



(21)

MADRAS IN 1947

(OUTLINE OF THE ADMINISTRATION)

PART I

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(b) legislation to remove the social disabilities of Harijans,

(c) legislation to reduce the rents in zamindari areas to the level of those prevailing in ryotwari areas as a preliminary step to the abolition of zamindaris altogether, and

(d) intensification of the Firka Development Scheme.

A brief reference has been made in this booklet to each of the above items and also to the work of each department.

CONTENTS

	PAGE
PREFATORY NOTE	iii
CHAPTER I.—GENERAL	
The Executive	1
The Legislature	2
Legislation	3
The Services	8
Training of Clerks	9
Cost of Public Services	9
Separation of Judiciary from the Executive	9
CHAPTER II.—FINANCE	
Finance—	
Accounts, 1946-47	10
Budget, 1947-48	11
Provincial Borrowing	13
CHAPTER III.—SEASONAL CONDITIONS, REVENUE AND EXCISE	
Rainfall and Crops	14
Famine	14
Land Revenue	14
Forest Panchayats	14
Schemes for sinking New Wells	15
Court of Wards	17
Commercial Taxes	17
Excise and Prohibition	17
CHAPTER IV.—LAW AND ORDER	
Police	22
Prisons	25
Criminal Tribes Settlements	27
Civil Justice	28
Registration	29
Fire Services	30
Motor Vehicles	31
Motor Transport	32
Chemical Examiner's Department	33
Criminal Justice	33

CHAPTER V.—LOCAL ADMINISTRATION

	PAGE
General	35
Municipalities	35
District Boards	35
Panchayats	35
Local Fund Audit	36

CHAPTER VI.—PUBLIC HEALTH AND MEDICINE

Vital Statistics	37
Public Health	37
Medicine	39
Indian Medicine	43
The King Institute, Guindy	43

CHAPTER VII.—EDUCATION

General	46
Government Examinations	49

CHAPTER VIII.—AGRICULTURE, VETERINARY
AND CO-OPERATION

Agriculture	50
Veterinary Services	52
Co-operation	53

CHAPTER IX.—NATURAL RESOURCES

Forests	56
Fisheries	57
Cinchona Plantations	57

CHAPTER X.—TRADE AND INDUSTRY

Trade	59
Ports	59
Industries and Commerce	60
Textile control	63
Companies	65
Industrial Occupations	66

CHAPTER XI.—PUBLIC WORKS AND ELECTRICITY

Electricity	67
Public Works (General)	68
Irrigation	70
Special Projects	72
Highways	73

CHAPTER XII.—CIVIL SUPPLIES

	PAGE
Civil Supplies	74

CHAPTER XIII.—RURAL RECONSTRUCTION AND
MISCELLANEOUS

Firka Development	84
Charitable Institutions	87
Communities eligible for Help by the Labour Department	88
Broadcasting	89
Emigration	90

greetings to Mahatma Gandhi on the occasion of the attainment of Independence by India and expressing appreciation of the services of those who have suffered and undergone sacrifices in the cause of Indian Freedom was passed by both the Houses.

(6) There was a debate on the decontrol and derationing of foodgrains in the Legislative Assembly for two days and in the Council for one day.

The Assembly sat for 74 days and transacted official business on 67 days and non-official business on 7 days. Out of 2,664 questions received for the Legislative Assembly, 2,235 were admitted, 1,400 of them were answered, 835 not answered, 219 disallowed, 30 withdrawn and 171 referred back to the Members of the Legislative Assembly. The Council sat for 36 days and transacted official business on 30 days and non-official business during the remaining days. Out of 650 questions received for the Council, 600 were admitted, 372 of them were answered, 228 not answered, 14 disallowed, 9 withdrawn, 7 referred back to the Members and 20 lapsed. The sessions of the Assembly and the Council were prorogued by His Excellency the Governor in the first week of January 1948.

Legislation

During the year, 29 Acts were enacted by the Madras Legislature. Besides these, 1 Regulation was made.

Madras Act I of 1947 [The Madras Maintenance of Public Order Act, 1947] gives power to the Government to take effective and timely action to deal with subversive activities which have for their aim the creation of disorders involving menace to the peace and tranquillity of the Province. The Act provides for preventive detention; the imposition of collective fines and censorship; the control of meetings and processions, and camps, drills and parades; the requisitioning of property; and the control of services essential to the life of the community.

Madras Act II of 1947 [The Madras District Municipalities and Local Boards (Amendment) Act, 1947] empowers Government to postpone ordinary elections to municipal councils and local boards and validates all orders issued on the subject before the passing of the Act. The Act also provides for the preparation and publication of electoral rolls or of alterations to such rolls, at such times as the Provincial Government may direct.

Madras Act III of 1947 [The Madras City Municipal (Amendment) Act, 1947] amends the definition of "company" in the principal Act so as to include within its scope a foreign company as well as a company formed in pursuance of a law of an Indian State. These companies will, in future, be liable to pay the tax on companies levied under the City Municipal Act.

Madras Act IV of 1947 [The Madras Payment of Salaries and Removal of Disqualifications (Amendment) Act, 1947] raises

the salary of the President of the Legislative Council from Rs. 500 to Rs. 1,000 per mensem, thus placing the President in the matter of salary, on a par with the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly.

Madras Act V of 1947 [The Madras Temple Entry Authorization Act, 1947] removes the disabilities imposed by custom or usage on certain classes of Hindus in respect of entry into Hindu temples and offering worship therein. It confers on the excluded classes a right to enter any temple which is open to the general Hindu public and offer worship in the same manner and to the same extent as other classes of Hindus. In view of this Act, the Malabar Temple Entry Act, 1939, and the Madras Temple Entry Authorization and Indemnity Act, 1937, are no longer needed and have accordingly been repealed.

As a result of the inclusion within the limits of the City, of the Saidapet Municipality, the Semb'om Panchayat, and certain other areas, from 1st April 1946, Madras Act VI of 1947 [The Madras City Municipal (Second Amendment) Act, 1947] increases the number of divisions in the City from 40 to 50 and the number of divisional councillors from 45 to 66. Of the divisional councillors, 50 are to be elected to general seats, 5 to seats reserved for members of Scheduled Castes, 2 to seats reserved for Muslims, 2 to seats reserved for Indian Christians, 1 to a seat reserved for Anglo-Indians and 4 to seats reserved for women. All the divisional councillors are to be elected by joint electorates, as in the case of municipalities in the mufassal. The Act also increases the number of seats reserved for labour from 2 to 4.

Madras Act VII of 1947 [The Malabar Irrigation Works (Construction and levy of Cess) Act, 1947] confers on the Government the power to construct irrigation works for conserving water and regulating its supply, in the district of Malabar. Provision has been made for the acquisition of lands for that purpose, and also for existing water-courses being utilized by Government for leading water, although their beds may not belong to Government. Persons who are deprived of their right in a water course or whose accustomed supply of water is materially diminished, will be entitled to compensation under the Act, the amount of the compensation being assessed by a Special Court constituted for the purpose. The Act also provides for the issue of permits for the irrigation of lands and makes the payment of water-cess obligatory, whether the water made available for irrigation is actually taken or not.

Madras Act VIII of 1947 [The Madras City Police and District Police (Amendment) Act, 1947] confers on members of the Madras Fire Services, above the rank of fireman, powers similar to those now exercised in the City of Madras by police officers above the rank of constable, when a fire breaks out. The penalty for giving false alarms of fire has been enhanced in the case of a second or subsequent offence to one of imprisonment, not exceeding six months to which fine (without limit of amount) may be added.

As Fire Services have been or will shortly be organized in mufassal municipalities also, provisions corresponding to those in the Madras City Police Act, giving powers to Police and Fire Services Officers to deal with outbreaks of fire and also imposing a penalty for giving false alarms of fire, have been embodied in the District Police Act.

Madras Act IX of 1947 [The Bar Councils and Legal Practitioners (Madras Amendment) Act, 1947] provides that no disciplinary action shall be taken against a legal practitioner who has been convicted of a political offence not involving physical violence, or incitement to or abetment of such violence; and if disciplinary action has been taken in the past for such an offence, the High Court is to vacate such action, on the application of the practitioner concerned. The Act also confers on the Madras High Court powers of disciplinary control over advocates of other High Courts ordinarily practising in subordinate courts in this Province.

Madras Act X of 1947 [The Criminal Tribes (Madras Repeal) Act, 1947] provides that the Criminal Tribes Act, 1924, shall cease to be in force in the Province except for the purposes of section 3 of the Madras Restriction of Habitual Offenders Act, 1943. The continuance of the special provisions contained in the Criminal Tribes Act is not justified in the light of modern progressive penology.

Madras Act XI of 1947 [The Madras Removal of Civil Disabilities (Amendment) Act, 1947] removes certain doubts with regard to the scope of Madras Act XXI of 1938, and also prohibits all discrimination against Harijans. Any person who prevents a Harijan from exercising his civic rights, or who molests or obstructs a Harijan in the exercise of such rights, or who refuses to sell to a Harijan, articles kept for sale has been made liable to punishment. All offences under the Act are cognizable, so that the police will have power to arrest offenders without a warrant.

Madras Act XII of 1947 [The Madras High Court (Jurisdictional Limits) (Amendment) Act, 1947] includes within the limits of the ordinary original civil jurisdiction of the High Court of Madras, the areas comprised within the Saidapet Municipality and certain areas in the Chingleput district, which had recently become part of the City of Madras.

Madras Act XIII of 1947 [The Tungabhadra Project (Prevention of Speculation in Land) Act, 1947] prohibits the speculative buying of lands in the Tungabhadra Project area at low prices in the hope of reselling them at a profit. No person is to acquire more than 50 acres of land in the area, without a permit. Permits issued will be subject to the condition that the land should not be alienated for a period of 15 years.

Madras Act XIV of 1947 [The Madras Estates Communal, Forest and Private Lands (Prohibition of Alienation) Act, 1947] penalizes all alienations of communal and forest lands, without the previous sanction of the District Collector. Alienations of

private lands in notified impartible estates have also been penalized. Alienations of communal and forest lands, without the sanction of the District Collector, have been made void with retrospective effect from 31st October 1939. As regards private lands their alienation has been made void with retrospective effect from 1st November 1945 in those impartible estates which have been notified by the Government.

Madras Act XV of 1947 [The Madras City Improvement Trust (Amendment) Act, 1947] amends the principal Act in order to make it clear (a) that the contributions from the Government and from the Corporation of Madras should become payable only after the first Chairman assumed office, and not from the date when the Act was brought into force and (b) that in regard to the financial year in which the Chairman assumes office, only part of the contributions shall be payable, proportionate to the period between the date on which the Chairman assumed office and the end of the financial year.

Madras Act XVI of 1947 [The Madras Tuberculosis Sanatoria (Regulation of Buildings) Act, 1947] reproduces without material change, the substantive provisions contained in Madras Acts XIV and XXIV of 1943 and XVII of 1944, relating to the control of building operations in the vicinity of the Tuberculosis Sanatoria at Madanapalle, Tambaram and Perundurai respectively. It was considered that instead of having a separate enactment for each Sanatorium, it would be advantageous to have one general Act which will apply to the three Sanatoria mentioned above and at the same time, be capable of application to other Sanatoria later.

Madras Act XVII of 1947 [The Madras Hackney Carriage (Amendment) Act, 1947] increases the price of a copy of the list of authorized fares, from two to four annas, and also gives power to the Commissioner of Police to vary this price from time to time, subject however to Government control.

Madras Act XVIII of 1947 [The Prisons (Madras Amendment) Act, 1947] prohibits the whipping of prisoners who are on hunger strike.

Madras Act XIX of 1947 [The Prisons (Madras Amendment No. II) Act, 1947] provides for the cost of the clothing and bedding of a person who is committed to prison in execution of a decree of a Civil Court, being deposited in advance by the decree-holder.

Madras Act XX of 1947 [The Madras Betting Tax (Amendment) Act, 1947] raises the maximum rate of the tax from 6½ to 12½ per cent, both for totalizator betting and for betting with bookmakers.

Madras Act XXI of 1947 [The Madras Prohibition (Amendment) Act, 1947] provides for the punishment of (i) persons who are found in a state of intoxication in a *public* place, and (ii) persons who have not been permitted to consume any intoxicating liquor, who are found in a state of intoxication in a *private* place.

Madras Act XXII of 1947 [The Madras Abkari (Amendment) Act, 1947] empowers Government to fix limits for the possession of foreign liquor by a person for his *bona fide* private consumption.

Madras Act XXIII of 1947 [The Madras Places of Public Resort (Amendment) Act, 1947] applies the provisions of the Places of Public Resort Act, 1888, to all areas situated within a distance of three miles from the limits of any municipality, control being exercised by the authorities of the municipality. Power has been taken to make rules for the distribution of the income derived by a municipal council from outside the municipal limits between the municipal council on the one hand and the local authority or authorities having jurisdiction over the area on the other. The Act also provides that in cases where jurisdiction under the Act is transferred from one authority or officer to another, all action taken by the old authority or officer should be deemed to have been taken by the new authority or officer.

Madras Act XXIV of 1947 [The Madras Municipal and Local Boards (Amendment) Act, 1947] empowers the Government to direct the transfer of the liabilities of a municipal council which has been abolished or of a district board or panchayat which has been abolished or has ceased to exercise jurisdiction in a particular area. The Act also gives power to make orders for the removal of difficulties arising from the inclusion of certain areas within the limits of the City of Madras.

Madras Act XXV of 1947 [The Madras General Sales Tax (Amendment) Act, 1947] provides for an increase in the rate of sales tax from two pies to three pies in the rupee and also for the levy of an additional tax at the rate of three pies in some cases and of six pies in others, on sales of certain luxury goods. Sales of bullion and specie and of cotton yarn other than handspun yarn are to be subject to a maximum tax of ½ per cent on the turnover, the former at one point only and the latter at two points in the series of sales. Handspun cotton yarn and cloth woven on handlooms wholly with such yarn if sold by persons dealing exclusively in such cloth, will alone be exempt from tax. Cloth woven on handlooms with mill yarn will be exempt from tax, only if the sale is to a dealer in the Province or is for delivery outside the Province. Sales of tea grown by the seller or grown on any land in which he has an interest will be exempt from tax, only if the sale is for delivery outside the Province. Newspapers will, in future, be liable to tax at one point. Power has been given to Government to make exemptions and reductions of the rates of tax. Dealers whose turnover in any year is not less than Rs. 7,500 are to be registered with a view to prevent evasion of tax in marginal cases and the collection of sales tax from customers by dealers who have not been registered, is prohibited. Some other amendments intended to facilitate the working of the Act, have also been made.

Madras Act XXVI of 1947 [The Madras Hindu Women's Rights to Property (Extension to Agricultural Land) Act, 1947] extends the operation of the Hindu Women's Rights to Property Act, 1937, to agricultural lands in this Province, with retrospective effect from the 26th November 1946. The effect of this extension is that a widow will be entitled to the same share as a son in the agricultural lands of her deceased husband, if they were his separate property, while she will be entitled to succeed to her husband's share if they belonged to a joint family of which he was a member. The widow will, in either case, take only a limited interest in the property.

Madras Act XXVII of 1947 [The Madras Entertainments Tax (Amendment) Act, 1947] enhances generally the rates of the entertainments tax, the rates varying from 1/5 to 1/3 of the payment for admission. For cinematograph exhibitions, payments *exclusive* of the tax will be taken into account, while in other cases, payments *inclusive* of the tax will be taken into account. For dramatic and music performances, Indian dances, and exhibitions, much lower rates varying from 1/4 to 1/2 of the payment for admission have been fixed. The entire proceeds of the tax less a deduction of 10 per cent representing collection charges are to be paid to the local authority concerned. Power has been taken to distribute the proceeds between the local authorities concerned, where entertainments are held outside the limits of a municipality or panchayat area but the bulk of the people attending the entertainments come from the municipal or panchayat area.

Madras Act XXVIII of 1947 [The Madras City Police (Amendment) Act, 1947] fixes the maximum laden weight of hand-carts, prohibits persons under the age of eighteen years from drawing or pushing such carts, and gives power to make by-laws limiting the height of loads.

Madras Act XXIX of 1947 [The Madras Probation of Offenders (Amendment) Act, 1947] empowers a person authorized by the Government to appoint District Probation Officers and also validates all appointments of such officers made by the Inspector-General of Prisons before the passing of the Act.

Madras Regulation I of 1947 [The Madras Agency Rules (Amendment) Regulation, 1947] provides for the application of section 48 of the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908, to the execution of decrees and orders of Courts in the Agency tracts.

Services

Direct recruitment was made by the Commission to 28 classes of posts. In addition to this, the Commission made selection for direct recruitment to 56 classes of posts, exclusively from persons with war service. In October 1947, the Commission held a competitive examination for the recruitment of clerks, typists, etc., to the

Madras Ministerial Service, Madras Judicial Ministerial Service and the Madras Secretariat Service. There were 3,872 qualified candidates for the examination as against 2,048 vacancies expected to arise in 1948. The examination was, as in the previous years, open also to unpassed men already in service and the number of such men who applied was 616.

Training of Clerks

The Government sanctioned a scheme in 1944 for the training of candidates selected by the Madras Public Service Commission (including war service personnel) for appointment as clerks in the Ministerial Services. Women candidates selected for the services were exempted from this training. The period of training is three months and the syllabus comprises a course on office routine and procedure, precis-writing, general principles of account and audit and special manuals and codes applicable to the various departments. Four schools were originally opened and they functioned till 1946. In the first quarter of 1947, these schools were ordered to be suspended as the Government did not intend to give training to candidates who had no war service to their credit and as sufficient number of candidates with war service were not available for training. One of the four schools, viz., the Hood Training School, Cuddalore, was reopened on 23rd June 1947 and was functioning. The number of candidates successfully trained in the year was 882.

Cost of Public Services

Including High Court Judges, Members of the Indian Civil Service, other All-India Services, Provincial Services, the Subordinate, Ministerial and Inferior Services and the village establishment, the total number of persons drawing their emoluments from Provincial funds was 253,364 at the end of the financial year 1946-47 and the total salaries' bill for that year amounted to Rs. 1,046.75 lakhs. The number of pensioners under the Madras Government at the end of 1946-47 was 31,542 and the amount paid to them was Rs. 149.67 lakhs.

Separation of the Judiciary from the Executive

A Cabinet Sub-Committee has been constituted to examine the recommendations contained in the Report of the Committee on the Separation of the Judiciary from the Executive. The Sub-Committee approved of the recommendations with some modifications and is proceeding to implement the same. The special staff sanctioned for the purpose is engaged in the task of working out the details of the scheme, viz., constitution and location of courts of the hierarchy of magistrates after the separation of functions, consequential retrenchment in the revenue establishment of the Presidency, recruitment to the new cadre of the magistracy and allied questions. The scheme is under the active consideration of the Government.

CHAPTER II—FINANCE

Accounts, 1946-47

Revenue.—There was a large increase of revenue during the year, the increase being Rs. 376.37 lakhs over the actuals of the previous year. The total revenue realized amounted to Rs. 5,175.26 lakhs excluding a sum of Rs. 429 lakhs transferred from the Revenue Reserve Fund, as against the budget estimate of Rs. 4,848.92 lakhs for the year.

Important items in which there were increases, are given below :—

There was an increase of Rs. 105.15 lakhs under 'Excise', due to larger receipts from the rentals of toddy shops owing to keen competition among the bidders at the auction of toddy shops and from tree-tax. Under 'Stamps' the increase was Rs. 105.10 lakhs, due to the increase in the number of transactions relating to immovable properties and their high prices. The increase under 'Other Taxes and Duties' was Rs. 160.51 lakhs. It was mainly due to a marked increase in Revenue under the 'General Sales Tax Act', as a result of increased turnover of the assesses and of rise in prices. The increase was also due to larger receipts under the 'Entertainment Tax' and the general improvement in the administration of the commercial taxes. Under 'Forests,' the increase was Rs. 43.8 lakhs due to the better prices realized by the sale of firewood, timber, fuel coupes and sandalwood. There was an increase of Rs. 40.76 lakhs under 'Motor Vehicles Acts,' due to the release of a larger number of surplus military motor vehicles and to the increased number of controlled motor vehicles allotted to the Province. There were small increases also under 'Land Revenue' and 'Education.'

There were decreases under certain heads. The items in which decreases occurred, are mentioned below :—

There was a decrease of Rs. 37.8 lakhs under 'Taxes on Income,' as the actual receipts of the Provincial share of the income-tax were less than anticipated. Under 'Extraordinary Receipts,' the decrease was Rs. 215.02 lakhs due to the decrease in the expenditure on post-war development schemes. There was a decrease of Rs. 11.51 lakhs under 'Irrigation' due to larger expenditure on maintenance and repairs of irrigation system (taken in reduction of receipts under this head). There was decrease of Rs. 10.4 lakhs under 'Electricity' due to strikes in the textile mills and in the cement factory in Coimbatore district. There were small decreases under 'Agriculture' and 'Civil Defence.'

Expenditure.—The total expenditure on the Revenue Account was Rs. 5,603.79 lakhs against Rs. 4,798.74 lakhs in the previous year.

Compared with the budget estimate however, the expenditure was less by Rs. 138.98 lakhs. The most important increases occurred under 'General Administration' and 'Police.' Under 'General Administration,' the increase was Rs. 164.08 lakhs, and it was due to the increase of the pay of the village establishments, grant of subsidies for wells, grant of fixed travelling allowance to village menials, the payment of dearness allowance and cost of living allowance, the constitution of the Food Department as a new department of the Secretariat and the employment of staff for ameliorative work in the prohibition districts, etc. Under 'Police' the increase was Rs. 26.46 lakhs, and it was due to the reorganization of the District Armed Reserves and the Special Emergency Forces and to the grant of dearness allowances to subordinates. There were appreciable decreases under certain items in the amounts budgeted for, owing to non-receipt of expected machinery, apparatus and materials, to smaller expenditure on famine relief works than anticipated, and to the improvement in seasonal conditions and other causes.

Budgetary position (1946-47).—The transactions of the year actually ended with a deficit of about Rs. 429 lakhs, as against Rs. 894 lakhs anticipated in the budget for the year. A sum of Rs. 429 lakhs was, therefore, transferred from the Revenue Reserve Fund to meet the actual deficit.

Capital expenditure and loans (1946-47).—The Government incurred capital expenditure outside the Revenue Account to the extent of Rs. 158.02 lakhs as against the sum of Rs. 429.84 lakhs provided in the last year budget. The large decrease was due to the fact that the schemes under Electricity, Irrigation and Industrial Development could not be pushed through mainly because the required machinery, tools and plants and other materials were not available. A sum of Rs. 225.24 lakhs was disbursed as loans to local bodies and agriculturists.

Budget for 1947-48

The budget for 1947-48 included provision for the normal activities of the Government as well as for certain special items of expenditure, such as subsidies on foodgrains, revision of the scales of pay of Government servants and teachers in schools under the control of local bodies and private managements, subsidies for sinking wells in pursuance of the Grow More Food campaign, ameliorative measures in connection with the introduction of prohibition, village reconstruction and Harijan Uplift, extension of compulsory elementary education and nationalization of transport services.

New schemes of expenditure.—The total cost of the new schemes debitable to the Revenue Account provided for in the budget for 1947-48 was Rs. 284.23 lakhs. The more important of the new schemes are (1) revival of the Working Plans Circle in the Forest

Department, the construction of forest roads and the opening of a boarding school for Chenchus in the Kurnool district, (2) the construction of an anicut across the Kandaluru at Gutlapalli in the Guntur district and road works, (3) the construction of a combined court-house for the Subordinate Judge and the District Munsif at Coimbatore, the appointment of an Additional Presidency Magistrate and staff, the installation of a photostat machine in the High Court and the appointment of temporary Subordinate Judges and District Munsifs in certain mufassal courts, (4) the appointment of nursing orderlies in hospitals attached to various jails, borstal schools, and the maintenance of dairies in five Central Jails, (5) the extension of compulsory elementary education to further selected areas and training of teachers required for such extension, establishment of central libraries and grants to public libraries, opening of the B.Sc. (Chemistry) (Main) course in the Government College, Kumbakonam, and providing educational facilities for the Malayalee pupils in the Kolli Hills in the Salem district, payment of teaching, building and equipment grants to various aided educational institutions under private managements, (6) the purchase of an X-Ray apparatus for the Barnard Institute of Radiology and the reorganization of the Institute, the opening of a new department of Pediatrics in the General Hospital, Madras, the purchase of refrigerators and employment of additional nursing staff in the Government Medical institutions, the employment of additional teaching staff in the Andhra Medical College, Vizagapatam, construction of additional hostel buildings for the School of Indian Medicine and the construction of Queen Alexandra Hospital, Salem, (7) the introduction of anti-malarial measures in the Coimbatore, Malabar and Bellary districts, grant to the Madura Municipality for improvements to its water-supply system, and the training of public health personnel as Health Visitors, (8) the purchase of four mobile veterinary units to combat contagious diseases of cattle, the opening of a combined sheep and cattle farm at Kurikuppi village in the Bellary district and two veterinary dispensaries in two other districts, (9) the provision for building and equipment grants to Industrial Schools, continuance of the Madras Rural Pisciculture Scheme and the scheme for the manufacture of semi-dried prawns and the opening of a fishery station at the Tungabhadra dam site, and (10) the appointment of four additional officers to attend to labour disputes, increased provision for scholarships and boarding grants to students of the communities eligible for help by the Labour Department and the opening of new Labour Schools.

The Budget Estimate anticipated a surplus of Rs. 0.57 lakh after taking credit for a sum of Rs. 149.00 lakhs proposed for transfer from the Revenue Reserve Fund. But for this transfer, the Budget would have shown a deficit of Rs. 148.43 lakhs.

Capital expenditure outside the Revenue Account and loans and advances by the Provincial Government in 1947-48.—A much larger amount was set apart for capital expenditure outside the Revenue

Account during 1947-48 than in 1946-47. The estimated expenditure is Rs. 898 lakhs, excluding the outlay on State Trading Schemes and the expenditure on commutation of pensions, as against the expenditure of Rs. 158 lakhs actually incurred in 1946-47. This large increase was due to the increased provision made for the Electricity Schemes, especially the Mettur, Moyar and Mechkund and Hydro-Electric Schemes, increased provision for the Irrigation Schemes such as the Tungabhadra Project, the Romperu drain and the Lower Bhavani Project, and also to the provision made for the construction of huts for the Armed Reserve Police in the Ramnad and Madura North districts and the construction of new buildings for the Government Arts College, Rajahmundry. A sum of Rs. 188.51 lakhs was provided for loans to local bodies and agriculturists, including Rs. 40 lakhs for short-term loans to the Madras Co-operative Central Land Mortgage Bank.

Provincial Borrowing

An open market loan of Rs. 409.30 lakhs was floated in September 1946 for a normal rate of interest of 2½ per cent. The Government subscribed Rs. 25 lakhs and the amount subscribed by the public was Rs. 384.30 lakhs. The entire proceeds of the loan were utilized for financing productive capital outlay and for granting loans to local bodies, agriculturists, etc.

CHAPTER III—SEASONAL CONDITIONS, REVENUE, ETC.

Rainfall and crops.—The rainfall during the south-west monsoon was above the normal except in Madras, Chittoor and Coimbatore. The area cultivated from April to September 1947 was less than that in the previous year although it was greater than the average area cultivated during the last five years both in the case of wet and dry crops. The condition of the standing crops was generally fair.

The north-east monsoon was more or less a complete failure except in the Circars where there was heavy rainfall in the second week of December 1947. The standing crops withered on a large scale in Chingleput, South Arcot, Chittoor, North Arcot and Tinnevely districts and suffered for want of rain in the other parts of the Presidency except the Circars, where due to the heavy rainfall in the second week of December 1947, the standing crops and the crops harvested and spread on the fields were damaged in certain areas.

Famine.—The seasonal conditions were satisfactory and there was no famine in any of the districts. The need was not felt anywhere for the opening of famine relief works. In Tinnevely district the Collector has ordered towards the end of December the opening of road works to provide employment to unskilled labourers.

Land revenue.—Out of a demand of Rs. 10.77 crores for fasli 1356, a sum of Rs. 10.62 crores was either collected or written off. The percentage of the amount collected, written off and suspended to the total demand was 98.7 as against 98.5 in the previous fasli. There was an improvement in the collection work due to favourable seasonal conditions and to an improvement in the general economic condition of the agriculturists. On account of the widespread rains in November and December 1946 in the coastal and some central districts remission of land revenue had to be granted in some districts as shown below :—

	RS.		RS.
Guntur	81,687	Nellore	11,739
Cuddapah	77,239	Chittoor	72,784
Chingleput	58,533	North Arcot	1,50,690
South Arcot	62,097	Trichinopoly	7,129
Salem	7,513		

Dry remission was granted up to 25 per cent in seven villages of Adoni taluk and two villages of Alur taluk in Bellary district and up to 75 per cent in three villages in Kurnool taluk. In all these cases collection of kists was postponed to the next fasli.

Forest panchayats.—There were 868 forest panchayats managing an area of 3,069 square miles paying an annual rent of

Rs. 1,07,671. The question of bringing all the forest panchayats in the Presidency under departmental control was under the consideration of the Government.

Schemes for sinking of new wells and tanks and repairs to old wells and tanks.—Contrary to expectations, the food situation worsened after the war as imports from the usual sources were not received either because of transport difficulties or other reasons. The Government were, therefore, driven to the urgent necessity of augmenting the food production of the Province in all possible ways. Some projects were already sanctioned and taken up for execution, not to speak of several which were under investigation. But as these big projects could not be expected to give immediate relief, the Government sanctioned different schemes for the sinking of new wells and tanks and repairs to old wells which were mainly intended to give relief to the ryots in the dry districts, who depend for their irrigation on precarious sources of water-supply. The schemes were intended to give the maximum assistance to the ryots to enable them to complete the works in a few months and increase food production on both an intensive and extensive scale. The details of the different schemes are given below :—

(1) **The old (1944) scheme introduced under the Grow More Food campaign.**—This scheme was in force in eleven districts, viz., Kurnool, Cuddapah, Anantapur, Chittoor, Madura, North Arcot, Chingleput, Salem, Tinnevely, Ramnad and Bellary. Under this scheme a subsidy of 25 per cent of the cost of new wells or repairs to old wells subject to a maximum of Rs. 310 (except for Bellary district for which the maximum was Rs. 300) for a new well and Rs. 200 for an old well was granted. This scheme ceased to be in force by 31st March 1947.

(2) **The Accelerated Scheme.**—This scheme was introduced in February-March 1946 and was a short duration one primarily intended to meet an impending crisis in the food situation of the Province. This was in force in all the districts except the Nilgiris. The subsidy paid under this scheme was 50 per cent of the cost of the new well or repairs to an old well subject to a maximum of Rs. 310 for a new well and Rs. 160 for an old well. The scheme was very popular and subsidies were granted in a large number of cases in all the districts except Madras and the Nilgiris. Subsidies were not granted after 15th June 1946, but owing to the dearth of labour and other factors the expected progress could not be achieved and extension of time had to be given for completion of the works. The time for the construction of new wells has been extended up to 30th June 1948 in cases where at least some work had been done before 1st March 1947. The time allowed for the completion of repairs to old wells and restoration of abandoned wells expired on 30th June 1947 but it has been extended till 30th April 1948, the concession being restricted to cases where the parties, in the opinion of the Collectors concerned, have made substantial progress in carrying out the repairs.

(3) **The Ceded Districts Modified Scheme.**—As the above two schemes were not popular in the Ceded Districts since the subsidy offered was considered inadequate and did not afford sufficient encouragement to the ryots, the Government sanctioned this new scheme on 24th June 1946 especially for the Ceded Districts alone. The subsidy payable under this scheme was 50 per cent of the cost of sinking a new well or repairing a well subject to a maximum of Rs. 500 for a new well and Rs. 300 for an old well. The time allowed for completion of the works under this scheme was 30th June 1947. Extension of time for the construction of new wells has been granted up to 30th June 1948. In so far as repairs to old wells and restoration of abandoned wells in concerned the time allowed has been extended till 30th April 1948, the concession being restricted to cases where the parties, in the opinion of the Collectors concerned, have made substantial progress in carrying out the repairs.

Since there was a very great demand from the ryots for the continuance of the assistance rendered by the Government in the matter of providing better facilities for irrigation, the Government sanctioned with effect from 1st March 1947 a New Well Subsidy Scheme. This scheme supersedes all the three prior schemes and applies to all the districts in the Province except the Nilgiris and Madras. The following are the special features of the scheme :—

(a) This is a long term scheme which will be in force from 1st March 1947 to 30th June 1948.

(b) This scheme excludes within its purview repairs to old wells as the Government wished to eliminate the possibility of the concession being abused by any one.

(c) Special provision was made for the grant of subsidies for the construction of new tanks and repair of old tanks in the districts of South Kanara and Malabar.

The subsidies to be granted under this scheme will not be granted as subsidies straightway from the beginning but will be granted as loans in the first instance and will be converted into subsidies later on satisfactory completion of the works before 30th June 1948. The limits of subsidy offered are noted below :—

District.	Maximum subsidy.
South Kanara and Malabar	{ Rs. 300 for each new well and Rs. 500 for each tank, new or old.
Ceded Districts and special areas in other districts where the condition for well sinking are similar to those in the Ceded Districts. }	{ Rs. 500 for each new well.
Other districts	{ Rs. 300 for each new well.

In the case of tanks in South Kanara and Malabar discretion has been given to the Collectors and the Board of Revenue to sanction subsidies up to a limit of Rs. 1,000 and Rs. 2,000 respectively.

Court of Wards.—There were eight estates under the superintendence of the Court of Wards at the beginning of the year. One estate, Siripuram, was handed over to the proprietrix and another estate—that of the late Ramasimhan—in Malabar district was taken under the Court's management during the year. The Court's efforts were directed as in the previous years to the stabilization of administration, the improvement of finances, the liquidation of debts, the improvement of irrigation sources, the conservancy of forests and the education of the wards. Section 45 of the Madras Act I of 1902 was in force in the encumbered estates of Salur, Chundi and Sivagiri. The debts of the Sivagiri estate were being paid according to the approved scheme and the first instalment due to the Government towards the repayment of the loan of Rs. 2 lakhs obtained from them was paid. The surplus funds of the unencumbered estates were invested in Victory bonds and in other Government securities. In regard to irrigation sources much progress could not be made because of the dearth of qualified hands. The health and conduct of the wards have been generally satisfactory.

Commercial taxes.—The Commercial Taxation Acts include the Madras Sales of Motor Spirit Taxation Act, the Madras Entertainments Tax Act, the Madras General Sales Tax Act and the Madras Betting Tax Act. The working of the four Acts was satisfactory. There was no change in the rates of the General Sales Tax which continued to be one per cent for turn-overs exceeding Rs. 20,000 and slab rates for turn-overs less than Rs. 20,000. There was no change in the rates of the Madras Entertainments Tax. The rates of tax under the Betting Tax Act was raised from 6½ per cent to 12½ per cent in the case of the races at Guindy and from 3½ per cent to 5 per cent in the case of the races at Ootacamund. The rates of tax under the Madras Sales of Motor Spirit Taxation Act were raised with effect from 1st February 1947 as follows :—

(a) in the case of petrol, from one anna six pies per gallon to four annas per gallon ;

(b) in the case of any motor spirits other than petrol, from six pies per gallon to one anna six pies per gallon.

There was a marked increase in revenue under the General Sales Tax Act due to increase in the turn-over and rise in prices of commodities. There was an increase under the Madras Entertainments Tax Act also due to increased interest evinced by the public in films.

Excise and Prohibition

In spite of public criticism from some quarters that the Government should not have embarked on the ambitious programme of extending prohibition throughout the Province in such a short time as three years, foregoing a fairly large slice of Government revenue which could have been utilized for other nation-building activities, the Government decided to adhere to their original

decision and extended prohibition as a second stage to eight more districts, viz., Guntur, Nellore, Tanjore, Trichinopoly, Madura, Nilgiris, South Kanara and Malabar, with effect from 1st October 1947. The Government were fully convinced that whatever the financial difficulties might be, the quick enforcement of prohibition would stop the drain of wealth from the poorer classes and improve their social status and standard of living within the shortest possible period in a manner which no other venture could be expected to achieve. From 1st October 1947 two-thirds of the Province became dry.

Out of the eight districts to which prohibition was extended on 1st October 1947, the enforcement work was entrusted to the Police in three of them, viz., Tanjore, Trichinopoly and Madura and to the Excise Department in the rest. Altogether the Police were in charge of seven districts and the Excise Department of nine districts. Members of the subordinate Prohibition staff posted to districts under the charge of the Excise Department were given training in the Prohibition Training School at Bellary.

The following staff was employed for enforcement work in the several districts :—

Seven districts entrusted to the Police.

- 12 Deputy Superintendents of Police (recruited from Excise Inspectors).
- 15 Inspectors (9 from Excise).
- 160 Sub-Inspectors.
- 623 Head Constables.
- 1,650 Constables (700 from Excise peons).

Nine districts entrusted to the Excise department.

- 9 District Prohibition Officers (each in charge of an old Excise circle).
- 20 Deputy Prohibition Officers (each in charge of an old Excise circle).
- 40 Assistant Prohibition Officers (of the grade of Assistant Inspectors of Excise).
- 257 Prohibition Sub-Inspectors.
- 2,140 Prohibition guards.

All liquor and drug shops were closed in the prohibition districts. Opium was issued in small quantities to confirmed addicts on permits. Permits were issued for the possession and consumption of foreign liquor. Indians were ordinarily given these permits only if they were over 45 years of age and even then on production of medical certificates. The age-limit has since been raised to 55 except in the case of Anglo-Indians, Parsis and Jews. Possession of sacramental wine for Christian religious worship was permitted under 'Authorities' issued under the provisions of the Prohibition Act. To prevent the easy inflow of liquor clandestinely into prohibition zones a five-mile belt of dry area without any liquor or drug shops was created in the adjoining non-prohibition districts. The number of trees to be tapped in the border area of 10 miles was restricted

and the possession of liquor outside the licensed premises in the outer belt area of five miles was prohibited. Wherever Indian States and French Establishments adjoin the 'dry' districts the Governments of the States and the French India authorities agreed to extend full co-operation to the Madras Government by introducing prohibition in their territories or by removing liquor shops from the belt areas.

The enforcement side of prohibition is confined mainly to the detection of offences committed against the provisions of the Prohibition Act. During the ten months of the calendar year (January to October 1947) the number of cases detected was 21,993 excluding 658 cases detected in the new prohibition districts in October 1947. Out of the total number of cases detected in the old prohibition districts, 15,759 relate to illicit distillation. The chief menace to prohibition is illicit distillation. This is very difficult to detect not only because it can be carried on secretly without risk of discovery but also because it has the backing of some of the influential people in villages against whom it is difficult to get proof. Village and Taluk Prohibition Committees were formed to help the detection staff but their assistance was very meagre in most places. Attempts are being made to reconstitute these committees by taking in, as members persons of real integrity and selfless devotion who would be prepared to take any risk to expose the guilty, be they rich or poor, so that the Committees could be made more useful and effective. No reform of this kind can be expected to produce good results without the active and unstinted co-operation of the public. Border patrols were active in preventing the smuggling of liquor and drugs into dry areas. In some cases it was found that addicts would go into the adjoining wet districts and return fully drunk. To meet such cases the Madras Prohibition Amendment Act XXI of 1947 was passed in December 1947 making drunkenness an offence and it is expected that this measure would effectively curb this tendency.

The enforcement of prohibition is, after all, only the negative aspect of the general policy of prohibition. In order that the largest beneficial results may accrue from this policy, the addicts of drink should not only be compulsorily kept away from drinking but their mind and thought should be diverted to healthful, recreational and cultural activities. Along this way lies not only the means for successful enforcement but also for elevating the life of those addicts to a higher and happier plane. Village games, songs and folk-dances and community centres for village uplift will benefit not only these addicts but also will provide for the better living of the people of the village generally. It is recognized on all sides that the greatest need of the country at the present time is to re-build our village communities on a healthier and happier basis. It is fortunate that the implementation of the policy of prohibition by the Madras Government has also directed the attention and efforts of the Government to this urgent need.

In order to help in the reconstruction of rural life, side by side with the policy of enforcement of prohibition, the Government have started an ameliorative department to implement a positive programme of rural reconstruction activities. This department consists of the following staff :—

	Old districts.	New districts.	
Development officers (rank of Deputy Registrars)	8	8	
Assistant Development officers	31	30*	} One for each division.
Ballad singers	31	32	
Rural recreation officers	77	67	} None in the Nilgiris.
Village guides	77	67	
			} One for each taluk.

Tea stalls were opened at or near the sites where toddy shops existed before to provide a substitute drink to those who were habituated to toddy. A subsidy of Rs. 100 was sanctioned by the Government for each stall. One thousand four hundred and seventy-eight stalls were opened in the old prohibition districts and 1,900 in the new districts.

Counter attractions provided were in the nature of rural sports and games, folk-dances, kathaprasangams, kalakshepams, Hari-kathas and village dramas. Each prohibition district was provided with a propaganda van equipped with a cinema outfit and public address system. It was also supplied with gramophone records and films.

Special mention has to be made of the thrift campaign launched by co-operative societies. Hundi boxes were opened and the old addicts were persuaded to put their savings therein instead of wasting their money as previously. A sum of Rs. 1.32 lakhs was saved through such boxes in the prohibition districts. To train young men in rural recreation work and to make them acquainted with plans and policies of the various nation building departments of Governments, four rural uplift schools in each of the prohibition districts (one for each quarter and in each Revenue division by rotation) were conducted and the Government sanctioned a subsidy of Rs. 1,000 to each school. These schools were conducted in all the old prohibition districts.

Cottage industries were organized wherever possible on a co-operative basis. The following are the societies formed for the benefit of ex-addicts :—

- (1) Leather goods manufacturing co-operative society at Rajampet, Cuddapah district, with ex-addict cobblers as members.
- (2) Society for the manufacture of country carts at Bojjayyapalli, Cuddapah district.
- (3) Iron and metal works society at Attayampattee, Salem district, with Adi-Dravidas as members.
- (4) Mat Weavers' Society at Uttamasholapuram, Salem district, and Galayalla in Bellary district.
- (5) Society for cotton rope making at Kenathennai, Madura district.

(6) Co-operative Building Society at Sholinghur, North Arcot district.

Besides these, Co-operative Milk Supply societies were organized at ten places. Proposals were under consideration for the formation of societies for basket making for Koravas in Vellore and mat weaving for Harijans and tappers in Bellary district and for a pottery near Proddatur in Cuddapah district.

Steps were taken to provide alternative employment for tappers. Twenty-one thousand tappers in old prohibition districts and 58,100 tappers in the new prohibition districts were thrown out of employment consequent on the introduction of prohibition. They were mostly absorbed in the jaggery making industry. One hundred and eighty-eight societies were started in the old prohibition districts with a membership of 9,597. The societies produced 1.88 lakhs maunds of jaggery worth Rs. 13.18 lakhs. In the new prohibition districts 66 societies were started in Malabar and South Kanara districts with a membership of 10,565.

Other special schemes were also organized on a co-operative basis to provide employment for tappers, such as formation of a carpet weaving society at Ayodhyapatnam, Salem district, and a weaving society at Reddinaickenpalayam in North Arcot district.

The abkari and opium administration in the British enclave villages of Anjengo and Tangasseri continued to be carried out by the Travancore Government on the same terms as in previous year. There was a decrease in the consumption of arrack during the nine months of the year when compared with the corresponding period of the previous year. Jaggery arrack was replaced by molasses arrack in non-prohibition districts for the reason that it would fetch more revenue to Government and would conserve fuel and also jaggery which is a valuable food. This change, among other reasons, has resulted in a fall in consumption to some extent. The system of rationing continued but the total ration for the Province was cut by 10 per cent from 1st April to 30th September 1947. There was a decrease in the consumption of Indian made foreign spirits also which was due to the introduction of prohibition and the availability of imported foreign liquor in the market. The rates of duty continued to be the same except in the Agency where the rates were slightly enhanced from 1st April 1947.

The Indian Women's Civic Corps organization was entrusted with the work of getting into touch with the women folk of ex-addicts, educate them on the value of prohibition and secure their full assistance in the successful working of the reform.

On the whole the working of prohibition was satisfactory and with the full co-operation of the public there is fair prospect of achieving substantial success in the years to come. There has been a distinct improvement in the social and economic conditions of the poor in the old prohibition districts.

CHAPTER IV—LAW AND ORDER

Police

General.—Even from the beginning of the year which heralded the dawn of freedom, forces of disorder had begun to spread throughout the Province. There was a wave of labour unrest in some of the districts which resulted in a series of strikes. The relations between landlords and tenants grew worse and there was widespread agrarian unrest in the deltaic areas of the Andhra districts and in the Tamilnad. The Province was fortunately spared the orgy of communal violence which exhibited itself in certain parts of Northern India. Still, there were sporadic outbursts of communal tension and minor clashes occurred here and there. There was also a marked increase in crime due to more unemployment and the abrogation of the Criminal Tribes Act. It is indeed noteworthy that the police who were subjected to an unusually heavy strain during the year in dealing with diverse complicated situations as detailed above showed remarkable efficiency and maintained law and order very satisfactorily.

Staff.—In order to cope with the situation the following measures were adopted to give relief to the police force and improve its efficiency:—

- (1) The Police staff was strengthened in several districts due to the extension of prohibition and the opening of new stations.
- (2) A refresher course of training for six months for head constables was prescribed to improve their efficiency and standard of work.
- (3) The scales of pay of the constabulary were further raised with effect from 1st April 1947.
- (4) The Police Wireless Scheme was expanded during the year.

Two war service candidates joined the Police Training School as Probationary Assistant Superintendents of Police. No Deputy Superintendent of Police was sent for training during the year. On the transfer of power on 15th August 1947, twenty-one Indian Police Officers proceeded on leave preparatory to retirement and one officer was released for service in Pakistan.

Training schools.—Forty-nine head constables fit for promotion as Sub-Inspectors were under training in the Police Training School for a period of six months from 1st July 1947. The Central Recruits' School at Vellore, Coimbatore and Anantapur, continued to train a large number of recruits. Two Central Recruits' Schools, one at Trichinopoly and the other at Vizianagram, were opened on 1st October 1947 to train recruits required for prohibition duties. Thirty-eight Indian Sergeants, who were selected at the end of the previous year, commenced their training in the Malabar Special Police from 4th January 1947.

Armed forces.—The Armed Reserves, including the Sivakasi and Kamudni Special Forces in the Ramnad district and the Malabar Special Police maintained a fair standard of efficiency. The Malabar Special Police was deputed to various parts of the Province for the maintenance of law and order as in previous years. The Government sanctioned the formation of four Special Armed Police Units which were under formation at Red Hills, Bellary and Tadepalligudem. The additional police stationed at the cost of the inhabitants at Chinnasettipalli, Musalareddipalle and Thimakuntla villages in the Cuddapah district and in Muradi and Hanumapuram villages in the Bellary district was continued this year also. The additional police in Gudipad village in the Cuddapah district was withdrawn.

Crime.—There was an increase in the total crime in the year by about 18.6 per cent over the figure of 1946. The increase is noticeable under all heads except murder and cattle thefts. Dacoity increased by 82.5 per cent, robbery by 38.5 per cent, house-breaking by 22.2 per cent and major thefts by 23.8 per cent. There was an increase in all the districts except in the Ceded districts, Tanjore, Ramnad and Coimbatore. Murder and cattle thefts decreased by 4.1 and 4.9 per cent respectively. Detection was 26 per cent during the year as against 28.3 per cent in 1946 and 26 per cent in 1945.

The Central Intelligence Bureau at Madras continued to be of great use. The District Intelligence Bureau at district headquarters under the charge of Inspectors and the Joint Intelligence Bureau at Madura under the charge of a Deputy Superintendent of Police worked satisfactorily.

As the Government decided to repeal the Criminal Tribes Act, fresh registrations under the Criminal Tribes Act and proceedings of registration of individuals under the Habitual Offenders Act were not undertaken during the year. The restrictions imposed on members of the tribes were also considerably relaxed. The Village Vigilance Committees were not as helpful as they might have been. The Committees were reconstituted in the West Godavari, Bellary and North and South Arcot districts.

After the introduction of prohibition in eight more districts on 1st October 1947 the working of the Prohibition Act in three districts, viz., Tanjore, Trichinopoly and Madura was entrusted to the Police Department while the Excise Department was working the Act in the remaining five districts.

Riots and disturbances.—There were 65 cases of riots and disturbances during the year. Most of them were of a minor nature but on 24 occasions the Police had to open fire to restore law and order. There were Hindu-Muslim clashes in the districts of Guntur, Nellore, Kurnool, Anantapur, Chittoor, North Arcot, Madura North and South and Ramnad. Tear gas was used in a greater measure successfully to disperse the unruly mob at Pandalgudy.

in the Madura North district and the workers of the Buckingham and Carnatic Mills at Madras. It was also used to disperse the non-gazetted officers who defied orders under section 144 of the Criminal Procedure Code in December 1947. The Government have sanctioned the formation of additional Tear Smoke Squads in Guntur, Malabar, South Arcot, Anantapur, Chingleput, Vizagapatam South, Trichinopoly, Salem, Tinnevely and Malappuram and arrangements were made for the supply of necessary equipment to them.

The political situation in the Hyderabad State had very serious reactions in the bordering districts of the Province, but adequate and timely steps were taken to allay panic and restore confidence among the public. The situation was tense till the signing of the Stand-Still Agreement between the Government of the Indian Dominion and the Hyderabad State. Thereafter, there was considerable improvement in the situation.

The branch of the C.I.D. which was constituted during the latter half of 1946 to deal with black-marketing and corruption among Government servants did very useful work during the year. Under blackmarketing, out of 3,813 cases taken up, 1,109 cases ended in conviction, 234 were discharged or acquitted or dropped and 2,470 were pending trial or under investigation. Many cases of corruption on the part of various officers of all departments of the Government were brought to light and reports were sent to the Government for final orders.

City Police

The jurisdiction of the City Police was extended by the inclusion of Saidapet Municipality and Sembiam Panchayat Board areas from 1st July 1947 and the area of the City after inclusion was 50 square miles. Consequent on this additional jurisdiction the City Police was suitably strengthened. Even more than the general Police, the City Police had a very strenuous time during the year in dealing with unprecedented situations.

Crime.—The incidence of crime in the City remained steady but detection improved slightly having gone up to 55 per cent as against 54 per cent of the previous year. The effective preventive measures adopted were largely responsible for the satisfactory crime position.

Law and order.—During the first half of the year there was considerable labour unrest and there were a number of strikes. The Buckingham and Carnatic Mills strike was the most important one which commenced on 11th March 1947 and continued for 100 days. This imposed a lot of extra strain on the Police force.

The outstanding political event of the year was the transfer of power on August the 15th, 1947 and this event was celebrated on a very large scale with unprecedented enthusiasm. The event

passed off very peacefully. There were frequent strikes by the drivers and conductors of Transport Services but the situation on all the occasions was handled in time effectively by the police. Communal clashes were prevented by constant vigilance and timely action.

The Government decided to nationalize the Bus Transport Service in the City in stages. Six Government buses were put on the road in March 1947, on 1st December the number increased to 118. Nationalization was expected to be completed by March 1948. The number of taxis was increased from 167 to 235 and most of the taxis were of the latest model.

The Police control and mobilization systems were improved during the year. The City Police received V.H.F. radio telephony equipment which was far superior to the military wireless communication material formerly used.

The total number of accidents in the year was 2,092 as against 2,040 in the previous year. The increase is negligible considering the very large number of motor vehicles that were put on the road.

Harbour Police.—The post of the Deputy Commissioner, Harbour, was abolished from 15th August 1947 and the administration of the Harbour Police was transferred back to the Deputy Commissioner, Traffic. The temporary establishment of one Inspector and two Sub-Inspectors sanctioned previously was discontinued from 1st December 1947. The Harbour Police were kept fully engaged during the year owing to the frequent troop movements from Burma, Singapore and Japan and the heavy cargo traffic. Thefts contributed as usual to the largest number of offences and one outstanding case was the theft of thirteen revolvers kept under Military guard. The military authorities had taken up the investigation in the matter.

Prisons

There was an appreciable increase in the daily average number of convicts, undertrials, civil prisoners, etc., during the year due to the influx of prisoners convicted under the Prohibition Act and of those detained under the Madras Maintenance of Public Order Ordinance. Communist disturbances and labour strikes also contributed to the increase in the jail population. With the extension of prohibition to eight more districts on 1st October 1947, the average number is likely to rise still further. There was overcrowding in the Central Jails at Coimbatore and Vellore, the Presidency Jail for Women and the Alipuram Jail, Bellary. The number of prison offences was 857 (840). The number of prisoners released on the recommendations of the Advisory Board was 364 (332). The number released under the Premature Release Scheme was 371. Besides this 6,849 prisoners were released from the Central and Special Jails of the Province and 9,889 prisoners were granted special remission in connection with the Independence Day celebrations.

Several changes were made in the prison administration during the year :—

(1) Separation of the Certified Schools and other institutions connected with the reformation of juvenile delinquents into a separate department under the administrative control of the Chief Inspector of Certified Schools.

(2) Prisoners who had hitherto been classified into A, B or C classes were ordered to be classified into two classes only, viz., Class I and Class II.

(3) Class I prisoners were allowed to supplement their food with articles such as biscuits, etc., at their own cost. They were also allowed to use toilet articles such as soap, hair oil, etc., at their own cost.

(4) Increased facilities were given to prisoners by permitting Class II prisoners to write and to receive two letters in a month and have two interviews in a month and Class I prisoners to write and receive four letters in a month and have two interviews in a month.

(5) Improvement of jail dairies.

The Borstal School at Palamecottah functioned during the year but was overcrowded and the question of opening a second school was under the consideration of the Government. The Government sanctioned two posts of secondary grade teachers, one for the Tamil and the other for the Telugu section to impart better instruction to the boys. A special feature introduced during the year was the system of unlocking the well-behaved boys during nights and permitting them to sleep in verandahs. The system worked satisfactorily.

The administration of Certified Schools was transferred to the Chief Inspector of Certified Schools whose post was newly created with effect from March 1947. The daily average number of pupils detained in all the Government and private certified schools decreased still further to 2,087 (2,828). The decrease was due to the release of many pupils on the occasion of the celebration of the Independence Day. Notwithstanding the mass discharge of pupils, there was still overcrowding in the Junior Certified School, Ranipet. Education is given to pupils up to the VIII Standard in the Junior Certified Schools and up to the VI Standard in the Senior Certified School, Chingleput. The medium of instruction is the mother-tongue. Vocational training was imparted in the schools in weaving, carpentry, tailoring, blacksmithy, masonry, book-binding and laundry. Band was also taught. The noteworthy features in the administration were the appointment of an Adviser to Government in Child Psychology for one year and the introduction of Carnatic music in the curriculum and the appointment of a part-time music instructor in the Senior Certified School, Chingleput, for a period of six months.

The Madras Probation of Offenders Act was in force in the City of Madras and sixteen districts. In April 1946 the Government provincialized the posts of Probation officers and removed the supervision of probation work from the non-official bodies. Subject to the control and supervision of the Inspector-General of Prisons the Chief Probation Superintendent administered the work of probation throughout the Province and District Probation Officers were appointed for the City and for the districts to which the Act was extended. Probation work was carried on under three different Acts, viz., The Madras Children Act, the Madras Borstal Schools Act and the Madras Probation of Offenders Act. The probation work consists of enquiries and supervision of the pupils dealt with by the Courts under the three special Acts and also supervision of pupils released on licence or discharged after the expiry of their period of detention. During the year 1946 the District Probation Officers made 2,264 enquiries and 2,687 persons were placed under their supervision. The District Probation Officers paid 12,674 visits to probationers at their homes, workshop or schools.

The Central and District Committees of the Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society, Borstal Association, etc., continued to render all possible help to the released prisoners and Borstal inmates in their respective localities.

Criminal Tribes Settlements and Reclamation

The administration of the criminal tribes settlements and the reclamation centres continued to be under the charge of the Deputy Inspector-General of Police, C.I.D. and Railways, Madras.

Agriculture was the main occupation of the settlers in the settlements and Yenadi colonies. The settlers in Chintaladevi and Sitanagaram showed some disinclination towards agriculture in expectation of their being set free as a result of the repeal of the Criminal Tribes Act. The settlers in Stuartpuram and Yenadi colonies in Chittoor district showed greater interest in agriculture and seeds were supplied free and advances made by the Agricultural Department to the Yenadis in Chittoor district. The usual industries, namely, chapli-making, weaving, stone-quarrying and manufacture of matches, etc., were carried on in the settlements and the Yenadis took to charcoal making as being very remunerative. The health of the settlers was generally good. The incidence of malaria continued to be high in Suddhapuram settlement and anti-malarial operations were undertaken. Rural Medical Officers were appointed in Suddhapuram and Aznagar Settlements. Qualified candidates were not available for the dispensaries in other settlements which continued to be visited by medical officers from the adjoining Government or Local Fund Dispensaries. VI Standard was newly opened in the Suddhapuram Settlement school during the year. The attendance of children in the settlement schools was fair except in Sitanagaram and Chintaladevi settlements schools where

there was a fall in attendance. In 25 Kallar schools non-Kallar children were admitted and the system was working satisfactorily. The strength of the settlers in the reformatory settlement at Bitragunta came down still further to 32 males and 2 females. - Proposals for the closing of this settlement are under consideration. Further progress in the matter of reformation of the criminal tribes was intimately connected with the policy of the Government regarding the reclamation of the Criminal tribes consequent on the repeal of the Criminal Tribes Act.

Civil Justice

The number of institutions and suits in the superior courts and in the mufassal continued to be on the increase as in the last year. The institution in 1947 was higher than in 1946 in all the districts except Anantapur, Chingleput, Cuddapah, Nellore and East Tanjore and the institution was steady in the districts of Bellary, Chittoor and East Godavari. The increase was marked in respect of title suits and was due to the increase in the value of landed property. But for the increase in prices, some of these suits should have been filed in the inferior courts. As regards the inferior courts, the institution in 1947 was higher than that in 1946 in the districts of Anantapur, North Arcot, South Arcot, Chingleput, Chittoor, Coimbatore, Cuddapah, South Kanara, Kurnool, Salem, East Tanjore, West Tanjore, Trichinopoly and Vizagapatam. The institution was less in the districts of Bellary, Guntur, Kistna, North Malabar, South Malabar, Nellore, Ramnad and Tinnevely and it was stationary in the districts of East Godavari, West Godavari and Madura. The fall in the institution in North and South Malabar districts was due, as in the previous year, to the amendment passed to the Malabar Tenancy Act and to the passing of the Madras Tenants and Ryots Protection Act. The increase in the proportion of land suits to money suits was maintained as in the previous year. This is an indication that the general improvement in the economic and prosperous condition of the agriculturists was maintained. There was a general increase in the institution of small cause suits in all the districts except Anantapur, Bellary, Cuddapah, Kurnool, Nellore and Vizagapatam. The increase in the number of small cause suits was due to the free flow of money and grant of unsecured loans more freely than before. The scheme of giving small cause work to official receivers by appointing them as additional Judges of Small Cause Courts was extended to all the districts except North Malabar, Chittoor and Ramnad. There was a fall in the number of execution petitions as in the previous year. This indicates a definite improvement in the paying capacity of debtors to liquidate their debts. The number of Civil appeals increased in fourteen districts and decreased in the rest. The Subordinate Judges were given appellate jurisdiction under the Madras Buildings (Lease and Rent Control) Act of 1946, and this

is responsible for an increase in the number of Civil Miscellaneous Appeals filed in their courts.

In the City Civil Court, there was an appreciable increase in the original suits. There was a slight increase in the number of execution petitions also. In the Court of Small Causes, Madras, there was a substantial increase in the institution of suits and of miscellaneous applications and petitions. The number of references under the Land Acquisition Act and Rent Control Appeals increased considerably. On the original side of the High Court there was an appreciable increase in the institution of original suits and fall in the institution of matrimonial suits. There was an increase in the number of insolvent institutions also. On the Appellate Side, there was an increase in the institution of civil appeals, Original Side appeals and second appeals, while there was a fall in the City Civil Court appeals and Letters Patent Appeals. The institution of civil miscellaneous appeals was more or less stationary. There was a considerable increase in the number of civil revision petitions.

At the beginning of the year 652 estates vested in the Administrator-General. Nine were taken over during the year and the accounts of 107 estates were closed. There were 554 estates at the end of the year. The number of estates which vested in the Official Trustee at the beginning of the year was 574. During the year eleven estates were taken charge of and 47 estates were closed. The number of estates vested at the end of the year was 538.

Registration

The temporary establishment of six District Registrars with their staff was continued during the year. Ten sub-registry offices were newly opened during the year. The following nine were opened with effect from 1st May 1947 :—

- | | |
|---|---------------------------|
| (1) Jeggampeta (East Godavari district). | |
| (2) Kasibugga | } (Vizagapatam district). |
| (3) Ponduru | |
| (4) Amaravati (Guntur district). | |
| (5) Sirvel | } (Kurnool district). |
| (6) Kodumuru | |
| (7) Kilakkarai (Ramnad district). | |
| (8) Mulaikaraipatti (Tinnevely district). | |
| (9) Oddanchatram (Madura district). | |

The tenth office was opened at Kanumolu (Kistna district) with effect from the 1st September 1947. The sub-district of Polavaram was transferred from the district of East Godavari to that of West Godavari with effect from the 1st June 1947.

Sub-clause 16 of article 1 (a) of the table of fees was amended and the registration fees for every Rs. 1,000 or part thereof in excess of Rs. 5,000 was enhanced from Rs. 2-8-0 to Rs. 4 with effect

from the 1st May 1947. Persons belonging to the scheduled castes who are members of Co-operative Societies were exempted from the payment of registration fees for a further period of two years.

In respect of documents registered at the Registrar's office on a holiday on account of a special urgency the fee was enhanced from Rs. 2 to Rs. 10 for each document.

The total number of documents registered decreased still further during the year to 1,378,406 (1,527,686) but the income rose to Rs. 75.36 lakhs (73.59). The increase was mainly on account of the collection charges credited to this Department in respect of the surcharge duty imposed on transfers of property in the mufassal. The expenditure of the Department rose from Rs. 41.75 lakhs. The increase was mainly due to the revision of salaries with effect from 1st January 1947.

During the year 2,500 (2,380) firms were registered and 160 (166) were dissolved under the Indian Partnership Act of 1932.

Fire Services

Under the peace time organization of the Madras Fire Services, Fire services sections are to be provided in 82 towns, but they were actually functioning only in 55 towns including Madras City. There was delay in opening new sections already sanctioned as the construction of temporary fire stations could not be pushed through and suitable private rented buildings were not available for the purpose. The number of fire calls attended to was 1,826, of which 32 were false alarms. In 65 cases the fires were serious involving loss of property exceeding Rs. 10,000. The value of property lost or damaged by fire throughout the Presidency was estimated at Rs. 44.9 lakhs, and the property at risk and saved from destruction was worth Rs. 520 lakhs.

There were 65 ambulances distributed among the several stations and 6,328 ambulance calls were attended to. A sum of Rs. 46,554 was realized from the calls. Besides this, a sum of Rs. 49,818 was realized on account of private pumping done by fire services and other miscellaneous receipts. The fire services were becoming more and more popular and useful to the public.

The Madras Fire Services took over the responsibilities of fire protection of the Vizagapatam Harbour, and a new section called the "Vizagapatam Port Section" was opened with effect from the 1st July 1947.

The Fire Services Workshops at Madras, Coimbatore and Bezvada attended to all minor repairs and replacements to vehicles within their region. An emergency Breakdown Van was acquired for this Department. It is fitted with necessary equipment for towing or lifting crashed vehicles and for picking up over-turned

vehicles and is capable of dealing with all emergencies at fires and accidents. It was also used as a mobile workshop to attend to urgent and minor repairs to the vehicles at the city stations.

The Madras Fire Services Training School was under the charge of a Station Officer and trained persons for the various posts. Two District Officers were given training and posted to regions. A regular course was conducted for selected Station officers and sub-officers.

The Indianisation of the Services was in progress.

Motor Vehicles

One hundred and ninety-six sale orders were issued under the Civil Motor Cars Control Order, 1945, between 1st January 1947 to 4th March 1947 when the order was superseded by the Madras Civil Motor Cars Control Order, 1947. Under the latter order 10 per cent of the total number of cars imported were reserved for essential users till 30th June 1947. Thereafter the percentage was increased to 20. Government servants, Members of Legislatures and the Presidents and Secretaries of the District Co-operative Wholesale Stores in the Presidency were considered as essential users for the purpose of this order. Subsequent to 4th March 1947, 351 cars were given to essential users out of those reserved for them. One thousand one hundred and eight commercially imported transport motor vehicles were allotted to the various departments. Three hundred and seventy-four buses were allotted to the mufassal and 441 buses to the City for transport purposes. The supply position of vehicles still continued to be acute as the demand was much in excess of the supply. Control over cars was continued in the Province under the Madras Essential Articles Control and Requisition Temporary Power Act, 1946. The Government passed towards the close of the year the Madras Ex-army Motor Vehicles Control Order, 1947. The scarcity of spare parts continued during the year due to short supply. The monetary limit fixed for the purchase of spare parts was increased from Rs. 400 to Rs. 600 in the case of transport vehicles fitted with gas plants.

The administration of the Motor Spirit Rationing Schemes continued as before. The Government of India introduced a quota system for the provinces with effect from August 1946. The quota allotted to this Province for the year 1947 was 160.37 lakhs of gallons. The issues were 159.82 lakhs of gallons. Although there was a very large increase in the number of vehicles released to the public the provincial quota of petrol was not correspondingly enhanced and hence drastic cuts had to be imposed on the supply of petrol in respect of all classes of vehicles including those used by essential services and those engaged on essential purposes. The scarcity became very acute in the last quarter of the year and an average all round reduction of 30 per cent had to be effected in the issue of rations to all classes of vehicles. The unit value of the basic

or ordinary coupons issued to motor cars and motor cycles had to be halved for a period during the quarter. The total consumption of petrol for the whole Province during the year was 127.93 lakhs of gallons (118).

Motor Transport

The policy pursued in 1946 of encouraging large fleet operators having 20 or more buses resulted in the creation of a monopoly in the trade and consequential deterioration in the efficiency in services. The travelling public were put to a great deal of inconvenience and there was much opposition to the continuance of the policy. The Government therefore modified the previous orders by throwing open the field of transport to any person or concern having at least three buses with resources and workshop equipment necessary for running the services efficiently. As a result of this new policy many new persons were able to enter the field and due to greater and healthier competition the standard of efficiency in services had improved considerably.

The most important feature of the year in the matter of transport was the decision to nationalize passenger transport services in the Province in stages within a period of five years. The scheme is intended to secure the maximum convenience to the travelling public by providing efficient means of transport at fairly cheap rates. As a beginning, the Government decided to take over the services in Madras City. A start was made in the month of March with 30 buses. The number of State Buses on 1st December 1947 was 118. The Government expect to complete the scheme in the City by March 1948 with 300 buses running on the roads as against the existing number of 230.

In response to the representations of the transport operators, the Government passed orders in May 1947 for the reconstitution of the Regional Transport Authorities having one authority for each district consisting of the District Magistrates as Chairman and the District Superintendent of Police, the President of the District Board and one non-official of the district as members.

During the year there was an increase of 1,395 buses and 3,031 lorries. The increase is due to the release of a large number of surplus army vehicles. In spite of the above increase the demand for buses is still very acute as the passenger traffic increased by leaps and bounds after the war. The Government issued orders in November fixing the maximum bus fare throughout the Province at six pies per mile on plains and one anna per mile on ghat roads.

With a view to minimize road accidents caused by motor vehicles, the Government have fixed speed limits for all kinds of motor vehicles and issued necessary instructions to transport authorities to take preventive measures. To ensure a better type of drivers for transport vehicles the opening of a training school for drivers

where they could be given instruction in elementary mechanism and an intensive and rigorous course in driving was under the consideration of the Government.

The Chemical Examiner's Department

The work of this Department mainly comprises the examination of articles for poisons (in human and cattle poisoning cases), for blood in homicidal and hurt cases, blood and semen in rape and other unnatural crimes and for the examination of fire-arms and bullets, etc. This Department also conducted the general analysis of various articles for Government Departments and the Corporation of Madras. Medico-legal examinations were carried out as usual for the Central Government Departments and for Cochin, Banganapalle and Pudukottah States. During the year the Department dealt with 9,236 articles involved in 1,828 cases. Of the above 2,756 cases related to human poisoning. Research work was done in regard to the study of the toxic principle from the flowers of the Madar plant. An investigation was made into the chemical tests available for the identification of Coleander in poisoning cases. A preliminary study was made on the toxic properties of 'Varagu.'

Criminal Justice, 1947

There was an increase in total crime in the districts of Anantapur, North Arcot, Chittoor, Kistna, South Kanara, Kurnool, Madura, Malabar, Nellore, Nilgiris, Salem and Trichinopoly, while there was a decrease in the districts of West Godavari, Ramnad and Tanjore. Grave crime increased in the districts of North Arcot, South Arcot, Chittoor, Cuddapah, West Godavari, Kistna, Kurnool, Madura, Nilgiris, Salem and Tanjore. There was a general increase in the number of crimes against property, and this is due, mainly, to the unsettled economic condition and in a small measure also to the removal of restrictions on the criminal tribes. There was a wave of labour unrest which resulted in a large number of strikes.

There was also widespread agrarian unrest in the deltaic areas both in the North and in the South, and these movements received the active support of the Communists. There were sporadic outbreaks of communal rioting in certain districts which were controlled effectively by the Police and the Magistracy.

There was an increase in the number of Sessions cases filed in the districts of South Arcot, Chingleput, West Godavari, South Kanara, Kistna, Kurnool, North Malabar, Nellore, Ramnad, West Tanjore, Tinnevely and Trichinopoly and a decrease in the remaining districts. The increase in grave crimes in the districts of South Kanara, North Malabar and West Tanjore was due to agrarian troubles. There was a decrease in the number of murder cases

in the districts of Kurnool and Salem due to the introduction of prohibition in those districts.

Criminal appellate work was less in the districts of Anantapur, Coimbatore, Cuddapah, West Godavari, Guntur, South Kanara, Kurnool, South Malabar, West Tanjore, Tinnevely and Vizagapatam and it was more in the districts of North Arcot, South Arcot, Chittoor, East Godavari, Kistna, Madura, North Malabar, Nellore, Salem, East Tanjore and Trichinopoly.

There was a fall in the number of criminal revision cases in all the districts except South Arcot, Bellary, Chittoor, East Godavari, Kistna and Kurnool. Owing to the extension of the City limits, one more Presidency Magistrate was appointed during the year. There was an increase in the total number of crimes and the increase was noticeable in respect of offences both under the Indian Penal Code and under the Local and Special Laws. Under the Indian Penal Code the increase was in respect of offences against person and property and of those relating to weights and measures. The increase under the Local and Special Laws was due to an increase in the number of offences under the City Police Act, the Motor Vehicles Act and the Madras Traffic Rules.

In the High Court, there was a marked decrease in the institution of criminal appeals revision cases and in the number of referred trials. There was a slight increase in the institution of criminal miscellaneous cases. There was an increase in the number of cases committed to High Court Sessions.

CHAPTER V—LOCAL ADMINISTRATION

There were 24 district boards and 81 municipalities in the Province excluding the Corporation of Madras. The Government postponed the elections to the municipal councils and placed the Municipal Commissioners as Special Officers in charge of the respective municipal councils from the noon of 31st March 1947. The elections were subsequently held in all municipalities except Trichinopoly, Tirupati, Gudivada, Guntur, Hindupur and Cuddalore. Seventy-three councils were reconstituted with effect from 2nd October 1947 and two more from 15th December 1947. Elections have not been held to the district boards. They were still under the charge of Collectors as Special Officers except in one district where a separate Special Officer was appointed. The scales of pay of the employees of the district boards and municipalities were revised and given effect to from different dates in the year. A sum of Rs. 48 lakhs was sanctioned by the Government to the district boards and Rs. 26 lakhs to municipal councils including the Corporation of Madras, towards a part of the deficiency in the maximum amount of compensation payable to them under the Madras Motor Vehicles Taxation Act for the years from 1931-32 to 1940-41. The Government also paid Rs. 24.66 lakhs as grants to local boards and municipal councils towards the payment of dearness and war allowances to their staff including the elementary education staff.

Municipalities.—Compulsory education was in force in 27 municipal areas including the Corporation of Madras. The municipal councils maintained 1,250 elementary schools at a cost of Rs. 42.99 lakhs and provided education for 191,265 children. They also maintained 67 secondary schools. The Salem Municipal Council maintained a first grade college, and that of Ellore a second grade college. The secondary grade college for women at Guntur which was run by the municipal council was taken over by the Government. There were 132 municipal medical institutions which afforded relief to 5,952 in-patients and 3,810,571 out-patients. The Madras Corporation maintained 174 elementary schools providing instruction for 51,512 children.

District Boards.—The district boards maintained 272 secondary schools and 15,014 elementary schools providing education for 119,085 and 1,436,708 children respectively. The district boards also maintained 1,234 medical institutions which afforded relief to 31,786 in-patients and 13,775,721 out-patients.

Panchayats.—During the year 125 panchayats were constituted and 15 were abolished for maladministration and other reasons. The total number of panchayat boards at the end of the year was 7,287. Seven panchayat boards were dissolved and reconstituted and thirteen were superseded. In 25 cases, the presidents or

vice-presidents were removed for abusing their powers or for failure to discharge their duties. Two ex-presidents of panchayat boards were prosecuted and convicted during the year, one for misappropriation of panchayat funds and the other for failure to hand over panchayat records and cash to his successor.

Elections.—Pending decision of the Government on the question of introduction of adult franchise to local boards, ordinary elections to panchayat boards were postponed.

Works.—A grant of Rs. 3 lakhs was sanctioned by the Government for the improvement of village communications in the panchayat areas during 1947-48. A sum of Rs. 1.79 lakhs was actually disbursed to the panchayat boards during the year.

There were 1,198 panchayat schools at the end of the year with 2,124 teachers. A sum of Rs. 7.31 lakhs was disbursed towards teaching grants and dearness allowance.

Local Fund Audit.—The audit of the accounts of the local boards and other institutions was continued but was done on a still further reduced scale to enable the department to undertake more work in connexion with the State Trading Schemes. The audit of nine more panchayat boards and ten institutions was entrusted to the Local Fund Audit Department.

During the year the Hon'ble Minister for Local Administration visited 24 municipalities and several panchayats and villages in the districts of Anantapur, South Arcot, Guntur, South Kanara, Kistna, Kurnool, the Nilgiris, Tinnevely and Trichinopoly.

CHAPTER VI—PUBLIC HEALTH AND MEDICINE

Vital statistics.—The estimated mid-year population for the Province excluding the Vizagapatam Agency, for 1947 for which vital statistics were recorded was 52.369 millions. The birth and death rates based on the statistics compiled for the first ten months for 1947 remained steady, as in the previous year, at 29.7 and 17.7 per thousand respectively. The infant mortality rate increased from 145.2 to 184.7, while the maternal mortality rate remained the same.

Public health.—An epidemic of cholera started towards the end of the third quarter. It was comparatively mild in the northern districts, while it was a little more severe in the southern districts. The contagion spread in the southern districts mostly through rivers and irrigation channels and it was due to the migration of labour for harvesting purposes. Plague was prevalent in the districts of Coimbatore, Salem, Bellary, Anantapur, Chittoor, the Nilgiris, North Arcot, South Arcot, Madura and in the Trichinopoly and Palghat municipalities. Prompt preventive measures were taken to control the spread of this infection in the affected districts. The epidemic was a little more severe than in the previous year. There was a marked decline in the incidence of smallpox. Experiments were still in progress regarding the control of Guinea-worm by biological and chemical methods. The sanctioned schemes for the control of malaria were in operation during the year as before. Six additional schemes were sanctioned during the year. Large scale spraying with D.D.T. was undertaken as this method was found to be effective. Paludrine, the new synthetic anti-malarial drug, was found to be very effective in the treatment and control of malaria. The provisions of Chapter IX of the Madras Public Health Act for mosquito control were extended to Bimlipatam, Erode, Bellary, Vizagapatam, Rajahmundry and Bezvada municipalities and Courtalam and Tirumalai panchayat boards.

✓ Investigations were made into the dietary conditions of 1,600 families selected out of low income groups. The nutritional conditions of children were also examined in over 1,300 cases. The most common deficiencies noticed were those of vitamins 'A' and 'B2'. Five nutritional exhibitions were organized during the year. The manufacture of compost manure was encouraged and Madras continued to be one of the largest producers, the total production being estimated at 3.8 million cubic feet.

Twenty-two new child-welfare centres were opened during the year, the total number being 312 at the end of the year. Five Women Medical Officers in the employ of local boards and municipalities underwent the post-graduate course during the year.

The reorganized Poonamallee Health Unit functioned during the year and special attention was paid to the improvement of water-supply and sanitation.

The Government sanctioned the starting of six primary health centres with a taluk centre in a selected taluk in the districts of Coimbatore, Guntur, Kurnool, South Malabar and North Arcot. Steps were being taken to implement the scheme. (

Famine and epidemics.—The question of making medical arrangements which might be necessary in the event of famine breaking out in the Province was considered by the Expert Committee on Epidemics. Two hundred units of hospital equipment and 400 units of expendable drugs were kept in reserve at the Medical Store Depot by the Deputy Assistant Director-General, Medical Stores, and distributed to the Famine hospitals. The Government sanctioned the continuance of the necessary staff at the Medical Stores Depot for the above purpose; but as the food situation had slightly improved at the beginning of the year the question of maintaining a reserve stock of drugs, etc., with the District Medical Officers was dropped. Towards the latter part of the year, however, the food situation deteriorated and the position was again under review.

Tuberculosis.—There was a steady progress in the campaign against tuberculosis in the Presidency. Due to increased hospital accommodation made available, the mortality rate in the City of Madras came down to 352 per million. The Tuberculosis Institute at Egmore received a large number of patients during the year. Additional accommodation was provided in the Tuberculosis Sanatorium, Tambaram, which promises to become the biggest sanatorium in India. A new tuberculosis hospital was being built at Konnur High Road, Perambur. In the mufassal, tuberculosis clinics were working in six headquarters hospitals and there were three private sanatoria at Arogyavaram, Perundurai and Trichinopoly, which were all working satisfactorily. The Wellesley Sanatorium Jail at Bellary was taken over by the Government and converted into a civil sanatorium.

Leprosy.—The leprosy campaign was continued throughout the year. The Honorary Director was, in addition to his ordinary routine duties, attending to the supervision work of (1) the General Hospital, Madras, (2) the Silver Jubilee Children's Clinic, Saidapet, (3) the Rural Leprosy Preventive Unit and (4) the Research Unit at Chingleput. The Silver Jubilee Children's Clinic, Saidapet, devoted its time to investigate into the causes, classification and development of leprosy in children. The Rural Leprosy Preventive Unit at Polambakkam continued during the year and examined the experiments made on the partial segregation of infective cases in certain selected villages. The experiments showed that leprosy was found to be increasing in villages where there was no night segregation and decreasing in those where

segregation was in force. Further experiments were in progress as it was considered that the data obtained were insufficient to confirm the above inferences. Research work in leprosy was being done at Chingleput, Madras, Saidapet and Vellore to determine the efficacy of new drugs, especially the Sulphone derivatives. Trials of other drugs were also undertaken including some used in Ayurvedic practice but they did not produce any satisfactory results.

Medicine

General.—A conference of eminent medical and public health experts both officials and non-officials, was convened by the Hon'ble Minister, for Public Health in June 1947 for a full discussion of a wide range of subjects relating to Medicine and Public Health. As a result of the discussions in this conference, two sub-committees were formed for a detailed study of the problems (1) relating to Medical Education and (2) Medical Relief and Public Health. The Joint Secretary to Government in the Education and Public Health Department was the Secretary of both the sub-committees.

The Medical Education Sub-committee held nine meetings during the year at which the various subjects referred to the committee were fully discussed. The committee also visited the General and Stanley Hospitals, Madras, and recorded its decisions on the various subjects referred to it in the light of the recommendations made by the Bhoré Committee and other authoritative committees which considered similar problems in the past. The report of this sub-committee is under the consideration of the Government.

The Medical Relief and Public Health sub-committee considered the following subjects:—

- (1) Recruitment to Provincial Medical Service—Prohibition of private practice and appointment of full-time Medical Officers.
- (2) Drugs and medical requisites.
- (3) Planned medical relief.
- (4) District Headquarters hospitals.
- (5) Co-ordination of medical and public health work.
- (6) Private maternity and nursing homes.
- (7) Birth control.
- (8) Post-war Reconstruction Schemes, Nos. 100 and 101—Improvements to or reconstruction of taluk and district headquarters hospitals—Revision of the programme.
- (9) Appointment of a Deputy to the Surgeon-General in connexion with the implementation of Post-war Schemes Nos. 100 and 101.
- (10) Madras Provincial Welfare Fund—Utilization for Medical and public health purposes.
- (11) Post-war Scheme No. 100—Improvements and expansion of taluk headquarters hospitals—Revision of standards,

(12) Tuberculosis—Prevention and control—Allotment of funds by the Government of India—Proposals.

(13) Opening of a Tuberculosis Sanatorium at Peapalle in Kurnool district.

(14) Control of advertisements relating to medicine.

(15) Resolutions passed at the Conference of Women Medical Officers.

(16) Modified scheme for the establishment of primary centres in accordance with the proposals of the Retrenchment and Reorganization Committee.

The Committee's recommendations on the above subjects are still awaited.

Staff.—The Indian Medical Service was abolished with effect from 15th August 1947 and the services of many of the officers of the Indian Medical Service were terminated from that date. The recruitment of candidates for the Madras Medical Service was done on a temporary basis pending their selection by the Public Service Commission for regular appointment in the service. One hundred and forty-one war service candidates were selected for appointment in the reserved vacancies in the cadre of Civil Assistant Surgeons. Five women graduates with war service were also appointed in vacancies reserved for them. The Government sanctioned the deputation of eight candidates for post-graduate study in Chest Surgery, Bio-Chemistry, Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Anatomy, Neurological Medicine, Radiology and Radiation Physics. Three had already left for the United Kingdom and the rest were expected to go shortly. The question of deputing an additional candidate for training in Neurological Surgery was under the consideration of the Government.

There were 18 Honorary Surgeons and Physicians and 180 Honorary Assistant Medical Officers working in the Government hospitals during the year. A committee was appointed to formulate proposals for the revision of the rules regulating the appointment and conditions of service of the Honorary Medical Officers, and the recommendations of the committee were under the consideration of the Government. The Government decided that all vacancies of Honorary Medical Officers which occurred after December 1942 and which were reserved for doctors with war service should be filled up with war service candidates and others in the proportion of 2:1. The posts so reserved were advertised for being filled up in the above proportion.

House Surgeons and House Physicians were given increase of subsistence allowance from 1st January 1947. The number of paid and unpaid House Surgeons and House Physicians was 252. Twenty-three posts of paid House Surgeons and House Physicians were reserved for war returned medical officers. A Special Committee was constituted for the revision of rules regarding the selection of House Surgeons and House Physicians and its recommendations were under the consideration of the Government. There

were 145 temporary Sub-Assistant Surgeons (men) and 27 women Sub-Assistant Surgeons at the end of the year. Thirteen posts of 8 men and 5 women Sub-Assistant Surgeons were sanctioned during the year. After demobilization, sufficient number of qualified medical officers with war service were available for appointment. Hence the grant of higher initial pay to temporary Sub-Assistant Surgeons was discontinued from 1st April 1947. The Government sanctioned a general increase in the scale of employment of nursing staff.

Under the Government of India Scheme one nurse was deputed to the United Kingdom for undergoing post-graduate training for one year and four candidates for undergoing the full four years' course in General Nursing and Midwifery. The Central Preliminary Training School for nurse pupils was opened on 1st July 1947. On the recommendation of the Bhore Committee, the Government sanctioned the appointment of one nurse for every 8 beds instead of for 14 beds which was the previous scale.

Buildings.—In spite of the high cost of building materials and labour charges and the difficulty of getting steel and iron besides the need for economy in Government expenditure, the Government have, in the interests of medical education, generally approved all the expansion schemes relating to the Stanley and the Andhra Medical Colleges and the attached hospitals. These buildings are roughly estimated to cost Rs. 140 lakhs.

The scheme relating to the expansion of the Government Tuberculosis Sanatorium, Tambaram, was also sanctioned and the work was under execution. The construction of the new hospital buildings at Tuticorin and of the Anatomy, Physiology, etc., blocks in Stanley Medical College was under progress. Schemes were under preparation for the Guntur and Madura Medical Colleges; the Government have however decided to defer these schemes owing to the financial stringency.

The Madras Drugs Rules, 1945, came into force with effect from 1st April 1947. The Government have sanctioned the constitution of a special department of biological control at King Institute, Guindy, and the formation of a separate section in the Surgeon-General's Office for the enforcement of the Drugs Act and the Rules thereunder. Three thousand five hundred and sixty-one licences in Forms 20, 21, 25 and 28 were issued to various retail and wholesale manufacturers of drugs in the Province. Very great difficulty was experienced in getting regular supply of penicillin, owing to the difficulties in imports. Limited supplies of Streptomycin, a new drug, considered to be efficacious in the treatment of tuberculosis and leprosy were being received under the control of the Surgeon-General.

Orders relating to the Madras Cinchona Products Sales Order, the Madras Cinchona Bark Control Order and the Madras Cinchona Plantation Order continued to be in force during the year. Paludrine was becoming very popular in controlling malaria, and there

was no control over the supply and distribution of this drug. Out of the two mobile medical units sanctioned for the Vizagapatam district, only one functioned.

The Blood Transfusion Services continued to do satisfactory work on a peace-time basis. There were 212 voluntary donations. Arrangements were being made to extend the blood transfusion service to the district headquarters hospitals. The Cancer Association of Madras was requested to formulate proposals for the establishment of a Cancer Hospital in the Madras City. The question of constructing a new cancer block adjacent to the Barnard Institute of Radiology, Madras was under the consideration of the Government. An order was placed as early as May 1946 for the supply of 700 mgs. of radium, but owing to certain difficulties in manufacture, the supply was received only in July 1947. An eye bank was started in the Government Ophthalmic Hospital, Madras, as an experimental measure for one year. The subsidy of rural medical practitioners and midwives attached to the rural dispensaries was increased during the year. All the district headquarters hospitals and some of the taluk headquarters hospitals were equipped with frigidaires.

Medical education.—The Madras Medical College had on its rolls 1,099 students of whom 872 (including 193 women students) were studying in the M.B.B.S. classes. Research work was done to a certain extent in a few departments and 16 original contributions relating to medical subjects were published during the year. The scheme of research into the toxicology of indigenous drugs of India used in veterinary practice was extended for one year till 31st March 1948.

The number of students admitted into the Stanley Medical College was 72, of whom 16 were women students. Twenty-three Punjab and Sindh refugee students were admitted into this college to the various classes.

As usual the full number of 55 students were admitted into the Pre-Registration class in the Andhra Medical College at Vizagapatam. Twenty-seven refugee students from the Punjab Medical Colleges were admitted into this college and they were afforded all possible facilities regarding lodging, boarding and study. One graduate of the Andhra University was admitted to the post-graduate course for the Diploma in Gynaecology and Obstetrics. In the Pathology department, research work was still being continued on Infantile Biliary Cirrhosis. In the Bacteriology department an additional Tutor's post was sanctioned to cope with the increase in work. The new department of Forensic Medicine and Hygiene had not started work for want of space. The number of beds in the King George Hospital, Vizagapatam, was increased from 531 to 700 during the year and thus there were greater facilities for clinical instruction than before. An additional staff was employed in the departments of Surgery and Medicine. In order to provide all facilities for a large Medical College and Hospital in the Andhra part of the Province,

the Government sanctioned a building scheme for the Andhra Medical College and the King George Hospital at a cost of Rs. 82.98 lakhs.

The Guntur medical College was in the second year of its existence. The students had their Pre-Registration course partly in the Medical College and partly in the Andhra Christian College. The strength of the college was 96 of whom 20 were women students. The Old Medical School buildings were taken over and improved to house the Pre-Registration and Pre-Clinical classes.

Indian Medicine.—The School of Indian Medicine was raised to the status of a college and students possessing Intermediate or higher qualification were declared eligible for admission to the College. The total number of students on the rolls at the end of the year 1946-47 was 283 and the strength in July 1947 after admission was 332. The admission to the College course was restricted to 50 every year. The number of women students on the rolls was 35. There were 40 Government stipendiaries and two local stipendiaries.

King Institute, Guindy

The King Institute, Guindy, continued to function as the Diagnostic Laboratory for the Province—the manufacturing centre of essential biologicals needed for the several departments and as the Government Analyst's Laboratory for the examination of samples under the Food Adulteration Act. Twenty-seven thousand one hundred grams of vaccine pulp were manufactured during the year and glycerinated lymph was issued in a dilution of 1 in 7. Chloroform vapour was used to bring down the bacterial content and clove oil was not added at the time of issue. All the demands of the Public Health Department and the Military authorities in the supply area were complied with. Five thousand c.c. of vaccine lymph were supplied to the Central Government.

The Diagnostic Section was engaged in different items of research and examined 8,786 specimens for microscopical and bacteriological diagnosis and 168 specimens for histopathological examinations. Sixty-seven thousand four hundred and ninety-seven specimens were received in the Serology section. Sixty-thousand four hundred and fifty-three doses of therapeutic (stock) vaccines were prepared and supplied during the year. 4.5 million doses of cholera vaccine were supplied to the Southern districts and half a million doses of anti-cholera vaccine were supplied to the Director-General of Health Services for the use of refugees in Delhi. Two million doses of cholera vaccine were supplied to the Central Provinces and Berar and 35,000 doses to the Bhopal State. Nine lakhs of doses of plague vaccine were supplied during the year. There was a considerable demand for the supply of glucose ampoules. Over a lakh of glucose ampoules were supplied to the medical institutions but the demand could not be fully met. The Anti-toxin Department was engaged

in the manufacture of anti-tetanus and anti-gas gangrene serum. The Department possessed 28 horses stabled in the Veterinary College, Madras. The demand for tetanus anti-toxin both prophylactic and curative was very great and could not be met in full, because the air-conditioned room and cold room were not erected and the number of horses was not increased.

In the Public Health Section the work comprised the analysis of samples of drinking water received from the various supply systems of the Province. Five hundred and twenty samples were examined for their purity, of which 50 per cent were of good sanitary quality, while the rest fell short of approved standards. Measures for controlling the growth of algal and other organisms in water supplies which affect the taste and quality of water were carried out by the technical staff of the Institute. The Water and Sewage Purification Committee met thrice during the year and recommended to the Government that the Kilpauk Filter Research Station should be taken over under the administrative control of the Sanitary Engineer and that the Station should be remodelled and developed into a pilot plant for research on newer methods of water purification and as a training centre for water-works personnel. During the year research work was conducted on the effect of intermittent working of mechanical filters on filtered water quality and the coagulation efficiency of alkaline sodium aluminate and lime. Field investigation in connection with water-supply and algal control problems continued as usual. Research on the bacteriology of milk was continued. Researches were undertaken in the Institute on the following in particular :—

(1) Research was undertaken on the methods of concentrating influenza virus for the preparation of suitable vaccine and allied problems.

(2) Investigation was undertaken to study the effects of several chemotherapeutic drugs in the treatment of cholera. Experiments were still in progress.

(3) A Filariasis Unit was established to study the early diagnosis of filariasis by immunological methods, i.e., by the use of suitable antigens.

Blood Bank.—Satisfactory work was done in the Blood Bank Section as there was better response for blood donations after the announcement of the payment of a reward of Rs. 5 to each donor.

Government Analyst Department.—The Prevention of Adulteration Act was worked by 236 local bodies: Applications for sending increased quotas of food samples and for extension of the Act could not be complied with as the laboratory could not cope with the extra work involved. Schemes for the construction of two Regional Laboratories (one at Madura and another at Vizagapatam) and a separate laboratory at Guindy were under the consideration of the Government. Twenty-two thousand samples were received and

the percentages of adulteration for important staple articles of food during the year are shown below :—

Ghee	18.5	15.5
Milk	62.4	59.6
Butter	21.5	23.0
Gingelly oil	17.2	17.2
Other samples	15.2	19.0

Adulteration of milk was still on the increase. In addition to the samples under the Madras Prevention of Adulteration Act other samples sent by the Railway grainshops, private commercial firms and Civil Supplies Department, etc., were also examined. With a view to control the adulteration of gingelly oil and coconut oil, the Government have amended Rule 27-A of the Madras Prevention of Adulteration Rules. Assistance was rendered to the Government Reconstituted Milk Factory by supplying standardized carotene in coconut oil for incorporation during reconstitution and by testing the samples to ensure that the quality of milk was of the normal standard.

CHAPTER VII—EDUCATION

General.—The Government took up the reorganization of education in right earnest. A well-planned Questionnaire was issued for eliciting public opinion on the reforms to be initiated in elementary as well as in secondary education. A Provincial Advisory Board of Education and a Provincial Basic Education Board were constituted to advise Government on general matters of education pertaining to their spheres. The opinions on the Questionnaire received were considered by the Provincial Board of Education and the Government have accepted many of the recommendations made by the Board. The Government have accepted basic education as their policy with regard to elementary schools and have set up Committees to reorganize secondary education on the basis of the acceptance of basic education for elementary schools. It was decided to introduce bifurcated courses in high schools and to establish technical high schools consistent with this decision from the next school year. Provision has been made in the budget to set up courses in 50 technical high schools in the next financial year.

Basic (elementary) education.—There were two basic training schools under Government management at the beginning of the year. During the year, three more were opened by the Government and two by private agencies. The personnel trained at Sewagram in 1946-47 were posted to the Government basic training centres. A further batch of eight candidates have been sent to Sewagram for training. Arrangements were made at Perianaickenpalayam for the re-training of trained graduates who will organize basic training schools next year. Twenty-one graduates and seven secondary grade men teachers in Government service were deputed to this centre for training. Seventeen basic schools were organized in the Coimbatore area with 63 teachers trained at Perianaickenpalayam and one at Omandur in the Trichinopoly district. The basic schools and training centres will generally follow the syllabus prepared by the Hindustani Talimi Sangh which was approved by the Government. A Basic Education Officer for the Province and one for Andhra have been appointed to organize basic education throughout the Province.

The Government have ordered that the entire amount of assessed grants should be paid to the elementary school teachers as salaries and in order to meet the increased cost on account of the grant of allowance, etc., they sanctioned to the managements a separate grant of 15 per cent of the assessed grant towards the maintenance of the schools. In regard to schools levying fees, the separate grant would be paid only to those institutions which are unable to meet the expenditure with the income and the assessed grant put together. The rates of grant admissible to teachers

of aided elementary schools were also enhanced with effect from 1st January 1947.

The scheme of compulsory elementary education was still further extended during the year with a target to bring under instruction one lakh more of children of school-going age. Supply of mid-day meals to school children in areas in which this had been made compulsory, was discontinued with effect from 1st April 1947. The free supply of reconstituted milk was also discontinued during the year.

The Government approved the proposal regarding introduction of visual education in schools and colleges as a tentative arrangement. A Committee consisting of eight non-officials was constituted to evaluate and approve the educational films sent by the producing film companies or the exhibiting agencies recognized by the Director.

Training schools.—The Government sanctioned the opening of a new Higher Elementary School for men at Ootacamund. In order to train more teachers for the programme of educational expansion, 20 secondary and 20 elementary sections were opened in the Government Training Schools. The Government Training School for Muslims, Guntur, was amalgamated with the Government Training School for Muslims, Madras. The Middle School attached to the Government Training School for Women, Palamcottah, was abolished. Trained teachers of the Higher Elementary Grade after passing the T.S.L.C. Examination were permitted to appear privately for the T.S.L.C. Examination of the Secondary Grade if they passed the Matriculation examination or were declared eligible for admission to the University course.

Secondary education.—During the year, 35 secondary schools for boys (10 high schools and 25 middle schools) were opened by the local bodies. No separate girls' schools were opened. Fourth Form was opened in the Government Middle School for Girls, Palani and the Government Secondary and Training Schools for Women, Ellore and Calicut. Sixth Form was opened in the Government Secondary and Training Schools for Girls at Karur, Madanapalle and Tellicherry. Additional sections were added to some of the existing schools for boys and girls.

In order to implement the policy of making the regional languages the medium of instruction in secondary schools, the Government ordered that the regional language should be regarded as the first language and English as the second in secondary schools. The teaching of English in Standards I to V of secondary schools, was abolished. The study of English begins only in Form I of secondary schools. The Government have ordered that the limit of detentions in the S.S.L.C. Selection Examination should not exceed ten per cent of the total number of pupils in the class.

To provide for admission of candidates from the Harijan community, orders were passed reserving ten per cent of the seats for the Harijan community. Orders were also passed that disciplinary action should be taken against institutions or individuals who were found to show discrimination against Harijans.

Thirty-six schools for boys and six schools for girls under aided management, were permitted to be opened during the year. Owing to the very great demand for admissions and inadequacy of the existing institutions to cope with it, permission for the starting of aided schools was freely given without strictly insisting on the observance of the usual formalities and conditions. For better co-operation between the management and staff of aided secondary schools, the Government ordered that the headmaster should be one of the members of the managing body constituted under rule 12 (d) of the Madras Educational Rules and advised the formation of advisory committees composed of representatives of the staff, parents and the public.

Till now, there was no rule to regulate the scales of pay that were paid to the staff in aided secondary schools. Representations have been made that they must be paid at least at the rates prescribed for local board institutions. The Government have accepted that representation and have issued orders that teachers in aided schools should be paid at least at the local board rates. At the same time, option has been given to aided managements to pay up to Government rates. To enable the aided managements to meet the expenditure involved in the maintenance of these scales, the Government have come forward to pay two-thirds grant on the net expenditure. Orders have also been issued that with regard to the dearness allowance, Government will pay at half the Government rates whatever be the contribution from the aided managements. Representations were also received that greater security must be provided for people serving in the aided managements. A new draft agreement to provide for greater security for teachers in aided managements and for appeals to the department where necessary was drawn and the matter was put up before the Provincial Advisory Board of Education and on its approval, the Government have issued instructions that the new draft agreement may come into force from 1948.

Collegiate education.—The Government Brennen College, Telli-cherry, was raised to the status of First Grade. The Government College, Kumbakonam, was affiliated in B.Sc. Chemistry (Main). Optional groups in Tamil, Telugu and Malayalam were opened in the Government Colleges at Kumbakonam, Rajahmundry and Palghat respectively. Optional group in Telugu was opened also in the Training College at Rajahmundry. The Government sanctioned the deputation of ten Malayalee students for B.T. training in the Training College at Trichur (Cochin State).

The following aided colleges were opened newly during the year :—

(1) Osmania College, Kurnool (for men)	} First Grade.
(2) Dr. Alagappa Chettiar College, Karaikudi	
(3) Senthil Kumara Nadar College, Virudhunagar	
(4) Raja Doraisingam Memorial College, Sivaganga	} Second Grade.
(5) P.S.G. Arts College, Peelamedu	
(6) Stella Maria College, Mylapore (for men)	

Orders were issued for the formation of Advisory Committees for Government schools and colleges in the Province so that there might be greater touch between the public and the institutions concerned.

As an experiment, the Government College, Coimbatore and the Municipal College, Salem, are trying the regional language as the medium of instruction in third group subjects in the Intermediate classes.

Government Examinations

Secondary School-Leaving Certificates were issued to 42,595 (32,340) candidates including 4,255 (3,217) girls. The number of children and dependants of persons who served in the Second World War who were admitted to the examination without the payment of fees was 1,469 (1,350). Out of 549 schools that presented candidates for the examination, 459 used the languages of the Presidency as the medium of instruction in non-language subjects in the higher forms. One hundred and fifty children and dependants of persons who served the Second World War were admitted for the Training School-Leaving Certificate examination without the payment of fees. The number of candidates examined for the VIII Standard Public Examination was 26,653 of whom 7,362 were girls. Of these, 10,603 came out successful in the examination.

The examinations in Indian medicine were held twice in the year, in April and October 1947. Two hundred and sixty-five candidates appeared for the April examination and 126 for the October examination. The School of Indian Medicine was raised to the status of a college with effect from July 1947.

The Government approved the lists of technical and scientific terms in Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam, Kannada and Urdu prepared by the Special Committee to be included in the text-books for 1948-49 and subsequent years. The Text Book Committee was reconstituted for a period of three years from 1st April 1947.

CHAPTER VIII—AGRICULTURE, VETERINARY AND CO-OPERATION

Agriculture

General.—In order to make the Province self-sufficient in food, the Government gave the highest priority to the development of agriculture. The Agricultural Department consequently expanded its activities in all directions and formulated plans for an all-out drive towards intensive and extensive cultivation. The Engineering Section engaged itself in demonstrating to the ryots the advantages of mechanised farming and in supplying pump sets for providing better irrigation facilities to areas dependent on precarious sources of irrigation. The Propaganda section was engaged in supplying manures and improved strains of food and economic crops, for which an elaborate scheme was sanctioned.

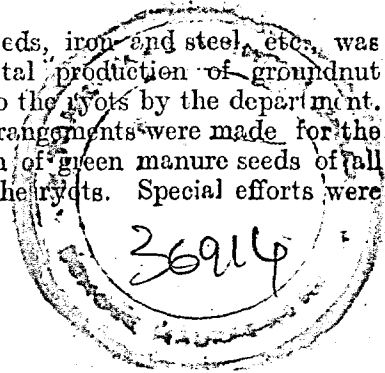
In July 1946 the Government sanctioned a three-year comprehensive scheme for the multiplication and distribution of improved strains of paddy, millets, pulses, groundnut and green manures at a cost of Rs. 35.9 lakhs, half the amount being borne by the Government of India and the other half by the Provincial Government. The scheme provides for the establishment of a depot for every two firkas and for two maistris for each firka, one field-man for four firkas and one clerk for each taluk depot. The scheme was subsequently incorporated in the five-year plan for food production.

The second Agricultural College at Bapatla continued to function. The eight departmental officers deputed for foreign training in 1945-46 were still undergoing training in 1946-47 and fresh candidates were not sent during the year. Five women students were deputed to undergo training in fruit preservation and canning at the Lady Irwin College, New Delhi, for a period of nine months from October 1946. One of these candidates was a subordinate of the Department.

The Agricultural Research Section continued its work as before. The Chemistry Section carried on the work of analysis of soils, manures, food-stuffs, fodders, irrigation waters, dairy products and sugarcane. The Entomology Section dealt with the investigation and control of pests of crops. It was found that trials with D.D.T. and 666 as insecticides did not yield satisfactory results. Plant quarantine work was continued as in previous years. Investigation of pests of stored grains and into methods of controlling them was in progress. The Mycology section continued investigations on the control of 'blast' and 'footrot' of paddy and 'smut' of cholam. Trials of 'blackarm' resistant types in cotton, control of 'broom rape' of tobacco and of 'damping off' of tobacco seedlings were under investigation. A quantity of 18,400 lb. of sulphur

was sold to the ryots for treating cholam seed against 'smut' in an area of 5.32 lakhs of acres. Treatment with organo-mercury compound was found effective for 'footrot' on rice. The work on paddy was carried on by trained officers of the Paddy Section at several stations and also in the District Agricultural Stations like Anakapalle and Samalkot. The strains evolved at these stations were multiplied on seed farms on a mass scale for distribution to the ryots. 6.38 lakhs of pounds of seeds of different strains produced in these stations were supplied to the District Officers for multiplication under the comprehensive scheme. New promising cultures released by these stations were also being tried. The work on millets was also carried out in the Agricultural Research Stations. The three strains in cumbu and ragi, viz., Co. 1, 2 and 3 were found to be popular. H-1 and H-2 korra strains evolved in the Agricultural Research Station, Hagari, were gaining popularity in Bellary and Anantapur districts. The research work on oil-seeds was carried on under two schemes, one financed by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research and the other by the Indian Central Coconut Committee. To augment the supply of selected coconut seedlings to growers in the main coconut growing tracts, a five year - coconut nursery scheme was sanctioned for the East Godavari and Tanjore districts. During the year 2,622 selected nuts were sown in the nursery at Samalkot and 4,829 nuts at Pattukottai. Experiments were made for the improvement of the local varieties of cotton for yield and quality by selection or by synthesis through induced variability. Co. 4-B 40 showed a unique superiority over the existing strains and when it is widely used, the Province can expect to be self-sufficient with regard to staple lengths ranging between 1 inch and 1½ inch which constitute the bulk of the imports into the Province. A new strain was being evolved for the unirrigated crop in the Ceded districts which could withstand the effects of adverse seasonal conditions. The work on fruits was carried on at the Fruit Research Station, Kodur, and also at some other stations. A sub-station was established at Patamata in Kistna district for root stalk studies against gummosis and footrot on Pedavadlapudi and Batavian orange trees in the Circars. Preparation of malt extract with shark liver oil was done on a more systematic basis during the year. The production of food yeast was confined to the laboratory scale. The construction of the food yeast pilot plant was in progress. A special staff was sanctioned for the improvement of the bee-keeping industry already established in the districts of Vizagapatam, Godavari and Chittoor.

The distribution of manures, seeds, iron and steel, etc., was done by the department. The total production of groundnut cake was procured and distributed to the ryots by the department. In regard to green manures, arrangements were made for the wholesale purchase and distribution of green manure seeds of all kinds available in the Province to the ryots. Special efforts were



made to popularise the cultivation of *Glyricidea Maculata*, Malai Poovarasu, *Lucanae Glauca* as green leaf yielding plants on an extensive scale. To encourage the production of green manure seeds, the Government sanctioned with effect from 1st December 1947 the payment of a subsidy of Rs. 6-8-0 per bag of green manure seeds supplied by the ryots to the department over and above the ceiling rate fixed for the same. The total quantity of manure seeds of all kinds purchased during the year was nearly 1,050 tons and the quantity sold was nearly 620 tons. The number of cuttings of green manure trees distributed or planted amounted to 46.39 lakhs.

Agricultural engineering.—The Agricultural Engineering Section developed extensively during the year. The department assisted the ryots with the supply of petrol pumping sets on hire at concessional rates for irrigation purposes and for well sinking under the subsidy scheme. One thousand four hundred and eighty-three electrical motor pump sets were supplied to the ryots through private agencies. Fifty-four tractors including 30 bull-dozers were acquired by the department from army surpluses and were hired out for ploughing, bunding and levelling operations at concessional rates. Jeeps were supplied to the District Agricultural Officers for intensive touring and lorries for the transport of manures, seeds, iron, steel, etc.

Marketing.—Marketing survey reports of safflower, pungam, pepper, dried fruits and nuts, ginger and turmeric were completed during the year. Crop-cutting experiments were carried out in the 14 main paddy producing districts of the Province and the results were submitted to the Statistical Adviser to the Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

Veterinary Services

The total number of gazetted posts at the end of the year was 57. The post of the Assistant Disease Investigation Officer for Poultry was converted into a gazetted one from the 1st April 1947. Instead of the posts of two Deputy Directors, the post of one Joint Director of Veterinary Services was created with effect from 1st October 1947. The post of Sheep and Goat Development Officer was also filled up during the year. The temporary post of Cattle Procurement Officer at Bangalore was disbanded from 14th May 1947.

The B.V.Sc. degree course of four years and one term was continued. The number of admissions to the college was increased to 100 by allotting 81 seats for candidates belonging to this Presidency, 9 for those with war service qualifications and 10 for students belonging to places beyond the Presidency. Tuition fees were levied for those who joined the college in 1947-48. Scholarships were awarded to 50 per cent of the students, subject to a maximum of 30 in each class, the value of each scholarship

being Rs. 40 per mensem for a member of the backward classes and Rs. 30 per mensem for a member of any other community.

For the 50 seats in the Stockmen-Compounders' Course, candidates were available only for 44 seats. The B.V.Sc. degree students were sent to Hosur Cattle Farm for a course of practical training in Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Agricultural Economics. Some Veterinary Assistant Surgeons of the department were also sent in batches to Hosur Cattle Farm for a short course in Animal Husbandry including Poultry Management. Similar training was given to private candidates on payment of fees.

The two Poultry Production Centres started at Numgambakkam and Guindy were functioning. Most of the 24 Poultry Demonstration Units attached to the Veterinary Hospitals functioned well.

The number of breeding bulls under the premium scheme increased from 884 to 1,101 during the year. The scheme for the salvage of dry cows in the City and the scheme for the better rearing of calves in the City by the grant of a subsidy worked satisfactorily.

The Veterinary Investigation Officer conducted investigations on the following conditions during the year:—

(1) Brucellosis, (2) Anthrax in cattle, (3) Tuberculosis, (4) Bovine Lymphangitis, (5) 'Allai Novu' in equines and bovines, (6) Varaghu poisoning, (7) Fluorosis, (8) Clinical nutritional survey and deficiency diseases, (9) Contagious Bovine Pleuro-Pneumonia, (10) Suspected Greengram poisoning, (11) An obscure disease in Tanjore district, (12) Cattle Paralysis in South Kanara, (13) Criminal poisoning of cattle in Malabar district and (14) Plant poisoning in the Nilgiris.

The total number of outbreaks of contagious diseases and deaths recorded were 5,177 and 27,048 respectively. The largest number of deaths were due to blackquarter disease and hæmorrhagic septicæmia.

Two Veterinary Dispensaries were opened at Arkonam and Pithapuram and one touring billet at Kalpeta in Malabar district. The total number of veterinary institutions and touring billets at the end of the year were 138 and 166, respectively.

Co-operation

During the year 1947 the co-operative movement made a further advance and showed distinct improvement in all directions. Not only was the previous expansion maintained, but there was improved efficiency in the working of the societies. The movement covered new fields and new schemes were undertaken for the distribution of food and cloth and for the provision of housing in the urban areas and similar other measures of social and economic benefit to the people. The usefulness and potentialities of the co-operative agency were recognized in a greater degree by the people and the co-operative institutions gained more popularity.

There was a remarkable development in the business of the Central financing agencies, viz., the Provincial Bank and the Central Banks whose transactions reached unprecedented dimensions during the year. The demands on them were very heavy as the societies undertook the work of procurement and distribution of foodgrains and needed a large capital for their business. The Provincial Bank found it difficult to cope with them and the Government generously assisted it with a loan of Rs. 300 lakhs, which was repaid shortly thereafter. Another advance of Rs. 1 crore was also sanctioned to it towards the end of the year. On the non-credit side, the consumers' co-operative societies, the milk supply unions and societies and the weavers' societies expanded very largely during the year. A new type of co-operative enterprise found its way in the formation of 'producer-cum-consumers' societies' in the Malabar district and in the Circars; they were entrusted with the procurement and distribution of foodgrains and other controlled commodities. Another field to which the department extended its activity was the formation of Co-operative House Construction Societies in urban areas including the City of Madras to relieve the acute congestion in house accommodation. The Government were pleased to afford special facilities to these societies with a view to relieve the acute housing shortage now felt in the urban areas in the Province. At the end of the year there were 18,301 co-operative societies of all type as against 16,663 at the end of 1946. The working capital of these societies in 1946-47 amounted to Rs. 50.975 crores.

The Madras Provincial Co-operative Bank did extensive business during the year as a result of the procurement schemes undertaken by the wholesale stores. There were unprecedented demands for funds which were met partly by taking a loan from the Government. The Bank earned a profit of Rs. 3.16 lakhs which was the highest earned so far. All the Central Banks worked at a profit and the percentage of balance to demand under principal was the lowest on record for over three decades. The transactions of the Madras Central Land Mortgage Bank showed a further increase during the year. It disbursed loans to the extent of Rs. 55.03 lakhs (45.83) and floated debentures to the extent of Rs. 63.79 lakhs.

The Co-operative Marketing or Sale Societies did better business during the year as some of them participated in the scheme of procurement of foodgrains. The five marketing federations did good work in the procurement of paddy and rice for export to deficit districts. The consumers' co-operative societies recorded a further progress during the year. The wholesale stores and the primary stores undertook the work of procurement and distribution of foodgrains and managed it efficiently. They procured foodgrains valued at Rs. 601 lakhs in fasli 1356. There were 1,545 primary stores at the end of the year. The value of goods sold by them amounted to nearly Rs. 18.04 crores.

There was a tremendous advance in the co-operative handloom industry due to the encouragement given by the Government in the formation of these societies and the grant of a special quota of yarn to the members of these societies. The number of weavers' societies at the end of the year was 805 as against 362 societies in 1946. They purchased raw materials to the value of Rs. 272.43 lakhs and sold finished goods worth Rs. 450.54 lakhs. The Madras Handloom Weavers' Provincial Co-operative Society was able to do better business consequent on the expansion of the weavers' societies. The Provincial Society maintains five dye factories, three experimental handloom factories and one screen printing factory. It opened one more collective weaving centre at Gudur, bringing the total number to six. The society had 43 sales emporiums and received goods to the value of Rs. 137 lakhs and sold through the emporiums goods to the value of Rs. 105 lakhs.

There were 21 milk supply unions and 272 milk supply societies at the end of the year. The Madras Milk Supply Union continued to be the sole supplier of milk to the State hospitals in the City. On the basis of the investigations carried out by the Dairy Development Officer of the department, a three-year plan for the production and supply of milk in the Province was submitted to the Government for approval.

There were four Co-operative Insurance Societies and they worked satisfactorily. Under house-building societies, the Madras Co-operative House Construction Society, Limited, was the first one of the kind to be formed during the year. The society secured an extensive site of 131 acres in Adyar and a scheme was laid out for the construction of 332 houses thereon. The houses are expected to be completed in a year. The Katpadi Co-operative Township, Limited, is another society intended to provide civic amenities to the colonists. The Society has proposed to acquire 800 acres of land between Vellore and Katpadi towns for the construction of about 3,000 to 4,000 garden houses on up-to-date lines. The total investments of co-operative societies in National Savings Certificates during the year amounted to Rs. 8.04 lakhs.

During the year the Government constituted a Provincial Co-operative Advisory Council with a view to secure the benefit of the advice of non-official co-operators on important matters and policies relating to the movement.

CHAPTER IX—NATURAL RESOURCES

Forests

The demand for timber continued to be on the increase and the Forest Department continued to supply the Railways and Port Trust with the required quantities of teak and hardwood logs. Supplies of timber were also made to the local Public Works Department and Government sponsored concerns at the rates fixed by the Government. Arrangements for the supply of wooden electric transmission poles to the Electricity Department were made. Three thousand and five hundred tons of teak and 3,500 tons of hardwood were reserved to meet the requirements of the co-operative house-building schemes in the Province. Timber not required by the Department of Supplies was purchased back and sold to the public. Owing to the heavy demand for firewood from industrial concerns, railways, other civilian requirements and for charcoal for running transport buses, advance fellings of fuel coupes were made in many divisions. In addition many special coupes outside the working plan areas had to be worked to meet the extra demand. In a few divisions, coupes were also worked in panchayat-managed forests to augment supplies from departmental reserved forests. In order to meet the increasing demand for fuel casuarina, plantation was undertaken on a large scale in the divisions of Guntur, Nellore, Vellore East, Chingleput, Salem South and Tanjore. The largest area planted was in the Nellore division.

The system of the conversion of mixed deciduous forests of low value to pure teak was continued. Besides other timber species were raised in specially selected areas. Regeneration by the Kumri method was undertaken in suitable localities in order to grow forest species and also help the grow more food campaign. Artificial regeneration of fuel species was attempted. To meet the demand for matchwood, plywood, etc., softwood plantations were raised in some localities. The cultivation of pyrethrum was continued in the Nilgiris to meet the Provincial Government demand while it was discontinued in the Palnis as supply of pyrethrum flowers to the Government of India was stopped. The working plan circle was revived during the year. The Soil Conservation Division formed in 1946 was continued during the year.

Important legislation was passed for the preservation of private forests having a contiguous forest area exceeding 100 acres. This was meant to prevent the indiscriminate destruction of private forests and interference with customary and prescriptive rights. The question of taking over the forest panchayats under the control of the Forest Department is under the consideration of the Government.

Fisheries

The fishing season on the West Coast was less favourable in the district of South Kanara and slightly better in Malabar district than in 1946. The Kodumbi Fish-curing Yard in Malabar district was closed on 31st March 1947 as it was working at a heavy loss. On the East Coast, the fishing season was favourable throughout the year. There was a considerable decrease in the fish-curing operations and consequently in the consumption of salt in the fish-curing yards in the Northern Circars during the year, due to the abolition of duty on salt. The production of shark liver oil had slightly gone down. The Tuticorin chank fisheries could not be worked due to labour troubles.

At the Marine Biological Station, West Hill, studies were made on the economically important food fishes. Samples of sea water were analysed for the phosphatic content. At the Krusadai Island Biological Station, studies were made on the planktonic fluctuations and their bearing on the fisheries in the locality. Research on pearl oyster culture, chanks and sponges were continued. In the newly established research stations at Tuticorin, studies were made on the bionomics of the important food fishes of the locality. The feeding and breeding habits of the important food fishes were examined in the Ennore Research Station. The Special Officer, Fish Manure Industry, continued his investigations and experiments on fish manure, fish guano and fish meal.

The Hon'ble Dr. Rajendra Prasad laid the foundation stone of the Hydrobiological Laboratories at 'Fishlands' at Chetput, Madras. Studies on the bionomics of certain fishes were continued at the Fresh-Water Biological Station, Chetput. Hilsa Fishery Investigations were continued in the deltaic areas of the Godavari, Kistna and Cauvery rivers.

One of the Fisheries Higher Elementary Schools on the West Coast was converted into a Technical High School. The subject of 'Fishery Technology' was recognized as an optional subject for the S.S.L.C. course. The Fisheries Technological Institute at Tuticorin functioned during the year and proposals for its reorganization were under the consideration of the Government. Of the 79 fishermen co-operative societies, 25 societies were running ration shops for the supply of foodgrains, etc. The Tellicherry Women Fish-curers' Co-operative Society did good work and manufactured nets for fishing. The All-India Fisheries Training Scheme was continued during the year.

Cinchona Plantations

The Government sanctioned the plantation of a further area of 2,500 acres on the Anamalais at the rate of 850 acres in each of the years 1947 to 1949 and of 300 acres at Cherangode on the Nilgiris at 150 acres in each of the years 1947 and 1948. In

accordance with this programme, 850 acres in Anamalais and 150 acres at Cheringode were planted. Out of the 850 acres plantation in Anamalais, an area of 34 acres was planted with vegetatively propagated materials. Proposals for the application of suitable manures to improve the growth and yield of cinchona plants and also to enable the plants to obtain maturity earlier are under consideration. The Vegetative Propagation Section, which was started as a research unit of this department, with a view to increase the bark yield quantitatively and qualitatively, while simultaneously reducing the cost of production of quinine in order to bring it within the easy reach of all, continued its work. Experiments were conducted on the method of rooting of cuttings by encircling, etiolation and layering. Trials conducted on planting of cuttings directly in the field after they are served were still in progress to find out whether the process could be successfully employed on a commercial scale. Cinchona seeds treated with Hormomone and cattle urine germinated very satisfactorily compared to those untreated.

The production at the Quinine Factory was fixed at a level of 26,300 lb. of quinine sulphate and 13,400 lb. of cinchona febrifuge during the year 1947-48. The output from the Government plantations was not enough to keep up the level of production, and hence a few lakhs of pounds of bark were obtained from private estates. For this purpose, the purchase price of cinchona bark was raised from 3½ annas to 4 annas per unit of quinine sulphate. Consequent on this increase in price, it became possible to obtain a good quantity of bark from private estates. The quantity thus obtained up to 30th November 1947 was 3.09 lakhs of lb. as against 1.39 lakhs of lb. in the previous year. A rotary type tablet machine was obtained from the United Kingdom and installed in the factory. With the addition of this new machine, it would be possible to meet any large orders for the supply of quinine or febrifuge tablets.

The construction of a Modern Quinine Factory in the Government Cinchona Plantations, Anamalais, was in progress. Most of the buildings required for the factory have been completed. The construction of a hospital was also taken up and the work was in progress. Due to the high cost of living, the wages and dearness allowance for labourers in the Government Plantations were increased.

CHAPTER X—TRADE AND INDUSTRY

Trade

The total value of the foreign and coastal private trade of the Province for the first eleven months of the year increased to Rs. 183.2 crores (136.8). The value of foreign imports increased to Rs. 59 crores (29). The increases were mainly under motor vehicles, paper, artificial silk, provisions and oilman's stores, oils, machinery and mill work, instruments, apparatus and appliances and drugs and medicines. The value of foreign exports including re-exports also increased to Rs. 63.5 crores (50.48), the increases being markedly noticeable under cotton piecegoods, cloth manufactured and tea black. There was a decrease under groundnuts. The total foreign trade under Government transactions increased from Rs. 5.35 lakhs to Rs. 80.69 lakhs. The total trade including both exports and imports, with the British Empire recorded an increase of Rs. 23.11 crores. There was a revival of trade with Burma and there was an increase under all heads including imports, exports and re-exports.

The import revenue for the 12 months of the calendar year increased from Rs. 849.59 lakhs to Rs. 1,352.76 lakhs. The export revenue also increased from Rs. 29.45 lakhs to Rs. 156.57 lakhs. There was thus a distinct improvement in the trade position in 1947 as compared with that of the previous year.

Ports

The vessels plying between ports in Pakistan and minor ports in Madras Province were ordered to be treated as 'coasting vessels' for purposes of levy of port dues. The ports of Narasapur and Nizampatnam in the West Godavari and Guntur districts respectively were thrown open for coastal trade as an experimental measure. The rates of landing and shipping fees leviable at the ports of Cuddalore, Negapatam and Adirampatnam were enhanced by 100 per cent. The rates of landing and shipping fees leviable at the ports of Tellicherry, Mangalore and Malpe were enhanced by 50 per cent. The weather was normal except in Malabar district where owing to squally weather two shipping casualties occurred to native crafts. There was a slight increase in the number of steam ships that entered the port of Negapatam, Mangalore and Cocanada. There was a slight increase in the receipts of port dues at the ports of Calicut, Mangalore, Negapatam and Cocanada. The passenger traffic between Negapatam and Malaya was resumed during the year. There was an increase in the passenger traffic at the ports of Mangalore, Malpe, Coondapoor and Tuticorin. An Aldis lamp was introduced at the signal station at Tuticorin.

(Industries and Commerce

The Bureau of Industrial and Commercial Intelligence continued to provide information on industrial and commercial subjects to Government and the public. Several references were received from the Director of Commercial Intelligence, Calcutta, in regard to overseas trade matters and they were promptly dealt with. Two meetings of the Board of Industries were held during the year. Six applications were recommended to the Government for grant of assistance and were under consideration of the Government. The District Industries Officers, as usual, rendered assistance and technical advice to the existing industries and for the starting of new ones. An Industrial and Commercial Association was started at Vizagapatam with the object of developing industry and commerce in the district. The department rendered assistance to industrialists in securing supplies of controlled materials such as iron and steel pipes and coal and paper, etc. The Government sanctioned funds for the working of the Industrial and Commercial Museums in the districts for the proper marketing of the products of cottage industries. The District Industries Officers are in charge of these museums as ex officio Secretaries. Much progress could not be made as the Government were addressed on certain matters in regard to the working of the scheme and their orders were awaited.

Coal control.—The distribution of coal for the flue curing season was continued and the coal received after the curing season was allotted to other industries such as oil milling and lime burning. A quantity of one lakh of tons was allotted by the Deputy Coal Commissioner for 1947-48 as against a demand of 1½ lakhs of tons. Supplies were, however, very restricted. Two ryots' associations were entrusted with the work of distribution of coal as complaints were received against the Excise Department which was solely entrusted with the work of distribution before. The total quantity of steam coal, hard and soft coke allotted for the other industries during the year was 80,333 tons.

Paper control.—The Paper Control Orders promulgated by the Government of India and the Madras Paper Control (Licensing, Economy and Distribution) Order (No. II), 1945, continued to be administered by the Provincial Paper Controller. Relaxations and concessions under the various provisions of the Paper Control (Economy) Order, 1945, were granted by the Government of India and the Provincial Government to paper consumers as usual. Restrictions on the use of newsprint by publishers of periodicals issued at regular intervals of not more than one month were removed. Publishers of periodicals using newsprint were also permitted to use Art Paper for the cover pages and for four pages for inside illustrations. Dealers were permitted to sell certain varieties of imported paper up to one ream at a time to non-cardholders also.

The supply position of Indian mill-made paper became acute between March and June 1947 but regular supplies were received

since August 1947. The Andhra Paper Mills were closed after May 1947.

Towards the end of the year the posts of one Assistant Paper Controller and seven Paper Control Inspectors were abolished. During the year under review the Police officers of the anti-corruption and anti-blackmarketing staffs were empowered to inspect the stocks of licensees, quota holders, etc., and to enter and search any premises where any transaction connected with paper is carried on.

As the Government of India have imposed restrictions on imports, it is not likely that the supply position of paper will improve in the near future.

Iron and steel control.—Till September 1946 the distribution of iron and steel in the Madras Province and the States of Travancore, Cochin, Pudukottah, Banganapalle and Sandur continued to be carried on by the Regional Deputy Iron and Steel Controller, Madras. With the re-introduction of control over steel from 1st September 1946 the Director of Industries and Commerce was authorized to distribute steel for the Madras Province and the distribution of steel to the States was transferred to the respective State authorities. A quota of 31,000 tons of steel was allotted for the Province for 1947. A quantity of about 11,000 tons of steel for this Province is still due for 1947.

The Government finally decided to establish the Hydrogenation Factory at Calicut and preliminary arrangements were made for starting the work.

Kerala Soap Institute.—No new variety of soap was introduced during the year. There was a good demand for soap and the Toilet Section was working two shifts as before. The supply of a special brand of medicated soap to a local Ayurvedic Oushadasala was continued. Two students from the Alagappa Chettiar College of Technology, Guindy and one from the Andhra University had their practical training in the Institute during the year. Ten students were undergoing training for the one year course and two science graduates for the short-term course. Proposals for the expansion of the factory and for the starting of an Oil Technological Institute at Calicut were under consideration.

Pinto chekku.—The Pinto chekku was utilized for the crushing of groundnut kernels. The distillation of essential oils was continued on a commercial scale.

In the Government Oil Factory at Calicut the quantity of oil prepared was 10,660 gallons. Owing to competition from the producers of shark liver oil and the supply of foreign cod liver oil in the market, there was not much demand for the factory products. The Propaganda Officer of the factory was doing his best to improve the sales. The refining capacity of the factory was increased two-fold by the installation of a new tank. As a measure of retrenchment, the distribution centre at Madras was closed and the post of Business Manager was also abolished.

Silk factory.—There was a general slump in the silk market from the beginning of the year in expectation of large imports of foreign silk at low prices; but the market conditions revived towards the end of the year as the Government of India banned further imports of raw silk. Due to good rainfall in the last quarter of 1946, mulberry plantations fared well in the beginning but due to the subsequent failure of Mungar rains and the outbreak of plague in Chittoor and Coimbatore districts, the plantations were affected in many places. In view of the high cost of cultivation, the Government increased the rate of loan to be granted to a mulberry cultivator from Rs. 25 to Rs. 50 per acre and the other concessions were continued. The area under mulberry cultivation in all the districts was 21,870 acres. There was no demand for silk-waste produced during the year. The experimental farms in the Ceded and Northern Circars did good work. The Government Eri Silk Farm at Kudligi in Bellary district conducted rearings of several batches of eri worms and the eri cocoons were spun into yarn. Owing to the intensive cultivation of castor there was good scope for the development of eri worm rearing in this area.

Handmade paper.—Out of the three units started by the department, the Gazulapalli unit was closed as it was working at a loss. The unit at Bugga was also not working well and the question of closing it was under consideration. The unit at Bezwada was manufacturing paper out of rags and hosiery cuttings on a large scale and was producing improved varieties of paper. The average daily production in this unit was 200 lb. of rag paper.

The control and the maintenance of the bore-wells and pumps under the Rural Water-supply Scheme was transferred from the Revenue Department to the Industries Department. Six new Luston Diesel Oil engine drills were received and after being fully equipped in the Government Industrial Engineering Workshops, were sent out to the divisions. Many of the sets were engaged on urgent Rural Water-supply Schemes and private demands could not therefore be met. Six new pumping sets were received and after being tested at the Government Industrial Engineering Workshops were despatched to Malabar for the irrigation of paddy crops which were withering there on account of the failure of the north-east monsoon. The other pumping sets with the department were lent to the ryots.

The three sugar and jaggery manufacturing centres set up at Ullal in South Kanara, Aragonda in Chittoor and Chodavaram in Vizagapatam districts worked during the crushing seasons.

Polytechnics were started in seven places during 1946. Eight hundred and seventy students were admitted to the various courses were undergoing training. Two scholarships for study in the B.Sc. course in the Andhra University College, Guntur, and one scholarship for study of Social Science in the Tata Institute of Social Science, Bombay, were awarded. Thirteen departmental officers were deputed by the Government for higher technical studies in foreign countries.

Two of them returned to India during the year. At the close of the year there were 82 recognized aided Industrial Schools besides those run by the Government and the number of pupils receiving instruction in both aided schools and Government institutions was 6,191.

The Government Textile Institute continued to provide its courses of instruction. Two courses, viz., Instructors' Course in bleaching, dyeing and printing and a special course in Power-loom Weaving were newly introduced during the year. The Government Glass Bangle Training Centre was started at Kalahasti in January 1947. The Experimental section was engaged in advising on improved methods and implements used in cottage industries. Proposals for the expansion of the Experimental section into a Central Cottage Research Institute were under the consideration of the Government. The construction of the Government Ceramic Factory at Gudur was nearing completion. The Institute of Leather Technology continued to function under the reorganization scheme sanctioned in 1946. The Tanning Expert joined duty in September 1947. The Artisan, Diploma and Certificate courses were continued. Experiments for the determination of a suitable substitute for wattle bark were continued.

Textile Control

During the year, the administration of the Textile Control Department was reorganized and the Collectors were made fully responsible for all the items of textile control work in the districts, such as licensing, internal distribution of cloth and yarn and enforcement of textile control measures. On account of this transfer of work to the Collectors, there was some reduction of work in the Provincial Textile Commissioner's office and proportionate retrenchment of staff was effected. The post of Assistant Textile Commissioner (Dyes and Chemicals) was also abolished. With a view to check leakages of yarn and cloth from some of the mills, six authorized Controllers (three gazetted and three non-gazetted) were appointed for certain mills; subsequently all the posts were abolished since they were not found useful for the purpose for which they were intended.

Cotton cloth.—The *per capita* allotment for the South Zone fixed as 10 yards per annum. Actually, the total quantity of mill cloth allotted during the year to this Province was 24,947 bales in excess of the quota due according to the *per capita* allocations. This extra supply permitted the relaxation of restrictions imposed by the rationing scheme to a certain extent. The rationing scheme was introduced in all the areas of the Province. In cities, municipalities and towns with a population of 10,000 and over, cloth ration cards were issued, and in villages and towns with a population of less than 10,000 the local Food Committees were entrusted with the responsibility of ensuring an equitable distribution of cloth received in the area among the residents so as not to exceed the ration of 5 yards per adult and 2 yards per child in any case. Although the introduction of rationing had its own beneficial results, it led to

certain inevitable delays in the release of cloth from the dealers and gave rise to some dissatisfaction among the public. Even in respect of the cloth actually received, the distribution was unsatisfactory, because of factions prevalent in the Food Committees, the lack of public spirit among many of the members and the receipt of unwanted and unpopular varieties of cloth. After the abolition of the Village Food Committees, the work of distribution of cloth was temporarily placed in the hands of the village officers and the retail dealers themselves. There was a very great demand in the villages for coarse varieties of sarees and dhoties, but these were in short supply. With the introduction of the Standardization Scheme, it is expected that only those varieties which are required in the Province will be received in future.

Cotton yarn.—The scheme of control of distribution of yarn worked satisfactorily during the year. The policy of bringing in more looms under the co-operative fold was given a further stimulus and 1·17 lakhs of looms were in the co-operative fold at the end of the year as against 0·52 lakh in the previous year. The extra quota of 20 per cent for the looms in the co-operative fold was continued. The number of looms increased from 5 lakhs to 6½ lakhs, and this necessitated a cut in the basic ration allowed to each loom. As there were several complaints that a number of bogus looms had sprung up, a correct census of looms was proposed to be taken up by the Stamping Inspectors under the Madras Handloom Cloth (Control) Order, 1947, but as the control order itself was repealed due to the policy of progressive decontrol, the question of entrusting this work to the Revenue department was considered and dropped.

Handloom cloth.—As the Handloom Cloth Price (Control) Order, 1946, did not achieve its purpose of bringing down the price of handloom cloth owing to the absence of a provision therein for fixing the maximum weaving wages, the Madras Handloom Cloth (Control) Order, 1947, was promulgated during the year. The Government also constituted a Provincial Wages Board to advise them on the question of wages. The retail ceiling price was fixed at the cost of production plus 18½ per cent thereof and it was required that these prices should be stamped on each piece of cloth. It was decided to issue instructions that no weaver should be given a further supply of yarn unless he had satisfactorily accounted for the previous supply given to him. The maximum weaving wages were also notified in September 1947. By the time all these steps were taken, the agitation for the decontrol of cloth had gained ground and the Government decided to make a beginning with the handloom cloth. The prices of handloom cloth showed a tendency to go down and the prevailing weaving wages in many localities were lower than the maximum wages notified by the Government. The Madras Handloom Cloth (Control) Order, 1947, and the Madras Handloom Cloth Production (Control) Order, 1947, were both repealed in December 1947; and all restrictions regarding handloom cloth relating to

production, wages, price markings and the system of licensing, etc., were removed.

Dyes and chemicals.—The Cotton Textiles (Raw Materials and Stores) Order, 1946, continued to be in force during the year. Powers were delegated to the Textile Officers and Collectors to issue licences under this order. Five hundred and twenty-seven applications for grant of licences were received from importers and dealers. Out of these, licences were issued in 187 cases. Twelve applications were rejected and the others were pending disposal. The scheme of distribution of hydrosulphite of soda to handloom weavers through the Madras Handloom Weavers' Provincial Co-operative Society was continued during the year and it worked satisfactorily.

Enforcement of textile Control.—During the year, the Collectors of the districts were given powers to deal with offences under Textile Control. The Provincial Textile Commissioner was in charge of the control over dealers in dyes and chemicals so far as enforcement was concerned and also dealt with grave and important cases of violation of the Madras Cotton Cloth and Apparel (Exports) Control Order, 1946. In 774, cases prosecutions were sanctioned, out of which 208 ended in conviction, 26 in acquittal, 51 in discharge and 13 were withdrawn. Under departmental punishments, the licences of 321 dealers were cancelled and those of 254 dealers were suspended.

Companies

After the close of the war, industry gained a great impetus. There was an increase of wealth on account of the war and many chose to invest in new concerns. During the year, 582 companies with and 5 without share capital were registered as against 611 registered in the previous year. Although a number of new companies had sprung up during the past two years, there was a lull in industrial activity as the newly floated companies could not start functioning due to difficulties in getting machinery and materials and also due to the several controls imposed on local and imported goods. Eighty-five companies were either wound up or struck off the register during the year. Of the new registrations, 247 were public and 340 private. The number of companies working at the end of the year was 3,261. Of the new companies, 344 were Trading and Manufacturing companies forming the biggest group with a capital of Rs. 16·32 crores. Among those newly registered, the following are worthy of mention :—

Two companies for air transport (Capital Rs. 400 lakhs), one for manufacture of carbon gas (Rs. 20 lakhs), one for manufacture of carbonic acid gas (Rs. 5 lakhs), six for building construction (Rs. 115 lakhs), two for sugar manufacture (Rs. 50·16 lakhs) and three for fishing industry (Rs. 106 lakhs).

Industrial Occupations

At the end of the year, there were 3,906 factories on the registers. A new section, 33-A, was added to the Factories Act, for the provision of canteens in all factories employing more than 250 workers. The District Industries Officers were appointed as Additional Inspectors of Factories within their local limits under section 10 (5) of the Factories Act. The sanitation and cleanliness in factories and the health of the workers were generally satisfactory. The statutory requirements regarding hours of work and holidays were complied with. There were four cases of fire causing damage to property amounting to Rs. 2.23 lakhs out of which Rs. 1.01 lakhs was covered by insurance. There was no loss of life. The provisions of the Madras Maternity Benefit Act were complied with. Two Women Assistant Inspectresses of Factories were appointed during the year to look after the welfare of woman and child labour. Surprise and night inspections and Sunday visits were made as usual. Dearness allowance was granted to workers at rates not lower than those granted by the Government to their subordinates and in factories where no dearness allowance was given, the basic wages were increased. In big factories, bonuses were also given to the employees.

There were 274 strikes during the year of which 128 related to textiles and 25 to the railways. The important strike was that launched by 14,000 workers of the Buckingham and Carnatic Mills. The strike continued for nearly 100 days. The workers of the Scindia Steam Navigation Company, Limited, Vizagapatam, struck work and this strike also continued for nearly 100 days. Fifty-two disputes between the workers and the managements were referred for adjudication. Courts of Enquiry were constituted by the Government in seven cases. There was only one arbitration during the year. The Government constituted four Industrial Tribunals for the Province of Madras with headquarters at Madras, Bezwada, Coimbatore and Madura, under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947. The Government appointed a Wage Board for determining the wage structure in textile mills. The Cotton Textile Industry, Motor Transport Services, Madras Electric Tramways, Sugar Industry and transport by boats in minor ports in the Provinces were declared public utility services under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947.

Two Bills were passed by the Madras Legislature to regulate the conditions of work in unregulated factories such as beedi making, handloom weaving, etc., and to regulate the conditions of work in shops, commercial establishments, restaurants, etc. There were 517 trade unions at the end of the year.

CHAPTER XI—PUBLIC WORKS AND ELECTRICITY

Electricity

Satisfactory progress was made during the year. Apart from the Government undertakings, there were 35 undertakings managed by the local authorities and 44 by private companies. One important event during the year was the taking over by the Government of the Madras Electric Supply Corporation on 29th August 1947. The Pykara, Mettur, Papanasam, Vizagapatam, Bezwada, Cocanada, Kurnool and Madras electricity systems functioned satisfactorily. Owing to the dearth of materials, new services could not be executed as quickly as desired. High priority was given to supply for agricultural purposes, and pump-sets were supplied to the maximum extent possible. With the receipt of rail poles ordered from the United States of America and the improvement of the Madras Electric Supply System, it would be possible not only to increase the number of house connexions, but also to comply with the demand for agricultural services in a much larger measure.

The work on new projects was rather slow on account of the severe handicap by way of dearth of qualified engineering staff and difficulties in the matter of imports of machinery and materials.

The works on the following sanctioned schemes were in progress :-

- (1) Mahkund Hydro-Electric Scheme.
- (2) Moyar Hydro-Electric Scheme.
- (3) Pykara III and Moyar II stage Extensions.
- (4) Madras-Mettur Interconnection Scheme.
- (5) Madras Thermal Plant Extensions.
- (6) Papanasam Plant Extensions.
- (7) Madura Thermal Scheme.
- (8) Bezwada-Rajahmundry-Samalkot Extensions.
- (9) Vizagapatam Extensions.
- (10) Ceded Districts Scheme.
- (11) Erode-Salem Extensions.
- (12) Erode-Trichinopoly-Dalmianagar Extensions.
- (13) Madura-Tirumangalam-Rajapalayam-Tenkasi Extensions.
- (14) Conjeevaram-Chingleput-Arkonam Extensions.
- (15) Kuppam Extensions.
- (16) Temporary supply to India Cements, Ltd., Tinnevely.
- (17) Transportable Power Station at Madras.

The Nellore Thermal Scheme, estimated to cost Rs. 84 lakhs was awaiting the sanction of the Government.

The total connected load on the Pykara System was 77,304 K.W. Five hundred agricultural pump-sets were connected up in the Pykara System during the year. The total connected load on the Mettur System was 89,860 K.W. The reinforcement

of the Mettur-Erode and Mettur-Singarapet 66 K.V. tower lines for 110 K.V. operation was almost completed. Four hundred and fifty agricultural pump-sets were connected up in the Mettur System. The total connected load on the Papanasam System was about 30,000 K.W. In addition to the firm demand of 3,000 K.W. allowed to the Travancore Government, a supply of 200 K.W. for the British Cochin Water-supply Scheme was given from 1st October 1947. Eighty-five agricultural pump-sets were connected up in the Papanasam System. The Madras Thermal Station was fully loaded. The Transportable Power Station of two 2,500 K.W. sets, now under erection, will be ready in January 1948 and will give considerable relief to the needs of the City. The load development in the Andhra System was retarded by shortage of coal and plant capacity. As the future development of the Province depends to a large extent on the possibilities of the extension of electricity, a Special Officer was deputed to survey the known water power sites and report on the possibilities of developing them to the best economic advantage.

General and Buildings

The temporary Anantapur Circle was continued during the year. Some temporary divisions were newly sanctioned to attend to certain special items of work which the department had to deal with. A division was created for the inspection and acquisition of military surplus stores. This division was later entrusted also with the work of storage and distribution of stores. A special division was formed to inspect the various military camps and find out suitable buildings for the accommodation of the refugees from Pakistan and also to provide all necessary amenities for their stay. The services of an Executive Engineer were placed at the disposal of the Madras Co-operative House Construction Society for the scheme of house construction in the city. The services of another Engineer were placed at the disposal of the Central Road Traffic Board for the nationalization of transport services. A special Engineer was posted on the Firka Development Scheme to attend to the preparation of plans and estimates and to render assistance to the Revenue department in the matter of erection of M.B. and Lahore sheds and nissen huts.

Several schemes for the construction of buildings were sanctioned more particularly in the Education department. In the Education department, additional buildings for the Muslim colleges for men and women, extensions to the Arts Colleges at Coimbatore and Anantapur, additions to the Queen Mary's College, Lady Willingdon Training College, and buildings for the Engineering Colleges at Vizagapatam and Anantapur and buildings for the Agricultural College at Bapatla were all in progress but the works could not be pushed through quickly owing to several causes. The cost of labour and materials had gone high and considerable difficulty

was experienced in procuring the necessary iron and steel for the works.

The department was also handicapped by want of sufficient number of supervisors. In spite of the absorption of all the candidates who passed out of the Engineering College in March 1947, several posts of supervisors still remained vacant for want of qualified hands. The Government tried to fill up the posts by re-employing physically fit men from among retired technical personnel and advertised for applications but the response was poor. The response from war service candidates was also not encouraging as only three suitable candidates were available for selection by the Madras Public Service Commission as against 108 vacancies reserved for them. The phenomenon was only part of the general shortage of men in the country to fill the large number of technical jobs on account of post-war expansion and industrialization.

Work in connexion with the land colonization schemes in Arakku Valley and Wynaad was continued. The Government decided to take up the question of colonizing the area selected in Gudalur taluk, Nilgiris district, only after the Wynaad Scheme was completed. The Government sanctioned the proposal to construct permanent quarters for the staff employed in the colonization area at Wynaad. A revised approximate estimate amounting to Rs. 7.50 lakhs for the construction of a hospital and quarters for the staff in the Government Cinchona Plantations, Anamalais, was submitted to the Government for sanction. The construction of the Quinine Factory was in progress.

During the year, no new water-supply schemes came into operation. The total number of water-supply schemes which functioned during the year was 48 including the City of Madras, as against 49 in the previous year. The total number of panchayat water-supply schemes was 11 as against 12 in the previous year. The decrease under both heads was due to the inclusion of the Saidapet Municipality and Sembiam Panchayat Board within the limits of the Madras Corporation. Drainage schemes were in operation in seven municipalities. No new drainage scheme was introduced. Detailed plans and estimates for three water-supply improvement schemes and for one water-supply scheme estimated to cost Rs. 30.49 lakhs were sent. Plans and estimates for three water-supply schemes and two water-supply improvement schemes estimated to cost Rs. 108.18 lakhs were under preparation. Detailed plans and estimates for two partial municipal drainage schemes at a cost of Rs. 4.39 lakhs and outline proposals with alternatives for another comprehensive municipal drainage scheme costing about Rs. 25 lakhs were sent. Plans and estimates for municipal drainage schemes, estimated to cost Rs. 71.20 lakhs, were under preparation.

In June 1947, a Committee called the "Water-Supply and Drainage Committee" was constituted by the Government to suggest ways and means to accelerate progress in the execution of

urban and rural water-supply and drainage schemes in the Province. The Committee held meetings in June, July and August 1947 and made far-reaching recommendations to the Government for a planned programme to achieve the purpose in view. It suggested that the Government should assume the responsibility for the provision of water-supply and drainage all over the Province and that all water-supply and drainage schemes in the Province should be executed within a period of ten years; and that the Sanitary Engineering Branch should be reorganized into a new department so as to expand its activities and deal with all matters relating to public health and engineering. The report of the Committee was printed and circulated by the Government for eliciting public opinion before taking action.

Irrigation

Cauvery Delta System.—The irrigation season commenced on 1st June 1947 under favourable conditions when the lake level was 109.75. The level went down till 15th July 1947 as the monsoon was not active, but subsequently there was good rainfall and the reservoir began to rise and reached its full level on 16th September 1947, when it began to surplus. On account of the very poor north-east monsoon and consequently the unusually great demand for water, the reservoir was depleted. The turn system for Cauvery and Vennar was temporarily suspended from 14th November 1947. The key schemes for the drainage improvements were in progress. Silt clearance was done at Government cost in several irrigation channels and tank supply channels in the Tanjore Circle. Duty experiments were continued in the Pattukottai and Aduthurai Agricultural Research stations.

Godavari Delta System.—Larger areas were thrown open for the second crop in the Godavari Eastern, Western and Central deltas over and above the areas fixed under the localization orders generally in order to give relief to the areas affected by submersion during the first-crop season of 1946. The total area thrown open for the second crop in the entire delta system was 3.22 lakhs of acres. Freshes in the Godavari river were received on the 4th July 1947 and transplantations commenced thereafter. Owing to heavy rains, some areas suffered from submersion. The special subdivision for the scientific investigation of drains and remodelling of channels in the Godavari Eastern Delta was continued. Proposals for the formation of a similar special subdivision for the Central delta were under consideration. One subdivision took up work in the Western delta on 1st November 1947 and the investigation was expected to be complete in six months. The formation of a roadway on the downstream side of the Gannavaram Aqueduct was in progress and is expected to be completed before the 31st May 1948.

Kistna Delta System.—The river received the normal supply of water and the crops in the delta were generally fair.

Periyar System.—Owing to the heavy rains in the months of November and December 1946, there was a good storage in the tanks. The ryots took advantage of this and grew an extra crop for which water was supplied from the Periyar as a special case.

The investigation of the scheme for dry farming and contour bunding in the famine-affected areas of the Ceded districts was completed. Estimates for contour bunding about 5,500 acres near Guntakal and 2,500 acres near Hagari were submitted to the Government. The scheme has been included in the Government's Five-Year Plan for food production and the details of the scheme are being prepared by the Director of Agriculture.

Grow More Food Schemes.—The Narasinga Cauvery Scheme was in an advanced stage of execution. In addition, 15 new schemes at a cost of Rs. 33.49 lakhs designed to irrigate about 11,794 acres, besides giving better irrigation facilities to certain other lands of the existing ayacut, were sanctioned during the year. Since the inauguration of the campaign, 111 schemes, both major and minor, were sanctioned at a cost of Rs. 171.97 lakhs for irrigating about 1.65 lakhs of acres, besides ensuring better irrigation facilities to about 24,200 acres. Of these, 67 schemes had been completed up to the end of the year.

Public Works Development Scheme.—The scheme for improving the Cauvery delta, Romperu drain and Pedalanka drain were under execution. The Lower Bhavani Project designed to irrigate an approximate ayacut of 2.07 lakhs of acres was sanctioned during the year at a cost of Rs. 7 crores.

Research.—The Irrigation Research Station made good progress both at Madras in the Soil Engineering Section and at Poondi in the Hydraulic Section. The Soil Mechanics Laboratory with a 300,000 lb. testing machine and other auxiliary apparatus was installed at Madras and was opened by the Hon'ble Mr. N. V. Gadgil, Minister for Works, Mines and Power, Government of India, on 18th December 1947. The Laboratory was fully equipped to carry out tests and investigations regarding soil research, etc. Tests were carried out on hundreds of samples in connection with the various projects and schemes. The Laboratory gave training to a supervisor attached to the Hagari division and to an Assistant Engineer belonging to the Bezwada Circle.

The following studies were carried out by the Research Station at Poondi during the year :—

(1) Coffor dams for the Ramapadasagar Project—Alignment, stability and see page.

(2) Spillway dam designs for the Ramapadasagar, Tungabhadra, Lower Bhavani, Malampuzha and Vaigai Projects—Profiles, discharge co-efficients, pressure distribution, dissipation of energy and prevention of scours downstream of dams and falls.

(3) Anicuts and bed regulators for Dowlaishwaram, Kistna (Bezwada), Sangam, Uttiramerur, Jeddarpalayam and Shiriya.

schemes—Profiles, co-efficients, stability and downstream projective works.

(4) Regulators, bridge piers, wing wall transitions, canal off-takes—designs and improvement.

(5) Exclusion of silt from distributaries.

(6) Sand sluices for the Ramapadasagar dam and density currents.

(7) Opening of the bar at the sea face of the Cooum river.

During the year studies were taken up to find out economic and easily available substitutes for ordinary building materials whose costs had risen abnormally.

Special Projects

Ramapadasagar Project.—The investigation of this Project was going on briskly. Designs and drawings prepared in Madras were sent to the United States and were checked there by Dr. Savage, Designs Engineer (retired) and now Consulting Engineer to the Bureau of Reclamation, Denver, United States of America. The Board of Consulting Engineers consisting of Dr. Savage, Chairman, Sir Murdoc Macdonald and Mr. S. O. Harper met at London and took decisions on the design and other important construction aspects of the dam. This meeting was attended by the Special Chief Engineer, Madras.

Some tests will be made in the bed of the Godavari river during the low water season from December 1947 onwards. The left canal from the Ramapadasagar Dam is being investigated and estimated in detail. Model studies of the hydraulic problems arising in connection with the Ramapadasagar and Tungabhadra Projects were being made at the Hydraulic Research Station at Poondi.

Tungabhadra Projects.—The headworks were under the control of a Superintending Engineer and three Executive Engineers. Quarters were completed for the Superintending Engineer and two Executive Engineers and also for an Audit Officer. Semi-permanent houses were constructed for about 80 per cent of the circle and divisional staff and for the entire audit staff. The Board of Consulting Engineers consisting of Sir M. Visvesvarayya as Chairman and the two Chief Engineers of Madras and Hyderabad took decisions on the design and construction of the Dam. Five thousand labourers assisted by cranes, locomotives, a tractor and a bulldozer were excavating the foundations of the Dam, and the entire excavation on the Madras side is expected to be completed in the latter half of 1948. A Special Deputy Collector was appointed to recruit labour and to look after the welfare of the labour population.

The Low Level Canal was aligned up to the 175th mile and excavated in various reaches. The masonry works were under rapid execution. The Hagari Aqueduct was commenced and wells for

the foundation were being sunk. There is a field laboratory at the site to deal with soil mechanics problems and to test building materials.

Highways

The Highways Department was constituted in April 1946 and was reorganized with effect from 1st February 1947 to effect economy and to minimize overlapping jurisdictions under two sets of officers and subordinates under Government and District Boards. As a result of this reorganization, one circle and five divisions were abolished and the existing jurisdictions were rearranged. After reorganization each Divisional Engineer has jurisdictions over a Revenue district except in the case of Vizagapatam, Tanjore, Salem, Coimbatore and Malabar which, on account of their extensiveness, contain two divisions each. After reorganization, the district boards ceased to have a separate staff of their own and the works of both the Government and district boards were attended to by the same staff, the charges being borne by them in proportion to the cost of works executed.

The Bridges circle and the Road Development Engineer continued during the year. Two Divisional Engineers, one for the south and the other for the north, were sanctioned for bridges. A special division for conphalting was also sanctioned with headquarters at Madras.

The original Post-war Reconstruction Road Development programme for Rs. 27.77 crores had to be reduced to make provision for other more urgent and important nation building schemes. For the improvement of National Highways, the allotment by the Government of India for the next five years is Rs. 2.5 crores. The provisional allotment for roads, other than National Highways, for the next five years is Rs. 7 crores, Rs. 4.2 crores being set apart for Provincial Highways and major district roads, and the balance for other district roads and village roads. The revision of the Five Year Plan for National Highways and Provincial Highways was in under consideration.

Two Road Engineers were deputed to the United States of America for training during the year. They joined duty after training in September 1947. The value of plant and machinery required by the Highways Department is estimated at Rs. 332 lakhs.

CHAPTER XII—CIVIL SUPPLIES

Prices in 1947—As compared with the previous year, there was an increase in the prices of both foodgrains and commercial products. The index numbers of the average wholesale prices were as follows :—

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

Half-year ending	Food-grains.	Commercial products.	Half-year ending	Food-grains.	Commercial products.
December 1941 ..	140	114	June 1945 ..	244	259
June 1942 ..	142	123	December 1945 ..	252	287
December 1942 ..	207	187	June 1946 ..	251	349
June 1943 ..	236	229	December 1946 ..	254	392
December 1943 ..	263	257	June 1947 ..	256	389
June 1944 ..	249	254	December 1947 ..	267	424
December 1944 ..	243	249			

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

Month.	Madras City.	Vizagapatam.	Ellore.	Bellary.	Cuddalore.	Trichhopoly.	Madura.	Coimbatore.	Calicut.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
August 1939 ..	98	102	101	96	104	103	97	102	103
January 1942 ..	117	121	120	127	118	121	110	118	129
December 1942 ..	158	172	175	155	172	171	167	174	180
December 1943 ..	189	220	213	226	198	195	210	213	228
December 1944 ..	209	219	218	214	221	208	205	218	237
December 1945 ..	224	228	269	234	237	247	244	238	266
March 1946 ..	228	242	273	235	239	250	236	239	270
June 1946 ..	235	247	290	241	243	255	240	243	284
September 1946 ..	239	236	306	260	263	252	268	253	292
December 1946 ..	249	250	319	267	266	276	285	270	296
March 1947 ..	267	272	314	271	290	299	294	280	292
June 1947 ..	269	277	310	292	285	295	288	289	349
September 1947 ..	275	293	359	314	308	304	297	302	345
December 1947 ..	299	356	335	314	315	335	314	338	394

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

The acute food situation which developed in the year 1946 continued during 1947 and even threatened towards the latter part of the year to develop into serious proportions. The scheme of intensive procurement of foodgrains was extended to all the districts except Madras. The old orders relating to procurement and distribution were re-issued in the course of the year under the Essential Supplies (Temporary) Powers Act of 1946 after rectifying the several lacunae which existed in the old orders.

Procurement.—As far as possible the procurement of paddy, rice and millets was done by employing the normal trade channels

wherever they worked satisfactorily. In other cases, the help of co-operative organizations was sought and all possible encouragement and assistance was given by the Government to these societies to enable them to do the work efficiently. In the rice surplus districts, the bulk of the procurement work was originally done by the millers, but in the beginning of the year, new experiments were tried by entrusting the procurement work to a new organization known as the 'Producers-cum-consumers' Co-operative Societies.' These societies were first started in the Malabar district and were found to work fairly satisfactorily. They were, therefore, started in the deltaic districts of East Godavari, West Godavari, Kistna and Guntur. The number of societies started in these districts are given below :—

East Godavari ..	..	..	..	..	..	53
West Godavari ..	..	..	..	..	..	37
Kistna ..	..	..	..	..	..	46
Guntur ..	..	..	..	..	..	32
Total ..						168

After the constitution of these societies, the millers who were previously doing the procurement were eliminated from the field and the societies started work from the first week of February 1947. The Government observed that, even after a period of two months, the societies could not show any progress in the matter of procurement, the movement of quotas to deficit districts was held up very badly and the food position in many districts began to deteriorate rapidly. The Government did not like to take any further risks as the situation was becoming critical and regretfully decided to suspend the procuring licences given to the Producers-cum-Consumers' Co-operative Societies and restore the procurement work to the previous agencies for the rest of the kharif year. The original procuring agencies came into the field again from 24th April 1947. On the report of a Committee set up to enquire into the future working of the Producers-cum-Consumers' Co-operative Societies the Government passed orders that about half a dozen of these societies in each of the districts of East Godavari and West Godavari alone should be selected by the Collectors at their discretion and appointed as monopoly procuring agents in definite areas assigned to them. One special feature introduced in the year was the appointment of the old retailer as the village procurement agent-cum-retailer for both procurement and distribution of foodgrains in the village. By adopting this system, it was possible to avoid a number of unnecessary cross movements of foodgrains and effect savings in overhead charges. Any procurable surplus in excess of the requirements of the village was entrusted to the group collecting agent.

The Government were in very close touch with the food situation right from the beginning and were taking necessary steps from time

to time to maximise procurement in order to prevent a breakdown of rationing anywhere in the Presidency. Some of the important measures adopted in this direction are mentioned below :—

(1) Issue of a revised food procurement notification in March 1947 giving large powers to the Civil Supplies staff to deal with recalcitrant ryots and to seize surplus foodgrains wherever found.

(2) The margins allowed to wholesalers and retailers were reduced to the barest minimum and the savings effected thereby were passed on to the producer by an appropriate increase in the village site prices and this meant some relief to the producers who clamouring for an increase on the ground that the cost of production had gone high and paddy cultivation ceased to be remunerative.

(3) The Collectors were permitted, wherever necessary, to entrust the work of procurement to regular Tahsildars and make them solely responsible for it by relieving them of almost the whole of their routine work and entrusting it to the Taluk Supply Officers who became their assistants.

(4) In order to induce the producers to surrender the surplus grains voluntarily, the Government sanctioned a bonus of Re. 1 per maund of paddy from 1st December 1946 up to 6th December 1947. Though the bonus scheme was announced in July 1947, it was given retrospective effect from 1st December 1946 by which the anomaly complained of in the previous years' scheme was removed and every producer was treated alike. Half of the value of the bonus, viz., annas 8 per maund of paddy was paid in cash and the remaining half in the shape of manures. Coupons known as food bonus coupons of the denomination of Rs. 10, Rs. 5 and Re. 1 were printed and issued to producers for the amounts they were entitled to. On presentation of these coupons to the Agricultural Demonstrators, the ryots would be supplied manures in the shape of groundnut cakes, chemical manures and green manure seeds to the value of the coupons surrendered in the proportion fixed by the demonstrators. In September 1947, a cash bonus of 8 annas per maund was announced for delivery of millets during the months of September and October 1947. Half the value of the bonus given was recovered from the consumers. The total amount of bonus, both cash and food bonus coupons due to the producers for paddy and millets up to 6th December 1947 is Rs. 618.23 lakhs. Out of this, cash bonus and manure coupons amounting to Rs. 59 lakhs have been disbursed up to the end of December 1947.

(5) One hundred and fifty-one jeeps and ten station wagons were supplied to all the Collectors. They were of great help in procurement work. The number was found to be inadequate as there was a great demand for more jeeps from all the Collectors and it was partly met by transferring them from one to another according to the needs and by taking the jeeps given to other departments temporarily on loan for use during the procurement season.

In spite of all the efforts put forth to improve the procurement of paddy, the procurement did not come up to expectations. This was chiefly due to lack of co-operation from non-officials. The Village Food Committees consisting of non-officials, which were constituted in 1946 to assist the Civil Supplies staff in procurement work, were found to be a source of hindrance rather than of help; the Committees delayed the scrutiny of demand lists and fixed the surpluses very low in several cases. Their decisions had to be over-ridden and ultimately in October 1947 the Village Committees were abolished as they had not fulfilled the purpose for which they were intended. The Taluk and District Food Committees were, however, continued pending their reconstitution on a sounder basis.

The failure of the Producers-cum-Consumers' Co-operative Societies in the four Circular districts during the first three months of the year, which was a precious period from the point of view of procurement, gave a very severe set back to the progress of procurement and the opportunity lost then could not be made good to the full extent subsequently with the result that the food position deteriorated considerably and the stock position became dangerously low towards the end of August 1947. The Government were told that there was absolutely no prospect of getting any imports of foodgrains from outside and there was no other alternative left to them other than to maximize the procurement in all possible ways and avert an impending crisis or a possible outbreak of famine. The Hon'ble Ministers of the Government, therefore, decided to tour intensively in all the districts and appeal personally to the bigger producers to them to deliver as much as they could even in excess of the surpluses determined for them. The Civil Supplies staff and the Revenue Department intensified their efforts to the maximum extent possible and the officials of other Government departments, including Heads of Departments, made personal appeals likewise to the ryots in the course of their tours and rendered all possible help to the procurement staff. As a result of these strenuous efforts there was a considerable improvement in the procurement and the stock position of foodgrains and due to the efforts of one and all who gave their helping hand in this matter during the critical period between August to October 1947 it was possible to tide over the crisis ultimately. In the first eleven months of the year 14.56 lakhs of tons of rice (both paddy and rice) and 1.28 lakhs of tons of millets were procured.

Rationing.—The statutory rationing of foodgrains continued in all the municipalities and their suburbs, in Madras City and its suburbs, in Kasaragod town in South Kanara district, in the panchayat area of Chirala Perala in Guntur district, in the panchayat area of Guntakal and in the whole district of Malabar. The statutory rationing worked satisfactorily. In other parts of the Province informal rationing was in force. In the beginning of the year, the stock position of rice was satisfactory and the rice

content of the ration was, therefore, raised to 12 oz.; but later the ration of rice was reduced to 10 oz., due to shortage of cereals. When the stock position deteriorated further the rice content had to be reduced to 8 oz.

The stock position of wheat and its products was very unsatisfactory practically throughout the year. The use of wheat and its products including bread was, therefore, restricted to habitual consumers of wheat and bread and to persons who required them on medical grounds. Towards the close of the year the wheat position slightly improved and wheat to an extent of 2 oz. was issued to the consumers in the place of millets.

All the austerity measures which were adopted during 1946 were not only continued during the year, but were even tightened up as indicated below:—

(1) The opening of new meals and non-meals hotels was allowed only if the District Rationing Officers felt that there was real need for the opening of such hotels.

(2) Serving of light refreshments made of cereals to more than 50 persons during marriage parties was prohibited.

(3) The use of flour of foodgrains and tapioca for starch making was prohibited.

(4) The preparation and sale of rice iddlies by catering establishments including trash bazaars was prohibited.

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

	Allotment.		Quantity received.	
	From Provinces and States within India.	From overseas countries.	From Provinces and States within India.	From overseas countries.
(1)	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.
Rice—				
Khariff plan, 1946-47 ..	100,392	80,000	69,419	40,292
Millets	..	..	3,475	44,850
Wheat and wheat products	..	..	* 12,589 wheat	..
			* 1,000 wheat flour.	..
Pulses	..	..	65,677	..

* Government of India's Scheme.

At the instance of the Government of India, the Province lent 10,000 tons of rice to the Defence Services and to the States of Mysore and Travancore, on the understanding that the quantity would be replaced later by allotments by the Government of India. About half the quantity was received back by the end of the year. The Government of India have allotted a total import quota of 100,000 tons of rice to this Province for the khariff year 1947-48.

In regard to millets, the overseas imports consisted mainly of American milo (red jowar), which was liked very much by the public as it was exactly similar to the local jowar. The Australian millets and also the maize were not so popular. Four thousand tons of imported maize and 2,300 tons of Turkish barley were exported to the United Provinces and Central Provinces. Sixty thousand tons of coarse grains, (i.e., maize and millets) have been allotted to the Province by the Government of India for the khariff year 1947-48.

Due to the shortage of wheat and wheat products, the subsidy in regard to their sale was discontinued with effect from the 1st January 1947 in the case of wheat flour and from 9th February 1947 in the case of wheat. At the instance of the Government of India large quantities of wheat were sent to the United Provinces and Central Provinces owing to the acute shortage of these commodities in those Provinces. Forty thousand tons of wheat and wheat products have been allotted to this Province by the Government of India for khariff year 1947-48.

Pulses.—Pulses were received under the Government of India's plans. The procurement of pulses was not at all appreciable as there was a general failure of the crop. Under Rabi Plan for 1947-48 (i.e., from 1st May 1947 to 30th April 1948), the Government of India allotted a quantity of 33,500 tons of bengalgram, out of which, priority was given for the movement of 17,000 tons, but actually only 3,421 tons were received due to the supply areas having become part of another Dominion with effect from 15th August 1947. In accordance with the decision of the Government of India to decontrol all pulses except bengalgram, the Provincial Government also cancelled with effect from 1st December 1947, their control orders regarding all pulses except bengalgram. Bengalgram was later decontrolled and its informal rationing in Madras was also abolished. The rationing of pulses except bengalgram in Madras City was also abolished from the same date.

Sugar.—The quota of sugar for this Province was fixed as 70,000 tons for 1946-47. As against this the local production during the year amounted to 50,135 tons (52,710). The balance was supplied by the Sugar Controller for India in the form of North Indian and Cuban sugar. A surcharge of 6 pies per imperial maund was collected by the Government on the consignments received from Northern India to cover the risk of loss in transit. The statutory and informal rationing of sugar continued during the period except in the last three weeks of the year when it was discontinued.

Jaggery.—The Gur Control Order continued to be in force and the exports of jaggery outside the Province and its prices within the Province were regulated under the Madras Jaggery Control Order, 1947, until 8th December 1947 from which date jaggery was decontrolled. The export quota was originally fixed as 59,900

a total storage capacity of about 35,000 tons constructed by the Military department at Almadhi, Avadi base, were taken over for use for storing purposes.

A staff consisting of four Assistant Entomologists and 28 Storage Assistants was employed to supervise the storage conditions in the Government godowns and the stocks held by private merchants and give advice regarding the reconditioning of deteriorated stocks and determining of priority for the issue of grains according to their condition.

Transport.—The Provincial Transport Officer continued to be in charge of all the Civil Supplies Transport units in the mufassal. The Civil Supplies lorries in the mufassal undertook work on a commercial basis. The working of the Civil Supplies lorries in the mufassal and at Madras yielded a profit of Rs. 67,000 during 1946-47. There were 161 lorries working in twelve districts in the mufassal.

Control Orders.—The Madras Foodgrains Control Order continued to be in force during the year. The order was re-issued under the Central Act XXIV of 1946 and barley and rye were added to the schedule. Consequent on the policy of decontrol of foodgrains—barley—all pulses including Bengalgram were deleted from the scope of the order. During the year, 2,780 licences were issued and 18 prosecutions were launched for violation of the Order. The Madras Rice Mills Licensing Order ceased to be in force in the non-rationed areas of the Province, excluding the surplus districts Malabar and Nilgiris, with effect from 28th December 1947. The Brass and Copper Control Order, 1945, and the Aluminium Utensils Control Order, 1945, continued to be in force till 18th April 1947 when they were cancelled. The control over the distribution of umbrella cloth was transferred to the Provincial Textile Commissioner. The Government of India retained the control over the distribution of tin required for tinning purposes.

General.—The continuance of rationing and controls which in the beginning proved very necessary and effective to tide over an impending crisis has resulted in a number of abuses both by a section of the administrative personnel running them and also by the public. Corruption and black-marketing activities increased abnormally and there was a strong agitation among a section of the public against the further continuance of the controls on the ground that they had survived their utility and should be removed at once. As it was an All-India question the Government of India decided after a full discussion of the question on a policy of gradual decontrol. The Provincial Government took up the lead given by the Central Government and after discussion on the policy of decontrol both in the Assembly and in the Council finally agreed to act in accordance with the decision of the Government of India. In pursuance of this decision the statutory rationing of sugar and the informal rationing of pulses and gram in the Madras City was

abolished in the month of December. The informal rationing of cereals in all the rural areas of the Province except in the districts of Nilgiris, East Godavari, West Godavari, Kistna, Guntur, Nellore, South Arcot, Tanjore and Trichinopoly was abolished from 28th December 1947. In Malabar district statutory rationing in rural areas was replaced by informal rural rationing on the same date. Millets have been excluded from rationed articles in the Ceded districts including Chittoor. The scheme of intensive all out procurement in all the deficit districts except Nilgiris, Madras and Malabar was also abolished from the same date. Orders were also issued abolishing all rationing, both statutory and rural, in the districts of East Godavari, West Godavari, Guntur and Kistna from 4th January 1948 and from 1st February 1948 in the districts of Nellore, Tanjore, Trichinopoly and South Arcot except in Trichinopoly and Karur towns in Trichinopoly district and Cuddalore and Villupuram towns in South Arcot district.

CHAPTER XIII—RURAL RECONSTRUCTION AND MISCELLANEOUS

Firka Development

The year 1947 may well be taken to be the starting point for Firka Development work as a concerted measure in the Province in the 34 firkas and centres selected for intensive Rural Reconstruction work. For though the Scheme was actually launched late in the year 1946 it was only the preparatory work that was done in that year. Only the staff and the areas wherein the work had to be tried were selected. In the year under review great strides have been made in the Firka Development activities. A Provincial Firka Development Board has been constituted to formulate and frame schemes for speeding up intensive rural reconstruction work, improvement of cottage industries and development of khadi in the selected firkas and centres. The Sub-Committee appointed by the Board has drawn up an overall plan of rural reconstruction work, the object of which is to organize the villages for a happier, more prosperous and fuller life in which the individual villager will have the opportunity to develop both as an individual and as a unit of a well integrated society. The implementation of this plan is separately under the consideration of the Government. The Government have also constituted a Firka Development Committee in each firka or centre selected for intensive rural reconstruction work for devising ways and means to implement the Government's scheme of Firka Development.

To mention briefly, the following are the salient points of Government's Firka Development activities:—

With a view to improve the lot of the villagers the Government have sanctioned sums of Rs. 50,000 each for each firka or centre for making improvements under 'Rural Water-supply' and 'Communications.' The Collectors have also been given powers to attend to minor but urgent items of work such as widening or improving small foot-paths, construction of small culverts, closing or opening of small channels, etc. To this end an annual lump-sum grant of Rs. 10,000 has been placed at the disposal of each Collector in respect of each firka or centre. Another annual lump sum of Rs. 10,000 in respect of all the firkas and centres has been placed at the disposal of the Provincial Firka Development Officer for a similar purpose. The supply of electric power to the selected areas is receiving high priority. The Government have also undertaken to subsidise the deficits arising out of unremunerative electrification schemes of certain firkas and centres selected for intensive rural reconstruction work. The probable annual

deficits likely to be subsidised from out of the fund for Village Reconstruction and Harijan Uplift will be to the extent of Rs. 2 lakhs. Several electrification schemes in the selected areas costing about 11 lakhs of rupees have been sanctioned. More are under scrutiny. Improvement of the existing irrigational facilities are also being undertaken.

The work so far turned out by the Firka Development staff in the firkas and centres is briefly summarised below:—

Education.—About 192 night schools, 53 day schools, 14 Hindi schools, 98 reading rooms and 42 libraries have been opened in these firkas. One spinning school and 3 industrial schools have also been opened at Alur and Kalasapakam firkas respectively. In Tiruvallur firka 5 spinning centres have been started.

Public health and sanitation.—In almost all the firkas and centres the Firka Development staff are conducting street cleaning campaigns and paid-sweepers have been appointed for the purpose in certain firkas. With the co-operation of the villagers, local drainage is being improved wherever possible.

Co-operation.—The co-operative movement in the firkas is proceeding at a rapid pace through the efforts of the Firka Development staff. Several co-operative stores, co-operative societies, weavers' co-operative societies, co-operative credit societies, students' co-operative societies, labour society, etc., have been formed.

Communication.—In some of the villages the Firka Development staff have induced the villagers to form minor roads.

Improvement of livestock, tree-planting, etc., are some of the items that are engaging the attention of the staff.

Khadi Scheme.—During the year the comprehensive scheme formulated late in December 1946 for the development of khadi on sound lines was put into operation. The scheme consists of two parts, viz., Intensive and Extensive.

The Intensive part was worked in seven selected compact centres (3 in Ardhra, 3 in Tamil Nad and 1 on the West Coast) each having a population between forty and eighty thousand, where the A.I.S.A. has already done substantial work. The scheme itself was executed under the instructions and guidance of the A.I.S.A.

With a view to facilitate the working of the scheme, the Madras Khadi (Control) Order, 1947, was issued in March 1947 and uncertified khadi merchants were refused licences for carrying on business in all intensive khadi centres and in a belt area of 10 miles around each centre and also in the production centres of the A.I.S.A. at Kanagala and Tirupur.

The details of amounts spent on the items specified below indicate the progress made under intensive part of the khadi scheme, up to the end of December 1947 :—

Items	Amount spent up to 31st Dec. 1947.
	RS.
1. Purchase of implements	28,600
2. Purchase of cotton	1,82,300
3. Purchase of yarn	5,52,000
4. Weaving wages paid	2,43,900
5. Bleaching, dyeing and printing charges.. ..	26,900
6. Subsidy paid to self-spinners	41,200

The quantity of khadi produced during the year in the intensive centres was 6.35 lakhs of yards including cloth got woven by self-spinners.

The Extensive part of the khadi scheme will be worked in 27 firkas selected for the Intensive rural reconstruction work. Free instruction in handspinning and weaving together with the anterior processes would be arranged in all educational institutions in these firkas. Adult spinning and weaving schools would be organized and basic education would be introduced in as many centres as possible. All possible assistance not involving any financial responsibility would be given by the Government to institutions engaged in the development of khadi in the area.

Cottage and village industries under the Firka Development Scheme.—In the middle of December 1946, the Government sanctioned a scheme for the development of Cottage and Village Industries in 25 firkas then selected for the intensive Rural Reconstruction Scheme. The scheme provides for the establishment of as many as 200 training and demonstration units for the development of 32 items of cottage industries and the grant of facilities to village artisans after they have completed their training in order to enable them successfully to establish themselves in the trade of their choice. By about April 1947, 114 technical personnel (Instructors and Demonstrators), 10 Supervisors and two Pottery Development Officers were recruited for organizing the training units. These people were given training for two weeks in the different technical institutions of the Department of Industries notably the Central Polytechnic, the School of Arts and Crafts (Ceramics section), Institute of Leather Technology, Government Textile Institute, etc. On the completion of the training, they were attached to the various District Industries Officers for the preliminary work connected with the establishment of training units. Forty-one demonstration and training units in different trades (pottery, blacksmithy, woodwork, tanning and leather goods manufacture, boat-building, rattan and bamboo work, light metal casting, sheet metal work, hand-made paper, etc.) are functioning at present in different parts of the Province. It may also

be mentioned that training was imparted in fish-farming in the Musiri firka of the Trichinopoly district. As a result of the training given in boat-building at Calingapatam in the Gara firka, Vizagapatam district, about a dozen boats have been constructed and launched. The hand-made paper unit at Thiruvengimalai in Musiri firka has manufactured about 12 reams of paper of good quality, which is in great demand. It is also proposed to manufacture most of the agricultural implements in the blacksmithy unit at Tirumangalam by employing additional labour in the unit. It is expected that by enlarging the activities of the blacksmithy unit in this way the whole unit may be made ultimately self-supporting. If this experiment proves a success, the activities of the various blacksmithy units located in other firkas will also be extended in that line. Quotations for the supply of tools and equipment required for the training units were obtained from local firms and orders to the value of over Rs. 2.5 lakhs were placed, of which deliveries to the extent of about Rs. 1.2 lakhs were effected by December. In the meantime, the Government are also considering the question of concentrating attention on the development of six basic items of cottage industries, viz., blacksmithy, woodwork, pottery, tanning and leather goods manufacture, sheet metal work and light metal casting.

Charitable institutions.—There were 2,751 institutions in the Presidency with an income of Rs. 47,54,120 in cash and 3,880 kalams of paddy and 20 muras of rice in kind. These figures are to a slight extent above the corresponding figures of the previous years.

It is reported that many of the institutions own large extents of land which are utilized for growing food crops, planting of trees and for garden cultivation. Steps are taken to grow food crops on lands which were hitherto left uncultivated but found fit for cultivation. It is reported that only such of the lands as are quite unfit or unprofitable for cultivation were left uncultivated. Institutions like the St. Patricks High School and Orphanage in Adyar and the Ramakrishna Mission Students' Home, Mylapore, have helped the Grow More Food Campaign by raising useful crops like paddy, vegetables, sugarcane, groundnut and casuarina on their lands. There was an appreciable increase in the cultivation of lands, when compared with the figures of the last year, mainly due to favourable season and good rains.

Of the institutions referred to above, 1,774 were maintained by endowments of lands, money, subscriptions and donations from the general public, the total receipts amounting to Rs. 10.9 lakhs. Three hundred and twenty-nine institutions were supported by the Government at a cost of Rs. 18.54 lakhs and 141 institutions were maintained partly by the Government and partly by the general public at a cost of Rs. 9.15 lakhs. The maintenance of the remaining 507 institutions costing Rs. 8.95 lakhs devolved wholly or partly on local taxation.

Public address equipments were purchased and installed in five municipalities and private bodies. One public address equipment consisting of an amplifier, six speakers, four microphones, a converter, etc., was installed in the Madras Legislative Council hall and several improvements were carried out to the loudspeaking equipment in the Madras Legislative Assembly hall. A radio receiver with amplifier and three loudspeakers was installed in the Government House, Mount Road, for the benefit of the members of the Madras Legislature. A model community radio receiver for installation and maintenance by this department was designed and built and satisfactory results were obtained from it.

The four Provincial Research students under the Provincial Research Scheme conducted research on radio problems of interest. Two Research Assistants continued research in the investigation of 'Reconditioning of lead-acid batteries' and 'Salvaging of electrolytic condensers,' under the scheme sanctioned by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, Delhi. A special officer for Provincial Broadcasting was appointed for advising the Government of Madras in regard to the development of rural broadcasting in this Province. A new section for filling and charging of batteries was opened in the department. This work was being done previously by private firms. The work connected with the convening of Quarterly Conferences of Heads of Nation Building Departments, till now attended to by the Radio Engineer, was transferred to the Director of Information and Publicity.

The installation of 30 additional sets in Malabar and South Kanara districts was sanctioned.

Emigration

In December 1947, the post of the Controller of Emigration for the Madras Presidency was created. There was no emigration of unskilled workers due to the continuance of the ban on their emigration to Malaya, Burma and Ceylon. However, exemptions from the operation of the ban on unskilled workers were granted to certain cases of unskilled labourers to emigrate to Ceylon. There was emigration of skilled workers to Malaya, Burma and Ceylon.

The following classes of persons were permitted to emigrate to Malaya :—

Old residents of Malaya, Malayan evacuees, and permit holders from the Government of Malaya for return to Malaya were permitted to emigrate to Malaya after satisfying the conditions laid down in the Indian Emigration Act. Malayan Indian evacuees who were in receipt of financial assistance under the general scheme of financial assistance of the Government of India were assisted to return to Malaya at the expense of the Government of India.

Evacuees.—Evacuees from Burma were financially assisted under the general scheme of the Government of India for financial

assistance to evacuees. Some of the evacuees who are in receipt of financial assistance were assisted to proceed to return to Burma under the Assisted Repatriation Scheme of the Government of India.

Eight repatriates arrived from South Africa during the year under the Assisted Repatriation Scheme. No permits for re-entry into the Union of South Africa were issued to South African repatriates during the year.

Refugees.—After the separation of the two Dominions of India and Pakistan there was a large influx of Hindu and Sikh refugees from the riot-stricken areas of the Punjab. These refugees had to be accommodated in various parts of the Indian Dominion. The Government of Madras had agreed to accommodate 10,000 of them in this Province and made all necessary arrangements to give them shelter, clothing, food, etc. Three camps were established at Saidapet, Avadi and Kilpauk. By the end of the year over 800 persons were accommodated in the three refugee camps provided by the Government. The indigent refugees were provided with free clothing and all were maintained at Government cost in the camps. They were paid weekly allowances of Rs. 3-10-0 per adult, Rs. 1-13-0 per child between 12 and 5 years of age and Re. 1-3-0 per child below 5 years.



INDEX

A	PAGE	D	PAGE
Accounts, 1946-47	10	District Boards	35
Acts (see Legislation)	3	Dyes and chemicals	65
Administration	1		
Agriculture	50	E	
Andhra Medical College, Vizagapatam	42	Education	46, 85
Armed forces (see Police)	23	Educational facilities (see Communities eligible for help by the Labour Department)	88
		Electricity	67
B		Elementary education	46
Banks—		Emigration	90
The Madras Provincial Co-operative Bank	54	Epidemics	38
The Central Land Mortgage Bank	54	Excise and prohibition	17
Basic education	46	Executive	1
Borstal schools	26	Expenditure	11
Broadcasting	89	Exports and imports	59
Budget for 1947-48	11		
Buildings	41, 68	F	
Bureau of Industrial and Commercial Intelligence	60	Famine	14
		Finance	10
C		Fire Services	30
Cauvery Delta System (see Irrigation)	70	Firewood	80
Central banks	54	Firka Development	84
Central Land Mortgage Bank	54	Fisheries	57
Ceramic industry	62	Forests	56
Certified schools	26	Forest panchayats	14
Charitable institutions	87		
Chemical Examiner's Department	33	G	
Cinchona plantations	57	Godavari Delta System (see Irrigation)	70
City Police	24	Government examinations	49
Civil justice	28	Government Textile Institute	63
Civil Supplies	74	Governor, His Excellency the "Grow More Food" campaign	71
Coal control	60	Groundnut	80
Collective weaving centres	54		
Collegiate education	48	H	
Commercial taxes	17	Harbour Police	25
Communications	85	High Court	34
Communities eligible for help by the Labour Department	88	His Excellency the Governor of Madras	1
Companies	65	Hospitals and dispensaries	39
Consumers' societies	54	Handloom cloth	64
Control orders	82	Hand-made paper	62
Co-operation	53, 85		
Corporation of Madras	35	I	
Cost of living	74	Industrial occupations	66
Cost of Public Services	9	Industries and Commerce	60
Cottage industries	86	Iron and Steel Control	61
Cotton cloth	63	Irrigation	70
Cotton yarn	64	Intensive Rural Development Scheme	84
Court of Wards	17		
Crime (see Police)	23	J	
Criminal justice	33	Jails (see Prisons, Borstal Schools and Certified Schools)	26
Criminal tribes (see Reclamation of Criminal Tribes)	27	Justice, civil	23
		Justice, criminal	33
		Jaggery	79

Index

K	PAGE	R	PAGE
Kerala Soap Institute	61	Radio (Broadcasting)	89
Khadi Scheme	85	Rainfall and crops	14
King Institute, Guindy	43	Ramapadasagar Project	72
Kistna Delta System (see Irrigation)	70	Rationing (see Civil Supplies)	77
		Reclamation of Criminal Tribes	27
L		Registration	29
Labour Department	88	Regulations	3
Land Mortgage Banks	54	Revenue	10
Land revenue	14	Riots	23
Law and Order	22, 24	Rural reconstruction	84
Legislation	3	Rural sanitation and propaganda	84
Legislature	2		
Loans for 1947	11	S	
Local Administration	35	Sale Societies	54
Local Fund Audit	36	Scheduled Castes (see Communities eligible for help by the Labour Department)	88
		Schemes for sinking and repairing wells	15
M		Season	14
Madras Fire Services	30	Secondary education	47
Madras Public Service Commission	8	Separation of the Judiciary from the Executive	0
Maternity and child-welfare	37	Services	8
Medical education	42	Silk factory	62
Medicine	39	South-west monsoon	17
Medical College, Madras	42	Stanley Medical College, Madras	42
Milk supply societies	81	Sugar	79
Monsoon (see Rainfall and crops)	14		
Motor transport	32	T	
Motor vehicles	81	Textile Control	63
Municipalities	35	Trade and industry	59
		Training of clerks	9
N		Tungabhadra Project	72
Natural resources	56		
		V	
P		Veterinary Services	52
Panchayats	35	Vital statistics	37
Paper industry	60		
Pensions	13	W	
Periyar System	71	Weavers' societies	55
Pinto Chekku	61	Wholesale sectors	55
Police	22	Women's education	47
Ports	59		
Prices in 1947	74	Y	
Prisons	25	Yarn and Cloth	63
Procurement	74		
Provincial borrowing	13		
Public health	37		
Public Works Department	67		

