of the spans. The expenditure during the year was Rs. 70,000 and the total outlay was

Works in
progress
Buildings

Imperial
Civil works
Communi-
cations

Water-
supply and
drainage

Rs. 1.03 lakhs against an estimate of Rs. 1.10 lakhs. The construction of a bridge of ten spans of 50 feet with warren girders and a reinforced concrete floor across the Amarāvati at Chinnadhārāpuram estimated to cost Rs. 1.12 lakhs was in progress. The steel work was completed and the total outlay was nearly Rs. 80,000, of which Rs. 26,000 represents the year's expenditure. A sum of over Rs. 3½ lakhs was spent on improvements to the Madura water-works. The outlay on the Masulipatam water-supply scheme amounted to nearly Rs. 98,000 and that on the Ellore scheme to over Rs. 75,000. Work amounting to over Rs. 51,000 was done on the Tuticorin water-supply scheme and an expenditure of over Rs. 45,000 was incurred on the Vellore drainage scheme. Sundry other major works of water-supply and drainage were under execution but the expenditure on each individual work was comparatively small. A small expenditure of Rs. 4,278 was incurred during the year on the pier at Tellicherry, the total outlay being Rs. 1.64 lakhs against an estimate of Rs. 3.42 lakhs. The encasing of the piles with cement concrete was in progress.

Port and
Marine
works

Workshops

180. The Dowlaishwaram workshops continued to be under the direct charge of the Executive Engineer, Gōdāvari Headworks division. There was a further slight fall, from Rs. 1.45 lakhs to Rs. 1.41 lakhs, in the value of the work done, the decrease occurring under Port and Marine Funds and Marine Department, mainly due to the reduction in the work, which was done in the previous year, of repairing steamers and building barges for despatch to Mesopotamia for war service. Among the more important works executed during the year mention may be made of the construction of two barges of 90 feet length to replace those lost at sea while on their way to Mesopotamia. In the Bezwada workshops also, there was a fall from Rs. 1 lakh to Rs. 0.71 lakh, in the value of the work done, which was mainly due to a falling off in the number of important works placed on the shops owing to the curtailment of grants and also to the stoppage of many works on account of the present financial stringency. The value of the outturn of the Presidency Workshops was Rs. 3.03 lakhs as against Rs. 3.25 lakhs in the previous year. The fall was due to the great fall in Public Works department non-provincial works caused by war conditions. Many of the sanctioned works had to be kept in abeyance for want of materials, but special preference was given to munitions work, and the output under this head increased by nearly half a lakh to Rs. 1.03 lakhs. This manufacture involved a larger amount of labour, time and trouble, than an equal output of ordinary work would have necessitated.

RAILWAYS (1917-18)

[Administration Report of the Public Works Department, Madras Presidency, for the year 1917-18; Statistics of British India, Part III—Commercial Services]

Develop-
ment

181. There was an addition of 41.50 miles to and a decrease (owing to the dismantlement of the Guntūr-Tenali Railway line) of 15.88 miles in the open mileage in the Presidency during the year. The total mileage of the railway systems was 3,825.20 miles, as against 3,805 miles in the previous year, of which 1,699.65 miles were broad gauge, 2,002.15 miles metre gauge and 123.40 miles narrow gauge. The District Boards of Tanjore, Kistna, Coimbatore, Guntūr and Salem owned 214.14 miles of railway. The total extent of railway systems in the Presidency controlled by the Railway Board and by District Boards subject to the general control of this Government was thus 4,039.34 miles. The Sūramangalam-Salem railway of the Salem District Board, which had been completed in the previous year, was opened for traffic on the 1st June 1917. The Tirut-turaippūndi-Vēdāranniyam Railway of the Tanjore District Board, though

completed in December 1916, could not be opened for traffic as the South Indian Railway were unable to provide rolling stock owing to war conditions. The offer of the Madras Provincial Railway Company to work the line on certain terms had to be refused owing to the practical difficulties in the way and to the likelihood of the rolling stock collected by them being required by the Railway Board for more important military purposes. The Quilon-Trivandrum extension (37.91 miles) was completed and opened for traffic on the 1st January 1918. The position as regards the Tinnevely-Tiruchendūr railway grew worse during the year and all the permanent-way materials were sold to the Munitions Board for war purposes. There is no prospect of work on the line being resumed in the near future. The Guntūr-Tenali line was dismantled as the materials were required to meet pressing military demands and the line was completely closed for traffic from the 21st October 1917. The Railway Board sanctioned a reconnaissance survey being carried out by the agency of the South Indian Railway for a line of railway on the metre gauge from Shōranūr via Nilambur to Manantoddy with branches to Tellicherry and Beypore making a total distance of 230 miles. No other surveys were taken up during the year. The Officer of the Railway Board in charge of the Mysore and West Coast Railway Surveys submitted a report on the Hassan-Mangalore Railway project. Forty-three new District Board and other lines were under consideration up to the end of the year.

182. No appreciable decrease occurred in the number of accidents during the year. There were 16 collisions and 11 derailments. One serious accident took place on the South Indian Railway in August. A special train, carrying a party of 107 naval ratings with two officers, returning from Colombo to Bombay, on entering Tiruppuvanam station (Madura-Dhanushkodi section) was turned into the loop line where a goods train was already standing, with the result that there was a serious collision. One British seaman was killed and four seriously injured; the engine crew of the special and two servants of the dining car attached to the train were slightly injured. Extensive damage was caused to the engines and stock of the two trains, the second-class coach of the special telescoping into the front brake-van. The collision was caused by the points, from which the locks had been removed, being set for the loop line, whilst the signals which had been disconnected from and could be worked independently of the points were lowered for the main line. A joint inquiry was held and the persons culpable were suitably dealt with. The stationmaster and the pointsman were prosecuted and convicted, but the conviction of the former was set aside on appeal.

183. In September 1917 a revised form of model agreement was forwarded by the Railway Board for the approval of the main line companies and District Boards and this was communicated to the Railway administrations and District Boards. In addition to the reduction of ordinary train service it was found necessary during the year to limit the movement of pilgrims to fairs and festivals. Press communiqués were therefore issued by Government dissuading intending pilgrims from travelling by rail. As the result of a resolution moved by a non-official member in the local Legislative Council in April 1917, a special inquiry was undertaken during the year into the arrangements obtaining at railway stations for the supply of refreshments to Indian passengers.

TRAMWAYS (1917-18)

184. There was no alteration in the route mileage operated upon by the Madras Electric Tramway system in Madras City. There were some changes in the plant at the power station but, as in the previous year, this was used only as a standby and current was obtained from the Madras Electric Supply Corporation, Limited. There was an addition to the rolling-stock of two bogie cars which were constructed by the

Tramway Company during the year. The average daily service was 69 cars, or three more than in the previous year. The car mileage, however, fell, by 16,727 miles, to 1,581,430 miles although the number of passengers carried rose, by 2,363,801, to 22,759,095. The net balance on the year's working showed a slight increase over that of the previous year.

CANALS (1917-18)

185. Navigation was carried on as usual on the Chilka lake canal, the Dummagudem, Gōdāvari, Kistna, Kurnool-Cuddapah, Buckingham, West Coast and Vedaranniyam canals. Excluding the West Coast canals, for which figures are not available, the total receipts rose by Rs. 0.22 lakh to Rs. 2.69 lakhs. The increase occurred chiefly under the Kistna and the Buckingham canals as the result of a larger number of boats having taken out licences and the higher revenue realized on wharfage fees owing to the restrictions of railway traffic on account of war conditions. These restrictions also resulted in an increase in the number of passengers and in the ton-mileage and value of goods carried.

IRRIGATION (1917-18)

Gross expen-
diture and
revenue

186. The expenditure incurred on irrigation works rose, by Rs. 7.35 lakhs, to Rs. 78.96 lakhs and the revenue derived therefrom increased, by Rs. 11.98 lakhs, to Rs. 275.26 lakhs. The area charged as irrigated was 7,358,829 acres, or 79,210 acres more than in 1916-17.

Class I,
Major
works
Protective
works

187. As in the previous year there were four works sanctioned under "Major—Protective Works". Of these, the Rushikulya system was in operation, the Venkatapuram project was completed during the year and the other two projects (the Bhavanasi tank project and the Mopad reservoir project) were still under construction. The capital outlay was Rs. 2.66 lakhs (direct and indirect) as against Rs. 2.76 lakhs in the previous year, and the bulk of this expenditure was devoted to projects under construction. The areas irrigated under the Rushikulya system rose, by 3,158 acres, to 105,112 acres under first crop, but under second crop it fell, by 938 acres, to 1,754 acres. The gross revenue including old irrigation revenue rose, by Rs. 0.24 lakh, to Rs. 2.60 lakhs, while working expenses fell from Rs. 0.80 lakh, to Rs. 0.66 lakh. The net revenue deducting interest charges showed a deficit of Rs. 1.08 lakhs against Rs. 1.25 lakhs in the previous year. The capital outlay on productive works (direct and indirect) increased slightly from Rs. 6.35 lakhs to Rs. 6.55 lakhs and, as in the previous year, was mainly incurred on the Gōdāvari and the Kistna delta systems, the Kurnool-Cuddapah canal, the Cauvery delta system and the Toludur project, the last of which continued to be the only work of this class under construction. In the Gōdāvari delta system the works carried out during the year, besides four which were continued from the previous year, were the construction of a lock and regulator on the Kakaraparru canal and the remodelling of the Tossipudi north side channel. In the Kistna delta system, the provision of steel lock gates for the Sitanagaram head lock was completed, and improvements to the Kollipara channel and the Bhattiprole drain and the remodelling of the Donepudi block were in progress. The work of raising and strengthening the right and left flood banks of the Kistna river estimated to cost Rs. 56,400 was almost completed. In the Kurnool-Cuddapah canal, the Ukkayapalli project was completed and the Chepad project continued to be under execution. In the Cauvery delta system the improvements to the Manniyar, and the Kannappamulai calingula across the Kadaliyar were completed and improvements to the Vellapalem Uppanar and to the tail end of Vellappar were in progress. The total area charged as irrigated

Productive
works

rose, by 17,350 acres, to 3,002,950 acres under first crop and, by 38,216 acres, to 523,881 acres under second crop. The gross revenue, inclusive of old irrigation revenue, amounted to Rs. 160.67 lakhs, or an excess of Rs. 6.40 lakhs over the previous year's figure and working expenses, including old maintenance charges, rose, by Rs. 3.01 lakhs, to Rs. 34.12 lakhs. The net revenue due to improvements was Rs. 86.80 lakhs against Rs. 83.36 lakhs in the previous year and it represented a return of 9.95 per cent on the capital outlay of Rs. 8.72 crores as against 9.63 per cent in 1916-17. After deducting interest charges the profit for the year was Rs. 58.41 lakhs against Rs. 56.62 lakhs in the previous year and accumulated profits to the end of the year amounted to Rs. 16.76 crores. Compared with the previous year the gross revenue showed an increase of Rs. 6.40 lakhs which occurred chiefly under the Gōdāvari, the Kistna, and the Cauvery delta systems. There was an increase of Rs. 3.01 lakhs under "Working expenses", the bulk of which occurred under the Kurnool-Cuddapah canal in consequence of damage caused by floods to the canal and to the anicut across the Penner at Adinimayapalli. The remissions granted under "Protective" and "Productive" works fell, by Rs. 3,171 and Rs. 43,989, to Rs. 1,215 and Rs. 1,92,580, respectively. As in the previous year they were mostly granted in the Gōdāvari and the Kistna delta systems.

Revenue

Expenditure
under rev-
enue account
Remissions

188. The capital outlay (direct and indirect) on Minor Works and Navigation was Rs. 1.61 lakhs, which was chiefly incurred as in the previous year on three projects in the Kurnool, Trichinopoly and Coimbatore districts. The area charged as irrigated rose, by 2,835 acres, to 272,059 acres under first crop and, by 11,000 acres, to 98,437 acres under second crop. The gross revenue, including old irrigation revenue, rose, by Rs. 1.03 lakhs, to Rs. 15.17 lakhs and working expenses, by Rs. 0.54 lakh, to Rs. 4.43 lakhs and the net revenue due to improvements increased by Rs. 0.49 lakh. There was a further small decrease, from Rs. 6,956 to Rs. 6,141, under remissions, which, as in the previous year, occurred principally under the Ganjam minor rivers system and the Pālār anicut system.

Class II,
Minor works
and naviga-
tion

189. The outlay on class III works, including that incurred by civil officers and accounted for by the civil department, was Rs. 28.49 lakhs, as against Rs. 24.35 lakhs in the previous year. The area charged as irrigated rose, by 7,589 acres, to 3,354,636 acres, and the revenue derived, inclusive of the amount collected in the Public Works department, was Rs. 95.77 lakhs as against Rs. 91.57 lakhs in the previous year. A sum of Rs. 3.25 lakhs was remitted as against Rs. 4.99 lakhs in the previous year. An area of about 103,750 square miles under all works in the Presidency had to be investigated under the Tank Restoration Scheme. An area of 83,157 square miles of minor basins had been entered upon by the beginning of the year, of which 77,055 square miles had been investigated. During the year an area of 455 square miles were entered upon and 654 square miles were investigated. Works were executed for 69,993 square miles in the area completely investigated, were in progress for 4,069 square miles and were not commenced in the balance of 3,647 square miles. Estimates amounting to Rs. 3,07,324, or Rs. 8,769 more than in the previous year, were sanctioned for Government works, the amount sanctioned under this head from the beginning of the operations up to the end of the year being Rs. 140.74 lakhs. The expenditure during the year was Rs. 3.40 lakhs or Rs. 4.18 lakhs including percentage charges.

Class III
worksTank Resto-
ration
Scheme

190. The outlay incurred on agricultural works increased from Rs. 6.56 lakhs to Rs. 6.70 lakhs and the revenue realized rose, by Rs. 11,660, to Rs. 1.05 lakhs.

Class IV,
Agricultural
works

191. The orders of the Secretary of State on the estimate for the Cauvery reservoir project were not received during the year. The Uttiramerur tank project in the Chingleput district was abandoned and final orders were not passed on the four projects which were under

Investiga-
tion of
projects

Small
projects

consideration in the previous year. Plans and estimates for improvements to the Girisola channel in the Ganjām district were still under preparation and the investigation in connexion with the improvements to the Korathala Tampara was completed and the preparation of plans and estimates was taken up. Investigation in connexion with the improvements to the Jayamangalam channel was still in progress. The revenue aspects of the Vamsadhara project were under examination by the local officers. In the Gōdāvari district the estimate for the extension of irrigation to the Coringa and Polavaram islands were revised by the Superintending Engineer. In the Guntūr district the detailed investigation connected with the Pratur pumping scheme was completed, and plans and estimates were under preparation. Plans and estimates completed in the previous year, for resluicing the Amarāvati channels in the Coimbatore district, were under consideration. The report of the Board of Revenue on the revenue forecast of the Amarāvati project was under the consideration of Government. In connexion with the Meengarai and the Malapuzha projects in the Malabar district, gauge readings were taken to ascertain the quantity of water available. The estimate prepared for works designed to render the Nilambūr river suitable for the transport of forest produce was under consideration. In connexion with the Chidambaram drainage scheme detailed plans and estimates for improvements to the Veeranam tank were submitted to the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, who had under his consideration also the plans and estimates for works necessary to prevent damage by floods caused by the spill of the Vellar above the Shatiatope regulator. Detailed plans and estimates for improvements to the Vadavar were under preparation. An estimate amounting to Rs. 1·85 lakhs for improvements to the Ponnēri channel was sanctioned. The Ladapuram project was abandoned.

Miscellaneous

192. No exceptional floods occurred during the year nor were there any serious breaches or accidents.

Ayacut maps

193. The ayacut maps of the Gōdāvari delta were printed and those for the Kistna delta were still under revision. The maps of the Kurnool-Cuddapah canal were mostly completed. Block maps of the Cauvery delta were completed and printed.

and Railway freight tax credited as Miscellaneous Revenue (Rs. 12,84,124); while the increase in expenditure was mainly under Land Revenue (Rs. 1,98,175), Forest (Rs. 1,77,671), Police (Rs. 2,16,289), Education (Rs. 10,84,180), Medical (Rs. 3,63,785), Stationery and Printing (Rs. 6,48,278) and Irrigation Works (Rs. 8,85,411).

196. The year opened with a cash balance of Rs. 347 lakhs in the reserve treasury, the revenue treasuries and the Bank of Madras and its branches; the closing balance was Rs. 353 lakhs. Cash balances

(b) IMPERIAL REVENUE AND FINANCE

197. The receipts on account of Imperial Revenue exceeded those of 1916-17 by Rs. 1,59,79,544, of which an excess of Rs. 76,83,805 occurred under State Railways, Rs. 33,35,242 under Salt, Rs. 15,74,746 under Excise, Rs. 7,17,366 under Customs, Rs. 13,02,070 under Income-tax and Rs. 13,01,466 under Miscellaneous Revenue. The net transfer from Imperial to Provincial Revenues was Rs. 21,756 more than in the previous year. The Imperial expenditure charged to Revenue also exceeded that of 1916-17 by Rs. 4,38,205. The incidence of taxation per head of population was Rs. 3-12-8·2 against Rs. 3-10-9·7 in 1916-17. General

198. The receipts from Land Revenue amounted to Rs. 3,51,57,579, or an increase of Rs. 1,49,237 over those of 1916-17. The more important variations in the district collections were increases in the districts of South Arcot (+Rs. 1·61 lakhs), Kistna (+Rs. 1·55 lakhs), Nellore (+Rs. 0·79 lakh) and Cuddapah (+Rs. 0·57 lakh), and decreases in the districts of Gōdāvari (-Rs. 1·07 lakhs), Madura (-Rs. 0·50 lakh), Kurnool (-Rs. 0·47 lakh), Tinnevely (-Rs. 0·41 lakh), Malabar (-Rs. 0·38 lakh) and Chittoor (-Rs. 0·37 lakh). The increase in South Arcot was mainly attributable to the collection in 1917-18 of kists suspended in 1916-17 on account of the cyclone of November 1916, while that in Kistna was due to the levy of heavy penalties on unauthorized irrigation and to the high prices fetched by the sale of waste lands in the Divi island. The fall in Gōdāvari is for the most part explained by the inclusion in the actuals of 1916-17 of penal assessment levied from the Raja of Vizianagram on the Sanapalli lanka suit lands. Delays in the introduction of resettlement rates in certain taluks, the grant of heavy remissions and smaller arrear demand at the commencement of the year account respectively for the decreases in Madura, Tinnevely and Malabar. The variations in the other districts were caused chiefly by fluctuations in the character of the season. The incidence of taxation per head amounted to Rs. 1-11-2 as against Rs. 1-11-1 in 1916-17, and was highest in the district of Kistna and lowest in Vizagapatam. The expenditure under Land Revenue being entirely Provincial is dealt with in the Provincial section. Land revenue*

199. The revenue under Customs is subdivided into Sea Customs and Land Customs. The receipts under Sea Customs, exclusive of import duty on salt which was credited to Salt, amounted to Rs. 1,10,77,916 as against Rs. 1,05,49,174 in the previous year. There was an increase of Rs. 7·51 lakhs under import duty, which was the result partly of the enhancement from 3½ to 7½ per cent ad valorem of the duty leviable on cotton piece-goods under the revised tariff of March 1917, and partly of high prices of articles which increased the ad valorem duties. Excise duty on cotton manufactures improved also by Rs. 1·22 lakhs owing to larger production. There was, however, a fall of Rs. 3·22 lakhs under export duty due to a decrease in the exports of tea and rice. The receipts under Land Customs amounted to Rs. 4,25,025 against Rs. 2,36,401 in 1916-17 and the increase was mainly caused by larger imports of kerosene oil and tobacco at Karikal and by the sale of confiscated property credited Customs

* The receipts from Land Revenue and the receipts and charges under Stamps, Excise (including the realizations of opium revenue by the Excise Department) and Income-tax (excluding super-tax) are shared equally between Imperial and Provincial. The comparison made here is in respect of the Imperial share. But the incidence of taxation has been calculated with reference to the total receipts.

Opium *

to Government at that station. The incidence of taxation per head of the population was As. 4-5 against As. 4-2 in 1916-17. The charges amounted to Rs. 4,34,352 as against Rs. 4,30,734 in the previous year.

200. Bengal opium is supplied for consumption in this Presidency from the Government storehouse at Ghazipur at a standard rate equal approximately to the cost price per seer. The value at this rate is credited to "Opium" and the difference between this value and the issue price is credited to "Excise" as "Gain on sale-proceeds of opium." The revenue credited to "Opium" amounted to Rs. 5,23,025 as against Rs. 4,90,681 in the previous year. The gain on sale-proceeds also rose from Rs. 6,65,816 to Rs. 7,03,882. The amount of shop rentals and miscellaneous revenue credited to "Excise" was Rs. 5,04,398 against Rs. 4,06,808 in the previous year. The total opium revenue thus realized by the Excise department increased from Rs. 15,63,305 to Rs. 17,31,305 and the incidence of taxation per head of the population was 9-9 pies against 9-8 pies in 1916-17. The charges amounted to Rs. 970 against Rs. 2,929 in the preceding year, the decrease occurring under rewards in opium cases.

Salt

201. The number of salt factories rose from 65 to 71, of which 20 were monopoly factories and 51 excise factories. The factory at Pandraka which had not been worked since 1912 was re-opened for manufacture in 1917. The official year covers the closing months of one manufacturing season and the opening months of another. The main feature of the work of both the seasons of 1917 and 1918 was an endeavour to increase the output of salt so as not only to make good the shortage within the Presidency but also to set some supplies free for the Presidency of Bengal where the conditions arising out of the war have thrown open a new market for the Madras product. The means adopted were mainly the extension of the season of production, increase in the acreage already cultivated, and the opening of new factories and extensions. Steps were also taken to secure for Government a hold on a larger share of the output of salt in licensed factories. The season of 1917 was, however, disastrous to salt manufacture in the north and unfavourable in the centre of the Presidency. The rains of November 1917 were very heavy in most parts of the Presidency and this would normally have retarded the commencement of manufacture for the season of 1918 but, in consequence of the shortage of stocks, greater efforts were made to induce the licensees to commence manufacture much earlier than usual. The total output of the year 1917 amounted to 10,804,767 maunds, of which 3,679,385 maunds were Government salt and 7,125,382 maunds were excise salt as against 5,057,477 maunds and 8,038,764 maunds, respectively, in the previous year. In 1918 the outturn up to 31st March amounted to 1,043,073 maunds as against 820,767 maunds in 1917. The quantity of duty-paid salt imported by sea from the Bombay Presidency fell from 1,400,063 maunds to 1,268,638 maunds and that imported by rail from Bombay and Goa fell from 472,245 maunds to 307,030 maunds, the decreases being due to the shortage of stocks in Bombay and the difficulty of obtaining freight. The quantity of duty-bearing salt imported by sea, chiefly from the United Kingdom, was 1,709 maunds against 4,580 maunds in the previous year. The issues for home and inland consumption of locally-manufactured and imported salt fell from 12,596,982 maunds to 12,160,701 maunds. The quantity issued for export by sea was 73,444 maunds. The quantities issued to the French Government and to the Travancore and the Cochin Darbars were 70,874, 92,536 and 174,874 maunds respectively. The issues to Bengal rose from 113,666 maunds in 1916-17 to 608,507 maunds in 1917-18 as a consequence of shortage in the import of foreign salt into Calcutta. The available stock of Government and excise salt at the end of the year was 3,744,281 maunds as against 4,557,054 maunds in the previous year. The year's revenue amounted to Rs. 1,62,01,081 against Rs. 1,28,65,839 in 1916-17.

* Vide footnote under Land Revenue on page 89.

The increase was attributable partly to the enhanced rate of duty introduced from 1st March 1916, the full effect of which was not felt till the year 1917-18 owing to the operation of the system of credit sales, and partly to the sale of Government salt at auction instead of at a fixed price. The system of auction sale was resorted to as being calculated to put down the high prices of excise salt attended with violent fluctuations, especially in the months of November and December, when there was a large demand for salt from Bengal. But the system, while tending to achieve the desired end, yielded for Government a revenue of Rs. 15-46 lakhs more than what would have resulted from sale at a fixed price, mainly in consequence of speculative buying by Calcutta merchants. The incidence of taxation which is calculated with reference to the rate of inland consumption fell from As. 4-10-3 in 1916-17 to As. 4-4-5 in 1917-18. The charges amounted to Rs. 18,15,934 as against Rs. 17,86,343 in the previous year.

202. The excise revenue rose from Rs. 1,75,28,680 to Rs. 1,89,67,770. The increase occurred mainly under country spirits and toddy. The incidence of taxation per head was As. 14-7-4 against As. 13-6-6 in the previous year. The charges amounted to Rs. 9,16,535 in 1917-18 as compared with Rs. 9,05,097 in 1916-17.

Excise *
(Abkari)

203. The revenue from stamps decreased from Rs. 77,94,639 to Rs. 77,11,598 and the incidence of taxation per head fell from As. 6-0-2 to As. 5-11-5. The charges rose, however, from Rs. 2,23,190 to Rs. 2,43,802, the increase being due chiefly to heavy railway charges paid on supplies obtained from the Controller of Stamps, Calcutta, and to larger supplies of stamp paper made from the central stores.

Stamps *

204. The receipts from income-tax, excluding super-tax, amounted to Rs. 38,32,870 as against Rs. 30,04,572 in the previous year. The increase was mainly due to more careful assessments and to the commercial prosperity arising out of the war. The incidence of taxation was As. 2-11-5 per head as against As. 2-3-8 in the previous year. The charges were Rs. 34,146 as against Rs. 33,080 in 1916-17.

Income-tax *
(excluding
super-tax)

205. The revenue under super-tax represents the tax imposed from the 1st April 1917 under Act VIII of 1917, on large individual incomes in excess of Rs. 50,000 per annum, in addition to the ordinary income-tax. The proceeds of the tax are wholly Imperial and the receipts of the year 1917-18 amounted to Rs. 4,73,772. The incidence of taxation per head was 2-2 pies, and no charges were incurred during the year for collection.

Super-tax

206. Imperial revenue from other sources amounted to Rs. 5,09,83,226 and exceeded the corresponding revenue of 1916-17 by Rs. 89,51,580, the excess consisting chiefly of Rs. 76,83,805 in the net State Railway receipts and Rs. 12,84,124 being the proceeds of the small surcharge levied on railway goods traffic from 1st April 1917 which was subsequently treated as a tax and brought to account as Miscellaneous Imperial Revenue. Larger traffic receipts counterbalanced by an increase in the share of surplus profits paid to Railway Companies and Native States account mainly for the excess under State Railway receipts.

Other
Imperial
receipts

207. The important variations under this head were (a) the grant of a recurring assignment of Rs. 4 lakhs to Provincial revenues for improving the training and pay of teachers in primary and secondary schools; (b) the discontinuance of the recurring assignment of Rs. 2,50,000 made to Provincial revenues in connexion with the apportionment of famine relief expenditure, consequent on certain changes introduced with effect from the 1st April 1917 in the method of adjustment of such expenditure between the Imperial and the Provincial sections; and (c) the further payment of Rs. 1,36,500 from Provincial to Imperial revenues in addition to Rs. 6,25,000 paid in 1917-18 on account of the revenue realized in

Transfers
between
Imperial and
Provincial

* Vide footnote under Land Revenue on page 89.

Other Imperial expenditure

Madras in 1916-17 from the enhancement of the rates of income-tax made for the purpose of meeting the needs of the Imperial Government.

208. The remaining Imperial expenditure amounted to Rs. 67,87,639 against Rs. 64,13,799 in 1916-17. The noteworthy fluctuations in the year were an increase of Rs. 5 lakhs under Stationery and Printing and a decrease of Rs. 4.06 lakhs under Civil Works. The former was caused by heavy expenditure on stationery purchased for the central stores, while the latter was only nominal, as it was chiefly due to a receipt of Rs. 3.99 lakhs from the sale-proceeds of the sites acquired in previous years for the construction of a new building for the Madras Currency Office having been taken in abatement of the charges under this head to which the expenditure on the acquisition was originally debited.

Capital outlay on State railways and Irrigation works not charged to Revenue

209. The capital outlay on Irrigation Works not charged to Revenue amounted to Rs. 5,62,967 against Rs. 6,07,438 in 1916-17; that on State Railways was *minus* Rs. 6,88,676 in 1917-18 against *minus* Rs. 11,14,770 in 1916-17. The figure *minus* Rs. 6,88,676 in 1917-18 is the net result of a recovery of Rs. 6.30 lakhs advanced to the Tinnevely-Tiruchendur Railway in 1916-17 and a *minus* outlay of Rs. 0.71 lakh under South Indian Railway. The expenditure of this railway charged to final heads was *minus* Rs. 0.60 lakh as compared with Rs. 8.46 lakhs in the previous year and the decrease occurred chiefly under rolling-stock, Rs. 3.65 lakhs being under locomotives and Rs. 3.60 lakhs being under carriages and wagons. Under suspense accounts there was a net debit of Rs. 0.29 lakh in 1917-18 against a net credit of Rs. 26.29 lakhs in 1916-17 which occurred for the most part under stores owing to heavy issues for renewal works and to large sales to Government departments in that year.

Imperial loans

210. The opening balance under Imperial loans on the 1st April 1917 was Rs. 1,72,70,023. The loans granted during the year amounted to Rs. 21,30,004. A sum of Rs. 4 lakhs was advanced to the Madras Corporation for expenditure on water-supply; Rs. 11 lakhs to the Madras Port Trust (Rs. 2 lakhs being for improvements to the Harbour and Rs. 9 lakhs for repairs to the damages caused by the cyclone of November 1916); and Rs. 6.30 lakhs to the District Board, Tinnevely, in connexion with the construction of the Tinnevely-Tiruchendur Railway. The repayments amounted to Rs. 9,04,344; the chief items being Rs. 40,415 by the Madras Corporation, Rs. 2,84,007 by the Madras Port Trust, Rs. 27,619 by the Madras Coast Lights Fund, Rs. 36,657 by the Tanjore District Board Railway and Rs. 5,00,833 by the Tinnevely District Board Railway. The closing balance of the year was Rs. 1,84,95,683. For the repayment of the old loan of Rs. 14,30,000 taken by the Madras Corporation, a sinking fund has been constituted and the instalment due to the fund during the year, viz., Rs. 28,600, was duly paid. On the 31st March 1918, this sinking fund held Government securities of the face value of Rs. 14,14,200.

(c) REVENUE AND FINANCE OTHER THAN IMPERIAL

Provincial revenues

211. The Provincial accounts opened with a balance of Rs. 1,52,37,920 on the 1st April 1917 and closed with a balance of Rs. 2,01,59,989 on the 31st March 1918. The transactions of the year thus yielded a surplus of Rs. 49,22,069, which was the net result of an aggregate revenue of Rs. 8,34,32,195 and an expenditure of Rs. 7,85,10,126.

Land revenue*

212. The receipts from Land Revenue amounted to Rs. 3,51,57,579 or Rs. 1,49,237 in excess of those of the previous year. The more important variations in the district collections are explained in the Imperial section. The charges were Rs. 1,24,74,408 as against Rs. 1,22,76,233 in the previous year, the increase being chiefly due to smaller recoveries on account of estate surveys.

* The receipts from Land Revenue and the receipts and charges under Stamps, Excise (including the realization of opium revenue by the Excise Department) and Income-tax (excluding Super-tax) are shared equally between Imperial and Provincial. The comparison made here is in respect of the Provincial share. But the incidence of taxation has been calculated with reference to the total receipts and is mentioned in the Imperial section.

* Stamps, Excise and Income-tax

213. The receipts from Stamps, Excise and Income-tax amounted respectively to Rs. 77,11,599, Rs. 2,01,76,050† and Rs. 38,32,870 as against Rs. 77,94,638, Rs. 1,86,01,304 and Rs. 30,04,572 in the previous year. Explanations of the increases under Excise and Income-tax are given in the Imperial section. The corresponding charges were Rs. 2,43,803, Rs. 9,17,503‡ and Rs. 34,147 as against Rs. 2,23,190, Rs. 9,08,025 and Rs. 33,079, respectively, in the previous year. The increase in the charges under stamps is explained in the Imperial section.

Forests

214. The revenue from Forests amounted to Rs. 54,66,463 against Rs. 45,96,126 in the previous year. The increase of Rs. 8.70 lakhs occurred chiefly under timber and sandalwood removed from the forests by Government agency (Rs. 5.18 lakhs) and under firewood and other minor produce removed by consumers or purchasers (Rs. 3.02 lakhs). The large outturn of the first final fellings in the South Malabar division, the sale of timber at enhanced prices to the Military Department from the South Coimbatore division, and the sale of old stock in the Nilgiris and the North Mangalore divisions contributed mainly to the increase under timber; that under sandalwood was brought about by the extraction and sale of a larger quantity of sandalwood in the Western and Southern circles and by the high prices obtained for them at the auction sales. The excess under firewood was mostly due to the sale of land and of the growth thereon in Vettangudi and other reserves in the South Arcot district and the enhanced prices obtained for fuel coupes in certain other districts. The sale of rela bark and the high prices fetched by tanning barks account for the excess under "Other minor produce." The charges of the department amounted to Rs. 30,20,349 against Rs. 28,42,678 in the previous year. Allowing for Rs. 0.84 lakh included in the latter amount on account of the acquisition of the Attapadi blocks in the Central Coimbatore division, and the Putlampalli shrotriyam forests in the Cuddapah district, there was an excess expenditure of Rs. 2.62 lakhs, Rs. 2.29 lakhs being under "Conservancy and Works" and Rs. 0.33 lakh under "Establishment". The excess under "Conservancy and Works" appeared chiefly under timber (Rs. 0.43 lakh) and grass and other minor produce (Rs. 1.33 lakhs) removed from the forests by Government agency. The increase in the latter case represented for the most part the charges connected with the preparation of hay for supply to the Military department.

215. The receipts under registration were Rs. 24,72,459 against Rs. 24,70,160 in the preceding year. The charges amounted to Rs. 13,39,697 or Rs. 27,458 more than in the foregoing year, the increase being partly due to a full year's charge on account of the raising of the minimum pay of clerks in registration offices to Rs. 20 per mensem, which scheme was brought into force only on the 1st June 1916.

Registration

216. The canal revenue collected during the year amounted to Rs. 2,69,040, or Rs. 21,562 more than in the previous year.

Canal revenue

217. The Provincial receipts under the remaining heads amounted to Rs. 69,40,635 § and were higher than those of the previous year by Rs. 5,89,873. There were increases under nine heads (+Rs. 8,45,162) and decreases under an equal number of heads (-Rs. 2,55,289). The increases were chiefly under Scientific and Miscellaneous departments (+Rs. 4.84 lakhs), Jails (+Rs. 2.01 lakhs), Stationery and Printing (+Rs. 0.43 lakh), and the decreases were chiefly under Miscellaneous Revenue (-Rs. 1.41 lakhs) and Civil Works in charge of Civil Officers (-Rs. 0.68 lakh). The increase under Scientific and Miscellaneous departments occurred mainly under Cinchona Plantations, the restrictions on shipping having created an increasing demand for the Government product, and under receipts

Other Provincial receipts

* Vide footnote under Land Revenue on page 92.

† Includes share of opium revenue credited to this head.

‡ Includes expenditure relating to opium charged to this head.

§ Excludes net amount transferred from Imperial to Provincial which has been dealt with in the Imperial section.

of the Fishery Bureau mainly from the sale of soap manufactured by the Government Soap Factory at Calicut. Heavy demands from the Military department for jail-made goods account for the increase under Jails. The decrease under Miscellaneous Revenue is mainly due to a special credit of Rs. 0.84 lakh included in the actuals of 1916-17, being refund of a temporary contribution paid to the District Board of Guntūr, and to smaller adjustments on account of lapsed deposits credited to Government. Variations in the amounts of unexpended balances of Provincial contributions refunded by local bodies explain the decrease under Civil Works in charge of Civil Officers.

Other
Provincial
expenditure

218. The expenditure in the Provincial section under the heads other than those already dealt with amounted to Rs. 6,04,80,219 and was more than that of the previous year by Rs. 28,32,679, which was the net result of increases under nineteen heads (+ Rs. 39,58,669) and decreases under six heads (— Rs. 11,25,990). The increases were chiefly under Education (+ Rs. 10.84 lakhs), Civil Works in charge of Civil Officers (+ Rs. 8.76 lakhs), Medical (+ Rs. 3.64 lakhs), Minor Irrigation works in charge of Public Works Officers (+ Rs. 3.42 lakhs), Police (+ Rs. 2.16 lakhs), Minor Irrigation Works in charge of Civil Officers (+ Rs. 1.52 lakhs), Scientific and Miscellaneous departments (+ Rs. 1.49 lakhs), Stationery and Printing (+ Rs. 1.48 lakhs), Miscellaneous expenditure (+ Rs. 1.24 lakhs), Working Expenses of Major Irrigation Works (+ Rs. 1.07 lakhs) and Jails (+ Rs. 1.05 lakhs). The bulk of the increase under Education was in the subsidies paid in support of municipal and local board schools, and it was partly met out of an Imperial grant of Rs. 4 lakhs assigned by the Government of India to this province for improving the pay and training of teachers in primary and secondary schools. Larger grants paid to local bodies for roads and bridges (chiefly for village roads) and for the maintenance of hospitals and dispensaries account respectively for the increases under Civil Works in charge of Civil Officers and under Medical. That under Minor Irrigation Works (Civil and Public Works) is due partly to heavy expenditure on repairs to damages caused by the cyclone of November 1916 and partly to the transfer to the Public Works section of this head with effect from 1st April 1917 of the charges connected with the Chepad project which were formerly treated as Capital expenditure not charged to Revenue and shown under the head "49. Irrigation". A full year's charge on account of the revision of pay of the constabulary introduced with effect from the 1st June 1916, the opening of an additional police training school at Anantapur in March 1917 and larger expenditure on travelling allowance of the police force due to revisions in the scale of railway passenger fares explain the increase under Police. Under Scientific and Miscellaneous departments, there was heavy expenditure under Cinchona Plantations and under Fishery Bureau, the increase in the latter case being connected with the manufacture of soap by the Government Soap Factory at Calicut. The excess under Stationery and Printing appeared in the cost of stationery supplied to Government offices, owing to the rise in the price of stationery articles caused by the war; and that under Miscellaneous Expenditure represented the amount of grants paid to district boards for aid to informal panchayats. The increase under Working Expenses of Major Irrigation Works occurred chiefly in the Godāvāri and the Kistna Delta systems and in the expenditure relating to the Kurnool-Cuddapah canal. Larger outlay on jail manufactures to meet the heavy demands of the Military department brought about the excess under Jails. The decreases as compared with the previous year were chiefly under "Reduction or avoidance of debt" (— Rs. 2.50 lakhs) and under Civil Works in charge of Public Works Officers. The charges under the former head were connected with a scheme introduced in 1907 for the apportionment of famine expenditure between Imperial and Provincial funds. As a result of certain changes introduced in the method of adjustment of such charges, the adjustments under this head have ceased with effect from 1917-18. The decrease under Civil Works in charge of Public Works Officers is mainly attributable to credits received

for large issues of materials to the Military department from the Public Works Stores in 1917-18, and to the actuals of 1916-17, having included the cost of large quantities of materials obtained from home for the Madura Drainage division, as well as a payment of Rs. 1.35 lakhs made to Messrs. Crompton & Co. on account of damages awarded to them for breach of contract in connexion with the construction of a building for the Collector's office at Madura.

219. The Provincial Advance and Loan Account (including loans to local bodies for railway construction) opened with a balance of Rs. 94,55,363 on the 1st April 1917 and closed with a balance of Rs. 96,31,822; advances amounted to Rs. 12,61,977 and repayments to Rs. 10,85,518. Ryots received advances to the extent of Rs. 8,63,289 as against Rs. 7,16,309 in the previous year. The District Boards of Malabar, Coimbatore and Trichinopoly took advances of Rs. 54,800, Rs. 18,800 and Rs. 18,200, respectively, for the construction of bridges, and the District Board of Guntūr took Rs. 75,000 for the extension of village sites. Rupees 22,000, Rs. 10,000, Rs. 9,500, Rs. 8,500, Rs. 8,000 and Rs. 6,000 were advanced, respectively, to the Guntūr, Vizagapatam, Tiruvālūr, Palamcottah, Vizianagram and Cocanada Municipal Councils for town survey. Rupees 12,000 more were advanced to the Guntūr Municipal Council for improvements to water-works and Rs. 10,000 more to the Vizianagram Municipal Council for the acquisition of buildings. The Madura Municipality borrowed Rs. 67,000 for water-supply; the Ellore Municipality Rs. 35,000 for the construction of a building for the Municipal office; the Vellore Municipality Rs. 33,840 for drainage works; and the Cuddapah Municipality Rs. 5,000 for the construction of a new travellers' bungalow. Rupees 4,900 were advanced to the Zamindar of Punganur to complete the survey of his estate. No loans were granted to co-operative credit societies during the year.

Provincial
loans

220. The following paragraphs deal with funds raised from special sources and devoted to special objects and not to general purposes of the administration (Imperial and Provincial). The funds comprised under the head "Local Funds" are local funds constituted under Act V of 1884, the Irrigation cess fund, Port and Marine funds, and other funds which are mentioned below seriatim:—

Local Funds

(1) The Local funds constituted under Act V of 1884 opened with a balance of Rs. 80,98,050 and closed with a balance of Rs. 97,65,100. Exclusive of debt head transactions, the receipts and charges amounted to Rs. 2,01,69,769 and Rs. 1,70,46,219, showing a surplus of Rs. 31,23,550 against a deficit of Rs. 9,39,202 in the preceding year. The chief factors which contributed to this result were larger receipts under Education (+ Rs. 5.21 lakhs) and under Civil Works (+ Rs. 11.25 lakhs), caused mainly by enhanced contributions received from Provincial revenues in support of local board schools and for the construction of roads and bridges, and smaller expenditure under construction of railways, owing to the completion of the Salem-Suramangalam Railway and the Tirutturaippundi-Vedāranniyam Railway in 1916-17, the postponement of the completion of the Tinnevely-Tiruchendūr Railway until the end of the war, and the credits realized on account of certain materials purchased for the said railway having been taken over by the Munitions Board and the South Indian Railway Company. The receipts and charges on account of debt head transactions amounted respectively to Rs. 41,23,082 and Rs. 55,79,582. The District Board of Tinnevely obtained a loan of Rs. 6.30 lakhs from Imperial funds in connexion with railway construction but repaid Rs. 5.01 lakhs out of it before the close of the year. The funded capital of District Boards, which was Rs. 1,35,11,000 on the 31st March 1917, rose to Rs. 1,40,60,000, of which Rs. 1,16,12,000 represented investments of railway cess balances and the balance of Rs. 24,48,000 investments on account of endowments, provident funds and other institutions. The closing cash balance of local boards was ear-marked as follows: railway cess funds (Rs. 9.07 lakhs), endowment funds (Rs. 4.49 lakhs),

Local Funds
Act V of
1884

unexpended amount of Provincial grants (Rs. 33.03 lakhs) and debt heads (Rs. 19.68 lakhs). Thus the net balance available for general purposes of the district funds was Rs. 31.38 lakhs, and the District Board of South Kanara closed with a small deficit cash balance under general funds.

Bhadraichalam
Nugur Special
Fund

(2) The receipts of this fund consisted mainly of the payments made by the proprietors and of the deductions made from the land revenue collections (beriz) of Government villages, no cess being levied from the proprietors on account of the emoluments of village servants. The receipts and charges of the fund amounted to Rs. 9,333 and Rs. 10,246, respectively, against Rs. 9,458 and Rs. 8,455 in the previous year, and the fund closed with a credit balance of Rs. 15,636.

Irrigation
Cess Fund.

(3) This fund exists in the districts of Chingleput, Trichinopoly, Madura and Coimbatore. The fund opened with a balance of Rs. 99,891 and closed with a balance of Rs. 82,662. The receipts and charges amounted to Rs. 43,613 and Rs. 60,842, respectively, against Rs. 42,831 and Rs. 44,977 in the previous year. The entire assets of the Vangal channel amounting to Rs. 17,961 were made over during the year to the Public Works department in discharge of the expenditure by it in the improvement of the channel up to the 18th January 1917.

Port and
Marine funds

(4) These funds consist of Port Funds (Act XV of 1908), Pilotage Funds (outports), Landing and Shipping Funds and the Madras Coast Lights Fund. The Port Funds are again subdivided into Madras and Minor Ports Funds. The Madras Port Fund opened with a balance of Rs. 15,348 and closed with a balance of Rs. 34,865. The income of the fund amounted to Rs. 1,25,884 and its expenditure to Rs. 1,06,367. The Minor Ports Fund opened with a balance of Rs. 1,63,719 and closed with a balance of Rs. 57,173; the receipts and charges amounted to Rs. 2,64,230 and Rs. 3,70,776 respectively. The fund advanced a loan of Rs. 11,000 to the Madras Coast Lights Fund. A sum of Rs. 28,607 in all was repaid towards the principals of the loans taken by the Cocanada, Negapatam, Adirampatnam, Tuticorin, Cochin and Calicut Landing and Shipping Funds. Free grants to the extent of Rs. 24,350 were also made to the Cocanada and Cochin Landing and Shipping Funds and to the Madras Coast Lights Fund. The security balance at the credit of the fund was Rs. 8,57,400 (face value). The income and expenditure of the Pilotage Funds (outports) amounted to Rs. 11,424 and Rs. 10,227 respectively. The opening and closing balances were Rs. 3,503 and Rs. 4,700 respectively. The opening balance of the Landing and Shipping Funds amounted to Rs. 3,77,942, the receipts and charges to Rs. 2,37,924 and Rs. 2,99,845 respectively, and the closing balance to Rs. 3,16,021. The invested balance to the credit of the funds was Rs. 3,27,800 (face value).

Pilotage
funds (out-
ports)

Landing and
Shipping
funds

The Madras
Coast Lights
Fund

Cantonment
funds

Cantonment
Hospital
Fund, Secun-
derabad

Civil Hospital
Fund, Secun-
derabad

University
Fee Fund

(5) The Madras Coast Lights Fund opened with a balance of Rs. 31,224 and closed with a balance of Rs. 39,975; the receipts and charges of the year were Rs. 1,30,064 and Rs. 1,21,313 respectively.

(6) The receipts and charges of these funds amounted to Rs. 5,28,728 and Rs. 5,38,254 respectively, the result being a deficit of Rs. 9,526 which reduced the balance from Rs. 1,16,348 to Rs. 1,06,822.

(7) The fund opened with a balance of Rs. 32 and closed with a balance of Rs. 227. The receipts and charges amounted to Rs. 10,910 and Rs. 10,715 respectively.

(8) The fund opened with a deficit balance of Rs. 1,543 under general funds, which was made good in April 1917 by a contribution received from the Secunderabad Local Abkari Fund. The receipts and charges amounted to Rs. 75,520 and Rs. 67,812 respectively. The closing balance was Rs. 6,165.

(9) The opening and closing balances were Rs. 54,502 and Rs. 36,337 respectively. The receipts and charges amounted respectively to Rs. 6,16,309 and Rs. 6,34,474. The invested balance to the credit of the fund was Rs. 7,56,800 (face value). A sum of Rs. 2,90,000 was withdrawn

from the fixed deposit with the Bank of Madras and the balance in fixed deposit with the Bank at the close of the year was Rs. 15,000.

(10) The receipts and charges amounted to Rs. 10,356 and Rs. 10,415 respectively and the cash balance to the credit of the fund was reduced to Rs. 749.

(11) The opening and closing balances were Rs. 57,601 and Rs. 53,689 respectively. The receipts and charges amounted to Rs. 31,885 and Rs. 35,797 respectively. There was an invested balance of one lakh of rupees.

(12) The Vizagapatam Hospital Fund opened with a balance of Rs. 3,254. The receipts and charges were Rs. 17,231 and Rs. 16,500 respectively and the closing balance was Rs. 3,985.

(13) The receipts and charges of the Hyderabad Residency Bazaar Fund amounted to Rs. 1,52,302 and Rs. 93,962 respectively, and the balance was thus raised from Rs. 1,59,430 to Rs. 2,17,770.

(14) The opening balance was Rs. 3,21,641. The receipts and expenditure were Rs. 8,62,876 and Rs. 9,87,062 respectively, thus reducing the closing balance to Rs. 1,97,455.

Kumbakonam
College
Hostel Fund

Mrs. A. V.
Narasinga
Rao's College
Fund

Vizagapatam
Hospital
Fund

Hyderabad
Residency
Bazaar Fund

Secunderabad
Local
(Abkari)
Fund

MUNICIPAL REVENUES

221. The receipts of mufassal municipalities amounted to Rs. 91,74,753 and the charges to Rs. 92,69,640. The balance at their credit was Rs. 33,03,118 against Rs. 33,98,059 in the previous year. The receipts and charges of the Madras Corporation amounted to Rs. 49.25 lakhs and Rs. 39.32 lakhs, respectively. The balance at the credit of the Corporation at the end of the year was Rs. 9.93 lakhs as against Rs. 9.40 lakhs in the previous year.

EXCISE ADMINISTRATION

[Report on the administration of Abkari Revenue for 1917-18]

222. A committee was appointed during the year to examine the question of liquor consumption in the City of Madras. The main conclusions arrived at by that body were that there had been no increase in the consumption of arrack if all kinds were considered together; that the consumption of toddy was nearly stationary; that the consumption of country brewed beer had fluctuated in an irregular manner, while that of foreign liquor had decreased and that of cheap European spirit had altogether ceased; and that drunkenness had not increased. The findings of the committee were accepted by Government.

223. The contract distillery system was extended to 93 villages in the Golconda taluk of the Vizagapatam Agency and the tree-tax system to 19 Agency villages in Gōdāvari. The arrangements for the supply of arrack in the Attapadi valley in the Malabar district were revised and certain definite general principles were introduced in regard to the supply of liquor to estate labour in planting areas. The excise duty on country spirits was enhanced by ten annas per proof-gallon in seven districts, the rates of fixed fee for retail "off" licences for foreign liquor were raised and further restrictions were imposed on the location of shops. These measures will, it is hoped, have some effect in reducing the temptation to drink. Other changes, some of them of importance, have taken effect from the 1st April 1918.

224. The Excise Advisory Committees were reconstituted so as to provide for a larger representation of non-official opinion and the Excise Advisory Committee for the City of Madras has since the end of the year been replaced by an Excise Licensing Board with power to determine the number and location of shops for the sale of intoxicants of all kinds. Of

Administra-
tive
changes

Licensing
Board and
Advisory
Committees

the recommendations made by Excise Advisory Committees and accepted by Collectors special mention may be made of the case of the Salem Municipality, where 11 out of 14 arrack shops and 6 out of 12 toddy shops were abolished as an experimental measure, those retained being removed to localities outside the town.

Measures
in aid of
temperance

225. The temperance activities of the Reddis' Conference at Loddaputti in the Ganjām district is worthy of note. At this Conference the Reddis resolved to abstain from liquor, and in order to encourage the movement the Collector ordered the closure of twenty arrack shops with an aggregate annual rental of Rs. 13,044 in the area affected. The experiment in the matter of the institution of tea and coffee shops as counter-attractions to the liquor shop through the agency of the local bodies and their contractors continued during the year under review, but it was not very successful and in most places it died a natural death. The Government have now accepted the Board's opinion that, if such experiments are to be successful, they must be backed by private enthusiasm and have promised subsidies to private bodies which will undertake more extended work in this direction; and endeavours are now being made to find private bodies willing and able to undertake the work.

Country
spirits

226. The number of shops in the distillery area was reduced by over 250 to 6,619. The total revenue from country spirits in the excise tracts rose by Rs. 11 lakhs to Rs. 161.73 lakhs. The increase occurred under both excise duty and rentals. The proportion of still-head duty to total revenue was 69 per cent. The consumption was more or less stationary, being .041 proof-gallon per head of the population.

Toddy

227. The number of toddy shops was reduced from 11,851 to 11,399. The total revenue on toddy amounted to Rs. 187.21 lakhs against Rs. 170.85 lakhs in 1916-17. The increase occurred under both vend rents and tree-tax, the vend rents forming 56.2 per cent of the total revenue. The number of trees tapped expressed in terms of coconuts was 23.46 lakhs against 22.24 in 1916-17 and the consumption per head was roughly 2.79 gallons against 2.67 in the previous year.

Foreign
liquor

228. The quantity of foreign liquor imported by sea during the year showed a further falling off of over 60,000 gallons, 46.2 per cent of which consisted of "ale, beer and porter". The quantity of "foreign" spirits locally manufactured was 16,953 proof-gallons against 14,232 in 1916-17. The total issues of beer from the local breweries amounted to 1,404,820 gallons and the import from Bangalore to 158,197. Out of the former quantity, 609,897 gallons were exported to places beyond the Presidency. The recorded consumption of foreign liquor of all kinds amounted in terms of absolute alcohol to 106,881 gallons against 116,413 in 1916-17.

Opium and
intoxicating
drugs

229. The total issues of opium within the Presidency were 37,381 seers against 36,468 in 1916-17, and though the number of shops was reduced from 658 to 650, the licence fees amounted to Rs. 10.02 lakhs against Rs. 8.10 lakhs in 1916-17. The quantity of hemp drugs consumed fell from 47,773 seers in 1916-17 to 47,181 seers and the number of retail licences from 418 to 413. The total revenue from hemp drugs was Rs. 12.23 lakhs against Rs. 11.05 lakhs in 1916-17. The average consumption per head was .074 tola of opium and .074 tola of ganja. The number of licences for possession and sale of cocaine and allied drugs was 125 against 121 in 1916-17, while the quantity consumed fell from 65 ounces 3 drams and 25 grains to 41 ounces and 24 grains.

Offences

230. There was a decrease of 5.4 per cent in the number of offences against the abkari law. Illicit traffic in opium and ganja continued, but endeavours were being made to check it by stricter control over shopkeepers and the French Government co-operated by the issue of an ordinance prohibiting the export of these articles from their territory.

CHAPTER VI

VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICES

DETAILS OF CENSUS

231. *Vide* pages 196 to 205 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1911-12.

BIRTHS AND DEATHS (1917)

The fifty-fourth annual report of the Sanitary Commissioner, Madras, 1917; Report on the working of the Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Act of 1886 in the Madras Presidency during 1917-18; Statistics of British India, Part V, Area, Population and Public Health]

232. Exclusive of Europeans and Eurasians who numbered nearly 1,000, the population of the Presidency according to the census of 1911 was 41,829,232. The population for which vital statistics were furnished continued to be 40,005,735, the excluded number consisting of the hill tribes of Ganjām and Vizagapatam and the inhabitants of the Laccadives and of the Native States of Banganapalle and Pudukkōttai. The estimated population of the year was 44,169,672 or about three and a half lakhs in excess of the previous year's figure. Owing to restrictions imposed during the year on emigration to certain colonies the total number of emigrants was only 253,153 against 356,518 in 1916. Immigrants totalled 227,180 against 270,398 in 1916, and the excess of emigrants over immigrants was thus only 25,973 against 86,120 in the previous year.

233. Vital statistics continued to be collected, tabulated and registered by much the same defective agency and under the same methods as in previous years. An experimental scheme which was considered to promise the best results was tried during the year under which the registration of these statistics was entrusted to special sub-assistant surgeons in typical areas. This had eventually to be abandoned owing to the dearth of medical subordinates. In rural areas registration of births and deaths was compulsory during the year in only 2,358 villages and 326 unions or in 9 villages and 16 unions more than in the previous year. The total number of births registered in the year was 1,295,078 or 6,519 less than in 1916, giving a birth-rate of 32.4 per mille as against 32.5 for 1916 on the census population of 1911. Compared with the average for the decennium ending with 1916 the birth-rate of the year showed a slight increase of 0.3 per mille against 0.6 in the previous year. Excluding Madras, which had a birth-rate of 45.4 per mille, the largest birth-rates were recorded in Chingleput (40.9) and Malabar (40.2) and the lowest in Ganjām (22.9) and Nellore (23.5). In fourteen districts there were increased birth-rates as compared with the previous year, the largest increase occurring in Malabar (+4.4) and the highest decrease in Cuddapah (-5.8). Compared with the decennial average Madras showed the largest increase (+7.2) and Ganjām the largest decrease (-6.3). The proportion of male to female births was the same as in 1916, viz., 104.4 to 100. Muhammadans, as usual, returned the highest birth-rates, 36.8 against 36.2 per mille in 1916. There was, on the other hand, a slight fall in the birth-rates among Hindus and Indian Christians which were 32.1 and 30.1,

Deaths

respectively, as against 32.4 and 30.2 in the previous year. The birth-rates in compulsory and non-compulsory rural areas were 33.3 and 31.6 per mille, respectively, as against 32.8 and 32.0 in the previous year. Calculated on the census population of 1911 the recorded birth-rate in rural towns was 27.3 per mille and the municipal birth-rate 38.9 as against 27.4 and 37.7, respectively, in 1916. During the year 1,049,545 deaths were registered against 875,013 in 1916. The death-rate was thus 4.3 per mille above the previous year's rate and 2.7 above the decennial average. The rise in mortality was conspicuous in Bellary, Anantapur and Kurnool. Deaths among males were, as usual, larger during the year than among females, the proportion being 103.0 to 100. Racially considered the death-rate among Muhammadans was the highest, being 28.0 per mille against 22.0 in the previous year. Hindus and Indian Christians returned 26.3 and 20.3 against 22.0 and 17.8, respectively, in 1916. The infantile death-rate for the districts was also high, being 194.0 per mille of registered births as against 182.8 in 1916 and a quinquennial average of 187.3. The rate of mortality among male infants was 202.3 and in that of female infants 185.3, the incidence of mortality among the former class being the heaviest in Madras (279.8) as in several previous years. The death-rates in rural towns and in municipalities were 23.9 and 37.2 per mille, respectively, as against 19.0 and 31.2 in 1916. The average infantile mortality in municipalities during the year was as high as 246.4 per mille of the registered births as against 230.9 in 1916. The high infantile death-rate throughout the Presidency is attributed to ignorance and to the general unhealthiness of the year. With a view to reducing this mortality in Madras City a special service of midwives to attend to labour cases was started for child welfare work amongst the poorer classes.

Chief
diseases
Cholera

234. Cholera was more severe during the year than in the two previous years, and prevailed in an epidemic form in several parts of the Presidency. The total number of deaths returned from the disease rose from 16,735 or 0.4 per mille to 58,939 or 1.5 per mille against the quinquennial average of 1.2. Kistna and Gōdāvari returned the largest death-rates. The incidence of mortality was heaviest between July and December 1917. An additional cholera party was sanctioned during the year to check the spread of the disease in rural areas, bringing the total number of such parties, to five. These parties, which form the nucleus of a future subordinate sanitary service, proved very useful as a life-saving agency, and measures for their better working and for improving the prospects of the sanitary inspectors attached to them were under consideration during the year. The mortality from the disease in towns which had a protected water-supply has been continuously on the decrease and certain experiments were made during the year, but not with much success, in providing such water-supply in villages. Deaths from small-pox numbered 34,958 or 0.9 per mille against 21,903 or 0.5 per mille in 1916. The largest death-rate, 2.0 per mille, was registered in South Arcot. The death-rates in rural tracts, rural towns and municipal areas were, respectively, 0.8, 0.7 and 1.4 per mille. These show that proper and systematic attention is not paid to vaccination in towns where it is compulsory. Plague was also more prevalent during the year than in several previous years. There were 24,708 deaths or 0.6 per mille from this disease against 11,498 or 0.3 per mille in 1916. Of the thirteen districts which reported indigenous cases the death-rate was largest in Bellary followed by Anantapur, Coimbatore, Salem and North Arcot. Deaths recorded among persons who have been previously inoculated with anti-plague vaccine was 89 against 85 in 1916. The number of registered deaths from fevers rose from 292,491 or 7.3 per mille to 321,902 or 8.0 per mille. The largest death-rate was recorded in Kurnool, and compared with the quinquennial average the highest increases occurred in that district and in Cuddapah. Itinerating dispensaries for the treatment of malaria were working in the Ceded districts among others but did not wholly produce satisfactory results. The question of improving their methods of working was

Small-pox

Plague

Fever

Dysentery
and diarrhoea
Other
diseases

aging attention. Anti-malarial measures on a somewhat large scale were undertaken successfully in Madras City and in Bellary town. Dysentery and diarrhoea accounted for 73,394 deaths or 1.8 per mille against 58,444 or 1.5 per mille in 1916. Madras, as usual, headed the list with a mortality rate of 8.1 per mille against 7.2 in 1916. There was also a slight rise in mortality from respiratory diseases. The number of deaths under the all-absorbing head of "all other causes" was 475,175 or 11.9 per mille against 419,731 or 10.5 per mille in 1916 forming nearly one-half of the total number of deaths registered in the Presidency. Particulars about the number could not be given owing to the want of suitable registrars of births and deaths who could properly diagnose diseases and correctly classify them.

235. Amongst Europeans and Eurasians there were 258 births, 109 in Madras City and 149 in the mufassal, and 152 deaths, of which 50 were registered in Madras. The common cause of death continued to be fever; diseases of the heart, diarrhoea and dysentery and pneumonia came next. The number of baptisms and burials for which returns were received from the Registrar-General of Births, Deaths and Marriages was 1,553 and 1, respectively, against 1,627 and 857 in 1916. The number of licences in force under the Indian Christian Marriage Act, 1872, was 726. The number of marriages contracted by European Christians was 449, almost the same number as in the previous year.

Europeans
and Eurasians
(1917-18)

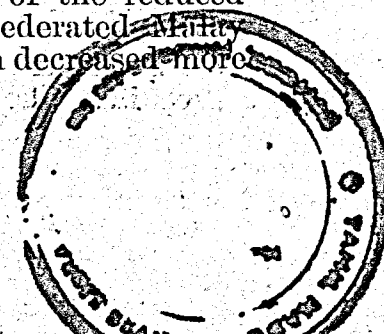
EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION (1917)

O. No. 497, Home (Miscellaneous), dated the 10th June 1918; Statistics of British India, Part V, Area, Population and Public Health—Emigration]

236. During the year recruitment for British Guiana was in operation till 10th March 1917. One joint shipment from Calcutta and Madras was made, the number of persons shipped at Madras being 315. None of these were detained in the depot for more than three months. The prescribed proportion of women to men was maintained. Indentured emigration to the West Indies and Fiji was prohibited from 1st April 1917. The management of the depot was good and the emigrants were well cared for. Two thousand four hundred and forty emigrants returned from the depot in five ships. As in previous years there was no emigration to the French Colonies.

Regulated

237. There was a fall of nearly 5,000 in the number of passengers to the Straits Settlements. This occurred principally in the case of the Tanjore district and was due to the restrictions imposed on the emigrants under the Defence of India (Passport) Rules, and to the fact that there was a smaller demand for labour on the rubber plantations in the Malay States. The number of passengers to Burma and Ceylon dropped by more than 5,000 and 81,500, respectively, but it is impossible to distinguish emigrants who go to stay from other visitors. The decrease in the case of Burma could be ascribed partly to the smaller number of vessels plying to Rangoon as a result of the war and in that of Ceylon to the restrictions imposed under the Defence of India (Passport) Rules and to the discontinuance of the regular service between Tuticorin and Colombo. The number of persons recorded as having taken passages to ports outside the Presidency but within British India was 6,646 against 7,704 in the previous year, the great majority as usual being passengers from South India to Bombay coast ports. The number of persons who returned from Burma declined with the number who went across, much of this migration being seasonal. The arrivals from the Straits Settlements increased by nearly 6,000, and this was a further result of the reduced demand for coolies in the rubber plantations of the Federated Malay States. The number of passengers who came from Ceylon decreased more than 10,000 less in proportion to the number who went there.

Non-regu-
lated

MEDICAL RELIEF (1917)

[Annual Returns of the Civil Hospitals and Dispensaries in the Madras Presidency for the year 1917; Statistics of British India, Part V, Area, Population and Public Health—Hospitals]

General

238. As in the previous year the war threw considerable additional strain on all the officers of the department, superior and subordinate, and this was cheerfully borne and another year of successful work accomplished. Including two retired officers there were only 18 officers of the Indian Medical Service available for charge of districts or of special institutions. Two of these proceeded on leave and no less than twelve were attached to medical institutions in Madras City. One district charge was in the hands of a private medical practitioner and a number of districts and civil surgeoncies were held by civil surgeons and civil assistant surgeons. As many as 37 third-grade and 72 fourth-grade permanent and temporary sub-assistant surgeons were in independent charge of dispensaries. Owing to the great dearth of medical subordinates due to military demands several dispensaries had to be closed throughout the year. It was notwithstanding possible to keep the total number of institutions at much the same figure as in the previous year, while the volume and quality of the relief showed a decided advance.

Institutions

239. There were 709 medical institutions open to the public at the end of the previous year and as a result of several changes which took place during 1917, 707 hospitals and dispensaries were actually working at its close, of which 40 were women and children's institutions. Sixteen public hospitals were maintained by the State including one for women and children. Local funds maintained 510 dispensaries, 21 of which were for women and children. Eighty institutions were maintained by private agencies, 27 of which received State aid. Eighteen of these were maintained for women and children. Forty-eight were railway hospitals and the remaining 53 were State institutions maintained for the benefit of special departments, of which no less than 42 were for the Police. The Bellary headquarters hospital was taken over by the Government from the municipality in December 1917 and arrangements were made for the assumption of Government control over 16 other headquarters hospitals in the Presidency, so that these institutions may be maintained in a greater state of efficiency than has previously been the case under municipal control. Some of these hospitals will, in due course, become centres of clinical instruction for new medical schools which the Government contemplate establishing in many parts of the Presidency.

Relief

240. At the State-public, local fund and private-aided institutions, the total number of patients treated rose by nearly 61,000 to 7,623,616. The number of in-patients treated was 107,370 or 9,000 in excess of the preceding year's figure, of whom 18,486 were in the hospitals for women and children. The number of beds available rose by 99 to 3,642 for men and by 106 to 2,948 for women and children. Of the in-patients 63.44 per cent were returned as cured. The number who died was 4,618 giving a death-rate of 4.30 per cent as against 4.11 per cent in 1916. Since the outbreak of the war there has been a steady decline in the number of patients treated in both the in-patient and out-patient departments of the Government General Hospital, Madras. It is not possible to ascribe this to any certain cause and the subject was under investigation by the Surgeon-General. There was hardly any variation from previous years in the proportion of the different races to the total number treated. On the other hand, there was considerable variation in the sex distribution in each class. The total number of operations performed on 298,551 patients during the year was 304,773, showing an increase of 9,031 operations which occurred mainly under minor operations. The number of real and serious operations (major) performed was 17,202. The death-rate among the patients operated upon was the same as in the previous year, viz., 0.21 per cent, and no less than 92.77 per cent were cured. In private non-aided institutions,

there was a satisfactory increase both in the number of in-door and out-door patients treated in spite of the closure of two hospitals. In State special and railway dispensaries there was a considerable fall in the number of out-patients. Among the in-patients at the public and aided institutions the largest number of admissions was for systematic diseases (53,689); next came labour cases (45,223) and infective diseases (27,281). The principal diseases treated at the out-patient department, in the order of greatest prevalence, were those of the skin and of the digestive system. In police and railway hospitals malarial fever and digestive troubles contributed the largest number of both in-door and out-door patients. Of small-pox patients treated in the hospitals no death occurred among those that were re-vaccinated, and the rate of mortality clearly showed the necessity not only for primary vaccination but also the importance of revaccination a few years after the primary vaccination.

241. Under receipts the Government contributed Rs. 8.53 lakhs and the contributions from local funds increased by Rs. 0.83 lakh to Rs. 13.97 lakhs, while those from municipalities decreased by Rs. 0.24 lakh to Rs. 6.84 lakhs. Public subscriptions rose by Rs. 0.27 lakh to Rs. 1.04 lakhs and miscellaneous receipts amounted to Rs. 1.37 lakhs or an increase of Rs. 0.24 lakh. There was thus a very satisfactory net increase of Rs. 1.30 lakhs under receipts which accrued chiefly from subscriptions. The entire expenditure of the hospitals and dispensaries rose by Rs. 11.63 lakhs to Rs. 32.25 lakhs. Excluding the cost of buildings, investments and diets, the daily cost per patient treated amounted to As. 5-1 and the average daily cost per diet was As. 3-5.

242. The eighty-third session of the college commenced on the 3rd July 1917 with a strength of 473 students as against 448 in the previous year and terminated on the 27th March 1918. The number of students who were attending the University classes was 292, of whom 15 were women students. The percentage of passes at all the University examinations fell from 63 to 52.5. With the special sanction of Government 21 military pupils, or five more than the number fixed, were admitted into the apothecary department during the year. There was a fall in the number of students who sought admission during the year from other provinces, foreign Governments and Native States in view of the restrictions placed by Government on the admission of such students. Of the 35 women students, 20 were Indian Christians, 10 Europeans and Anglo-Indians, four non-Brahmans and one Brahman. Twenty-five were Dufferin scholars stipended by the Government and two by the Countess of Dufferin Fund. The results attained by the female pupils were satisfactory. A new Physics and Biology room was completed during the year and occupied at the beginning of the autumn session. The College maintained its tradition in the domain of sport. Its teams entered for the various tournaments and won the Madras Cricket Club hockey cup, the Wilson football cup, the Inter-Collegiate hockey cup and the cup for quarter mile in the Regimental sports (Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway), Perambur. The lady students won the Young Women's Christian Association tennis trophy.

243. In all the four medical schools at Rāyapuram, Tanjore, Vizagapatam and Calicut, there were 662 pupils as against 554 in the previous year. The number of private pupils rose from 216 to 247. For the final Board examinations, in March and September 1918, for the diploma of Licensed Medical Practitioners 95 pupils appeared from the Rāyapuram, Tanjore and Vizagapatam schools as against 102 in the previous year. The number of passes fell from 89 to 88. In view of the proposed transfer of the Calicut medical school to Coimbatore, the Government have sanctioned the construction of medical school buildings at Coimbatore at an approximate cost of Rs. 2.16 lakhs. The construction of a new medical school at Tanjore at an approximate cost of Rs. 2 lakhs has also been sanctioned and the foundation stone was laid in February 1918. Plans and estimates for a hostel for the Tanjore medical students were under preparation.

during the year. Improvements were made to the temporary medical school buildings at Vizagapatam. One hostel block was in course of construction at Rāyapuram and sanction has been accorded to the construction of two hostel and kitchen blocks in Royapettah for the use of pupils of the Rāyapuram medical school. Proposals have also been sanctioned for the opening of a new medical school for women in Madras; the site has been selected and plans and estimates have been called for. Some advance has thus been made towards meeting the increasing demand for medical education.

THE PASTEUR INSTITUTE, COONOR

(1ST MARCH 1917 TO 28TH FEBRUARY 1918)

244. A greatly increased number of persons came for treatment during the year, the eleventh since the opening of the Institute. The number rose from 1,707 to 2,396, the highest figure on record—higher than that at Kasauli in its eleventh year. Asiatics numbered 2,134 against 1,546 in the previous year and Europeans 262 against 161. Of the total number of patients, three died during treatment and nine within fifteen days from date of completion of treatment. Nineteen died at later dates and are classed as failures, giving a rate of 79 per cent against 87 per cent in the previous year. Two hundred and twenty-three persons came for advice, but it was found on inquiry that they had run no risk of infection. They were therefore not treated. At the close of the year 107 persons remained under treatment. The net receipts excluding refunds of advances amounted to Rs. 32,060 and the net payments to Rs. 23,730. The expenditure during the year exceeded that of the previous year by Rs. 8,000 and the excess was due to the prevailing high prices, to payments for delayed European stores and to the outlay on buildings.

LUNATIC ASYLUMS (1917)

[G.O. No. 227, Local and Municipal (Medical), dated the 22nd May 1918; Statistics of British India, Part V, Area, Population and Public Health—Lunatic Asylums]

245. In the three asylums (Madras, Calicut and Vizagapatam) there was accommodation during the year for 990 lunatics as against 978 in 1916. The total population in all the asylums on the last day of the year rose slightly from 825 to 845 and the daily average strength increased correspondingly from 833 (625 males and 208 females) to 852 (640 males and 212 females). There has been a steady increase in the number of lunatics admitted from year to year, the increase occurring mainly among civil male lunatics. In 1917 the admissions numbered 300 (268 males and 32 females) as against 276 (222 males and 54 females) in 1916. There was a falling off (from 55 to 39) in the number of criminals admitted. Thirty-three criminals were discharged as against 28 in the previous year. The Madras Asylum received during the year 37 military insanes from overseas. The daily average sick for the three asylums rose from 79.49 to 82.36, but there was a satisfactory fall, from 85 to 77, in the total number of deaths, due largely to the adoption of precautionary measures against the spread of dysentery. The death-rate was 6.84 per cent of the total population as against 7.73 per cent in the previous year. The percentage of cured to the daily average strength rose from 13.69 to 15.49. Several additions were made during the year to the asylum buildings at Madras and Calicut and improvements to the Vizagapatam buildings were in progress. The total expenditure on the three asylums increased from Rs. 1.99 lakhs in 1916 to Rs. 2.05 lakhs. There was a slight, but no marked, increase in receipts.

SANITATION (1917)

[Annual Reports of the Sanitary Board, Sanitary Commissioner and Sanitary Engineer for 1917]

246. The constitution and personnel of the Sanitary Board remained the same as in the previous year. As the result of a conference which was held in March 1917 for a detailed discussion of type designs, a revised list of such designs was issued and circulated omitting those which served no useful purpose. The limit up to which local boards are competent to prepare plans and estimates for all sanitary works was raised from Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 25,000. The maximum up to which the Sanitary Engineer may pass finally plans and estimates for local board and municipal sanitary works in cases in which he is in agreement with the Sanitary Commissioner was also raised from Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 20,000. During the year the Sanitary Board issued a type design for casualty ward and revised designs for latrine and out-patient dispensary. Thirty sanitary schemes were examined during the year. Plans and estimates for 19 of them were approved and the remaining schemes were returned with remarks. Seventeen of the former, estimated to cost Rs. 28.88 lakhs, related to municipalities and two estimated to cost Rs. 0.72 lakh to local boards.

247. Twenty-six municipal towns had the benefit of a protected water-supply as in the previous year. In respect of drainage also, conditions remained practically the same as in 1916. Ootacamund was the only mufassal municipality which possessed a completed drainage scheme, and matured schemes were under execution in Madura and Vellore. Progress in the provision of protected water-supplies and comprehensive drainage schemes was much hampered by war conditions, but as usual considerable minor works of improvements to water-supply and drainage were carried out during the year. First-class health officers continued in the municipalities of Madura and Trichinopoly, but it is regrettable that second-class officers were employed only in Calicut and Cocanada, out of the eight municipalities for which such officers had been sanctioned. Compared with the previous year there was an increase, in the aggregate, under all grades of the subordinate sanitary staff employed, except sweepers for rubbish removal, which showed a slight falling off in numbers. The conservancy plant improved not only in quantity but also in quality. Serious deficiencies in the staff and plant were however still noticeable in several municipalities including some of the larger and wealthier ones. There was a decrease in public latrine accommodation, the number being 1,798 against 1,828 in 1916. It is satisfactory to note that this was due to the diminution in the number of mud-walled and tatty enclosures. A design for a public latrine was issued during the year in supersession of all previous designs. There were 153,805 private latrines against 148,073 in 1916; and of these 133,107 were cleaned by municipal agency and the private scavenging system against 130,889 in the previous year. There was no change in the system of rubbish and night-soil disposal and sewage farming made no advance. The allotment for sanitation amounted to Rs. 27.30 lakhs or 42 per cent of the income, of which a sum of Rs. 18.63 lakhs or 68.2 per cent was spent during the nine months ending with the 31st December 1917. The expenditure on water-supply aggregated Rs. 3.32 lakhs. No major sanitary works of water-supply or drainage were completed or opened by District Boards during the year. Water-supply schemes were under execution in two towns and were under investigation in no less than twelve unions. In rural areas generally water-supply and drainage continued defective. As regards conservancy, out of an aggregate of 52,292 villages, 1,306 unions and other villages were conserved against 1,207 in 1916. The total sum assigned for sanitation was Rs. 11.88 lakhs against Rs. 13.06 lakhs in the previous year, and of this 50.5 per cent was expended during the nine months ending with the 31st December 1917.

Sanitary Board

Sanitary Commissioner

District boards

248. Owing to war conditions difficulty was felt in procuring the materials required for water-supply schemes and drainage works under construction. Two drainage works and 18 water-works were under execution by the Public Works Department and by the Sanitary Engineer. Five water-supply schemes and one drainage scheme were drawn up by the Deputy Sanitary Engineers. Plans and estimates for two water-supply schemes and two drainage schemes were finally completed and submitted. One of the former was returned by the Sanitary Board for further test of the quality of the water and the other was not taken up pending the provision of funds by the municipal council. One hundred and forty-six estimates for sanitary works amounting to Rs. 7.30 lakhs received from local bodies were sanctioned, and the Deputy Sanitary Engineers accorded sanction to thirteen estimates amounting to Rs. 11,045. In regard to the efficient maintenance of water-works every endeavour was made to accelerate the introduction of meters for house connexions in spite of their prohibitive cost and the difficulty in obtaining them.

VACCINATION (1917-18)

[Annual Report on Vaccination in the Madras Presidency and on the work of the Vaccine Section of the King Institute of Preventive Medicine, Guindy, for the year 1917-18; Statistics of British India, Part V, Area, Population and Public Health—Vaccination]

249. The method of preparing vaccine at the King Institute, Guindy, was the same as in the previous year. Lanolinized vaccine was the general supply made to local bodies and glycerinated vaccine was supplied to Madras City and Colombo as in previous years. The total number of vaccine operations performed during the year was 1,707,300 or 0.43 per cent more than in 1916-17. There was a fall under primary vaccination, but re-vaccination which numbered 274,900 showed an increase of 25.7 per cent over the previous year's figure. The number of deaths in the Presidency from smallpox rose by nearly 60 per cent to 35,000 and the increase in vaccine operations occurred largely in some of the districts where the disease was epidemic during the year. The Government have commended to all district boards the desirability of further extending the provisions of the Madras Local Boards Act, 1884, in regard to compulsory vaccination. The general results of the year were on the whole unsatisfactory, the outstanding features being a fall in the percentage of successful operations and in the number of children under one year of age successfully vaccinated. In the case of primary and secondary vaccination the reported percentage of success again dropped from 86.7 to 83.4 and in the case of revaccination it was 70.8 against 73.4 in the previous year. The total number of successful operations per mille of the population was 31.2 for the Presidency as a whole against 32.8 in the previous year. The number of children successfully vaccinated fell from 589,000 to 550,400. The re-organization of the vaccination staff has been sanctioned and the supervising staff has been strengthened; and it is hoped that more satisfactory results will be achieved in future years. The total cost of the department was Rs. 3.45 lakhs, while the net cost of the lymph was Rs. 0.43 lakh. The average cost of each successful case rose from As. 4-1 to As. 4-3.

CHAPTER VII

INSTRUCTION

GENERAL SYSTEM OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

250. *Vide* pages 213 to 228 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1911-12.

EDUCATION (1917-18)

[Report on Public Instruction in the Madras Presidency for the year 1917-18; Statistics of British India, Part VII, Educational]

251. The permanent retention of the Queen Mary High School, Vizagapatam, and of the Ceded Districts College, Anantapur, was sanctioned during the year. The subordinate inspecting agency was strengthened by the appointment of 24 personal assistants to Inspectors, Assistant Inspectors and Inspectresses, so as to cope with the increasing work of inspection pending the issue of final orders on the scheme for the general reorganization of this agency. Certain important changes were made in the Madras Educational Rules, reprinted during the year, of which mention may be made of those directing the subdivision of secondary schools into high and middle schools, requiring a teacher for every forty pupils instead of fifty in elementary schools, prescribing a form of visitors' book to be kept in elementary schools and abolishing the Final Examination for Teachers' Certificates. Provision was made in the Grant-in-Aid Code for sanctioning grants towards the rent of buildings to be used as hostels and rules were sanctioned for the designing and construction of school buildings. The scale of grants admissible to trained teachers of all grades in aided elementary schools was raised. Certain minor changes were also made in the Code of Regulations for European Schools.

252. There was an increase of 1,165 in the number of public institutions and of 41,907 in their strength, representing respectively 3.7 and 2.7 per cent against 2.6 and 2.8 in the previous year. Taking institutions of all classes and grades together there was an increase of 1.9 per cent in number and 2.1 per cent in strength against 2.7 and 2.8 per cent respectively in the previous year. The proportion of male and female scholars to the respective population also increased further from 6.5 and 1.5 per cent to 6.6 and 1.6 per cent respectively. The increase was shared by all the four main classes of the community. The percentage of scholars under instruction to the total population was 4.1.

253. The total expenditure on education rose from nearly Rs. 217 lakhs to about Rs. 226.5 lakhs, towards which public funds contributed 52 per cent and private funds 48 per cent as in the previous year. Increases occurred under Provincial funds (Rs. 19 lakhs), fees (Rs. 1½ lakhs) and private sources (Rs. 4 lakhs). The total direct expenditure rose by Rs. 4 lakhs to nearly Rs. 158 lakhs. Expenditure on elementary and secondary education increased each by Rs. 2 lakhs and that on special education

by one lakh. Provincial subsidy sanctioned during the year to local bodies, both recurring and non-recurring, rose by nearly Rs. 9 lakhs to Rs. 27.5 lakhs. The total indirect expenditure increased from Rs. 63 lakhs to about Rs. 69 lakhs. Public funds contributed Rs. 2 lakhs to the increase and private sources Rs. 4 lakhs. Notable increases occurred under buildings and furniture (Rs. 4 lakhs) and under hostel (boarding) charges (over half a lakh). The additional recurring grant of Rs. 4 lakhs made available during the year was utilized mainly for raising the minimum pay of teachers in elementary schools and for giving increased grants to aided schools. The Imperial recurring grants aggregated Rs. 21.70 lakhs, which was almost fully spent during the year. Teaching and other recurring grants-in-aid to institutions under private management increased by more than Rs. 2½ lakhs.

University
and collegi-
ate educa-
tion

254. In considering the recommendations of the Royal Commission on the Public Services on matters falling within the sphere of the University, the Senate passed a resolution declaring that the creation of Research Professoriates to be attached to the Universities was necessary and desirable and that inducements should be offered to graduates of any of the Indian Universities to go to other countries for research work or study. In consequence of certain changes made in the regulations relating to the Oriental titles examinations, the institution of a departmental examination in Sanskrit, under the control of the Commissioner for Government examinations, was approved. Certain additions to the courses of study and examinations for degrees in science were sanctioned. Special University lectures were delivered during the year by Professor Oliver Elton of the University of Liverpool and Dr. P. C. Ray of Calcutta. Further affiliation was granted to the American Mission College, Madura, in group (iii) and to the Ceded Districts College, Anantapur, in group (i) of the Intermediate courses and also to the Maharaja's College, Vizianagram, in group (ii-A) and to the Queen Mary's College, Madras, in group (v) of the B.A. Pass courses. The number of first and second grade colleges, both for men and women, remained the same as in the preceding year, viz., 14 and 20, respectively; the number of students in the former rose by 282, while that in the latter fell by 17. Of the 7,989 students on the rolls of arts colleges, 383 were undergoing the B.A. (Honours) course. In all these institutions prominence was given to the tutorial system, which is reported to have worked satisfactorily during the year. The strength of all the four professional colleges, including the Training College, Rajahmundry, which was opened in July 1917, rose by about 100 to 1,238. All these institutions continued to do efficient work during the year. An L.T. class was at work in connexion with the St. Joseph's College, Trichinopoly, the cost of which was met from Provincial funds. Arrangements were made in the Law College for the first time for holding classes for the benefit of the students preparing for the M.L. Degree examination.

Colleges

Secondary
education

255. Public secondary schools for boys increased in number from 345 to 355 and rose in strength by nearly 4,200, or 3.05 per cent, to 140,306. The number of teachers employed in these schools rose by 175, or 3.09 per cent, to 5,830. Efforts were made to increase the number of trained teachers. There was a slight increase in the number of pupils who sat for the Public examination under the Secondary School-leaving Certificate scheme. Certain changes in this scheme were introduced during the year regarding the B group of subjects, the courses in vernacular languages and the position of Sanskrit. The total direct expenditure on secondary schools rose by Rs. 1 lakh to nearly Rs. 39 lakhs, to which public funds contributed 10 per cent, fees 76 per cent, and private funds 14 per cent, as against 11, 74 and 15 respectively in the previous year. Non-recurring expenditure on school and hostel buildings and equipment amounted to Rs. 3.75 lakhs. The average cost of educating each student was Rs. 27-12-0 and the average fee paid was Rs. 21, the corresponding figures for the previous year being Rs. 28-1-4 and Rs. 20-12-0 respectively.

Elementary
education

256. The number of public elementary schools for boys rose by 981, or 3.39 per cent, to 29,848 and the number of pupils attending these schools by 27,843, or 2.26 per cent, to 1,259,041. The percentage of male pupils to male population was 5.3 against 5.2 in the previous year. Schools with standards above the fifth showed a considerable increase (30.87 per cent), those with standards below the fifth increased only by 3.6 per cent, while those with standards up to and including the fifth decreased by 0.21 per cent. This is ascribed to the fact that higher standards were opened in a number of schools wherein previously the fifth was the highest. Municipal and board schools alone accounted for 81.52 per cent of the net increase in the number of schools with standards above the fifth and for 26.86 per cent of that in schools with standards below the fifth. There was an increase of 3.75 per cent in the number of teachers employed in public elementary schools and the percentage of trained teachers to the total number rose from 33 to 35. About 600 buildings were constructed for the accommodation of public elementary schools. The total expenditure rose from Rs. 58.36 lakhs to Rs. 60.10 lakhs, the proportion of contributions to it remaining much the same as in the previous year, viz., 73 per cent by public funds, 12 per cent by fees and 15 per cent by subscriptions and other sources. The average cost per pupil fell from Rs. 4-13-0 to Rs. 4-11-3. It was highest (Rs. 12-8-0) in a Government school (mostly in Agency tracts). The proportion of the expenditure which was met from fees remained the same as in the previous year in all classes of schools.

257. There was an increase in the total number and strength of schools for special education. The number of training schools for masters rose by 6 to 62 and their strength by 286 to 4,226. There was a slight accession also to the number and strength of training schools for mistresses, which stood at 24 and 834 respectively. Special facilities were provided for the training of teachers of the secondary grade by attaching secondary training classes to certain colleges and secondary schools, both under public and private management. The question of starting additional training schools both for masters and mistresses was under contemplation. Including the industrial and other technical schools under the control of the Director of Industries, the total number of pupils receiving instruction in technical or industrial subjects was 5,063, of whom 1,421 were pursuing art education, 534 technical education in engineering subjects and telegraphy, 1,764 industrial education (including agriculture) and 1,344 commercial education.

Special
education
Training
schoolsTechnical
and indus-
trial schools

258. There was a further increase of 153 in the number and of about 7,700 in the strength of non-European schools for girls, while the total number of girls under instruction including those in schools not solely intended for them showed an advance of about 15,000. The strength of the three arts colleges for women rose from 150 to nearly 200, of whom over one-half were reading in the Queen Mary's College for Women, Madras, in which the senior B.A. class was opened during the year. There were in addition 15 female students reading in non-European colleges for men. The number of public secondary schools for girls fell by one to 38, and the strength by 121 to about 8,000. Elementary schools for girls rose by 168 in number, of which 124 were managed by local and municipal bodies, and by about 9,100 in strength. In all classes of public institutions the total number of girls in the elementary stage of instruction showed an increase of about 16,000 or 6 per cent. In the elementary schools for girls 5,819 teachers were employed, of whom 58 per cent were trained. Arrangements were made for the delivery of lectures on hygiene and first aid in some secondary schools for girls and for the inspection by a qualified lady doctor of the health of the inmates of the Brahman Widows' Home, Triplicane, and the hostel attached to the Queen Mary's College for Women. The expenditure in secondary and elementary schools for girls rose from Rs. 13.90 lakhs to Rs. 14.48 lakhs, towards which public funds contributed 63 per cent against 62 in the previous year, fees 7 per cent against 6 and other sources 30 per cent against 32.

Female
education

European
education

259. Including two industrial schools under the control of the Director of Industries, the total number of institutions intended for Europeans rose by one to 91 and the number receiving instruction increased by over 300 to 8,732. There was a decrease from 670 to 661 in the number of teachers employed in the schools, but the number of those who held diplomas or professional certificates rose from 473 to 479. The establishment of a Training College for the domiciled community in connexion with the Lawrence Memorial School, Ootacamund, was approved during the year and details were under consideration. Four teachers from this Presidency were undergoing training in the Government Training Class, Sanawar. Recurring grants provided from the Imperial allotment for the education of the domiciled community were fully spent during the year. Except in the case of girls in the High school and the Primary school examinations, the results of the European school examinations showed an improvement, the percentage of passes being over 50. The majority of failures was, as usual, in English. The total expenditure on European institutions rose by Rs. 0.60 lakh to Rs. 15.15 lakhs, towards which public funds contributed 37 per cent against 41 in the previous year, fees 16 per cent against 18 and private funds 47 per cent against 41.

Education of
Muham-
madans

260. The number of institutions chiefly intended for Muhammadans rose by 43 to 2,711 and their strength by over 2,200 to 144,835. Public elementary schools for boys chiefly contributed to this general advance. There was an increase, from 912 to 923, in the total number of institutions managed by Government and local and municipal boards, with an accession also to their strength. There was a slight fall in the number of Muhammadan students in arts colleges, while pupils in secondary schools for non-Europeans rose by 355 to 7,443. Of the public schools intended for Muhammadans 168 were elementary schools for girls attended by about 10,000 pupils. There were 277 students under training in the six training schools for masters. The number of institutions intended for Mappillas rose from 835 to 867 with an increase of about 3,100 in their strength. The expenditure on Muhammadan and Mappilla schools rose by Rs. 0.10 lakh to Rs. 8.30 lakhs, towards which public funds contributed 71 per cent against 68 in the previous year, fees 8 per cent against 10 and private funds 21 per cent against 22. A sum of Rs. 27,000 was spent during the year out of the recurring Imperial grant of Rs. 30,000.

Education of
backward
classes and
others

Panchamas.

Aboriginal
and Hill
tribesBlind and
deaf mutes

261. The number of institutions intended for Panchamas rose by 123 to 5,814 and their strength by about 6,900 to 165,467. The increase was confined almost entirely to public elementary schools for boys. The total number of Panchama pupils in the different stages of instruction in all classes of public institutions also increased by about 70 to 120,678, of whom 20,220 were girls. The number of schools chiefly intended for the hill tribes of the Agency tracts was 267 and they were attended by 8,691 pupils, of whom 3,795 belonged to the aboriginal classes. The total number of such pupils in all classes of schools in these tracts rose from 4,924 to 5,283. The schools at Palamcottah for the blind and deaf mutes contained 72 boys and 54 girls and continued to do good work. The school at Madras was attended by 37 pupils (15 boys and 22 girls), five of whom appeared for the examination in drawing, four for the elementary and one for the intermediate grade, and all passed. The mission school for the blind at Rentachintala was attended by 7 boys and 8 girls.

Private
institutions

262. The total number and strength of private institutions, recognized and unrecognized, declined, the former by 9.3 per cent and the latter by 5.0 per cent, though the number and strength of recognized institutions increased by 18.7 per cent and 26.7 per cent, respectively.

Hostels

263. The number of hostels or boarding-houses rose from 459 to 471, the increase occurring entirely under hostels for boys, which numbered 324 during the year. The number of boarders rose by about 1,500 to 24,252.

REFORMATORY SCHOOL, CHINGLEPUT (1917)

[Statistics of British India, Part VI, Administrative and Judicial—Jails]

264. Including six boys under licence, the average strength during the year was 249, or one short of the accommodation available, against 254 in the previous year. The number of admissions was 57, consisting of 35 boys from Tamil districts, 15 from Telugu districts, three from Malabar and one each from Cochin, Coorg, Ujjain and Poona. There were none from Cuddapah, South Kanara, Nellore, the Nilgiris and Rāmñād. Twenty-six were habituals, and the rest casuals. Sixteen of the latter committed serious offences, while the others were fit admissions as they were outside proper parental control and would in time become habituals. The number of pupils discharged in the ordinary course was 51. Three pupils who were physically unfit were discharged under a special order of Government, one escaped and one died. Prior to admission 181 inmates, or 72 per cent, committed theft owing to the conditions under which they lived. Strong criminal traits pointing to inherited mental characteristics accounted for the remaining 28 per cent of the juvenile delinquency, which consisted mostly of cases of house-breaking and theft. The Government have sanctioned a proposal made by the Department of Fisheries to stock the moat with larvicidal fish and to use the water for the rearing of valuable food fish. The work was taken in hand during the year and there was a marked drop, from 150 to 49, in cases of malaria which prevailed during the year. The admissions into hospital, however, slightly increased from 314 to 317 owing to the break-out of cholera, measles and chicken-pox. There was a satisfactory rise in the average number of pupils who gained weight during the year and a corresponding fall in the number of those who lost weight. The conduct of the boys improved and offences decreased from 41 to 28. There was also a slight improvement in the percentage of boys not punished at all and of those who were punished only once. The mark system continued to work satisfactorily and the total average annual earnings rose by over one anna per pupil. Part of the boys' savings to the extent of Rs. 775 was invested in Post Office certificates and the balance in the Postal Savings Bank and the anticipated interest will be paid to the boys as they are discharged. Religious and moral instruction was imparted by outsiders belonging to the pupils respective persuasions. The boys continued to take a keen interest in games. The school went out on a ten days' camp to Channampet, where the zamindar made all arrangements for their comfort. Of the 26 pupils examined for the elementary school leaving certificate, nine secured "good" certificates and eight "fair" certificates. The carpentry department was fully occupied throughout the year with outside orders and the articles manufactured fetched a ready sale. The metal work department confined its work to copper and brass, owing to want of aluminium sheets, and the tailoring and garden classes continued to look after the school building and the needs of its inmates. Forty candidates appeared for the Government Technical Examinations and 37 passed, 17 being placed in the first class. The articles turned out in the school continued to receive a considerable measure of public appreciation and the experts of the Industrial departments, who examined the pupils, have testified to the high standard of efficiency maintained by them. From a financial point of view, all the industries were worked successfully, the net profit realized, excluding the cost of supervision, being Rs. 2,485. Of the 56 pupils discharged during the year, 44 or 80 per cent obtained employment and 37 of these were following their trade. During the year no less than 27 boys enlisted in the army and were undergoing training. Deducting the sale-proceeds the net expenditure was Rs. 41,072 against Rs. 41,527 in 1916.

MISCELLANEOUS (1917-18)

Government
examina-
tions

265. All the usual examinations were held during the year except the competitive examination for the grade of Indian Military pupil for which the number of applications received was small. The special examination under the Secondary School-leaving Certificate Board for the benefit of teachers who failed in the Matriculation or the Upper Secondary examination and were desirous of being admitted for secondary grade training was held at 52 centres. Seventy candidates registered their names and sixty-nine of them (including a female) appeared. The total number of individual candidates registered for the three grades of technical examinations was 10,838. There was an increase in the number of candidates who registered for the advanced grade. The total number of subject candidates examined was 13,438, of whom 5,745 were successful. The results were better than those of the previous year in the case of the advanced grade. Six of the subject candidates for the advanced, 124 for the intermediate and 284 for the elementary grade were female candidates of whom 5, 93 and 176 respectively, were successful. There were 100 vacancies for the grade of civil medical pupil and the number of applications for admission to the competitive examination for this grade was 226, all of which were from holders of secondary school-leaving certificates. The number of centres for the special tests was increased from 20 to 25 so that each district might have a centre. For these tests 3,635 candidates in all registered their names, 2,898 presented themselves for examination and 1,612 passed. The percentage of success in the new Account test, which was held for the first time during the year, rose from 41 to 77. The receipts amounted to Rs. 1.99 lakhs and the expenditure to Rs. 1.74 lakhs.

Special tests

Finance

Lawrence
Memorial
School
(1917)

266. The number of pupils on the rolls of the Lawrence Memorial School on the last day of the year was 480 (310 boys and 170 girls) or an increase of eleven over that of the previous year. Twenty-five of these (15 boys and 10 girls) were day-scholars. The number of children who were awaiting admission was 297, of whom 115 boys and 116 girls were the children of British soldiers, including soldiers still in service. Satisfactory progress was made by the pupils, and in his inspection of the school during the year the Inspector of European and Training Schools recorded the opinion that the institution showed improvement in several directions. Since the war eight members of the staff and twenty-four boys have joined the army direct from the school. In addition a considerable number who left school for other appointments have since gone on service. Communications have been received from more than 180 of such old boys at the front, and special inquiries have been received by the school authorities from time to time for boys suitable for appointments as cadets and apprentices for the Navy, Flying Corps and other branches of the Army service. Including the opening balance of the previous year the total receipts amounted to a little over Rs. 3 lakhs and the expenditure to nearly Rs. 2.06 lakhs. The staff and pupils have contributed over Rs. 8,000 to the War funds and the girls have made over 4,000 articles of clothing for soldiers such as shirts and socks.

School of
Arts,
Madras

267. On the 31st March 1918 there were 303 pupils on the rolls, of whom 23 were females. The average attendance (208) was almost the same as in the previous year. There was a slight increase (from 44.9 to 45.3) in the percentage of artisan pupils in the school. The number of scholarships tenable rose from 92 to 95. Owing to the scarcity of wool there was some difficulty in employing the carpet weavers to the best advantage. The other departments worked satisfactorily. A few lads are sent to the school every year from the Reformatory School, Chingleput, on their release. They are trained as carpenters or metal workers and the experiment is reported to have been so far very encouraging. Many new additions were made to the objects in the museum which increases in usefulness year by year. Of 223 pupils who went up for the technical examinations, 150 were successful.

LITERARY SOCIETIES

268. *Vide* pages 239 to 241 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1911-12.

LITERATURE AND THE PRESS (1917-18)

[Statistics of British India, Part VII—Educational]

269. The Connemara Public Library continued to attract a large number of readers, the actual number (22,782) of visitors being slightly higher than in the previous year. Six hundred and fifty standard works, or over 500 more than in the preceding year, were added to the library. As usual dictionaries continued to be in greatest request, belles lettres and works on history coming next. At the University Library the number of readers rose from 8,402 to 10,224, the number of volumes consulted being 14,103 as against 11,213 in the previous year. One hundred and seventy-three University readers as against 133 in 1916-17 claimed the privilege of taking books on loan from the library against a deposit of Rs. 20, the number of volumes consulted by them being 4,053 as against 3,778 in the preceding year. The preparation of a subject index of all the books in the library was taken on hand. The number of manuscripts added to the Oriental Manuscripts Library during the year was 679 as against 698 in 1916-17. The search party after completing the examination and valuation of books in the Tanjore Palace Library as required by Government proceeded in two sections, one to the Northern districts, namely, Kistna, Ganjam and Vizagapatam, and the other to Malabar for the acquisition and collection of manuscripts. Transcripts of the manuscripts in Malabar had to be made and added to the library as the owners were unwilling to part with the originals. The number of visitors to the library and the works consulted rose from 1,462 and 3,183 to 2,212 and 4,517 respectively. As usual works on religion and poetry were those which were consulted most.

Public
libraries
Connemara
Public
LibraryUniversity
LibraryThe Oriental
Manuscripts
Library

270. There were 217 newspapers at the end of the year as against 211 at the close of 1916. The attitude of the press towards the war was generally satisfactory, but in local politics violence of language became even commoner than before. The political unrest and the acrimonious Home Rule agitation caused a general recovery in the circulation of the journals published in Madras City. *New India* further increased its circulation from 8,500 to 10,000. The circulation of the *Hindu*, which adopted a similar attitude to *New India* on the Home Rule agitation, rose from 5,000 to 6,400. On the other hand, this agitation brought three new dailies into being which adopted a strong anti-Home Rule attitude. *Justice*, the principal organ of this group, had a circulation of 3,000 and combined opposition to the Home Rule propaganda with advocacy of the cause of non-Brahmans as against Brahmins. It was notable for a series of scathing articles on the life and public activities of Mrs. Besant. The effect of the Home Rule campaign was not so marked in the mufassal, where the general tendency to decline continued owing to the increasing rise in the price of paper. Six presses closed owing to demand of security under the Indian Press Act as against four in the previous year and five in 1915. Eight newspapers ceased publication for a similar reason as against nine in 1916 and one in 1915. After the receipt of the order internment her, the Editor of *New India* made a declaration in June 1917 that she had ceased to keep the three presses, the New India Printing Works, Georgetown, the Besant Press, Georgetown, where the *Commonweal* is printed, and the Vasanta Press, Adyar, and the security amounts deposited by her in respect of them were refunded. Shortly afterwards other persons declared themselves severally as keepers of the three presses and deposited a security of Rs. 2,000 each. In the following August the security in respect of the

Periodicals
(1917)

New India Printing Works was forfeited under section 4 of the Press Act in view of the publication of a series of objectionable articles in *New India*. An enhanced security of Rs. 10,000 was demanded from the keeper of the press under section 5 of the Act and was deposited.

Registration
of books
(1917)

271. In spite of the war and the high price of paper the number of books registered during the year rose by nearly 70, and the rise in periodicals was more than double that number, the output under these heads being respectively 2,630 and 1,907. There was a noticeable increase in the vernaculars under "Original works," but a considerable number of these consisted of mere pamphlets or even leaflets. The largest number of publications was in Tamil, next came English, Telugu and Sanskrit. Italian, Hindi and Sourashtra were unrepresented, while Marathi was newly represented by a single publication. As usual, religion and philosophy put together occupied the foremost place, but it is a matter for regret that the total number of publications in science and art was still so low as 127 or 4 per cent and showed no perceptible increase over the previous year, while under educational publications coming under the same category there was a positive fall. Further activity in "Politics" was in evidence during the year. Generally speaking, the increased literary output of the year was less than could be wished on lines of material progress and realistic knowledge, and the considerable number of publications in branches of humanistic culture other than religion and philosophy was of a low order relating to detective stories clumsily adapted, "Kavadi-Chindus" or loose pilgrim songs and the like. On the whole, however, there was some rise in the standard of the total literary output and a marked attempt to meet present-day requirements: and the moral tone of the publications was satisfactory. Among the important publications of the year mention may be made of "Palamoli Nanuru," an ancient Tamil classic edited with commentaries by Mr. T. Chelvakesavaraya Mudaliyar, which is the first complete edition of the work and has been accorded the patronage of Government as being a valuable addition to Tamil literature; "Kavi-janasrayemu," an old treatise on Telugu prosody the publication of which for the first time during the year is a literary event of importance; and the translation into English of a work in French on Dravidian Architecture by G. Jouveau-Dubreuil, a Professor in the College at Pondicherry.

ARTS AND SCIENCES (1917-18)

Government
Museum
Visitors

Buildings

Demonstra-
tionsArchæology
and art

272. During the year there was a fall by over 127,000 in the number of visitors to the Museum which stood at 626,890. It has been customary for Hindus to visit the Museum in large numbers on two festival days in December and January. One of these days was throughout wet during the year. The fall in attendance was partly due to this circumstance and partly to a decrease in the influx of mufassal people to Madras due to reductions in train service and to the raising of passenger fares. The extension on the south side of the building intended for the ethnological exhibits and collection of arms was fast approaching completion. From November to March the usual demonstrations to higher class pupils of high schools in Madras City were continued, the total number of pupils who attended these demonstrations having been 1,702 against 2,355 in the previous year. Demonstrations by the Superintendent to teachers in Madras schools were also continued. Nine were given during the year to 179 teachers. Four popular lectures illustrated by lantern slides were delivered by the Superintendent in the Museum theatre and were well attended. A catalogue of the copper-plate grants was nearing completion. Several South Indian wood carvings which had been scattered over various sections of the Museum were brought together, arranged and labelled. Many interesting additions were made during the year consisting of fine wood carvings, metal and stone images, old copper-plate grants:

and a collection of pre-historic pottery in a remarkably good state of preservation excavated in the Coimbatore district. As a result of a tour which the Herbarium Keeper made in the Vizagapatam district during the year, additions were made to the economic and botanical sections and to the series of photographs illustrating growing plants and the methods of manufacture of economic products. Economic and botanical

273. There was a fall both in the number of visitors to the aquarium, which dropped, by over 16,000, to 90,535, and in the entrance fees realized, which fell, by over Rs. 500, to Rs. 3,231. Marine Aquarium

274. The principal duties of the Meteorologist consisted, as usual, of the publication of the Madras daily weather report and the Presidency rainfall tables. The number of observatories continued to be 25 and the usual annual repairs were executed at ten of these. No observatory was inspected during the year. The number of rain-recording stations also remained the same (496) as in the previous year. Of these 395 are in the Madras Presidency, of which 390, or nearly 99 per cent, were inspected. No inspection reports were received from the States of Travancore and Pudukkottai. The total cost of the Meteorological department was Rs. 13,187, of which a sum of Rs. 3,642 was spent on mufassal stations and the remainder on the Madras office. Meteorology

275. The record of solar activity was maintained as usual at Kodaikānal. Spectroheliograms of the sun's disc in calcium light were obtained on about the same number of days as in the previous year and of prominences at the limb on 262 days against 310 days in 1916. The number of days on which photographs of the disc in hydrogen light were secured was also about the same as in the preceding year. The sunspot records showed an increase in the number of new groups recorded, which rose from 278 in 1916 to 365 in 1917. The mean daily area of the prominences also increased from 3.7 square minutes in 1916 to 5.2 square minutes in 1917. The large grating spectrograph was continuously employed in investigations relating to the displacements of the lines in the solar spectrum with reference to those in terrestrial spectra and a large number of spectrum photographs were obtained and measured. These include some excellent plates of the spectrum of Venus with iron arc comparison spectra. A considerable amount of new instrumental construction work was carried out during the year. A continuous registration of earthquake disturbances was made with a Milne Seismometer and 72 earthquakes were recorded. The photographic records and absolute eye observations in the Magnetic Observatory transferred last year to the Meteorological Department from the Survey of India were continued as in former years. At Madras the astronomical observations made for the maintenance of an accurate time service for the whole of India were continued. The firing of the time-gun at Fort St. George gave a slightly improved success, viz., 97 against 96 in the previous year. The semaphore failed both at 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. on two occasions, failed at 1 p.m. but dropped at 2 p.m. on eleven occasions and dropped correctly at 1 p.m. on all other occasions. The 4 p.m. roll of signals was sent and received at the Central Telegraph Office for distribution over India correctly on every day except one. Astronomy (1917) Kodaikānal Observatory Madras Observatory

CHAPTER VIII

ARCHÆOLOGY AND EPIGRAPHY (1917-18)

[*Annual Report of the Archaeological Department, Southern Circle, Madras, for the year 1917-18* (G.O. No. 1256, Home (Education), dated the 21st September 1918). *Progress Report of the Assistant Archaeological Superintendent for Epigraphy, Southern Circle, for the year 1917-18* (G.O. No. 1172, Home (Education), dated the 6th September 1918)]

Archæology

276. No excavations were again taken up during the year for want of time. The work involves absence in camp for two or three months at a stretch and cannot be undertaken while important inspections and conservation await attention. The Superintendent spent 146 days on tour and visited eleven districts. Considerable progress was made with the improvements to the roads and pathways to the monuments at Mahabalipuram and the Hampi ruins, the two most important "Show Places" in the Presidency. Two albums containing photographs of all the important monuments at these places were prepared and put in the rest-houses at the Seven Pagodas and at Kamalapuram under the charge of the respective Public Works Department overseers for the benefit of tourists and visitors. The repairs to Gingee fort in the South Arcot district, which were considerable owing to the great area of the fort and the number of buildings to be conserved, were approaching completion. Proposals were under consideration for the execution of repairs to certain other important monuments, of which mention may be made of the old Palace at Chandragiri in the Chittoor district, the Amaravati stūpa in the Guntūr district, the old Portuguese Church at Porto Novo in the South Arcot district and the Jain temple at Danavulapad in the Cuddapah district. Interesting articles, illustrated by photographs and drawings, were published of the Mallikarjuna temple at Srisailam, situated amongst the inaccessible forests of the Nallamalai hills of the Kurnool district and the Kapōtēsvara temple at Chezarla in the Guntūr district, one of the most valuable ancient monuments in the Presidency. A number of photographs of other monuments and antiquities were prepared and published, and as many as twenty-nine applications for photographs were received from the public. Six cases of treasure-trove consisting of metal and stone images received for opinion as to the desirability of Government's acquiring the finds for the Madras Museum were reported upon. Seven additions were made during the year to the standard list of ancient monuments, an equal number already in the list were declared as protected monuments and one was deleted from the list. Out of a sanctioned grant of Rs. 25,000, a sum of Rs. 22,626 was spent on conservation, nearly two-fifths of which was expended on Hampi and Gingee. The establishment charges of the year amounted to Rs. 19,000.

Epigraphy

277. During the year no less than 500 villages in eleven districts of the Presidency and in the French Settlement at Pondicherry were visited. The number of inscriptions copied and examined rose from 668 to 876, the highest on record, and nearly seventy photographs were taken during the field season. Twenty-two copper-plate inscriptions sent by various gentlemen interested in epigraphy were also examined. Part III of volume III of *South Indian Inscriptions* was finally passed for publication. Considerable progress was made with part IV which will complete the volume,

and volume IV was also taken on hand. Some miscellaneous work was also done at the request of the outside public, of which mention may be made of the preparation of a short note on the work accomplished by the Epigraphical department in the Presidency since its inception and of another note on the worship of Sati in Southern India. Two Siva temples in the South Arcot and Tanjore districts which contain a number of interesting inscriptions were recommended for early conservation. No early Pallava inscriptions were discovered during the year. The Eastern and Western Chalukyas, the Eastern Gangas and the Nolamba Pallavas were each represented by a few records. A stone inscription in Kanarese of the Eastern Chalukyas secured in the Vizagapatam district—one of the very few inscriptions in that language in the Telugu country—shows that the later kings of that dynasty now and then favoured or adopted Jainism, the popular religion of the Kanarese country. A special feature of the collection of the copper-plates for the year is that four of them belong to the family of Bhanjas which held its sway over parts of Orissa and of the Ganjam district about the tenth to the thirteenth centuries A.D. The chiefs of this family are now rulers of the Mayurbhanj estates, of the Baud State and of a few other places in Orissa. As usual a large number of Chola inscriptions were copied during the year. Nearly forty of them relate to the period of Rajaraja I (985—1013 A.D.), and some of these prove that both the Pandya country and Ceylon were subject to his sway, that a revenue survey was conducted in his reign and completed in or before the year 1002 A.D. and that during his reign inquiries were made by State officials into the misappropriation of temple funds. The Pandyas are also represented in the year's collection. Two of the inscriptions which come from the Tinnevely district make mention of an institution peculiar to the Pandya country, viz., the existence of a class of military men corresponding to the "King's Own Regiment" of the present day who were expected to help their king in times of distress. The village-war epigraphical survey of the Tenkāsi taluk in that district was very fruitful in yielding a very large number of inscriptions of the later Pandyas. The year's collection included also a number of inscriptions of the Vijayanagara kings and of a few minor dynasties. The study of the curious Brahmi cave inscriptions of Southern India was taken up by a scholar from Eastern Bengal who is about to publish a monograph thereon which is expected to throw some fresh light on these hitherto obscure documents. The expenditure of the department during the year amounted to Rs. 22,000.

CHAPTER IX

MISCELLANEOUS

ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION

278. *Vide* pages 244 to 246 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1911-12.

ECCLESIASTICAL (1917-18)

279. The Bishop was summoned by the Most Reverend the Metropolitan to Calcutta in February 1918 on provincial business. Two chaplains were granted leave on medical certificate in India, and the three vacancies caused by the retirement of one senior chaplain and one junior chaplain and by the re-transfer of one senior chaplain to the Diocese of Bombay were filled up during the year; but the death of one senior chaplain at the end of the year created a vacancy on the establishment. Four chaplains and one Indian clergyman were absent from the Diocese on active service in Mesopotamia. One of the temporary chaplains appointed by the Government of India to the Madras Establishment resigned his appointment and another was relieved of his appointment by a regular chaplain. On the 31st March 1918 there were in all 291 clerks in Holy Orders officiating under the licence of the Bishop of Madras and the Bishop in Tinnevely and Madura against 258 in the previous year. One Indian and one European were ordained priests by the Bishop of Madras, while the Bishop in Tinnevely and Madura ordained seven deacons and four priests, all of whom were Indians, and the Bishop of Dornakal ordained on behalf of the Bishop of Madras five priests, all Indians. Five clergymen received licences to officiate in the Diocese of Madras during the year, three as chaplains and two as missionary ministers. Eight licences were issued by the Bishop in Tinnevely and Madura. No churches or cemeteries were consecrated during the year; but the new Railway Church at Rajahmundry was dedicated in honour of St. Giles by the Bishop of Madras on 22nd February 1918. The alms and other devotions of the people offered through clergymen ministering to English congregations during the year amounted to about Rs. 1.69 lakhs.

280. The establishment of the Church of Scotland consisted of three chaplains or one less than in the previous year.

STATIONERY (1917-18)

281. The value of the stock with the Superintendent of Stationery at the beginning of the year was Rs. 7.17 lakhs (English stores Rs. 4.48 lakhs and Indian stores Rs. 2.69 lakhs) against Rs. 8.09 lakhs (English stores Rs. 5.27 lakhs and Indian stores Rs. 2.82 lakhs) in 1916-17. The decrease was consequent on a fall in receipts during 1916-17. The value of stores received during the year amounted to Rs. 13.22 lakhs (English stores

Rs. 3.61 lakhs and Indian stores Rs. 9.61 lakhs) against Rs. 6.48 lakhs English stores Rs. 2.39 lakhs and Indian stores Rs. 4.09 lakhs) in 1916-17. The increase noticeable under both the heads is attributable to the larger supplies received from England and from the Calcutta mills on the indents of both 1916-17 and 1917-18; also to the enhanced rates at which articles supplied during 1917-18 were obtained. The value of issues amounted to Rs. 9.80 lakhs (English stores Rs. 3.17 lakhs and Indian stores Rs. 6.63 lakhs) against Rs. 7.39 lakhs (English stores Rs. 3.17 lakhs and Indian stores Rs. 4.22 lakhs) in 1916-17. The increase was due chiefly to the rise in the prices of almost all articles, both European and country-made. The demands of various officers left uncomplished with at the close of the year 1916-17, particularly of war printing paper, owing to the non-receipt of the supplies in time, were met early in 1917-18 and these went to swell the issues of that year. The value of stationery debited to Local and other Funds and of stationery issued on payment amounted to Rs. 28,395 against Rs. 16,066 in 1916-17. The value of the closing balance of stores for the year was Rs. 10.59 lakhs (English stores Rs. 4.93 lakhs and Indian stores Rs. 5.66 lakhs) against Rs. 7.17 lakhs (English stores Rs. 4.48 lakhs and Indian stores Rs. 2.69 lakhs) in 1916-17. The increase is explained by the increase under receipts.

THE GOVERNMENT PRESS (1917-18)

282. The net receipts exceeded that of the previous year by Rs. 13,912, due chiefly to the sale-proceeds of unserviceable plant and stores. The total expenditure fell, by Rs. 0.58 lakh, to Rs. 4.35 lakhs. The decrease was due mainly to reductions in printing orders; to printing and binding settlement registers in a cheaper form and to smaller purchases of plant and stores.

283. A sum of Rs. 49,461, against Rs. 38,457 in the previous year, was realized by the sales of Acts and books including Gazettes, Law Reports and Government Orders. The sales by commission agents rose by Rs. 309 to Rs. 7,022. There was a decrease of Rs. 24,598 in the value of publications issued free, which was due to the revision of distribution lists and to the supply of less expensive publications.

284. The number of standard pages printed during the year including the pages set on the Linotype machines was 242,597 against 274,919 in the previous year, while the average cost per page in the Madras presses rose from Rs. 1-0-6 to Rs. 1-1-7. The number of impressions was 99,825,740 against 118,578,300 in 1916-17, the decrease being due mainly to more economical methods and to smaller demands for forms. The average cost per 1,000 impressions in the Madras Presses was As. 14-9. The total debits against binding for all the presses amounted to Rs. 0.92 lakh, a decrease of Rs. 28,595 due chiefly to a fall in indents and to the adoption of cheaper methods in the binding of books.

285. An expenditure of Rs. 9,161 was incurred on additions to the plant. The output of the type foundry was 42,275 lb. of type, 9,094 lb. of stereotypes and electros, 25 punches and 82 matrices; and the expenditure fell from Rs. 0.46 lakh to Rs. 0.40 lakh. Types and other materials to the value of Rs. 609 were supplied to District and Jail Presses against Rs. 5,445 in the previous year. The fall was due to most of these presses having been closed during the year and to the District Gazettes having been issued from Madras in consequence. The number of copies of forms indented for during the year was nearly 110 millions or 23 millions less than in 1916-17.

THE CHEMICAL EXAMINER'S DEPARTMENT (1917)

[G.O. No. 183, Local and Municipal (Medical), dated the 30th April 1918; Statistics of British India, Part VI, Administrative and Judicial—Medico-legal Investigations]

Medico-legal investigations

Poisoning

Stains

General analyses

286. The total number of cases (2,154) investigated by the Chemical Examiner was almost the same as in the previous year; but the nature of these cases varied. There was a slight increase in medico-legal cases and a slight decrease in general analyses. Cases of suspected human poisoning numbered 211 against 197 in the previous year; and cases of suspected animal poisoning stood at 78 against 88; and 49 animals were reported to have been killed. The percentages of detections were 41.2 against 46.7 in the former class of cases and 61.5 against 59 in the latter class. The principal poisons detected in the cases of human poisoning were arsenic and mercury and their compounds and aconite and opium. Convictions were obtained in three non-fatal cases and six fatal cases. Arsenic and its compounds and thevetin were the principal poisons detected in the cases of animal poisoning. There were 280 cases investigated for blood or seminal stains and the number of articles examined was 1,008. The percentage of detections was 73.3 against 71.5 in the previous year. Five hundred and fifty-six specimens of stains relating to 210 cases were sent to the Imperial Serologist and 499 of these were found to be due to human blood. The total number of articles examined was 1,565 against 1,582 in the previous year, the number of analyses undertaken for private parties being 129. The bulk of the other work was for the Customs and Commissariat departments.

CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS (1917-18)

General statistics

Monegar Choultry

The Raja of Venkatagiri's Choultry

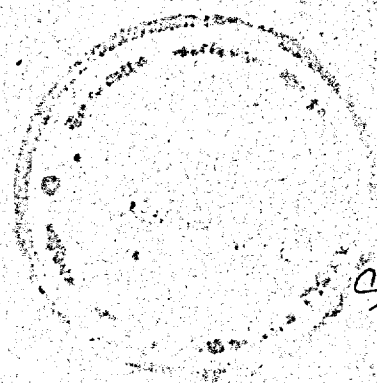
287. There were 3,229 charitable institutions in the Presidency, excluding dispensaries, with an income of Rs. 14.74 lakhs, 12 garces of paddy and 326 muras of rice. Of these institutions 2,247 were maintained entirely by subscriptions and donations from the general public and endowments in land and money, the total receipts from these sources amounting to Rs. 7.26 lakhs. The Government supported 275 institutions at a cost of Rs. 1.52 lakhs and 95 were maintained partly by Government and partly by the public at a cost of Rs. 2.24 lakhs. The maintenance of the remaining 612 institutions, costing about Rs. 3.70 lakhs, devolved wholly or in part on local bodies. The funds of 1,990 institutions were devoted to the provision of accommodation, cooked food and other supplies to travellers. Of these 1,203 were exclusively for Hindus, 37 for Muhammadans and 2 for Europeans and Eurasians, while the remaining 748 were not restricted to any particular class. For the relief of paupers 416 institutions were maintained, of which 226 were restricted to Hindus, 11 to Muhammadans and 3 to Europeans and Eurasians, while the remaining 176 were open to members of all classes and creeds. There were 746 institutions exclusively devoted to giving help to Brahmans and Byragis. There were also 4 institutions for orphans, 3 for Rajput boys and girls and 4 for the support of the blind, the deaf and lepers. The total number of persons aided during the year at all the above charitable institutions was 11,691,229. The average daily number of inmates in the Monegar Choultry was 59.91 against 49.74 and the daily average cost of diet per pauper was As. 2-8 against As. 2-4 in the previous year. In the chronic wards the average daily number was 27.99 against 31.15 and the average cost of a diet was As. 4-10 against As. 4-1 in the previous year. The balance to the credit of the charity on the 31st March 1918 was Rs. 5,974. The daily average number of in-door paupers in the Raja of Venkatagiri's Choultry was 10.32 and of out-door paupers (receiving $\frac{1}{4}$ measure or $\frac{3}{4}$ lb. of raw rice daily) was 102. The corresponding figures for the previous year were 15.97 and 103. The daily average cost of diet of an in-door

uper was As. 2-9 and of an out-door pauper 10 pies, as against As. 2-6 and 10 pies in the previous year. On the 31st March 1918, this institution had a balance of Rs. 989. The receipts of the Triplicane Langerkhana including an opening balance of Rs. 135-11-8 amounted to Rs. 5,178-3-8. The daily average number of paupers who received help from the institution was 184 as compared with 203 in the preceding year.

MUHAMMADANS IN THE SERVICE OF GOVERNMENT (1917-18)

288. There were 8,067 Muhammadans in the superior service of Government on the 1st April 1918, or 288 less than the number employed in the previous year. The number of Muhammadans admitted into the service during the year, excluding those who enlisted as police constables (423), was 16 of whom 16 joined the establishments of civil and criminal courts in the mufassal and 13 entered the Police department as sub-inspectors and clerks. Twelve persons held posts with an annual salary of Rs. 5,000 and above, 40 were in receipt of salaries ranging from Rs. 2,500 to Rs. 5,000, 104 from Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 2,500, 254 from Rs. 500 to Rs. 1,000, and 658 from Rs. 250 to Rs. 500. The number earning from Rs. 120 to Rs. 250 fell from 7,192 to 6,999, and 15 drew Rs. 120 and less against 47 in the previous year. There were 6,459 Muhammadans employed in the Police department, 479 in Courts of Law, 282 in the Land Revenue, 218 in the Education department, 147 in Forest, 115 in the Registration department and 107 in Salt. Other departments employed less than a hundred in each. The percentage of Muhammadans to the total population of the Presidency was only 6.6, but nearly 14 per cent of the posts in the superior service were held by them.

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