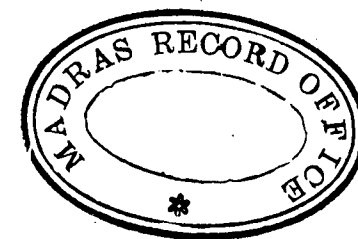


REPORT
ON THE
ADMINISTRATION
OF
TRAVANCORE

FOR THE YEAR

1084 M. E.
1908-1909. A. D.



PART I—REPORT.

TRIVANDRUM

PRINTED AT THE TRAVANCORE GOVERNMENT PRESS

1909

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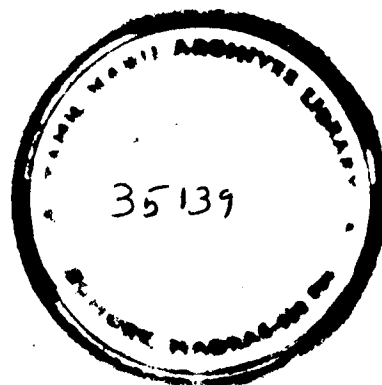
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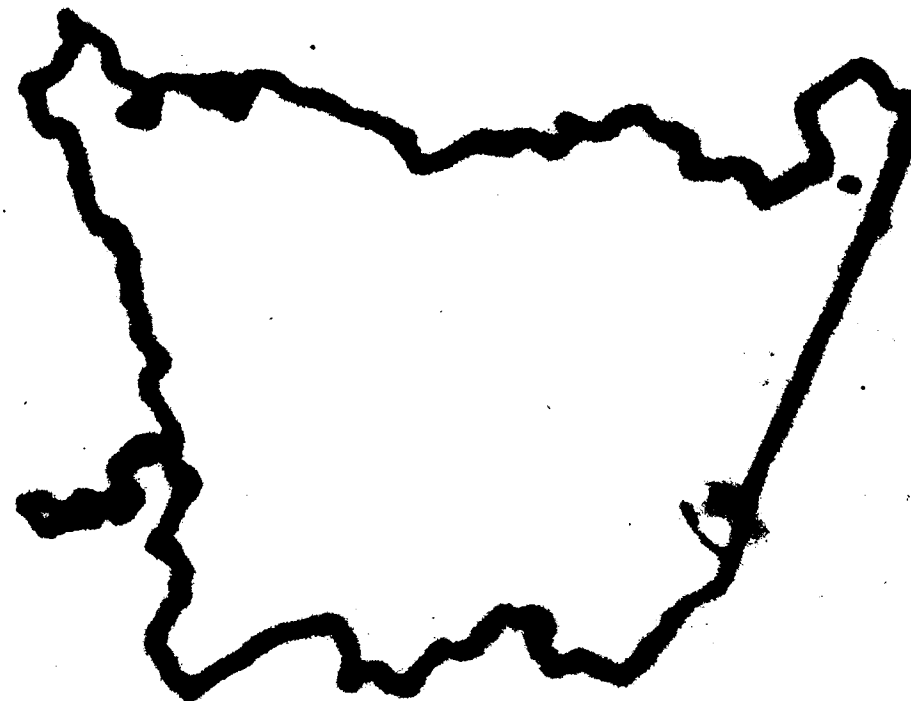
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MAP of the TRAVANCORE STATE

Scale 16 Miles = 1 Inch

Miles 10 20 30

INTRODUCTORY NOTE.

TRAVANCORE (Mal. *Thiruvithankur*) occupies the south-west portion of the Indian Peninsula. It forms an irregular triangle with its apex at Cape Comorin, and is situated between $8^{\circ} 4'$ and $10^{\circ} 22'$ North Latitude and between $76^{\circ} 13'$ and $77^{\circ} 38'$ East Longitude. It is bounded on the north by the State of Cochin and the British district of Coimbatore, on the east by the districts of Madura and Tinnevely, and on the south and west by the Indian Ocean. Its extreme length from north to south is 174 miles, its breadth 75 miles and its area 7,129 square miles. Over one-half of the total area are hills and forests. A large variety of trees, teak, blackwood, ebony, jack, anjili, &c., grow in the forests. The elephant, the tiger, the leopard, the bison, the sambar and a variety of small game are found. The South-West Monsoon begins about the middle of Edavom (May-June). The rainfall is generally heavy, with thunderstorms. The North-East Monsoon commences in the month of Thulam (Oct.-Nov.). From January to May the heat is intense and oppressive. Rice is the staple food of the people.

2. The early history of Travancore is in great part traditional; but there is little doubt that His Highness the Maha Raja is the representative of the Chera dynasty, one of the three great Hindu dynasties which exercised sovereignty in Southern India. The petty Chiefs who had subsequently set up as independent rulers within the State, were all subdued and the whole country, included within its present boundaries, was consolidated and brought under one rule during the reign of Maha Raja Marthanda Varma (1729-58). The English first settled at Anjengo, a few miles to the north of Trivandrum, and built a factory there in 1684. In the wars in which the East India Company were engaged in Madura and Tinnevely, in the middle of the 18th century, the Travancore State gave assistance to the British authorities. Travancore was reckoned as one of the staunchest allies of the British Power and was accordingly included in the treaty made in 1784 between the East India Company and the Sultan of Mysore. In view to protect the State from possible inroad by Tipu, an arrangement was come to in 1788 with the Honorable the East India Company, and in 1795 a formal treaty was concluded, by which the Company agreed to protect Travancore from all foreign enemies. In 1805 the annual subsidy to be paid by Travancore was fixed at Rs. 8 lakhs.

3. His Highness the Maha Raja, Sri Padmanabha Dasa Vanchi Pala, Sir Rama Varma. Kulasekhara Kiritapathi Minney Sultan Maha Raja Ramaraja Bahadur Shamsher Jang, G. C. S. I., G. O. I., Member of the Royal Asiatic Society, London, Officer De L' Instruction Publique, was born on the 25th September 1857 and ascended the *musnud* on the 19th August 1885. His Highness is entitled to a personal salute of 21 guns. The *Marumakkathayam* law governs the succession. The present Senior Rani, Her Highness Setu Lekshmi Bayi (born 19th November 1845), and the Junior Rani, Setu Parvathi Bayi (born 8th November 1896), were adopted into the family on the 5th August 1906.

4. The government of the country is conducted in the name and under the control of His Highness the Maha Raja. The Dewan is His Highness' Chief Minister, with whom the British Resident and heads of departments correspond in all official matters. The several departments are constituted mostly on the British Indian model. The work of legislation is entrusted to a Legislative Council brought into existence in 1888.

5. To afford to the people an opportunity of expressing direct to the Darbar their wants and wishes, and representing their views regarding the administrative measures adopted from time to time, and to enable the Darbar to learn at first hand how their actions affect

REFERENCE

- Quilon Head Quarters of Division
- Quilon Head Quarters of Judges
- (Quilon) Head Quarters of Tahsildars
- Municipality (T.I.C.)
- TRIVANDRUM Towns having above 40,000 inhabitants
- NAGERCOIL Do: 20,000 Do:
- Parur Do: 10,000 Do:
- Pala Towns 50,000 to 10,000 Do:
- Railway and Station
- Main Road
- Division Boundary
- Taluk Do:
- Hill
- River and Stream
- Lake and Canal
- Light House
- 1 to 4 Cochin State

the people, and to have the benefit of the suggestions of the latter regarding administrative measures, His Highness the Maha Raja was pleased to command that an Assembly under the designation of the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly should be constituted. This Assembly meets once every year. The first session of it was held in October 1904. The members were then nominated by Government from among the agricultural, trading, industrial and other classes. In the second year, the privilege of electing members to the Assembly was granted to the people. The 32 taluks, into which the State is divided for administrative purposes, were each constituted into an electorate and qualifications prescribed for the electoral body. Every person who paid on his own account an annual land revenue of not less than fifty rupees or whose net annual income was not less than three thousand rupees, and every graduate of any recognised University having his residence in the taluk, was given the privilege of election. The taluks are each allowed to return two members to the Assembly, a few important taluks being given one more member. The elections are conducted under the presidency of the Tahsildars—the chief administrative officers of the taluks. The Municipalities, the European Planters' Associations and a few other public bodies and associations representing approved public interests and satisfying the prescribed requirements as to constitution and conduct of business, are also allowed to depute members to the Assembly. Provision is also made for the nomination by the Darbar of members to represent any interest or community which may otherwise fail to be represented by the elected members. This is the present constitution. Soon after election or nomination, the members prepare memoranda of the representations and suggestions they desire to bring forward, and these are forwarded to the Peishkars of their respective divisions, who submit them to the Dewan with their remarks on each proposition. The Assembly opens with an address by the Dewan, giving a résumé of the administration of the previous Malabar year and the measures proposed for the current year. The members are then called upon to represent their wants and wishes and to submit their suggestions; and the Dewan replies to them in the name and on behalf of the Darbar.

6. For purposes of land revenue administration, the State is divided into four divisions, each under the control of an officer called Peishkar, who also exercises the powers of a District Magistrate. Each division is divided into taluks under the charge of Tahsildars who are also Magistrates *ex-officio*. Each taluk is subdivided into *pakuthies* or villages which constitute the units for revenue purposes. The head of a *pakuthi* or group of *pakuthies* is a Proverthicar. There are 32 taluks and 414 *pakuthies*.

7. The population of the State according to the Census of 1901 was 2,952,157 (1,490,165 males and 1,461,992 females). Hinduism is the predominant religion of the State and its followers constitute about two-thirds of the entire population (2,035,615), while Christians form about a fourth (697,387) and Mahomedans one-sixteenth (190,566).

CHAPTER I.

GENERAL AND POLITICAL.

M. E. 1084 (AUGUST 1908—AUGUST 1909).

I was on leave from the 12th May to the 7th July 1909. Mr. S. Padmanabha Aiyer, M. A., the Senior Dewan Peishkar, was in charge of the administration during that period.

2. In November 1908, His Excellency Lord Kitchener, Commander-in-Chief in India, paid a visit to Travancore.

3. Their Highnesses the Ranis continued to make steady progress in their studies.

CHAPTER II.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

LAND REVENUE.

3. *Current demand.*—The current land revenue demand rose from Rs. 30,45,469, to Rs. 36,47,490. The subjoined statement shows the gross demand under the different items, the remissions granted, fixed as well as seasonal, and the net demand for the two years 1083 and 1084:—

Years.	Gross demand.				Deduct remissions.			Net demand.
	On wet lands.	On garden and dry lands.	Miscellaneous.	Total.	Fixed.	Seasonal.	Total.	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1083	17,54,800	8,75,684	4,14,985	30,45,469	53,617	38,178	91,795	29,53,674
1084	17,44,438	10,69,114	8,33,938	36,47,490	18,139	59,254	77,393	35,70,097

There was a fall of Rs. 10,362 under wet lands. This was partly due to the conversion of a portion of the lands registered as wet in the old accounts into garden lands at the present settlement, and partly to the abolition, during the settlement, of the old system of allowing remissions on the *punja* lands in North Travancore, periodically left fallow, and the imposition of the average net demand for the 10 years preceding the settlement, as the settlement or new assessment on those lands. The increase of Rs. 1,93,430 under garden and dry lands was due wholly to settlement. There was a large increase—Rs. 4,18,953—under miscellaneous revenue. The bulk of the increase, Rs. 3,37,953, was the acreage value and arrears of tax on *puduvai* and *thanathu-chitta* lands brought under registry, during the year, in the taluks already settled and in those under settlement. The sale proceeds of *poramboke*s thrown open for cultivation and of other Sirkar lands gave an increase of Rs. 64,000. The remaining Rs. 17,000 was the result of the enhancement of the tax on some of the lands granted for coffee and tea cultivation, from annas two to annas twelve per acre, made during the year. The tax on coffee and tea lands is an item which should fall under “ayacut” or fixed revenue and not under “miscellaneous”. The necessary change will be made in the accounts from 1085. There was a reduction of Rs. 14,402 under remissions, being the result of an increase under seasonal remissions and a substantial decrease under fixed remissions. In the result, the net revenue demand rose by Rs. 6,16,423.

4. *Demand, collection and balance.*—The subjoined statement shows the land revenue demand of the year, arrears as well as current, the amounts collected and written off and the balance at the end of the year:—

Years.	Demand.			Collection.			Written off.			Balance.		
	Arrears.	Current.	Total.	Arrears.	Current.	Total.	Arrears.	Current.	Total.	Arrears.	Current.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1083	2,11,595	29,53,674	31,65,269	89,300	29,22,060	30,11,360	43,951	...	43,951	78,344	31,614	1,09,958
1084	1,09,958	35,70,097	36,80,055	27,499	34,82,111	35,09,610	20,420	...	20,420	62,039	87,986	1,50,025

The collections on account of the current demand amounted to 98 per cent. There was substantial progress in recovering or writing off old arrears. The total pending balance at the close of the year rose from Rs. 1,09,958 to Rs. 1,50,025. Of the latter amount, a sum of Rs. 69,838 consisted of amounts which had been ordered to be recovered by future instalments, and which, therefore, were not really due during the year, and Rs. 51,162 represented the arrears of rent due to this Darbar on the Perumanom and Kothadupalam lands in Cochin, which could not be recovered under the Revenue Recovery Regulation of this State.

5. *Coercive action.*—Subjoined are the figures in regard to the coercive action taken during the two years:—

Years.	Demand notices issued.		Distrain of movables and attachment of immovables.		Actual sale of properties.					
					Movables.		Immovables.		Total.	
	Number of cases.	Amount involved. Rs.	Number of cases.	Amount involved. Rs.	No. of cases.	Amount involved. Rs.	No. of cases.	Amount involved. Rs.	No. of cases.	Amount involved. Rs.
1083	67,078	3,30,672	1,599	13,282	30	448	271	5,812	301	6,260
1084	51,956	3,36,811	1,103	25,295	280	2,381	133	2,947	413	5,328

There was a substantial decline in the number of demand notices issued and also in that of distraints and attachments. The number of sales of immovable property also showed a decrease, while the number of sales of movables rose substantially. A large number of the sales of movables was in Munambom, in the Parur taluk, due to combination among the ryots and their refusal to pay the assessments—at settlement rates—imposed upon their lands.

6. *Revenue cases.*—The following statement shows the revenue cases disposed of by the Division Peishkars and Tahsildars during the two years 1083 and 1084:—

No.	Nature of cases.	Number for disposal, including balance of previous year.		Actual disposal.			
		1083	1084	Number disposed of.		Percentage of disposal.	
				1083	1084	1083	1084
1	Puduvai or registry of waste lands	14,231	17,440	9,196	12,627	64	72
2	Transfer of registry	38,857	31,223	36,699	29,928	94	95
3	Poramboke	3,190	1,314	2,883	1,154	90	87
4	Cases under the Land Acquisition Regulation	1,254	549	1,117	440	89	80
5	Escheat	174	84	136	70	78	83

There was an improvement generally in the disposal of puduval, transfer of registry and escheat cases. The number of puduval cases pending in the Trivandrum division, however, rose from 3,933 to 4,314. Of those pending, as many as 2,105 cases related to the years 1077 to 1083. The Darbar has been putting continued pressure on the Peishkar to dispose of these old cases. Now that the taluk and village establishments of the division have been re-organised, the Darbar anticipates a substantial improvement in the disposal of revenue cases during 1085.

Considerable progress was made during the year in the disposal of *thanathu-chitta* lands, or assessed waste lands at the disposal of the Sirkar, either by leasing them (*kuthagapattom*) or by bringing them under permanent registry.

7. *Revenue appeals*.—There were 10 appeals pending before the Darbar at the beginning of the year, and 153 were received during the year, thus making a total of 163 cases for disposal. Of these, 136 were disposed of, leaving a balance of 27 cases at the close of the year. The decisions of the Peishkars were confirmed in 80 cases, reversed in 23 and modified in 33.

8. *Applications for loans*.—Including the previous year's balance, there were only two applications for loans under Regulation IV of 1066. Both these applications were before the Kottayam Peishkar, of which one was disposed of during the year.

Steps were taken, during the year, to amend the Regulation, which applied only to wet lands, so as to include garden and dry lands as well. The amended Regulation has since passed into law. It is hoped that, as a result, the facilities afforded by the Regulation will be more largely availed of by the ryots in future.

9. *Tours of Peishkars and Tahsildars*.—The average touring of the Peishkars for the year was 149 days, against 175 days in 1083. The touring of the Tahsildars generally showed an improvement; but the average number of days spent by them in camp was only 36 days per quarter, against the minimum of 40 days per quarter prescribed by the Darbar. The Darbar is insisting on this minimum being worked up to.

10. *Miscellaneous*.—The Village, Taluk and Divisional establishments of the Padmanabhapuram division were revised during the year. The main features of the revision were:—

- (i) the complete recognition of the *pakuthi* (or survey-village) as the unit of administration;
- (ii) the provision of a separate village staff for each *pakuthi*;
- (iii) a substantial improvement in the scale of pay of the village accountants and peons;
- (iv) a reduction of the taluk and divisional establishments and a substantial improvement of their salary;
- (v) the provision of a separate establishment for the Division Assistant;
- (vi) the appointment of a Surveyor permanently for each taluk for land records' work; and
- (vii) the provision for payment of travelling allowances to the members of the taluk establishment, while travelling on Sirkar duty.

The revised scheme was introduced in the middle of the year. The revision of the establishments of the Trivandrum division was also sanctioned during the year, but it came into force only during the current year. The additional cost on account of the revision of the establishments of these two divisions is Rs. 21,216 per annum.

Final orders were passed on the question of *thirippu-varam* assignment, to the effect that the relations between the claimants to the *varam* and the holders of the lands on which such *varam* might be charged should be left undisturbed by the Revenue department, but that the tax due to the Sirkar, as fixed by the Settlement department, should be collected without reference to those relations.

The tax on certain lands granted for coffee or tea cultivation, which had been reduced to 2 annas per acre in 1891, was raised to the old rate of 12 annas.

The system of levying arrears of assessment for several years retrospectively on *puduval* lands newly brought under registry, having been found to work hardship on the ryots, it was laid down that back arrears should, under no circumstances, be recovered for more than 10 years, and that, in every case where arrears are claimed for more than 5 years, the holder should be allowed the option of paying such arrears in two or three annual instalments.

Steps were taken to define the limits up to which reclamations could be permitted on the backwaters from Trivandrum to Alleppey, chiefly in the interests of navigation. The rate of *tharavila* or ground value on such reclamations, when made available for registry, was raised from Rupee 1 to a minimum of Rs. 25 per acre.

The kist months fixed for the *punja* crops in North Travancore having been found to be inconvenient to the ryots, it was laid down that there should be only one kist month for such crops, namely, *Edavom*.

Almost the whole of the Nair *viruthi* services in the Qñilon division were abolished, the lands assigned for the services being enfranchised and brought under *pandarapattam* or full assessment. [The change came into force only at the beginning of 1085.]

In the interests of the *Viruthikars*, all arrears of *koppu-vilavasi*, which had accumulated against them under the old system and which amounted to Rs. 28,861, were remitted during the year.

A scheme was introduced placing cattle-pounds, as far as possible, on a self-supporting basis.

The system of relieving Tahsildars of their Magisterial functions, so as to enable them to devote their whole time to Revenue and Devaswom duties, was extended to the taluks of Agasteeswaram and Neyyattinkara.

In regard to the lands commanded by the Kodayar Project, the accounts of the irrigation cess, to be imposed on all the registered wet lands commanded by the Project, were in course of preparation when the year closed. A simplified procedure was introduced for the selection and disposal of the tank-beds that would be rendered unnecessary by the extension of the Kodayar system.

SURVEY.

11. The work of the department was generally confined to special and miscellaneous surveys, as detailed below:—

(i) the special cadastral survey of the coffee and tea estates within the Kannan Devan Hills Concession and of the remaining portion of the boundary of the Concession, which was completed during the year;

(ii) the survey of coffee and tea estates in the Thodupuzha and Changana-cherry taluks;

(iii) the re-survey of the Cardamom Hills;

(iv) the survey of applications for Cardamom lands; and

(v) the miscellaneous cadastral revision survey :—

(a) of puduvals registered, after the original survey, in the taluks of Nedumangad, Chirayinkil, Pathanapuram, Chengannur, Changanacherry, Shortallai, Kottayam and Ettumanoor; and

(b) of the lands within the Quilon Cantonment.

The normal staff of the department had to be supplemented by temporary hands, as in the previous year.

LAND RECORDS.

12. Though a scheme for the maintenance of land records had been introduced so far back as 1082, very little progress was found to have been made in maintenance work. This was due to the heavy volume of arrears of maintenance which the normal village and taluk staff were unable to cope with, to the inadequate nature of the training given to the above staff and to the want of effective supervision over land records' work generally. The Darbar sanctioned a scheme for bringing up the arrears of maintenance in the taluks of Thovala and Agasteeswaram in the Padmanbhapuram division. A temporary staff, under an experienced Survey Sub-Assistant, was placed at the disposal of the Peishkar. In view to effective supervision by the Tahsildars and Taluk Surveyors, it was arranged that the temporary men should be put on a few selected *pakuthies* at the outset, and that as these *pakuthies* got current, the men should be moved on to a similar group of new *pakuthies* in each of the taluks. It was further laid down that no permanent Accountant should, in any case, be moved from his village for work elsewhere, that as much as possible of work should be exacted from the permanent staff, the temporary men being preferably employed for non-survey work, and that even in the *pakuthies* which were not taken up by the temporary staff, substantial work should be exacted from the permanent men. Provision was also made for a thorough training being given by the Sub-Assistant to the Tahsildars of the division, and to all the revenue subordinates of the taluks of Thovala and Agasteeswaram. The Sub-Assistant was able to join duty only in the last month of the year. In the Thovala taluk, stone maps and stone registers were prepared for 9 *pakuthies* and in the remaining 2 the work was nearing completion, so that field work might be begun early in the current year. In Agasteeswaram, stone maps and registers were ready for 4 *pakuthies* and stone maps alone for 4 more *pakuthies*, when the year closed. The question of extending the scheme to other taluks will be considered by the Darbar after some experience is gained of its working in the above two taluks.

In the other divisions, the Land Records Surveyors were chiefly engaged, during the year, in training the village and taluk staff and in operations preliminary to regular maintenance.

SETTLEMENT.

13. Of the four parties at the beginning of the year, two were amalgamated into one party and another party was disbanded during the year. There were thus only two Party Officers working at the close of the year, consisting of a Deputy Peishkar and an Assistant Peishkar. Substantial reductions were made in the

subordinate staff also. On account of the reduction of staff, the expenditure on the Settlement department fell from Rs. 3,17,571 in 1083 to Rs. 1,86,307 in 1084.

Twenty-six taluks having been already settled, the operations of the department extended over the remaining 6 taluks and over the *cherikals* in such of the settled taluks as contained *cherikals*. Of the above, the taluk of Thodupuzha, with the exception of the *cherikals* in it, the taluk of Anjanad and also the *cherikals* in three villages of the Kottayam taluk, in seven villages of Thiruvella, in two of Changanacherry and in two of Chengannur, were completely settled during the year. Satisfactory progress was also made towards closing settlement work in the remaining four taluks, namely, Muvattupuzha, Kunnattunad, Alengad and Meenachil (with the exception of the Poonjar village). All these four taluks, and the two taluks and the *cherikals* completely settled during the year, have been notified for the collection of new taxes with effect from 1085. It is anticipated that the operations of the Settlement department will be brought to a close before the end of 1085.

In regard to the Poonjar village, in the Meenachil taluk, a Special Officer was appointed under the Boundary Regulation for the settlement and demarcation of the boundaries of the lands claimed by the Poonjar Chief and of those owned by the Sirkar, Sirkar Devaswoms and others within the village. The Special Officer joined the appointment only towards the latter part of the year.

AGRICULTURE.

14. The department was re-organised during the year. A staff consisting of 3 Agricultural Inspectors and 2 Sub-Inspectors was sanctioned and the establishments attached to the farms at Trivandrum and Quilon were revised. A cattle-breeding farm was newly sanctioned and attached to the Trivandrum farm. The Darbar also sanctioned the establishment of an agricultural laboratory. The line of work in the Trivandrum and Quilon farms was changed from *demonstration* to *experiment*. The Darbar also sanctioned the extension of the two farms. As, however, no suitable land could be had for extending the Quilon farm, arrangement was made for opening a new experimental farm at Kottarakara, the farm at Quilon being retained purely for purposes of demonstration.

Experiments were conducted in respect of paddy, tapioca, sugarcane, groundnut, sunn-hemp and miscellaneous crops. In regard to paddy, the experiments were made on lands belonging to ryots, the arrangement being that the ryots should do all the cultivation, the manures alone being supplied by the department and the ryots getting the whole produce. This arrangement appears to have been appreciated by the ryots. Experiments were also started in reclaiming alkaline and marshy lands. A stock of agricultural implements and machines, suited to local conditions, was purchased for purposes of demonstration. Arrangements were made for the storage of cattle-manure and poudrette in the Trivandrum farm. Steps were taken to spread agricultural knowledge among the ryots by the issue of leaflets in colloquial Malayalam and by popular lectures on agricultural subjects of general and local importance. Two Exhibitions were held during the year, one at Ochira and the other at Perumala, both of which were conducted by private agency.

An officer of the department was specially engaged in investigating the Cocoanut Palm Disease. He was chiefly employed in the de-limitation of the infected area and in carrying on experiments in a few selected centres. The total area affected was 51,504 acres in Central and North Travancore. With regard to the results of the experiments, it is too early to draw any inferences.

Among the steps taken for the improvement of cattle may be mentioned the purchase of six Mysore seed-bulls and their location at important centres. 10 cows of the local breed were also purchased during the year. Only one Cattle-Show was held, owing to the prevalence of rinderpest in several parts of the State.

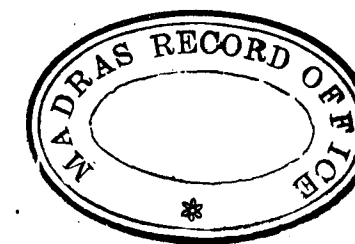
The Veterinary branch of the department was also re-organised towards the latter part of the year. In addition to the Veterinary hospital at Trivandrum, a new hospital was opened at Kottayam. The Veterinary staff was improved and strengthened. Altogether, 1,518 cases were treated by the Veterinary Inspectors in their tours and in the hospitals. Of these cases, 1,152 are reported to have been successful.

Rinderpest continued to prevail in several parts of the State and did considerable damage to cattle, notwithstanding the efforts made by the department to combat the disease. Another contagious disease, namely, foot and mouth disease, also broke out during the year, but it was not as fatal as rinderpest. Arrangements were made for introducing a system of inoculation with anti-rinderpest serum. A supply of the serum was ordered from the Bacteriological Laboratory at Muktesar, but it had not arrived when the year closed.

CHAPTER III.

PROTECTION.

LEGISLATION.



15. Four ordinary meetings and one special meeting of the Legislative Council were held during the year.

Five Regulations were passed:—

Regulation I of 1084. To provide for the establishment of Public Canals and Public Ferries in Travancore and for the management thereof.

Regulation II of 1084. To amend and consolidate the law relating to the Civil Courts in Travancore.

Regulation III of 1084. To declare the rights of Government and of private individuals with respect to hidden treasure and to prescribe rules to be followed on the discovery of such treasure.

Regulation IV of 1084. To amend the Police Regulation, IV of 1056, as amended by Regulation II of 1058.

Regulation V of 1084. To consolidate and amend the law relating to Arms, Ammunition and Military Stores.

The Vakils Regulation Amendment Bill and the Towns Conservancy and Improvement Regulation Amendment Bill were introduced and dealt with in Select Committee and the Committees' reports were also considered by the Council during the year. The Forest Regulation Amendment Bill was introduced into the Council and referred to a Select Committee during the year. Leave to introduce the following Bills was granted:—(1) Bill to amend and consolidate the Registration Regulation, I of 1070; (2) Bill to amend the Prisons Regulation, I of 1071; (3) Bill to amend the Land Acquisition Regulation, III of 1067; (4) Bill to regulate Weights and Measures; (5) Bill to amend the Public Gambling Regulation, III of 1071; (6) Bill to amend the Government Land Conservancy Regulation, II of 1067, as amended by Regulation I of 1075; (7) Bill to amend the Agricultural Improvement Loans Regulation, IV of 1066. Of the above Bills, all except the Registration Bill and the Prisons Regulation Amendment Bill were introduced into the Council and referred to Select Committees. Of the Bills introduced, the Land Acquisition Regulation Amendment Bill alone was not dealt with in Committee during the year. The Public Gambling Regulation Amendment Bill, the Government Land Conservancy Regulation Amendment Bill and the Agricultural Improvement Loans Regulation Amendment Bill were also dealt with in the Council before the close of the year.

POLICE.

16. *The Force.*—Revised rules defining the powers of the Superintendent of Police, were sanctioned by the Darbar with effect from the 1st Kanni 1084. The Superintendent was empowered to make any appointment on the sanctioned establishment, the pay of which did not exceed Rs. 40 per mensem. His powers in

respect of granting leave to, transferring and punishing, his subordinates were also correspondingly enlarged.

The sanctioned strength of the Force at the beginning of the year was 1,720, which, at the close of the year, rose to 1,735, two head constables and 13 constables having been added during the year—3 constables to replace the Military guard of the Quilon treasury and the rest to reinforce the inadequate Police detachment on the High Range. The actual strength at the close of the year was 1,718. Deducting the number employed in the Reserve and in offices and as temple and treasury guards, the effective strength was 1,420, against 1,437 in 1083. The ratio of police to population and area was one policeman to every 2,183 inhabitants and one to every 5 square miles.

The total number of casualties was 129. Of these, 28 were cases of retirement on pension, 25 of resignation, 44 of dismissal, 10 of desertion, 8 of discharge, 11 of death and 3 of transfer to other departments. The total number of departmental punishments fell from 1,257 to 1,023, the decrease being mainly in the award of fines and black marks.

118 policemen, or 23 more than in the previous year, were prosecuted during the year, of whom 10 were convicted and 22 were under trial when the year closed. The others were all acquitted or discharged.

17. *Cases investigated.*—3,737 cognisable cases were reported during the year, against 4,149 in 1083. Inclusive of arrears, the total number for disposal was 3,844, out of which, 1,702 cases were referred as false, 31 transferred to the undetected list and 1,965 charged, leaving a balance of 146 cases pending at the end of the year. The number of non-cognisable cases dealt with was 1,416, against 1,374 in the previous year.

18. *Detective results generally.*—The percentages of conviction in respect of cases and of persons were 79 and 60 respectively. The percentage of property recovered fell from 51 to 35.

The average duration of investigation in cases charged and in those referred was 12 and 20 days respectively, against 8 and 16 days in the year preceding. The average duration of the detention of prisoners in cases charged and that in referred cases was practically the same as in the previous year, viz, one day and a day and a half respectively. The total number of witnesses examined was 25,322.

Offence.	No. of cases reported.		Percentage of conviction.				Percentage of property recovered.	
			Cases.		Persons.			
	1083	1084	1083	1084	1083	1084	1083	1084
Murder ...	35	40	80	65	50	57	...	...
Culpable homicide not amounting to murder...	8	9	80	50	90	21	...	...
Dacoity ...	70	63	55	46	35	35	58	19
Robbery ...	200	220	54	57	54	38	8	72
House-breaking and theft...	437	480	89	81	75	72	48	30
Cattle theft ...	196	192	83	78	70	65	77	93
Ordinary theft ...	1,442	1,408	85	84	71	72	67	53

There was one case under the Coinage Law and it ended in conviction.

20. *Cases referred by and to the Magistracy.*—Of the 642 cases referred by the Magistracy to the Police, 516 were returned as false, and of these, 463 were struck off by the Magistracy. 1,186 cases were taken up by the Police direct and referred by them, of which 936 were ordered to be struck off.

21. *Miscellaneous.*—779 cases of violent and unnatural deaths were reported, against 706 in the preceding year. There were 614 accidental deaths and 88 suicides—59 males and 29 women. The number of deaths from murder rose from 37 to 41. The number of accidental fires rose from 193 to 219, and the value of property destroyed on this account also rose, from Rs. 32,403 to Rs. 88,098. No lives were lost.

19. *Grave crimes.*—The statement in the margin gives particulars of the grave crimes dealt with in 1083 and 1084.

1,13,216 processes were executed during the year, against 1,08,201 in the previous year.

Four prisoners escaped from police custody during the year, of whom two were recaptured.

The number of known depredators on the register fell from 639 to 593.

60 head-stations and 43 sub-stations were inspected by the Superintendent, 14 of the former and 8 of the latter being visited more than once. There was no station uninspected either by the Superintendent or by any Assistant Superintendent. The number of days spent by the Superintendent in camp was 151, while the Assistant Superintendents were on circuit, on an average, for 282 days.

25 finger impressions were sent to Madras, Cochin, North Malabar and Bombay for search; and, in respect of two of them, the previous convictions of the individuals concerned were traced.

FACTORIES.

22. There were at the end of the year 54 factories in the State. Of these, 33 were tea-manufacturing factories in the Cardamom Hills, round Peermade, at Ponnudi and at other places along the line of the ghats. Of the remaining 21, 4 were in Quilon, 13 in Alleppey, 3 in Shertallay, and one in Pallipuram (Vaikom taluk). These 21 factories were, severally, for the manufacture of tiles and bricks, for the manufacture of cotton and coir yarn, for the extraction of cocoanut oil and for the husking of paddy. The number of factories worked by steam power alone, and that of those worked by oil engine, were the same as in the previous year, viz, 12 and 11 respectively. Water power, manual labour and electricity were used in the rest, either exclusively or in combination with one of the other agencies. The total number of operatives at work was 3,909, including 606 women and 1,012 children. The daily wages ranged from 3 chackrams to Rs. 2 per head. The duration of work varied from 8 to 12 hours a day. The District Magistrates, as well as the Medical Officers, inspected the factories in their respective divisions. Building accommodation and sanitary arrangements were, on the whole, satisfactory.

ARMS AND AMMUNITION.

23. 291 permits were issued for the import of rifles, guns, revolvers, gun-powder, cartridges, detonators, dynamite &c. The arms and ammunition were brought into the country, either as personal effects by individuals privileged to carry arms, or as articles of trade by licensed vendors. 11 export permits were issued for small consignments of sulphur &c. and for a few guns or rifles and cartridges carried either for self-defence or for repair. 122 licenses were granted for the manufacture or sale of arms, ammunition &c. Of these, 24 were for manufacture and the rest for sale. Under Regulation V of 1079, 14 licenses were issued for the possession and use of explosives, mostly for mining or blasting purposes. The Bill to amend the Arms and Ammunition Regulation, referred to in the previous year's report, was passed into law during the year as Regulation V of 1084.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE.

TRIBUNALS.

24. The number of Courts exercising criminal jurisdiction was 60. The Special First Class Magistrate's Court, temporarily created at Trivandrum towards the close of 1083 in connection with the Chalai cases, was abolished in 1084, soon after the committal of the first case. With a view to give relief to the Agasteeswaram Tahsildar-Magistrate, whose revenue duties required his full attention, the Second Class Magistrate's Court at Kottar was converted into a First Class Magistrate's Court and given jurisdiction over the whole of the Agasteeswaram taluk. The Tahsildar, though allowed to retain magisterial powers, was not to exercise them ordinarily. Similarly, with the object of giving relief to the Kottayam Division First Class Magistrate, the Tahsildar-Magistrate of Shertallay was invested with first class powers as a tentative measure. The Parassalai Magistrate's Court was abolished in the beginning of the year and a Stationary Second Class Magistrate was posted in lieu at Neyyattinkaray, with jurisdiction over the whole taluk, the Tahsildar of Neyyattinkaray, though not divested of his magisterial powers, being told not ordinarily to exercise those powers.

STATE OF CRIME GENERALLY.

25. The number of offences reported fell from 18,428 to 18,088, of which 14,618 were offences under the Penal Code and 3,470 under special and local laws, against 14,817 and 3,611 respectively in 1083. The decline in cases under the Penal Code was mainly in regard to the compoundable offences of criminal force and assault, ordinary criminal trespass, and offences affecting public health, safety, convenience &c. The decrease in offences under special and local laws was mainly under the Police Regulation, the Towns Conservancy and Improvement Regulation, the Criminal Breach of Contract Regulation and the Cattle Trespass Regulation. But cases under the Abkari Regulation showed an increase. The number of cases rejected in *limine* rose from 539 to 604. The percentage of conviction in respect of persons was 26, against 31 in the previous year. The number of female offenders charged fell from 2,321 to 2,318 but the number convicted rose from 286 to 305. The largest number of female offenders convicted was in prosecutions under the Abkari Regulation, as in the preceding two years.

The number of juvenile accused rose from 341 to 668, the Kottayam district contributing 498, against 50 in 1083. But the number actually brought to trial and the number convicted fell from 119 and 64 to 97 and 44 respectively, the ratio of conviction being 45 per cent. Theft was the principal offence of which the juveniles were convicted. Six juveniles convicted in the Chalai case were sent to the Reformatory, against one in the year preceding, but they were acquitted and released on appeal.

The number of public servants prosecuted rose from 187 to 302, while the number convicted fell from 23 to 18. The percentage of conviction was 6, as against 12 in the year preceding. The High Court think that "the low percentage of conviction is not conclusive of the reckless filing of cases against public servants but is mainly due to the accused being, in the bulk of cases, able to intimidate or suborn witnesses." The Darbar has directed that all complaints against public servants should be disposed of *promptly* and that delay in the disposal of such cases should be specially reported to the Darbar.

MAGISTRATES' COURTS.

26. *Original work.*—The file fell from 18,428 to 18,088—351 preliminary enquiries and 17,737 trials. The total number of cases for disposal, including arrears, was 18,791, of which 18,398 were disposed of during the year, leaving a balance of 393. The number of pending cases of more than three months' duration

showed an increase, rising from 35 to 69. The disposal of a Magistrate averaged 361 cases, against 343 in 1083. The average duration of the pendency of preliminary enquiries and trials remained the same as in the preceding year, *viz.*, 29 and 14 days respectively. The number of witnesses examined by the Magistracy fell from 30,172 to 28,745. The number detained beyond three days fell from 635 to 533. The average number of witnesses examined by a Magistrate was 564, against 549 in 1083. The number of persons involved in the cases disposed of by the Magistracy rose from 1,807 to 1,857 in preliminary enquiries, while in trials it fell from 41,478 to 40,974. 305 persons were committed to the Sessions. 6,376 or 16 per cent were convicted, against 17 per cent in the previous year. Of the total number of persons convicted, 68 per cent were sentenced to fines only. Solitary confinement was awarded to two persons, as against three in the previous year.

27. *Appellate work.*—The 5 District Magistrates and the 4 Division First Class Magistrates exercised appellate jurisdiction during the year. The Acting First Class Magistrate of Alleppey, appointed during the absence on furlough of the permanent incumbent, was not empowered to hear and dispose of appeals. The number of appeals preferred fell from 1,614 to 1,286. The total number for disposal was 1,335, of which 1,320 were disposed of, leaving a balance of 15 at the end of the year. The average duration of an appeal rose from 19 to 20 days. Most of the appeals pending were less than one month old. The percentages of confirmation, reversal and modification, were 58, 25 and 12 respectively, as against 56, 29 and 13 in the previous year.

28. *Revisional work.*—The number of applications for revision received during the year rose from 108 to 127. All except one were disposed of during the year.

29. *Miscellaneous cases.*—16 persons were bound over to keep the peace and one for good behaviour. 11 proceedings in cases of local nuisance and 44 in those of disputed possession of immovable property were passed.

30. *Fines.*—The fines imposed during the year amounted to Rs. 47,806, against Rs. 45,263 in the previous year. The total amount for recovery was Rs. 53,643, of which a sum of Rs. 34,656 was recovered, Rs. 4,040 remitted on appeal and Rs. 4,791 struck off as irrecoverable, leaving a balance of Rs. 10,156 at the end of the year.

SESSIONS COURTS.

31. *Original work.*—The number of cases committed to the Sessions Courts was 102. Inclusive of arrears and cases ordered to be retried, the number for disposal was 106. The disposals numbered 102, the balance left at the close of the year being 4. The number of persons involved in the cases disposed of was 370, of whom 186 or 50 per cent were convicted. The average duration remained the same as in the preceding year, *viz.*, 11 days. The number of witnesses examined rose from 1,860 to 1,900. 228 witnesses were detained beyond a day but within three days and 340 beyond three days. Three persons were sentenced to death, 6 to imprisonment for life and 145 to various terms of imprisonment. 32 persons were sentenced to imprisonment and fine.

32. *Appellate work.*—299 appeals were preferred to the Sessions Courts. Inclusive of arrears and appeals remanded, the total number for disposal was the same as in the preceding year, *viz.*, 328. Of these, 308 were disposed of, leaving a balance of 20. The average duration of an appeal was 35 days, as against 29 in 1083. The proportion of confirmation fell from 58 to 48 per cent, while that of reversal rose from 25 to 31. The ratio of modification remained stationary, *viz.*, 17.

33. *Revisional work.*—49 applications for revision were presented to the Sessions Courts. Including two pending at the commencement of the year, all the 51 cases were disposed of. The number of calendars, proceedings and appeal statements disposed of fell from 14,932 to 14,014.

34. *Fines.*—The amount of fines imposed in Sessions trials aggregated Rs. 7,039, against Rs. 2,845 in 1083. The amount for recovery was Rs. 17,932, of which a sum of Rs. 765 was realised and Rs. 5,466 remitted on appeal or revision before recovery. A sum of Rs. 1,511 was struck off as irrecoverable. The balance left unrecovered at the end of the year was Rs. 10,190.

HIGH COURT.

35. *Referred cases.*—The number of referred cases received during the year was 9, and inclusive of the one case pending at the commencement of the year, the number for disposal was 10, affecting 12 persons, of which 9 cases affecting 11 persons were disposed of. The sentence of death was confirmed in the case of three persons and that of rigorous imprisonment for life was confirmed in the case of three persons. The sentence of rigorous imprisonment for life in the case of one person was enhanced to death, while the conviction in the case of another was altered into one for a less heinous offence and lighter punishment awarded. The conviction in the case of two persons was confirmed, but the sentence was reduced. One case was struck off the file on account of the death of the prisoner.

36. *Appeals.*—186 appeals were preferred to the High Court, against 123 in the previous year. The number for disposal, inclusive of arrears, was 196, of which 195 involving 204 persons were disposed of. Only one appeal was pending at the close of the year. 4 appeals against acquittals, affecting 16 persons, were preferred by the Darbar. The acquittal was set aside and conviction entered in the case of 6 persons (in 3 cases), while interference was declined with regard to the remaining 10 persons.

37. *Revision cases.*—The disposals under the head of revision rose from 460 to 525. In 112 of the cases, the decisions of the Lower Courts were quashed, in 57 modified, and in the remaining 356 interference was declined. The number of calendars, proceedings and appeal statements revised was 3,199. 36 applications for transfer of cases and 192 miscellaneous petitions were also disposed of.

INSPECTION AND MISCELLANEOUS.

38. The Vacation Judges on whom the duty of inspection would usually devolve were engaged almost throughout the midsummer vacation in the hearing and disposal of the Chalai appeals. Mr. Hunt inspected two Criminal Courts. The Padmanabhapuram, Kottayam and the Cardamom District Magistrates inspected all the Courts subordinate to them. The District Magistrate, Quilon, omitted to inspect 7 Courts, and the District Magistrate, Trivandrum, one.

39. During the year, all the Additional Sessions Judges were empowered to try every offence cognisable by a Court of Sessions and also to dispose of criminal appeals.

The subsistence allowance to undertrial prisoners was raised from 3½ to 4 chackrams per head per diem.

The High Court issued eight Circulars during the year, on points of law and procedure.

EXTRADITION.

40. 9 persons were obtained on extradition during the year, of whom 3 were convicted, 4 were discharged and 2 were under trial. Theft under Section 379 T. P. C. was the offence for which the greater number was charged.

JAILS.

The Central Prison.

41. 608 prisoners were admitted during the year, and inclusive of 458 that remained at the beginning of the year, the total strength was 1,066. Of these, 657 convicts were discharged, leaving 409 in the Prison when the year closed. The average daily strength was 428, against 450 in the previous year. The number of re-convicted prisoners admitted rose from 125 to 128. In view to the steady increase—year after year—in the number of re-convicted prisoners, Section 276 of the Rules was amended, by providing that habituals with three or more convictions shall not be exempt from any kind of menial work on the score of caste. The number of under-trial prisoners admitted was 126, against 233 in the previous year.

The percentage of sick to strength was practically the same as in the previous year, viz., one, but the daily average of sick rose from 5 to 6. The number of deaths fell from 12 to 5, though the number admitted into the hospital rose from 159 to 316.

The number of jail offences committed during the year showed a satisfactory decline, from 396 to 259; more than 50 per cent of the offences were petty breaches of the rules. Corporal punishment was inflicted in 9 cases, as against 8 in the year preceding. The number of convicts released under the Remission Rules was 41; the largest remission earned was a period of 6 months and 10 days by a convict warder. Rule 214 was amended, and it was laid down that 30 days shall be reckoned as one month, and twelve months as one year, for calculating remission. The Remission Rules worked satisfactorily.

There was one case of escape during the year. The convict was re-captured within a few hours of his escape, and was judicially punished; the warder concerned was dismissed for culpable negligence. A condemned prisoner committed suicide by hanging himself in his cell; the three warders, who were in charge of the prisoner, were dismissed; and the head warder, who was on duty on the night of the occurrence, was retired compulsorily.

There were four executions during the year.

The earnings from manufactures amounted to Rs. 11,759, against Rs. 9,700 in the previous year. The value of intramural labour on jail service was Rs. 10,494. Inclusive of other miscellaneous receipts, the total earnings for the year amounted to Rs. 24,143, as against Rs. 23,583 in the previous year.

The total expenditure for the year was Rs. 65,712, or Rs. 11,498 in excess of that of 1083. The excess was mainly on account of the purchase of new Presses and printing accessories sanctioned in the previous year.

CIVIL JUSTICE.

TRIBUNALS.

42. In view to the congestion of work in the several Courts, the following arrangements were made during the year:—

(1) the Second Judge in the Quilon District Court, sanctioned for 1083, was continued till the close of 1084;

(2) two Additional Judges were appointed to the Alleppey District Court temporarily, for five months, from Vrischigom to Meenom 1084;

(3) one more Additional Judge was appointed at Quilon, for the last quarter of 1084; and

(4) an Additional Munsiff was appointed at Thiruvella, temporarily, from Kumbhom to the close of 1084.

A Bill relating to the Civil Courts in the State was passed during the year, as Regulation II of 1084, but it came into force only on the 1st day of Chingom 1085. The enhancement of the pecuniary jurisdiction of the Munsiffs in respect of both ordinary suits and small causes is the main feature of the new law.

The total number of Civil Courts on the last day of the year was 29, the same as in the previous year.

LITIGATION IN GENERAL.

Year.	Original Suits.			Appeals.			Grand total.
	Munsiffs' Courts.	District Courts.	Total.	District Courts.	High Court.	Total.	
1083	47,430	659	48,089	2,032	888	2,920	51,009
1084	46,957	843	47,800	2,002	914	2,916	50,716

43. The marginal statement shows the volume of fresh litigation during the year, original and appellate. There was a slight decrease both in original suits and in appeals.

ORIGINAL LITIGATION.

44. *Munsiffs' Courts.*—The institutions of the year numbered 23,154 ordinary suits and 23,803 small causes. Inclusive of arrears, re-admissions etc., the numbers for disposal were 35,455 ordinary suits and 25,608 small causes, out of which 22,994 and 24,155 respectively were disposed of. Excluding the cases disposed of by transfer, *viz.*, 41, the actual disposal was 47,108, or 915 less than in the previous year. The disposals formed 77 per cent of the total number for disposal. Contested ordinary suits and small causes disposed of were 34 and 15 per cent of the total disposals. The arrears rose from 12,734 to 13,914. The number of suits of over two years' pendency rose from 97 to 279, and those of between one and two years, from 1,640 to 2,673. The average duration of contested cases rose from 6 months and 26 days to 7 months and 25 days, and that of uncontested ones, from one month and 19 days to one month and 22 days.

45. *District Courts.*—The institutions of the year numbered 809 ordinary suits and 34 small causes. The numbers for disposal, inclusive of arrears, were 1,549 ordinary suits and 42 small causes, of which 829 and 39 respectively, or a total of 868, were disposed of. The percentage of disposal was 55, as against 50 in 1083. The disposals exceeded those of the previous year by 150, and also exceeded the actual institutions by 25. Contested ordinary suits and small causes disposed of were 63 and 36 per cent of the total disposals. The arrears of ordinary suits rose from 696 to 720, while those of small causes fell from 5 to 3. The number of suits of more than two years' duration fell from 51 to 18, and the number between a year and two old also fell from 155 to 138. The larger disposals during the year were due to the Additional Judges appointed in the Alleppey and Quilon Courts. The average duration of contested and uncontested suits rose from 6 months and 26 days and one month and 19 days respectively to 13 months and 25 days and 6 months and 4 days.

46. *Execution of decrees.*—Execution applications for disposal, inclusive of arrears, amounted to 48,243 in the Munsiffs' Courts, and 1,460 in the District Courts, out of which 42,806 and 1,119 respectively were disposed of. The average duration of an execution application in the District Courts was the same as in the previous year, in respect of ordinary suits, *viz.*, 60 days, while it rose from 27 to 74 days in the case of small causes. In the Munsiffs' Courts, the former fell from 35 to 34 days, while the latter rose from 25 to 26. The amount realised in execution fell from Rs. 2,83,847 to Rs. 2,76,544 in the District Courts, but it rose from

Rs. 6,24,793 to Rs. 6,39,520 in the Munsiffs' Courts. The number of judgment-debtors imprisoned fell from 585 to 560, and the cases in which immovable property was sold also fell, from 1,395 to 1,301.

47. *Miscellaneous petitions.*—The number of miscellaneous petitions connected with execution, disposed of, was 2,918 in the District Courts and 50,248 in the Munsiffs' Courts. The number of petitions pending at the close of the year was 113 in the District Courts and 451 in the Munsiffs' Courts. 44 decrees from the Courts in British India and 52 from the Cochin Courts were received for execution, while local decrees transferred for execution to the British Indian and Cochin Courts numbered 52 and 35 respectively. The number of miscellaneous petitions, other than those connected with the execution of decrees, disposed of, was 12,648 in the District Courts and 1,08,843 in the Munsiffs' Courts, the number pending at the close of the year being 56 in the District Courts and 417 in the Munsiffs' Courts.

APPELLATE LITIGATION.

48. *District Courts.*—The institutions of the year numbered 1,724 regular appeals, 168 cross-objections and 110 appeals from orders, or a total of 2,002. The number for disposal, including arrears, was 3,790, of which 2,768 were disposed of. The disposals exceeded those of the previous year by 102, and formed 73 per cent of the number for disposal, as against 60 per cent in the year previous. The average duration of regular appeals and that of cross-objections fell from 9 months and 26 days to 8 months and 14 days and from 6 months and 17 days to 6 months and one day respectively, and that of appeals from orders, from 5 months and 16 days to 4 months and 25 days. There was also a marked decline in the arrears, which numbered 1,022, against 1,733 in the previous year. Appeals of more than one and less than two and of more than two years' pendency, also came down, from 225 and 8 respectively in 1083, to 71 and 3 in 1084.

49. *High Court.*—413 first appeals and 372 second appeals were instituted during the year, against 414 and 354 respectively in 1083. Inclusive of arrears, the total number for disposal was 1,139, of which 621 were disposed of, leaving a balance of 518. The fall in the disposal of appeals was due to the fewer Division Bench sittings of both Benches and the larger number of Full Bench and Departmental Full Bench sittings, as also to the increase in the disposal of criminal cases during the year. The duration of the pendency of first and second appeals averaged 6 months and 24 days and 5 months and 3 days respectively, as against 6 months and 19 days and 5 months, in the year preceding. 38 of the first appeals disposed of, were decided by a Full Bench. 65 cross-objections, 42 appeals from orders, 14 review petitions and 719 civil miscellaneous petitions, were also disposed of.

50. *Quality of work.*—The ratio of Munsiffs' decrees appealed against, fell from 26 to 23 per cent. The percentages of confirmation and modification were 54 and 18, against 55 and 17 in the year preceding. The ratio of reversal remained the same as in the previous year, *viz.*, 23. 27 of the Munsiffs' decrees were restored by the High Court on second appeal, against 14 in the previous year.

In the case of the District Courts, the ratio of the second appeals (against the appellate decrees of the District Courts) fell from 18 to 15 per cent, and that of original decrees appealed against, from 49 to 35 per cent. The percentages of confirmation, modification and reversal were 49, 36 and 16 in the case of the first appeals, against 45, 34 and 21 in 1083. In regard to the second appeals, the percentages were 68, 12 and 20, against 66, 14 and 20 in the year previous.

SIRKAR SUITS AND APPEALS.

51. There were 142 suits in the District Courts to which the Darbar was a party, against 74 in the previous year. The number for disposal, including previous arrears, was 252, of which 104 were disposed of, 97 on the merits—50 for and 47 against the Darbar. There were 75 appeals before the High Court, of which 34 were disposed of, 32 on the merits—20 for and 12 against the Darbar.

MISCELLANEOUS.

52. No Civil Courts were inspected during the annual recess of the year, as the Chalai appeals had to be heard and disposed of during that period. The introduction of impressed sheets for copies, in lieu of labels, was sanctioned and brought into effect during the year.

REGISTRATION.

53. The number of Sub-Registry offices remained the same as at the end of the previous year, viz., 59. There was one office to every 120 square miles and to every 50,036 persons. The total number of documents presented for registration rose from 2,12,768 to 2,20,647, showing an increase of 7,879, or nearly 4 per cent. The average number of documents for an office was 3,741.

The aggregate value of the transactions amounted to Rs. 6,07,52,381, against Rs. 5,19,89,654 in 1083, and the average value per transaction rose from Rs. 246 to Rs. 275. As in the previous year, nearly 97 per cent of the documents registered, related to immovable property. The number of wills registered rose from 304 to 318, while the number deposited with the District Registrars fell from 9 to 6.

The total number of documents for registration, including 45 pending at the beginning of the year, was 2,20,692, of which 2,20,567 were registered. Of the remaining 125 documents, 73 were refused registration, 10 returned to parties on their application, one written off as being permanently impounded for deficient stamp duty, and 31 were pending with the Division Peishkars, being under reference in regard to stamp value. 10 alone were pending enquiry in the offices. Notwithstanding the increased volume of work, over 99 per cent of the documents presented were registered on the day of presentation.

36 appeals (i. e. appeals under Section 66 and applications under Section 67 of the Registration Regulation) were preferred to the District Registrars, and inclusive of the one pending at the commencement of the year, 34 were disposed of, the orders of the Sub-Registrars being reversed in 18 cases. Three applications were pending at the end of the year.

The receipts amounted to Rs. 3,86,872, against Rs. 3,70,122 in 1083; and the expenditure to Rs. 1,21,424, against Rs. 1,12,350 in the previous year. The increased expenditure was on account of the eight new offices opened towards the close of 1083. The expenditure of the department was 31 per cent of the gross income, against 30 per cent in the previous year.

The Director was in camp for 133 days; and he inspected all the offices, except the one at Deviculam. The District Registrars inspected all the Sub-Registry offices under them, each office being inspected twice on an average during the year. The office at Deviculam was visited during the year by the District Registrar, Kottayam.

The following changes in the Rules were effected during the year.

(1) The value of a sovereign, which was fixed at Rs. 10 for calculating registration fees, in the Rules passed in 1071, was raised to Rs. 15, according to the standard exchange value.

(2) A uniform rate of travelling allowance, payable by parties for securing the attendance of the Registering Officers at their residences, was fixed for Sub-Registrars and District Registrars.

(3) Under Rules 66 and 67, the sanction of the Dewan was necessary for the destruction of records. To admit of the destruction of records without delay, after the expiry of the period prescribed in the Notification, the Director was empowered to sanction such destruction.

JOINT STOCK COMPANIES.

54. Four Companies were newly registered during the year, all of which were limited by shares, with an aggregate capital of Rs. 2,82,192-3 ch-8 c. Two Companies were voluntarily wound up during the year and there were at the close of the year 114 Companies in working.

MILITARY.

55. The strength of the Brigade at the close of the previous year was 1,473, and 90 were recruited during the year, thus raising it to 1,563. Of these, 11 died, 22 were invalided and 59 discharged, leaving the strength of the Brigade at the close of the year at 1,471.

The 1st Battalion was armed with breach-loading smooth-bore carbines (Foot Police) and the 2nd Battalion with breach-loading smooth-bore converted Martini Henrys.

The Brigade is reported to be efficient for the purpose for which it is intended. The general conduct of the men was good.

MARINE.

56. The number of vessels that called at the several ports during the year was 551, with an aggregate tonnage of 4,58,063, against 646 with a tonnage of 4,69,824 in 1083. For want of landing and shipping facilities at Alleppey, vessels did not touch at that port as frequently as in the past. A new pier is under construction, and it is hoped that, when it is finished, the maritime trade of Alleppey will revive.

The receipts from port dues, tramway hire, light-house fees &c., amounted to Rs. 23,736, against Rs. 34,875 in 1083, and the expenditure to Rs. 17,423, against Rs. 13,855 in the previous year. On account of the abolition of the pier-toll at Alleppey, there was no collection from this source. Hence the decrease in the receipts. A new flagstaff was erected at the port.

For the better regulation of the boat service in the port of Trivandrum, new Rules were passed for the purpose during the year.

DESTRUCTION OF WILD ANIMALS.

57. 3 tigers and 33 panthers were destroyed during the year. The rewards given amounted to Rs. 503-2 ch-4 c. Three permits were issued for shooting wild elephants.

CHAPTER IV.

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

SEASON AND RAINFALL.

58. The season was normal from an agricultural point of view. The prices of food grains remained more or less stationary. There was no perceptible variation in the wages of labour.

59. The average rainfall gauged at the 39 registering stations was 88 inches, as in the previous year. The highest fall was 223 inches at Peermade and the lowest 24 inches at Variyoor.

FORESTS.

60. *Reserves and Reserved lands.*—No Reserves were finally gazetted under Section 18 of the Regulation, nor were any new tracts proposed for reservation under Section 4. Attention was directed during the year mainly towards the correct demarcation of Reserves—already settled and proposed—and to the accurate definition of their boundaries. An extent of one square mile and 583 acres of abandoned coffee land in the Southern division, sold for arrears of tax, was purchased on behalf of the Darbar and included in the State forests. Against this addition, there was a decrease of 53 acres, found on actual measurement of the sandalwood Reserves of the High Range division. The total area of the Reserved forests was 2,325 square miles and that of Reserved lands 136 square miles against 2,323 square miles and 139 square miles respectively in 1083. The decrease in the area of Reserved lands was due to the cancellation of three proposed Reserves.

61. *Settlement.*—In para 61 of the report for 1083, the number of Reserves pending settlement at the close of that year was stated to be 12. This number has since been found to be incorrect. 20 Reserves were pending settlement on the last day of 1083. Including the 3 proposed Reserves of the High Range division, there were 23 Reserves for settlement during 1084. Three of these were cancelled during the year. The remaining 20 were pending settlement in various stages. The work of settlement continued to be done by the Division Peishkars; and the Reserve Settlement Officer represented the Darbar at the enquiries into claims. The Conservator found that the arrangement, under which a special officer attended to the demarcation of proposed Reserves and settlement enquiries throughout the State, was unsatisfactory, as it not only divested the local officers of their due share of responsibility in the matter of demarcation and settlement, but also kept the latter ignorant of what was going on in their division. On the recommendation of the Conservator, the Darbar sanctioned the abolition of the appointment of Reserve Settlement Officer from the first day of 1085 and the transfer of the work to the several Divisional Officers. It is anticipated that this will help the speedy settlement of Reserves and also contribute to the work being done systematically and thoroughly. The rules regulating the procedure to be followed at Forest settlement were more rigidly observed during the year than had been previously the case. The Darbar has had to recognise that, even at the risk of delay, accurate work should be aimed at.

62. *Fuel and Fodder Reserves.*—Of the 6 Fuel Reserves pending at the close of 1083, Notifications under Section 4 in respect of two were submitted in 1084, but they were published only in 1085. One proposed Reserve was abandoned.

63. *Demarcation and Survey.*—The importance of the work of demarcation was impressed upon all officers and thorough work on systematic lines was insisted upon during the year. As a consequence, the cost of demarcation of permanent boundaries per mile rose from Rs. 22.8 to Rs. 31, and that of re-clearing existing boundaries from Rs. 10.6 to Rs. 13. A distance of 92 miles of permanent Reserve boundaries was cut for the first time and 323 miles of existing boundaries re-cleared and maintained, against 74 and 356 miles respectively, in the preceding year. The preliminary demarcation of some of the proposed Forest and Fuel Reserves was also attended to during the year. Survey works of a minor nature, costing Rs. 323 were carried out, and 234 maps and plans were prepared in the Conservator's office, against 107 in 1083.

64. *Working-plans.*—The scheme of working-plans already sanctioned was generally followed during the year. As there was reason to believe that teak and blackwood were being overfelled in consequence of there having been no valuation survey of the coupes opened for exploitation, orders were issued to inspect the working areas and to report on the present capability of the blocks. It was found that the stock of the more valuable species of timber was meagre and that their removal was not unlikely to bring about their extinction. Action was taken to prohibit the felling of green and immature trees of these species, and to allow the removal of back-going, dead and defective trees only. During the year, a trained Ranger was deputed to explore the forests of the Southern division and to submit a preliminary report in view to the preparation of regular working-plans. The report was under the consideration of the Conservator when the year closed. According to the sanctioned working plan of the Shendurni Circle, fresh fellings should have been undertaken in 1084. The trees to be felled were marked, but as large quantities of abandoned timber, found in the forests, had to be worked down, fresh fellings in Shendurni were deferred to 1085. The working-plans of the Yerur and Kulathupuzha circles, which had been prepared for the most part during 1083, were not sanctioned during the year, as it was thought expedient to base the yield on the data to be obtained from the fellings in the Shendurni Circle.

65. *Communications and Buildings.*—The expenditure on account of 'communications and buildings' was Rs. 33,066—Rs. 11,581 on roads and bridges, Rs. 19,201 on buildings and Rs. 2,284 on other works. In 1083, the expenditure under this head was only Rs. 13,860—Rs. 6,130 on roads and bridges, Rs. 7,194 on buildings and Rs. 536 on other works.

66. *Offences.*—Inclusive of the previous year's arrears, the number of cases to be dealt with during the year was 648. Of these, 548 cases were disposed of, leaving a balance of 100 cases. Of the cases disposed of, 131 were convicted, 78 acquitted, 308 compounded and 31 withdrawn. The percentages of convictions and acquittals, to the total number of cases disposed of by the Magistracy, were respectively 63 and 37, against 66 and 34 in the previous year. In regard to the disposal of cases by the Magistracy, the Conservator has made the following observations:—"Some of the Divisional Officers complain of the apathy shown by the Magistrates in dealing with forest offences. The punishments awarded to the accused in most cases are unduly lenient, and can not only exert no deterrent influence, but are likely to encourage forest crimes. I am given to understand that some Magistrates refuse to order compensation for damages done to the forests, even when the extent of such damages has been clearly proved. Unless the Magistracy realise that thefts of forest produce and infringements of forest laws must be dealt with as severely as breaches of the general criminal laws of the country and that undue leniency towards forest offenders is calculated to encourage forest crime, it is hopeless to expect any improvement in the diminution of forest offences and in the enforcement of the forest law." The attention of all District Magistrates has been invited to the above remarks of the Conservator. The amount of

compensation realised in cases compounded was Rs. 1,933. The largest number of offences reported was under 'illicit collection, possession &c. of timber or minor forest produce from lands at the disposal of Government', the number being 219, against 220 in the previous year. Cases of damage to royal or reserved trees, and unauthorised clearing of land, numbered 110 and 51, against 224 and 9 in 1083.

67. *Fires*.—An area of 191 square miles of Reserved forests and Reserved lands was destroyed by fire during the year, against 37 square miles in 1083. The actual area burnt was probably even larger. The damage done was undoubtedly serious. The system of fire-protection left much to be desired, the staff specially appointed for the purpose was not adequate and the expenditure sanctioned for fire lines was not sufficient to render the attempt at fire-protection successful. The Conservator has been asked to devote continued attention to the matter in view to these defects being remedied soon.

68. *Reproduction—natural and artificial*.—The year was generally favourable for natural reproduction. The annual fires did serious damage; but the Conservator has been asked to take steps to carry out special fire-protective measures. Additions were made to the existing plantations to the extent of 98 acres. In the Northern division, the plantations suffered much damage from caterpillars and the inroads of elephants. As elephant pits were dug around the plantations, no injury was done by wild elephants in the Central division. Thinning operations were carried on only in the Central and Quilon divisions. The rubber trees in the Vemburam plantation were tapped and the yield was about 10 lbs. of rubber. The plan of operations prescribed in the working-plan of the teak plantations was not rigidly followed, as the report was published only towards the close of the year. The work done during the year towards the improvement of growing stock was good.

69. *Elephants*.—At the beginning of 1084, there were 37 elephants with the department. 8 elephants were captured, 7 were received from the Revenue department and one from the Cardamom department. Of the total 53 elephants, 2 died, 6 were auctioned, one sold, one sent to the Revenue department and one to the P. W. D. Workshop. There were thus 42 elephants in the charge of the department at the close of the year.

70. *Produce*.—The total quantity of timber removed from the forests was 11,80,699 cubic feet, or 2,50,524 cubic feet more than in 1083. Of the total amount, 9,66,709 cubic feet were removed by Sirkar agency, 2,12,741 cubic feet by private individuals, 1,161 cubic feet by right-holders and 88 cubic feet under free grants, against 8,13,664, 1,12,827, 3,354 and 330 cubic feet respectively in 1083. The collection of timber by Sirkar agency rose considerably, from 8,13,664 cubic feet to 9,66,709 cubic feet, or by 1,53,045 cubic feet. Owing to the reckless operations of contractors and permit-holders in previous years, large quantities of abandoned royal and junglewood timber were found lying in the forests. The systematic removal of such timber from the forests and their transport to the sale depots was undertaken through departmental agency during the year, and hence the marked increase under removals by Sirkar agency. The quantity of royal timber brought to the depots rose from 5,04,374 cubic feet to 5,98,814 cubic feet, while that of junglewood fell from 3,85,788 cubic feet to 3,71,932 cubic feet. The decrease in the quantity of junglewood delivered during the year is explained as being due to (1) no contract being entered into in the Central division for felling green junglewood, as there was a considerable quantity of abandoned timber to be collected, and (2) to the collection and delivery of abandoned kongu timber at the Thenmalai depot in the Quilon division being stopped, as a large stock of that timber remained unsold in the depot. The stock in hand of timber at the depots, at the end of the year, was 2,29,909 cubic feet, against 1,74,443 cubic feet on the last day of 1083. The Conservator's attention has been invited to the necessity of effecting speedy sales of the stock in hand.

71. *Receipts and Expenditure*.—The gross revenue amounted to Rs. 8,66,269, or Rs. 1,61,838 more than in the previous year. The expenditure also rose, from

Rs. 5,59,093 to Rs. 5,90,968. The increase in the net revenue was Rs. 1,09,963. The percentage of expenditure to gross revenue fell from 76 to 68.

72. *Miscellaneous*.—With a view to expedite business and curtail correspondence, and to secure the more efficient management of the department, the Darbar granted, during the year, enhanced powers to the Conservator and to his Divisional Officers.

A Bill to amend the Forest Regulation (II of 1068) was introduced in the Legislative Council.

The tariff rates for teak and blackwood in the land depôts were enhanced.

The rules relating to the measurement and storage of timber at the depôts were revised.

A tariff rate of 4 annas per cubic foot was fixed on payine timber.

Orders were issued laying down the conditions under which owners of estates could purchase the rights over the royal trees standing thereon.

As there were no places vacant, no students were sent to the Forest College, Dehra Dun, during the year. A stipend was however granted to a Travancore student already undergoing training there.

CARDAMOM AND OTHER PRODUCE.

73. During the year, 4,011 acres of cardamom lands and 103 acres of lands for cereal cultivation were newly brought under registry. The total area under cultivation at the close of the year was 19,022 acres, under 1,515 pattas. Of these, 14,796 acres were paying an assessment of Rs. 2 and 4,011 acres (of new gardens) rupee one per acre. Out of the remaining area, 103 acres were under cereal cultivation and 112 acres were held under the Chappakad Rules.

The current demand for the year rose from Rs. 44,699 to Rs. 48,819. Of this, a sum of Rs. 40,916 or 83 per cent. was recovered, leaving a balance of Rs. 7,903 at the close of the year. The arrear balance brought forward from the previous year amounted to Rs. 24,410, of which a sum of Rs. 5,428 was recovered and Rs. 18,774 written off as irrecoverable. The balance left pending under 'arrears' was Rs. 208. The total amount for recovery at the close of the year under "current revenue" and "arrears" fell from Rs. 24,410 to Rs. 8,111.

There were seven cases of smuggling during the year. Eight persons were involved and they were all convicted.

The forests in the Cardamom district were transferred to the control of the Conservator of Forests. The question of re-organising the Land Revenue administration of the area comprised in the jurisdiction of the Cardamom Superintendent was considered, but final orders were passed by the Darbar only since the close of the year.

TRADE.

74. *Value of trade*:—The total volume of the external trade was Rs. 5,48,70,973, against Rs. 3,22,91,476 in 1083. The value of the exports was Rs. 2,94,09,700 or 54 per cent and that of the imports Rs. 2,54,61,273 or 46 per cent, against 68 and 32 per cent in 1083.

75. *Trade routes*:—22 per cent of the external trade was carried on by sea, 38 per cent by backwater, and 40 per cent by land, against 28, 52 and 20 per cent respectively in the preceding year. The diversion of the sea trade was due to the want of facilities for landing and shipping cargo at the port of Alleppey.

76. *Exports and Imports*:—The following statement compares the principal exports and imports for the two years 1083 and 1084:—

Exports.				Imports.			
Name of article.		Value.		Name of article.		Value.	
		1083	1084			1083	1084
		Rs.	Rs.			Rs.	Rs.
1 Copra ...	...	66,64,444	82,74,855	Piece-goods ...	...	13,41,365	15,95,875
2 Cocoanuts ...	...	4,02,063	5,95,660	Thread ...	...	1,89,506	3,58,453
3 Coir ...	...	35,74,853	48,32,298	Cotton ...	...	3,19,886	18,00,822
4 Cable ...	...	...	4,660	Rice ...	...	19,67,412	17,23,136
5 Coir fibre ...	...	769	819	Paddy ...	...	28,80,264	1,36,28,261
6 Coconut husk ...	...	...	57,600	Tobacco ...	...	28,58,425	12,46,920
7 Coconut oil ...	...	20,06,729	30,08,375	Hardware ...	...	...	2,52,319
8 Punnac ...	...	...	6,75,600	Provisions ...	...	...	11,79,565
9 Arecanuts ...	...	4,24,365	7,26,763	Machinery ...	...	...	1,16,936
10 Jaggery ...	...	3,59,573	3,25,200	Salt ...	...	...	3,42,977
11 Coffee ...	...	91,632	68,465	Gingely oil ...	...	...	2,70,605
12 Dry ginger ...	...	4,94,628	5,38,995	Glasware ...	...	...	3,66,901
13 Hides ...	...	1,91,652	2,03,600	Liquor ...	...	...	2,29,820
14 Fish ...	...	5,06,904	4,55,820	Sundries ...	...	6,09,736	23,51,588
15 Tamarind ...	...	2,26,162	2,10,720				
16 Molasses ...	...	...	1,31,736				
17 Pepper ...	...	17,32,875	22,64,200				
18 Timber ...	...	3,95,009	4,57,660				
19 Coir mat ...	...	...	2,92,882				
20 Piece-goods ...	...	...	5,97,215				
21 Cardamom ...	...	1,50,772	2,09,969				
22 Other articles ...	...	49,02,502	54,31,308				
Total.....		2,21,24,932	2,94,09,700	Total.....		1,01,66,544	2,54,61,273

The trade in the produce of the cocoanut tree, which formed 73 per cent of the export, showed an increase of Rs. 48,01,309 in value. The season was more productive than in the previous year. The total value of rice and paddy imported during the year was Rs. 1,53,51,397, against Rs. 48,47,676 in the preceding year, the rise being due mainly to the somewhat higher prices which prevailed during a portion of the year.

77. *Direction of trade*:—The direction of the external trade is shown in the following statement:—

Place.	Exports to	Imports from	Total.	Percentage of the entire trade.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
British India ...	2,85,15,903	2,46,11,556	5,31,27,459	96.823
<i>Foreign countries:—</i>				
(1) Pondicherry and Marseilles ..	...	2,547	2,547	.005
(2) Ceylon ...	1,11,213	8,01,788	9,13,001	1.664
(3) The United Kingdom ...	4,76,682	42,619	5,19,301	.946
(4) America ...	1,331	...	1,331	.002
(5) Other countries ...	3,04,571	2,763	3,07,334	.560
Total.....	2,94,09,700	2,54,61,273	5,48,70,973	100

As usual, the bulk of the trade was with British India.

THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

GENERAL.

78. The total expenditure under the head of Public Works amounted to Rs. 23,79,300, of which a sum of Rs. 20,87,297 was expended by the Chief Engineer's department and Rs. 2,92,003 by the Maramat department, against Rs. 17,24,988 and Rs. 2,91,653 respectively in 1083. The expenditure incurred by the Maramat department includes a sum of Rs. 39,048 expended on the establishments maintained at the Palaces and other Sirkar buildings in the charge of the Peishkars etc.

The expenditure on the Kodayar works during the year was Rs. 5,27,278. The aggregate capital outlay on these works rose from Rs. 49,14,179 on the last day of Adi 1083 to Rs. 54,42,157 on the last day of 1084. Rapid progress is being made with the several channels connected with the Kodayar Scheme.

The construction of the new Erattakara Main Channel on a high level was sanctioned at a cost of Rs. 3,14,500, and special arrangements were also made for the speedy acquisition of the lands required for the work.

THE CHIEF ENGINEER'S DEPARTMENT.

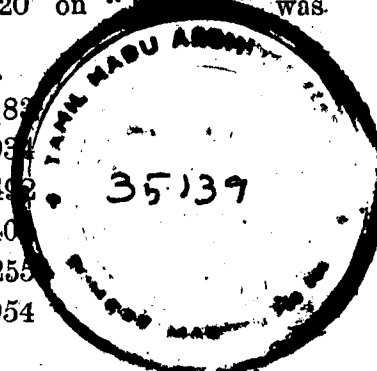
79. *Budget grant and expenditure*.—The grant to the department, as finally sanctioned, was Rs. 20,70,000. Against this, the expenditure amounted to Rs. 20,49,233.

The following statement compares the expenditure of the two years 1083 and 1084:—

Minor heads.	Original works.		Repairs.		Total.	
	1083	1084	1083	1084	1083	1084
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
(1) Communications ...	2,48,014	3,21,922	3,82,189	4,04,220	6,31,203	7,26,142
(2) Buildings ...	2,13,036	3,20,859	52,226	52,958	2,65,262	3,73,817
(3) Irrigation ...	4,61,155	5,61,073	36,562	38,977	4,97,717	6,00,050
(4) Miscellaneous ...	31,974	39,559	2,250	2,130	34,224	41,689
Total.....	9,54,179	12,43,413	4,74,227	4,98,285	14,28,406	17,41,698
Establishment .	...	...	...	...	2,63,200	2,78,223
Tools and Plant	...	...	...	...	33,362	67,376
Total.....					17,24,988	20,87,297
Deduct suspense heads.....					84,610	38,064
Expenditure as per departmental account.....					16,40,378	20,49,233

80. *Communications*.—The expenditure of Rs. 4,04,220 on "Public Works" was distributed as follows:—

	Rs.
(1) Main roads ...	2,94,183
(2) Village roads ...	37,934
(3) Traces ...	5,492
(4) Canals ...	28,400
(5) Ferries ...	18,255
(6) Lighting ...	19,954



The length of the main roads maintained was 2,164 miles, of which 273 miles were planters' roads, while that of village roads was 1,760 miles, that of traces 352 miles and that of navigation canals and backwaters 153 miles. The average cost of maintenance was Rs. 136 per mile for a main road, Rs. 22 for a village road, Rs. 16 for traces and Rs. 186 for canals and backwaters.

The outlay on "Communications, Original Works," which included also numerous special repairs, amounted to Rs. 3,21,922, and was thus distributed:—

	Rs.
Roads	1,42,539
Bridges and culverts	1,16,808
Canals and ferries	60,425
Lighting	2,150

The repair and metalling of the worst portions of the Kottayam-Kumili Road absorbed Rs. 21,305, and the construction of the High Range Road Rs. 14,462. A sum of Rs. 10,362 was expended during the year in renewing the platform of the bridge on the 35th mile, Main Central Road. The re-construction of the Kanjira-palli bridge absorbed Rs. 9,028, while a sum of Rs. 7,437 was spent on the reconstruction of the Zilla Court bridge over the Wadai Canal at Alleppey. In the case of several other bridges also, much useful work was done by way of improvements and special repairs. The improvement of the Wadai Canal at Alleppey was completed during the year. The expenditure was Rs. 42,023, which, added to the outlay in previous years, made up a total of Rs. 1,40,033 up to the close of the year.

81. *Buildings*.—The expenditure on "Repairs" amounted to Rs. 52,958, against Rs. 52,226 in the preceding year.

The outlay on "Original Works" amounted to Rs. 3,20,859. The highest expenditure was on the construction of the Pier at Alleppey. The expenditure on the work during the year amounted to Rs. 40,750, exclusive of a sum of Rs. 24,820 paid in advance for the iron materials ordered from England. Another important work was the construction of a new building for the Normal School, Trivandrum, which absorbed Rs. 26,470 during the year. The improvements to the existing buildings at Quilon, to fit them up for the accommodation of the various public offices there, were completed and all the offices conveniently accommodated. The construction of a Guest House at Trivandrum, the provision of house-accommodation for the Nursing Sisters at Trivandrum, the Executive Engineer's bungalow at Nanthancode, additional buildings for the Girls' College and additional lines for the Pangode Battalion, and the reconstruction of His Highness the Maha Raja's Palace at the Cape, were some of the other important original works in progress during the year.

82. *Irrigation*.—The expenditure on "Irrigation Works" amounted to Rs. 6,00,050, out of which a sum of Rs. 72,072 was spent on "Minor Works" and Rs. 5,27,978 on the "Kodayar Project."

83. *Minor Works*.—A sum of Rs. 6,034 was spent during the year in cutting the Right Bank Channel in connection with the Thallayar Scheme in the Anjanad taluk. This, when added to the outlay on that work in previous years, made up a total of Rs. 12,095 up to the end of 1084. The head works and the sluices were nearing completion.

84. *The Kodayar Project*.—*Emptying of the Reservoir*:—It was found necessary to un-water the Pachipara Reservoir with a view to examine the under sluices and head sluices, to repair damages where necessary, to run off the foul water which was a source of danger to public health, and to refill the lake with clearer water. The unwatering was taken up after the Kumbham crop had been harvested and the lake was successfully drained in five weeks' time. Before draining the Reservoir, as much water as could be conveniently and usefully stored in the larger tanks was let

down to them. The emptied Reservoir filled to full supply level with the first South West Monsoon of the year. The sluice gates were found to have stood remarkably well.

Cutting and forming the Thovala Channel:—The expenditure on this important channel during the year was Rs. 3,92,843, which brought the total expenditure on the work up to the end of 1084 to Rs. 7,46,514, against an estimate of Rs. 10,30,000. The Thovala works progressed satisfactorily. The excavation was mostly completed right up to the end (29 miles and a little more); and rock-blasting was also fast nearing completion. The masonry works right up to the 10th mile were quite completed. The Thadavayar syphon on the 5th mile and the Olakaruvayar flume on the 9th mile were also completed during the year. The other chief works, viz., the Varattar aqueduct in the 11th mile, the Alathurayar and Erappayar flumes in the 13th and the Poigayar aqueduct in the 22th mile, all made good progress, and they will all be completed in 1085. The Thovala Channel runs—in miles 14th to 18th—in extremely difficult country and has to be taken on long lengths of retaining walls.

Cutting and forming the Thiruvidadancode Channel and its branches:—The extension of the Main Channel from the 11th to the 17th mile, with all masonry work, was almost completed. The Cheramangalam Major and Minor Channels were also finished. Almost all the works in the Colachel Branch Channel and the earth work in the Neyoor Branch Channel were taken up and completed during the year.

The Anandancolum Channel System:—The improvement of the Anandanar River and the Anandancolum Channel extension were almost completed. Water is being served to all the channels, viz., the Eastern Main, the Karavilai Branch, the Kottar Branch, the Thengampudur Branch and the Athicadai Branch. The channels were efficient and seepage was remarkably small. There was neither silting nor scouring.

Minor Schemes:—Of the minor schemes, the following six were almost completed:—

Banasamharicolam.
Melakarungolam.
Vachancolam.
Variyur Puducolam.
Thyagasundaricolam.
Balasundaricolam.

The Thalacolam, Chetticolam and Kottayadi Schemes were taken up towards the close of the year and they will be completed in 1085.

The Erattakara Channel Extension:—Investigation showed that this would turn out to be one of the largest, if not the largest, of the distributaries under the Kodayar. The estimating for the extension of the Main Channel was taken up during the year.

Improvements and special repairs to the Pandian Channel:—The subsidiary channel to the Pandian-kal was cut almost for the whole length. This, together with the contemplated improvements to the Pandian-kal itself, will more than double its capacity and enable it to draw off more flood water of the Palayar than is required for direct irrigation, and transfer the same to the larger irrigation tanks in the Nanjanad.

Distribution:—The distribution of water was satisfactory, both in point of economy and of sufficiency of supply. Owing to the late arrival of the Monsoon, the supply from the irrigation tanks all over had to be supplemented by water from the Kodayar at the beginning of the year. Later on, the rainfall was sufficient to feed the tanks.

Development of cultivation:—During the year, the following eight channels were opened for irrigation :—

1. Anandancolam-kal Extension.
2. Eastern Main.
3. Karavalai Branch.
4. Kottar Branch.
5. Thengumpudur Branch.
6. Athikadai Branch.
7. Eraniel Branch.
8. Cheramangalam Minor Branch.

The ryots opened out for themselves all the distributaries and field channels required to irrigate their blocks. An area of 4,268 acres of new lands was thus opened for irrigation under the channels. Out of this, about 1,304 acres were also brought under cultivation. This arrangement not only promises saving to the Durbar, but it obviates the necessity for land acquisition. The Revenue and Public Works officers have been instructed to co-operate and carry out extension of cultivation on the above lines.

Telephone line:—Arrangements were made with the British Telegraph department for an extension of the existing telephone line from Shorlacode to Nagercoil. The work was not started during the year.

85. *Miscellaneous Public Improvements*.—Under this head, there was an outlay of Rs. 41,689, of which a sum of Rs. 8,736 was spent on the reconstruction of the Landing Shed at Chakkai, and Rs. 7,670 on the construction of a Boat Basin over the Wadai Canal at Alleppey.

86. *Investigation*.—A sum of Rs. 6,596 was expended during the year on the investigation of the irrigation tanks and channels in the Shencotta taluk with a view to their restoration. The survey was finished within the year and a portion of the estimating work was in hand at the close of it.

87. *Establishment*.—The total charges on account of establishment amounted to Rs. 2,78,223, or 16 per cent on the expenditure for works, against 18 per cent in the year preceding.

THE MARAMAT DEPARTMENT.

88. The expenditure incurred by the Maramat department on repairs connected with Palaces and Religious and Charitable institutions amounted to Rs. 2,52,955, against Rs. 2,51,206 in the preceding year.

RAILWAY.

89. The Railway from Shencotta to Quilon continued to work at a loss, the guaranteed interest paid by the State for the year being Bh. Rs. 1,88,054, against Bh. Rs. 1,78,121 in 1083.

ANCHAL.

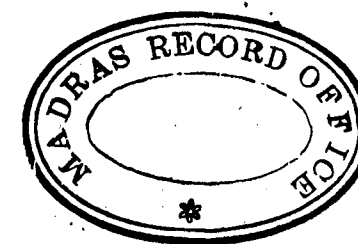
90. There were 181 anchal offices and 189 letterboxes, against 175 and 165 respectively in 1083. The total length of the mail line continued to be the same as in the previous year, viz., 1,200 miles. An additional mail delivery was introduced in each of the important central offices of Trivandrum, Quilon, Kayencolam,

Chenganur, Kottayam and Alleppey, to avoid detention of covers in those offices and to effect quick delivery.

The total number of covers, both private and official, posted during the year, was 77,83,125, against 68,02,740 in 1083, showing an increase of 9,80,385 covers. Of this increase, 6,81,023 were private covers and 2,99,362 official.

16,667 value-payable articles were issued during the year, against 15,167 in 1083.

The number of anchal offices which did hundi business was 172, against 166 in the previous year. 1,11,829 hundies for Rs. 13,04,881 were issued in the year, against 1,00,414 for Rs. 12,05,318 in 1083, thus showing an increase of 11,415 hundies for Rs. 99,563. Inclusive of the unpaid hundies of the previous year, 1,09,418 hundies for Rs. 13,04,252 were paid. 1,648 hundies were refused and 86 were unclaimed, and all these were duly returned to the senders. 7 hundies amounting to Rs. 90 were unclaimed both by the senders and by the payees, and they were therefore forfeited.



CHAPTER V.

REVENUE AND FINANCE.

EXCISE.

A.—ABKARI.

91. *System in regard to country liquor*:—At the end of 1083, the system of administration was as follows:—In regard to arrack, the Padmanabhapuram, Trivandrum, and Quilon divisions were under the Excise system, *i. e.*, the right of manufacture was kept distinct from the right of vend, the arrack required for consumption being manufactured and supplied by contractors specially engaged for the purpose by the Darbar, and the right of vend being sold by shops in the town of Trivandrum and by taluks in the remaining area. In the case of toddy, the right of vend was sold by shops in Trivandrum, the shopkeepers being made to take out licenses for manufacture under the tree-tapping rules. The manufacture and vend of toddy in the remaining portion of the Trivandrum taluk, in the other taluks of the Trivandrum division, and in all the taluks of the Padmanabhapuram and Quilon divisions, was sold by taluks. The Kottayam division and the High Ranges remained under the old farming system, that is, the privileges of manufacture and vend of arrack and toddy were held in combination by individuals who had taken the same according to taluks.

The changes made during 1084 were as follow:—Firstly, the right of vend of arrack was sold by shops instead of by taluks, throughout the Padmanabhapuram division, in the town of Neyyattinkara in the Trivandrum division, in the taluk of Shencottah and in the towns of Quilon, Paravur, Kayenkulam and Alleppey in the Quilon division. In the Trivandrum division, outside the towns of Trivandrum and Neyyattinkara, and in the Quilon division, outside the Shencottah taluk and the towns of Quilon, Paravur, Kayenkulam and Alleppey, the right of vend of arrack was sold by taluks. The system of manufacture of arrack through contractors specially selected for the purpose continued in all the three divisions. Secondly, the system of selling the right of vend of toddy by shops was extended to the whole of the Padmanabhapuram division, to the taluk of Shencottah and to the towns of Neyyattinkara, Paravur, Quilon, Kayenkulam and Alleppey, tree tapping licenses being enforced for manufacture by shopkeepers. The right of manufacture and vend of toddy was sold by taluks in the Trivandrum and Quilon divisions, outside the Shencottah taluk and the towns of Neyyattinkara, Trivandrum, Paravur, Quilon, Kayenkulam and Alleppey. The Kottayam and the High Range divisions continued under the old farming system in respect of country liquor.

92. *Distilleries*:—Two individuals, who owned distilleries in the State, were practically enjoying a monopoly in respect of the supply contract of arrack, and the department had to depend upon one or the other of them for the purpose. To obviate this difficulty, and to enlarge the field of competition, the Darbar purchased a distillery at Shencottah and let it out to the supply contractor. It is in contemplation to purchase another distillery in the Padmanabhapuram division, for the Darbar.

93. *Consumption of country liquor and shops in the Excise area*:—The total number of arrack shops in the Excise area fell from 709 to 677, giving an average of 5.7 square miles and 2,822 persons per shop, against 5½ square miles and 2,695 persons per shop in the previous year. 68,300 proof gallons of arrack were consumed during the year, which showed an increase of 16,866 proof gallons. The increase was due to the suppression of illicit distillation and to the increased consumption of licit arrack. The licit consumption per head of the population in the Excise

area was 1.7 drams, against 1.3 drams in 1083. The total number of toddy shops in the Excise area was 1,540, against 3,570 in 1083. The large reduction of toddy shops was a move in the right direction. There was one toddy shop, on an average, for 2.4 square miles and 1,240 persons.

94. *The Farming area*:—In the Kottayam and High Range divisions, there were 4,320 shops for the sale of arrack and toddy, against 2,771 shops in 1083. This gave an average of .8 square mile and 241 persons per shop, against 1 square mile and 375 persons in the previous year. The Darbar considers that a very substantial reduction is possible in the number of shops in the Farming area and the Excise Commissioner's serious attention has been invited to the matter.

95. *Foreign liquor*:—The total quantity of foreign liquor imported into the State was 25,268 gallons, against 21,132 gallons in 1083. 99 licenses were issued for the sale of foreign liquor, as against 102 in the previous year. The Excise Commissioner has reported that it is not practicable to give figures relating to the consumption of foreign liquor in each taluk, as many of the taluk vendors obtain their supply from other wholesale vendors, generally from the wholesale shopkeepers in towns.

96. *Revenue*:—The current abkari demand for the year was Rs. 7,47,906, of which a sum of Rs. 7,47,001 was collected. The percentage of collection to demand was 99.9. The old arrears outstanding at the close of 1083 was put down in para 93 of the report for that year as Rs. 1,68,562. But, on verification subsequently, the actual amount of arrears outstanding was found to be Rs. 2,29,830. Out of this, a sum of Rs. 36,598 was recovered in 1084 and a sum of Rs. 1,18,644 was written off as irrecoverable. The balance remaining to be collected at the end of the year was Rs. 74,588.

97. *Rules*:—The revised rules for the issue of licenses for the sale of foreign liquor, passed under date the 1st August 1908, came into effect from the beginning of 1084. An annual fee of Rs. 150 in the towns of Trivandrum, Nagercoil, Quilon, Alleppey, Kottayam, Parur and Munnar, and of Rs. 75 in other places, was fixed for each wholesale license. For each retail or tavern license, the fee was Rs. 100 in the towns named above and Rs. 50 in other places.

Rules were passed for regulating the import, transport, possession and sale of cocaine; and also for regulating and controlling the tapping of trees for sweet toddy in certain localities, to take effect from 1085.

The Division Peishkars were wholly relieved during the year of the work of supervising the collection of the abkari revenue, and the Excise Commissioner was invested with the powers of a Division Peishkar in regard to the collection of all such revenue.

The powers delegated to all officers of the department under the Abkari Regulation were revised and a fresh Notification on the subject was issued. All Range Inspectors were invested with the power of destroying toddy unfit for consumption.

B.—OPIUM AND GANJA.

98. The Excise system of collecting the revenue under opium and ganja, which was introduced from the beginning of 1081, was continued during the year. The right of vending opium and ganja was sold by taluks. The supply to the vend contractors was made by the Darbar, the latter purchasing the opium and ganja required from Madras and issuing the same from the Central Store at Quilon. The articles were sold to the vend contractors at rates higher than the prime cost at which they were purchased by the Darbar.

The quantity of opium and ganja issued to the vend contractors was 5,010 seers and 3,118 seers, against 3,046 seers and 3,087 seers respectively in 1083. Opium was sold to the contractors at Rs. 32-as. 8 per seer in 1083. The price was

reduced to Rs. 23- as. 8 per seer from the beginning of 1084. From Edavom 1084, the price was raised to Rs. 24 per seer. The price of ganja remained the same throughout the year, viz., Rs. 9- as. 5- p. 4 per seer. The reduction in the price of opium was necessary to stop smuggling into the State from Cochin territory. The increased consumption was nominal and was due to the check on smuggling. There were 411 shops for the sale of opium and ganja, as against 399 in the previous year. The average retail price per tola of opium was 19 chs- 2 cash, against 21 chs.-7 cash in 1083.

The experimental cultivation of ganja at Azhagappapuram proved a success. Proposals for making the cultivation permanent were under consideration when the year closed.

Under Regulation VI of 1083, rules were passed for regulating the import, transport and export of opium, of intoxicating drugs made from opium, other than those used for smoking, and of poppy heads, taken from one portion of British territory to another, through intervening Travancore territory.

Circle Officers were empowered to issue licenses and permits under Clauses 15 and 20 of the Rules applicable to Opium and Ganja, dated the 15th August 1907.

C.—TOBACCO.

99. The tobacco required for consumption in the State is imported by merchants on their own account, by land, sea or rail, and bonded in Sirkar warehouses, where it is allowed to remain in the joint custody of the Darbar and the merchants. The merchants remove the tobacco from the warehouses after paying the import duty of Rs. 90 per candy for all kinds. The varieties that are being imported are Tinnevely, Jaffna and Coimbatore.

The total sales of tobacco rose from 13,174 candies to 13,942 candies. The collections amounted to Rs. 12,98,549, against Rs. 12,27,592 in 1083. The average consumption per head of population was 4.2 lbs., against 4 lbs. in the previous year. The increase in the sales was due to the vigorous action taken to suppress smuggling.

D.—FINANCIAL.

100. The gross collections and expenditure under the head of "Excise" (abkari, opium and ganja, and tobacco) were as shown below:—

	Receipts.	Expenditure.
Abkari	Rs. 9,70,403	Rs. 2,13,067
Opium and ganja	Rs. 53,916	
Tobacco	Rs. 12,98,549	
Total.....	Rs. 23,22,868	

The gross collections showed an increase of Rs. 1,10,992 over those of the previous year. The expenditure also rose, from Rs. 1,94,245 to Rs. 2,13,067. The increase in the latter was partly due to the payments made in 1084, for certain charges which had been incurred in 1083. The pay of the last grade of Circle Officers, of the last grade of Inspectors, and of the last grade of peons, and the fixed travelling allowance of Inspectors, were raised during the year. This also contributed to the increase in the expenditure. The net revenue rose from Rs. 20,17,631 to Rs. 21,09,801.

SALT.

101. *System*:—The supply of salt required for consumption in the State is obtained partly from the Sirkar factories in South Travancore and partly by import from Bombay and Tuticorin. The right of manufacturing salt on the Sirkar lands at Thamarakulam, Rajakkamangalam, Variyur, Colachel and Thattarippu Odai has been given to certain ryots. In the case of the old factories, the licensees are paid the price of the salt manufactured by them at 7½ chs. per maund on the *kudivaram* share which is 40 per cent of the total quantity of salt manufactured. The remaining 60 per cent is taken by the Sirkar as its *melvaram*, without any payment. But, in the new factories at Thamarakulam, Rajakkamangalam and Thattarippu Odai, the licensees are being paid at rates varying from 2½ as. to 3½ as. per maund on all salt manufactured by them. Salt from Bombay and Tuticorin is imported for the Darbar by contractors engaged for the purpose. The salt so imported is stored in the port depots and is issued to merchants for sale at certain fixed prices and in quantities of not less than 20 maunds at a time. Salt is also sold in retail at the Sirkar bankshalls. The selling prices fluctuate with every variation in the duty on the article in British India, as, under the Interportal Trade Convention, salt should be placed on the same footing in the market, in Travancore, Cochin and British India.

102. *Stock and Sales*:—The subjoined statement shows the stock of home and foreign salt available for issue and the quantity sold during the year:—

Kind.	Balance of stock at the beginning of the year.	Quantity received during the year.	Total.	Quantity written off.	Balance available for issue.	Quantity sold.		Balance of stock at the end of the year.
						1083	1084	
	Maunds.	Maunds.	Maunds.	Maunds.	Maunds.	Maunds.	Maunds.	Maunds.
Home salt	2,61,947	3,21,141	5,83,088	9,043	5,74,045	3,29,277	2,84,420	2,89,625
Bombay salt	2,03,459	6,97,026	9,00,485	8,745	8,91,740	5,46,819	6,08,273	2,83,467
Tinnevely salt	4,340	10	4,350	..	4,350	4,444	724	3,626
Total...	4,69,746	10,18,177	14,87,923	17,788	14,70,135	8,80,540	8,93,417	5,76,718

The aggregate sales increased by 12,877 maunds. The consumption of Bombay salt rose by 61,454 maunds, while that of home salt showed a decrease of 44,857 maunds. The average consumption per head of population was 24.9 lbs., against 24.5 lbs. in the previous year. In the Madras Presidency, the average consumption in 1907—1908 was 15.1 lbs. per head in the West Coast districts and 20.4 lbs. in other places. The increased consumption in Travancore is said to be due to the prevailing habit of chewing tobacco and also to the use of duty-paid salt in fish-curing and as manure for cocoanut gardens.

103. *Receipts and Expenditure*:—The receipts rose from Rs. 9,82,568 to Rs. 10,08,854. The expenditure was Rs. 17,875, or Rs. 2,897 less than in 1083.

104. *Rules*:—The Rules dated 25th August 1889, passed under the Salt Regulation (VII of 1063), conferred certain powers on the Salt Deputy Peishkar in regard to the manufacture, dryage, storage &c. of salt. On the abolition of the appointment of Salt Deputy Peishkar, the Excise Commissioner and the Assistant Excise Commissioner, Southern Division, were invested with the powers conferred by the Salt

Rules on the Salt Deputy Peishkar. The salt factories having been now placed under the direct control of the officer in charge of the Nagercoil Circle, that officer was also invested, during the year under review, with the powers of the Salt Deputy Peishkar.

CUSTOMS.

105. *System*:—Under the Interportal Trade Convention entered into with the British Government in 1865, Travancore does not levy any duty on goods imported, which are the produce or manufacture of British India or of the Cochin State, nor on other goods which have already paid duty in Cochin or in British India. Travancore receives in lieu as compensation a sum of Bsh. Rs. 40,000 annually from the British Government. Tobacco, salt, opium and spirits are however excluded from the Convention. The values and rates of duty in regard to imports follow the British Indian tariff. The present import tariff contains 78 major heads. The important items are liquors, English tobacco, cigars, snuff and beedies. In regard to tobacco, the import duty is levied under the bonding system. The rate formerly varied with the kind of tobacco, and ranged from Rs. 40 to Rs. 120 per candy. It is now uniformly Rs. 90 on all varieties. Opium and ganja can be imported only on account of the Darbar.

In regard to exports, the duty that the Darbar can levy cannot exceed 5 per cent *ad valorem*, except in the case of timber, on which the duty may go up to, but should not exceed, 10 per cent. The Darbar generally follows the British Indian tariff valuation, but recognises no restriction such as that export duty can be levied only on articles that are so dutiable in British India. In all, export duty is now levied on 26 articles, of which the most important are copra, coir, coconut oil and cocoanuts, dry ginger, jaggery, salt-fish, arecanut, tamarind and timber, the first four being the produce of the cocoanut tree, the cultivation of which is one of the chief industries of the country.

The Customs revenue is collected at the Land and Sea Customs Houses. The most important of these are at Alleppey, Quilon, Aramboly, Arukutty, Veluthully and also on the Railway lines. There are also Preventive Stations, where the articles that are passed are scrutinised, to see if they are covered by certificates. In cases of evasion, the articles seized are taken to the Customs Houses.

106. *Customs Houses*:—During the year, the Preventive Station at Pathinettampadi in the High Ranges was converted into a Chowkey for the purpose of levying duty on salt and tobacco imported by that route. There were in all 53 Chowkeys or Customs Houses at the end of the year.

107. *Receipts and Expenditure*:—The subjoined statement compares the receipts from 'Customs' during 1083 and 1084:—

No.	Item.	Receipts.	
		1083	1084
		Rs.	Rs.
1	Export duty	9,94,831	11,86,144
2	Import duty collected at the Customs Houses ...	41,754	65,475
3	Amount received from the British Government under the Interportal Trade Convention ...	40,714	81,429
4	Receipts from miscellaneous items ...	3,643	2,504
	Total.....	10,80,942	13,35,552

Of the total duty levied, that on exports amounted to 95 per cent and that on imports to 5 per cent. A sum of Rs. 65,475 was collected at the Customs Houses on account of import duty on English tobacco, snuff, cigars, foreign liquor &c., on which duty is leviable under the Interportal Trade Convention and also on all dutiable articles imported direct from foreign countries. Deducting the cost of collection, amounting to Rs. 42,704, the net Customs revenue was Rs. 12,92,848, showing an increase of Rs. 2,53,852 over the previous year. There was thus an appreciable increase in the Customs revenue. The export duty realised from the produce of the cocoanut tree was 73 per cent of the total revenue from exports.

108. *Modifications in the Export tariff*:—With a view to encourage the palmyra fibre industry, the export duty on prepared palmyra fibre, which was one per cent on a tariff valuation of Rs. 12-as. 8 per cwt., was abolished with effect from 1st Kanni 1084.

"Shank" was included in the export tariff and a duty of 5 per cent, on a tariff valuation of Rs. 15 per 100, was levied towards the close of the year.

109. *Rules*:—A set of rules was passed for the levy of Customs duty at the Arukutty frontier on goods carried by passengers in steam launches.

The Warehouse Rules for the port of Alleppey were slightly modified during the year, the period of free occupation of the open godowns being extended from 48 hours to 4 days, persons using the open godowns for more than 4 days being charged double warehouse rates.

GENERAL.

110. *Breaches of law*:—1,643 cases affecting 2,112 persons were reported during the year, against 1,152 cases affecting 1,011 persons in the previous year. In para 104 of the report for 1083, it was stated that 44 cases were pending investigation by the department and 24 cases with the Magistracy at the close of that year. It has since been found that the actual number of cases pending with the department was only 25 and that with the Magistracy 9. Inclusive of the cases pending at the beginning of the year, there were for disposal 1,668 cases. Of these, 1,432 cases were charged before the Magistracy, 167 cases were either referred for orders or struck off the registers and 69 cases were pending investigation at the end of the year. Including the cases pending with the Magistracy at the beginning of the year, viz., nine, 1,441 cases were tried, 1,229 being convicted, 173 acquitted and 39 pending at the close of the year. The percentages of conviction and acquittal were 88 and 12 respectively. Of the offences investigated during the year, 1,277 fell under the Abkari law, and 295, 8 and 19, under the Tobacco, Salt, and Opium Regulations respectively.

Punishments and resignations:—The punishments imposed on the officers of the department were 358 fines, 22 degradations, 156 suspensions and 28 dismissals. There were only 6 cases of resignations, against 15 in the previous year.

Miscellaneous:—During the year under review, the Controlling Staff of the department was revised and the area of jurisdiction of the superior officers was re-distributed. Before the revision, the whole State was divided into four Divisions, each under the charge of an Assistant Excise Commissioner, who worked directly under the orders of the Excise Commissioner. Excepting Alleppey, all the Divisions were sub-divided into Circles, each under a Circle Officer immediately subordinate to the Assistant Excise Commissioner in charge of the Division. The Circles were

further sub-divided into Ranges, each under an Inspector subordinate to the Circle Officer. This triple strata in the controlling agency within a comparatively small area impeded the course of business considerably. The following changes were effected during the year:—

(1) the whole State was divided into ten Circles, each under the executive control of a Circle Officer or an Assistant Excise Commissioner, who worked directly under the Excise Commissioner;

(2) the number of Assistant Excise Commissioners was reduced from 4 to 3 and that of the Circle Officers from 9 to 8;

(3) the pay of the last grade of Circle Officer and that of the last grade of Inspector were improved;

(4) There were three grades of peons on Rs. 8, 7, and 6 respectively. The pay of the last grade peon was raised from Rs. 6 to Rs. 7, thus retaining only two grades of peons;

(5) The conveyance allowance of Inspectors was raised from Rs. 15 to Rs. 20 per mensem;

(6) The clerical establishment in the Excise Commissioner's office and in all Circle offices was revised and re-graded.

(7) The powers of the Excise Commissioner and of the Assistant Excise Commissioners, in regard to the appointment, punishment, transfer &c. of the subordinate staff, were revised. The Circle Officers were also granted suitable powers in this direction.

STAMPS.

111. A sum of Rs. 13,74,355 was realised by the sale of stamps, and the miscellaneous receipts amounted to Rs. 242. Thus, the total revenue was Rs. 13,74,597 against Rs. 13,16,628 in the previous year. The expenditure amounted to Rs. 58,265, against Rs. 55,005 in the preceding year. The net revenue was therefore Rs. 13,16,832, against Rs. 12,61,623 in 1083.

FINANCE.

112. The Receipts and Disbursements, under Service and Debt Heads, as well as the Opening and Closing Balances of the year 1084, are shown below:—

	Service Heads.	Debt Heads.	Total.
Receipts of 1984 ...	1,16,98,458	1,70,36,689	2,87,35,147
Add opening balance	66,87,265	20,35,004	87,22,269
Total.....	1,83,85,723	1,90,71,693	3,74,57,416
Disbursements of 1984 ...	1,11,89,962	1,67,92,484	2,79,82,446
Add closing balance	71,95,761	22,79,209	94,74,970
Total.....	1,83,85,723	1,90,71,693	3,74,57,416

Excluding the figures under Debt Heads, the Revenue of the year amounted to Rs. 1,16,98,458, and the Expenditure to Rs. 1,11,89,962, as against Rs. 1,05,32,128 and Rs. 1,04,75,218 respectively in 1083. There was thus a surplus of Rs. 5,08,496, as against Rs. 56,910 in the previous year. The receipts under Debt heads also were in excess of the disbursements by Rs. 2,44,205.

The Closing Balance of the year 1084, viz., Rs. 94,74,970, was in excess of the Opening Balance by Rs. 7,52,701. The details for the Closing Balance are:—

Cash in Treasuries	...	Rs. 26,64,119
Government of India Promissory notes	...	56,35,875
Madras Bank ... { current account		2,21,599
{ deposit account		29,756
Messrs. Arbutnot & Co's. account		5,99,848
Gold and silver uncurrent coins, bullion, &c. ...		3,23,773

The balance with Messrs. Arbuthnot & Co., consisting of Government funds and also the securities of some public servants and contractors, lodged with the firm at the request and risk of the latter, will be adjusted after the second and final dividend, which has been recently declared, is realised and credited. The actual loss will then be written off the accounts as irrecoverable..

113. The usual Abstract Statements for the year are given below:—

General Abstract of Revenue and Receipts.

Items.	Accounts, 1084.	Budget, 1084.	Accounts, 1083.	Accounts '84 com- pared with '83.
1	2	3	4	5
I. GENERAL PUBLIC SERVICE.				
A.—Principal Heads of Revenue.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
I. Land Revenue	35,09,610	30,85,000	30,11,360	+ 4,98,250
II. Salt	10,08,854	9,69,000	9,82,568	+ 26,286
III. Excise	23,22,868	20,37,000	22,11,876	+ 1,10,992
IV. Customs	13,35,552	8,70,000	10,80,942	+ 2,54,610
V. Marine	23,786	23,000	34,875	— 11,139
VI. Cardamom	46,344	1,22,000	1,04,127	— 57,783
VII. Forest.... ..	8,66,269	9,85,000	7,04,431	+ 1,61,838
VIII. Stamps	13,74,597	13,00,000	13,16,628	+ 57,969
IX. Registration	3,86,872	3,38,000	3,70,122	+ 16,750
Total.....	1,08,74,702	97,29,000	98,16,929	+ 10,57,773

Explanatory remarks for variations in column 5.

6

I. GENERAL PUBLIC SERVICE.

A.—Principal Heads of Revenue.

Increase mainly due to the extension of cultivation, the collection of arrears and the introduction of the new rates of assessment.

Increase mostly under Jaffna tobacco and country liquor.

Increase due to development of trade.

Decrease mainly in the port of Alleppey, due to the bad condition of the pier.
[A new pier is being built.]

Decrease nominal and due to the transfer of timber depots from the Cardamom to the Forest department.

Increase due to the transfer, from 'Cardamom', of the timber depots, the increased sales of elephants and also of abandoned timber worked down from the forests.

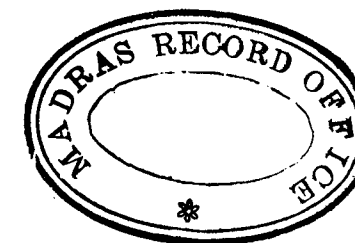
Revenue and Receipts.

Items.	Accounts, 1084.	Budget, 1084.	Accounts, 1083.	Accounts '84 com- pared with '83.
1	2	3	4	5
B.—Receipts by Departments.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
XA. Law and Justice, Courts of Law...	34,665	34,000	41,407	— 6,742
XB. „ Jails ...	11,759	15,000	9,700	+ 2,059
XI. Palace ...	...	...	...	...
XII. Elephant and Horse Departments....	10,754	3,000	4,364	+ 6,390
XIII. General Administration	96	...	51	+ 45
XIV. Stationery and Printing	27,044	10,000	31,067	— 4,023
XV. Mint ...	20,022	15,000	16,878	+ 3,144
XVI. Police	3,868	5,000	4,293	— 425
XVII. Education	1,73,729	1,80,000	1,67,646	+ 6,083
XVIII. Science, Arts and Minor Departments...	2,466	3,000	2,391	+ 75
XIX. Medical and Sanitary Departments....	2,450	2,500	3,662	— 1,212
XX. Devaswoms ...	55,792	48,000	56,274	— 482
XXI. Oottupurahs ...	1,438	2,000	1,927	— 489
XXII. Military ...	3,857	500	2,318	+ 1,539
XXIII. Public Works Depart- ment...	31,367	28,000	28,104	+ 3,263
Total.....	3,79,307	3,46,000	3,70,082	+ 9,225

Explanatory remarks for variations in column 5.

6

B.—RECEIPTS BY DEPARTMENTS.



Increase due to sale of elephants.

Decrease under sale of Government publications

Revenue and Receipts.

Items.	Accounts, 1084.	Budget, 1084.	Accounts, 1083.	Accounts '84 compar- ed with '83.
1	2	3	4	5
C.—Miscellaneous.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
XXIV Superannuation Pensions ...	537	500	82	+ 455
XXV Miscellaneous	1,76,710	50,000	91,872	+ 84,838
Total.....	1,77,247	50,500	91,954	+ 85,293
Total, General Public Service.....	1,14,31,256	1,01,25,500	1,02,78,965	11,52,291
II. FINANCIAL SERVICE.				
XXVI Interest	4,880	16,000	18,424	- 13,544
XXVII Profit or loss on investment	1,71,513	1,63,000	1,49,170	+ 22,343
Total of Financial Service....	1,76,393	1,79,000	1,67,594	+ 8,799
III. COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL SERVICES.				
XXVIII Post Office or Anchal	81,393	81,500	80,918	+ 475
XXIX Railways				
XXX Irrigation and Reproductive works.	1,600	500	1,016	+ 584
XXXI Navigation canals....				
XXXII Mining	7,816	5,000	3,635	+ 4,181
Total of Commercial and Industrial Services.....	90,809	87,000	85,569	+ 5,240
Grand Total of all Services.....	1,16,98,458	1,03,91,500	1,05,32,128	+ 11,66,330

Explanatory remarks for variations in column 5.

6

C.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Increase due to the adjustment of lapsed deposits and to the recovery of old advances.

Decrease due to vigorous collection of arrears of Land and Excise Revenue.
Increase due to the purchase of some Government of India Pro-Notes.

General Abstract of Expenditure.

Items.	Accounts, 1084	Budget, 1084.	Accounts, 1083	Accounts '84 com- pared with '83.
1	2	3	4	5
I. GENERAL PUBLIC SERVICE.				
A.—Direct demands on the Revenue.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Land Revenue...	7,06,197	7,70,700	7,98,048	— 91,851
2. Salt ...	17,875	25,500	20,772	— 2,897
3. Excise ...	2,13,067	2,25,000	1,94,245	+ 18,822
4. Customs ...	42,704	53,400	41,946	+ 758
5. Marine ...	17,423	14,900	13,855	+ 3,568
6. Cardamom	34,440	40,200	37,923	— 3,483
7. Forest ...	5,90,968	8,54,000	5,39,093	+ 51,875
8. Stamps	58,265	60,000	55,005	+ 3,260
9. Registration ...	1,21,424	1,29,000	1,12,350	+ 9,074
Total....	18,02,363	21,72,700	18,13,237	— 10,874

Explanatory remarks for variations in column 5.
6
I.—GENERAL PUBLIC SERVICE.
A. Direct demands on the revenue.
Decrease due to the reduction of the staff in the Settlement department.
Increase under supplies and services and contingencies.
The Assistant Excise Commissioner at Alleppey is now divested of his magisterial work. The increase is due to the circumstance that no portion of his pay or that of his establishment, is now being debited to Law and Justice.
Due to the transfer of the timber depot establishments to the Forest department.
Increase due to the transfer of the depot establishments of the Cardamom district to the Forest department and also to outlay in working down abandoned timber.
Increase is in discount on stamps, as court-fee stamps are now sold by licensed vendors.
Increase due to the opening of new Sub-Registrars' offices towards the close of 1083.

General Abstract of Expenditure.

Items.	Accounts, 1084.	Budget, 1084.	Accounts, 1083.	Accounts '84 com- pared with '83.
1	2	3	4	5
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
B.—Salaries and Expenses of Departments.				
10 A. Law and Justice, Courts of Law....	5,05,692	5,15,600	4,96,068	+ 9,624
10 B. Law and Justice, Jails ...	65,712	77,000	56,422	+ 9,290
11 Palace	6,60,605	6,60,000	5,89,671	+ 70,934
12 Elephant and Horse Departments	1,47,060	1,55,100	1,55,081	- 8,021
13 General Administration	2,28,499	2,41,200	2,38,370	- 9,871
14 Stationery and Printing	1,50,704	1,55,100	1,60,028	- 9,324
15 Mint	6,454	12,600	7,458	- 1,004
16 Police	2,78,202	2,94,600	2,57,902	+ 20,300
17 Education	7,53,335	7,97,600	7,30,530	+ 22,805
18 Science, Art and Minor Departments ...	64,391	65,400	59,068	+ 5,323
19 Medical and Sanitary ...	4,63,037	4,62,700	4,57,136	+ 5,901
20 Devaswoms... ..	11,03,992	9,50,000	9,65,113	+1,38,879
21 Oottupurabs	6,44,928	5,00,000	6,32,634	+ 12,442
22 Military	2,37,315	2,93,700	2,17,370	+ 19,945
23 Public Works Department...	18,51,322	16,76,000	15,80,712	+2,70,610
Total.....	71,61,248	68,56,600	66,03,613	+5,57,635

Explanatory remarks for variations in column 5.

6

B.—Salaries and Expenses of Departments.

Increase due to the purchase of a printing machine.

There was a nominal decrease in 1083, owing to 'write-backs' of certain erroneous debits of previous years.

Owing to smaller expenditure under Allowances to Members of the Legislative Council and under Sri Moolam Popular Assembly.

The department was re-organised at the end of 1083.

Increase due to the appointment of a Director and the revision of the Inspecting staff.

Increase under Museum, Photography, Archaeology &c.

Due to the higher prices paid for paddy and provisions.

Increase due to the First Battalion having been raised to its full strength.

A special grant was made to the department about the end of the year to expedite the completion of works on hand.

General Abstract of Expenditure.

Items.	Accounts, 1084.	Budget, 1084.	Accounts, 1083.	Accounts '84 com- pared with '83.
1	2	3	4	5
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
C.—Miscellaneous.				
23½ Allowances and Assignments &c.	9,43,490	9,45,000	9,51,154	— 7,664
24 Superannuation Pensions &c...	3,53,827	2,95,800	2,94,005	+ 59,822
25 Miscellaneous	88,714	77,000	73,773	+ 14,941
Total of C ...	13,86,031	13,17,800	13,18,932	+ 67,099
Total of General Public Service....	1,03,49,642	1,03,47,100	97,35,782	+ 6,13,860
II. FINANCIAL SERVICE.				
26 Interest ...	6,538	...	...	+ 6,538
27 Profit or Loss on Investment.	337	10,000	9,514	— 9,177
Total of Financial Service.....	6,875	10,000	9,514	— 2,639
III. COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL SERVICES.				
28 Anchal or Post Office ...	1,13,953	1,17,000	1,12,691	+ 1,262
29 Railways ...	1,91,412	2,00,000	1,81,302	+ 10,110
30 Irrigation and other Re- productive Works	5,27,978	6,10,000	4,35,929	+ 92,049
31 Navigation canals	...	...	...	...
32 Mining	102	...	...	+ 102
Total of Commercial and Industrial Services....	8,33,445	9,27,000	7,29,922	+ 1,03,523
Grand Total of all Services....	1,11,59,962	1,12,84,100	1,04,75,218	+ 7,14,744
Surplus + Deficit —	+ 5,08,496	— 8,92,600	+ 56,910	+ 4,51,586
Opening Balance	66,87,265	65,28,555	66,30,355	+ 56,910
Closing Balance	71,95,761	56,35,955	66,87,265	+ 5,08,496

Explanatory remarks for variations in column 5.

6

C.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Increase due to the retirement of a greater number of public servants and also to some transfers from 23½.
Increase mostly under charges for reception of distinguished guests.

II. FINANCIAL SERVICE.

Due to adjustment of interest on Savings Banks deposits.

III. COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL SERVICES.

Increase due to increased grant for the Kodayar — to expedite completion.

CHAPTER VI.

**VITAL STATISTICS, VACCINATION
AND
MEDICAL SERVICES.**

Sanitary Statistics.

114. The total number of births registered in the year was 57,241, against 52,321 in the previous year. The birth rate was 19 per mille. The number of deaths recorded during the year fell from 43,314 to 39,266. The death rate was 13 per mille. The number of infantile deaths registered was 4,962, which gives a ratio of 87 per mille of registered births, against 91 in the previous year.

The statement in the margin gives the deaths from various causes, as compared with the previous year. Small-pox prevailed in an epidemic form in the Quilon and Kottayam divisions, particularly in the towns of Alleppey and Kottayam.

Disease.	Deaths.	
	1084.	1083.
Cholera ...	537	3,889
Small-pox ...	1,414	1,265
Fevers ...	10,786	11,554
Diarrhoea and Dysentery ...	5,787	10,059
Injuries ...	763	659
Other causes ...	19,974	20,888

Vaccination.

115. The total number of vaccinations performed during the year was, 1,33,630, against 1,50,833 in 1083. Of these, 1,19,953 were primary vaccinations and 13,677 re-vaccinations. The number of cases verified by the inspecting staff rose from 45,681 to 56,558, giving a percentage of 42, against 31 in the previous year. 6,700 infants were successfully vaccinated, against 8,697 in the preceding year, the percentage to registered births being 12 against 17. The Sanitary Commissioner attributes the fall in the number of vaccinations to the withdrawal of revenue peons from the vaccinators. The explanation is not-satisfactory.

88,305 grains of vaccine were manufactured during the year. The rates of success in primary and re-vaccination were 93 and 66.

General Sanitation and Conservancy.

116. The Sanitary Commissioner inspected 14 factories, as against 11 in the previous year. The usual special sanitary arrangements for fairs and festivals were made.

Town Improvement Committees.

117. The average number of meetings held by a Committee was 25, against 20 in 1083. The largest number of meetings was in Nagercoil and Trivandrum, being 38 and 32 respectively, while the smallest number was in Kottayam, Alleppey and

Quilon, being only 13, 19 and 20 respectively. The average attendance improved in Nagercoil, Quilon and Alleppey, while in Trivandrum and Kottayam it remained almost the same as in the previous year. The total number of prosecutions was 887, of which 840 ended in conviction. For two months in the year, cholera prevailed in Nagercoil. In Kottayam, Alleppey and Quilon, small-pox prevailed during several months of the year. There were practically no epidemics in Trivandrum. The general sanitation of the towns was duly attended to. Preliminary steps were taken by all the Committees for the introduction of house-tax.

118. Out of the total expenditure of Rs. 68,770 incurred in the towns of Trivandrum, Nagercoil, Quilon, Alleppey and Kottayam, Rs. 45,692 came from the general revenue, against Rs. 54,300 in 1083, the amount contributed by the people directly benefited rising from Rs. 14,157 to Rs. 23,078.

MEDICAL RELIEF.

119. *Sirkar Institutions.*—21 hospitals and 22 dispensaries were maintained during the year, exclusive of special institutions. The number of in-patients fell from 18,807 in 1083 to 17,978 in the year under report, and that of out-patients from 6,23,356 to 5,05,556, the decrease in both cases being attributed to general healthiness and non-prevalence of malaria and epidemics, and to the abolition of the practice of dispensing medicines to patients represented by friends. Out of the out-patients, the officers on itinerant duty treated 7,946 cases. Of the in-patients treated, 56 per cent were cured, 28 relieved, 8 discharged otherwise and 4 died. 27,668 surgical operations were performed during the year, against 28,310 in 1083.

279 post-mortem examinations were held during the year. Of these, 259 were medico-legal and 20 were pathological cases.

During the year under report, 34 midwives were at work, against 33 in the previous year, and they attended 2,901 cases of labour, against 2,072. This gives an average of 85 cases per midwife, against 63 in 1083. The Victoria Jubilee Hospital, Quilon, was made independent of the District Hospital at that place and placed under the charge of a Lady Assistant Surgeon specially entertained for the purpose. A fresh class, consisting of 8 stipendiary scholars and 2 volunteers, commenced its two years' course during the year.

In the Leper Asylum, 193 lepers remained at the beginning of the year, 62 were newly admitted and 65 re-admitted, making a total of 320, of whom 280 were males and 40 females. 115 were discharged, 23 died and 182 remained at the close of the year.

In the Lunatic Asylum, 143 lunatics remained at the beginning of the year, 39 were admitted and 7 re-admitted during the year, making a total of 189, of whom 128 were males and 61 females. 21 were discharged, 7 died and 161 remained at the close of the year.

120. *Institutions receiving grants-in-aid.*—The number of institutions under this head was 11, i. e., one more than in 1083. The sick treated in them rose from 82,370 to 99,436, showing an increase of 17,066 over that of 1083.

121. *Vydiasalas.*—The number of Vydiasalas was 65, and 1,43,799 persons were treated by the Native Vyadians.

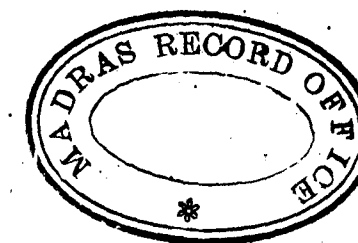
122. *Expenditure.* The following statement compares the expenditure on medical relief during the year with that of the previous year :—

	1083.	1084.
	Rs.	Rs.
Government institutions	3,06,683	3,19,080
Grant-in-aid institutions	12,586	11,900
Vydiasalas	14,856	14,245
Total.....	3,34,125	3,45,225

CHAPTER VII.

INSTRUCTION.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.



123. *System.*—At the close of 1083, the system of education in the State was as follows :—Besides the Arts Colleges maintained by the Sirkar and by private bodies, General Education was imparted in two types of schools, viz., the English Schools and the Vernacular Schools. These schools were classified, according to the nature of their management, as Sirkar or Private. Private Schools were either Aided or Unaided. All the Sirkar and Aided Schools and a few of the Unaided Schools were Recognised Schools. All the Recognised Schools were under departmental inspection. According to the standard of instruction imparted, the English Schools were either High Schools or Middle Schools; and the Vernacular Schools were High, Middle, Upper Primary or Lower Primary Schools. Primary Education was given in the Vernacular in the Primary Schools and in the primary classes attached to the Middle or High Schools. Secondary Education was given in the Vernacular Middle and High Schools and in the English Schools. Collegiate Education in Arts was given in the Arts Colleges and in Law in the Law College, both organised and conducted in accordance with the Regulations of the Madras University. Special Education was given in the Training Schools, the Sanskrit Schools, the Industrial or Trade Schools, the schools for the training of Overseers and other subordinates of the P. W. D. and the School of Arts at Trivandrum. The Lower Primary Schools worked up to Class III and the Upper Primary Schools to Class IV. In the first three years of the Primary Schools, instruction was given wholly through the medium of Malayalam or Tamil, English being made a second language only after the third year. The Vernacular Middle Schools had Classes V and VI and the Vernacular High Schools Classes VII and VIII. In these two grades of schools, instruction was given in the Vernacular, English being taught as a second language in the Middle Schools and English or Sanskrit in the High Schools. In the Vernacular Middle and High Schools, instruction in the Vernacular language was given up to the standard of the B. A. Degree, and in the other subjects up to the standard of the Matriculation Examination. To test the progress of the pupils in the Vernacular Schools, and as a qualification for certain ranks of the Sirkar service, two Public Examinations were held, viz., the Vernacular Middle School Examination, after the Middle School course, and the Vernacular Higher Examination, after the High School course. The English Middle Schools had Forms I, II and III and the English High Schools Forms IV, V and VI. The course for the first four years in the Primary Schools was preliminary to the course in the English Middle Schools. Thus, the bifurcation of schools into English and Vernacular began after the fourth year course in the Primary Schools. The English Schools prepared pupils eventually for the Matriculation Examination of the Madras University. At the end of the Middle School course, however, the pupils appeared for the English Middle School Examination, corresponding to the Vernacular Middle School Examination in the Vernacular Schools. The Colleges prepared students for the Intermediate Examination, the Degree of Bachelor of Arts and that of Bachelor of Law of the Madras University. All the Special Schools, except the Sanskrit Schools, prepared pupils for the Madras Technical Examinations. The Sanskrit Schools prepared students for the Sastri, Upadhyaya and Mahopadhyaya Examinations in Sanskrit held by the Darbar.

The Sirkar Schools were maintained entirely from the public funds, the fee-income from them being credited as departmental receipts. The Private Schools generally

received grants in aid from the public funds. The grants were given according to the Code of 1070, which provided monthly grants on the salaries of teachers, lump sum grants for school-buildings, for appliances and for furniture, and grants on rents, to all schools organised and conducted in accordance with the Rules of 1070. The Private Special Schools also received similar grants, but under separate rules.

Teachers were trained in the Training Schools. The course extended over a period of two years. At the end of the course, the teachers had to undergo a written as well as a practical examination. There were two grades of examinations instituted for the teachers in the English Schools, *viz.*, the High School Normal Certificate and the Middle School Normal Certificate. Similarly, there were two grades of examinations for the Vernacular School teachers, *viz.*, the Lower and the Higher Vernacular Normal Certificates.

The management of the Education Department vested in three Inspectors of Schools and in the Heads of Colleges. For educational administration, the State was divided into three Ranges, each in charge of an Inspector. Each Range comprised four Districts, each in charge of an Assistant Inspector. There were also a few Sub-Assistant Inspectors, solely for the inspection of the Primary Schools. The Assistant and Sub-Assistant Inspectors had the control of the Primary Schools, both for boys and for girls, and they worked under the direct orders of the Inspectors of the Ranges. The Inspectors were in direct charge of all the Middle and High Schools, English and Vernacular, for boys and for girls, and also of all the Special Schools. The Range Inspectors worked direct under the Darbar. The Colleges were under the charge of their respective Principals, who were also immediately subordinate to the Darbar.

124. The changes, introduced during 1084, were as follow :—The Department was placed under the control of a Director of Public Instruction. The number of Ranges was reduced from three to two and the number of Inspectors was also similarly reduced. The number of Districts, as well as the number of Assistant Inspectors, remained the same, *viz.*, 12. The posts of the Sub-Assistant Inspectors were abolished. The appointment of an Inspectress of Girls' Schools was sanctioned. And the Inspectress was also given four Assistant Inspectresses to help her in managing all the Girls' Schools. The system of education continued to be the same as in 1083. The numerous changes in the system made by the new Education Code—passed since the close of the year—will be mentioned in the next report.

125. Summing up the strong and weak points of the existing system, the Darbar considers the advantages to lie in the compact nature of the area and population, the extent to which education is already directly in the hands of the Darbar and the remarkable anxiety of the people generally for the extension of educational facilities, for improvement in the methods of teaching and for higher standards of instruction. The defects are the existence of a number of Private Schools, which are unrecognized and which cannot therefore be made to conform to departmental standards, the want of good buildings and equipment for Elementary Schools generally, and the circumstance that inspection is neither adequate nor sufficiently intelligent.

126. *General Statistics.*—(1) *Schools and Scholars.*—The total number of schools fell from 3,573 to 3,448. The decrease was almost wholly in the Private Unaided Schools. The number of scholars fell from 2,06,346 to 2,06,017, the decrease being wholly in the Private Unaided Schools.

(2) *Schools according to agency.*—The Sirkar Schools fell in number by 9, but rose in strength by 1,507; the Aided Schools rose in number by 6 and in strength by 2,056; the Private Unaided Schools fell in number by 122 and in strength by 3,892. The percentage of scholars in the Sirkar, the Private Aided and the Private Unaided Schools, was 28, 39 and 33 respectively. The proportion of scholars in institutions which were either conducted or controlled by the Darbar was very nearly two-thirds of the total number under instruction; during the last ten years there has been a steady rise in this proportion. The rise has been effected by gradually increasing the volume of aid to Private Schools.

(3) *Scholars in relation to population.*—Of the total population according to the Census of 1901, the proportion under instruction was nearly 7 per cent, as in 1083. Of the male population of school-going age, 67·8 per cent were under instruction, but of the female school-going population only 24·4 per cent. Thus, roughly speaking, two out of every three boys, and one out of every four girls, of school-going age, attended school. In the calculation of these statistics, 15 per cent of the population has been taken as the number of persons of school-going age.

(4) *Scholars in relation to caste and creed.*—63 % of the total number of scholars were Hindus, 32 % Christians and 5 % Mahomedans. The corresponding figures for 1083 were 61, 34 and 5. The returns furnished with regard to the caste or religion of the pupils are reported to have been imperfect.

127. *Financial.*—The gross receipts and the expenditure amounted to Rs. 1,73,729 and Rs. 7,53,335 respectively, as against Rs. 1,67,646 and 7,30,530 in 1083. The total expenditure was distributed as follows:—12·6 % for Collegiate Education, 21·5 % for Secondary Education, 46·6 % for Elementary Education, 9·7 % for Special Education, 6·6 % for Direction and Inspection and 3·0 % for Miscellaneous items.

128. *Collegiate Education.*—The number of Arts Colleges remained the same as in 1083, *viz.*, 4—one First Grade College and three Second Grade Colleges. They had a total strength of 406, including 8 post graduate students, as against 370 in the previous year. The Law College was 182 strong, against 163 in 1083.

(1) *His Highness the Maharaja's College, Trivandrum.*—Arrangements were made for the appointment of a new Professor of Applied Mathematics and Physics. Two Demonstrators in Physics and Chemistry were newly appointed. The establishment of a Lecturership in Logic and English was sanctioned, but no permanent appointment to it was made before the end of the year. The number on the rolls rose from 197 to 269. Although the increase affected all the classes, it was largest in the Junior Intermediate, which was 98 strong. The new Curriculum for the Intermediate Examination was introduced. The results obtained by the College at the University Examinations were satisfactory. Additional accommodation was provided for the Science Classes and a common room for the Professors was under construction. The sanitary arrangements generally were improved. The College Library was strengthened by the addition of 992 volumes.

(2) *His Highness the Maharaja's College for girls.*—The strength declined from 9 to 7. The percentage of attendance was 91·5, as against 94 in 1083. Five students appeared for the F. A. Examination and two passed.

(3) *The U. M. S. College, Kottayam.*—The strength fell from 109 to 89. The average attendance was 87·8. 51 students appeared for the F. A. Examination and 35 passed. Additional accommodation for the Science Classes was provided.

(4) *The Scott Christian College, Nagercoil.*—The strength fell from 55 to 41. The average attendance was 86·2 per cent. For the F. A. Examination, 26 appeared and 8 passed.

(5) *The Law College.*—The strength rose from 163 to 182. 37 students appeared for the F. L. Examination and 12 passed, 4 in the second class and 8 in the third. For the B. L. Degree, 9 appeared and 3 passed. 14, out of those who had attended the College in previous years, also passed. 18 students appeared for the Pleadership Test, and all passed, 6 being placed in Class I. The institution was self-supporting, the income and expenditure being Rs 17,370 and Rs. 11,571 respectively.

129. *Secondary Education.*—The number of the English High Schools remained stationary, *viz.*, 28; the strength fell slightly, from 10,936 to 10,925. The English Middle Schools rose in number from 56 to 63; and in strength from 6,162 to

6,939. The total number of the Secondary Schools (English) rose from 84 to 91; and their strength from 17,098 to 17,864, thus showing an increase of 7 schools and 766 scholars. There was one school for every 78 square miles. Though there was thus a fairly good number of the Secondary Schools, yet when their distribution throughout the State was examined in detail, it was found that some areas were over-supplied with such schools, while others had fewer ones than a fair distribution would allow. During the last decade, the average strength of each Secondary School has remained almost stationary, viz., 190. This may be taken to show that new schools were opened in the same proportion as the pupils increased. The number of pupils attending the Secondary Schools have increased by 46 per cent during the last decade and the number attending the higher classes of these schools has also been steadily rising. For the Matriculation Examination held in December 1908, 732 candidates appeared from the High Schools in the State,—177 from the Sirkar, 454 from the Private Aided and 101 from the Private Unaided High Schools. At the re-examination in February 1909, 463 were examined, of whom 114 were from the Sirkar Schools, 299 from the Private Aided and 50 from the Private Unaided High Schools. The number who finally passed was 228—of whom 69 were from the Sirkar Schools, 130 from the Private Aided and 29 from the Private Unaided Schools.

The Director visited all the High Schools during the year and found several defects in the management of the Private Schools, in the position, duties and responsibilities of the headmasters, in the collection of fees, in the qualifications of the staff, in the methods of teaching; in equipment and appliances, in the maintenance of registers, in the keeping of accounts and in the vaccination of pupils. The defects were brought to the notice of the Managers concerned and the latter were requested to take early steps towards improvement. Several improvements were effected during the year in the Secondary Schools under Sirkar management, by way of providing additional accommodation, furniture and appliances, and appointing teachers with professional qualifications. It is found difficult to arrive at a quite correct estimate of the total amount spent during the year on Secondary Education. But taking the figures which have been furnished, it appears that the total expenditure on Secondary Education was approximately Rs. 3,41,272. Towards this sum, the public funds contributed Rs. 57,823, fees Rs. 2,10,639, miscellaneous receipts Rs. 27,929, the balance of Rs. 44,881 being made good from other sources. Taking the average attendance to have been 17,431, the cost of educating each pupil was Rs. 19-16-3, of which the public funds contributed Rs. 3-8-13, fees Rs. 12-2-5 and other sources Rs. 4-5-1. The total cost of education per pupil in the High School Classes was higher in the Aided Schools than in the Sirkar Schools and the cost to the Sirkar per pupil was also higher. The rates of fees were higher in the Sirkar than in the Aided Schools. It looks as if the extension of higher secondary education through private agency is more costly, from an administrative point of view, than if done through departmental agency. Some Managers are reported to grant fee concessions to pupils in a rather reckless way. As matters stand at present, grants-in-aid to the High Schools are in many cases practically subsidies which enable Managers to recoup losses in fee income which have been deliberately incurred.

130. *Elementary Education.*—Under Elementary Education is now included the Vernacular Primary, Middle and High Schools. This is the classification adopted in the (new) Education Code. The number of the Vernacular High Schools remained stationary, viz., 4; but their strength rose from 2,134 to 2,156. The Middle Schools increased in number by 9 and in strength by 773. The Primary Schools fell in number by 142 and in strength by 1,795. The Sirkar Schools decreased in number by 7, but increased in strength by 1,021; the Private Aided Schools increased in number by 10 and in strength by 2,570; the Private Unaided Schools fell in number by 136 and in strength by 4,591. The average strength of a Sirkar Elementary School at the end of the year was 128, as against 121 in 1083; that of a Private Aided School, 55 as against 53; and that of a Private Unaided School, 40 as against 39 in the previous year. During the last decade, the average strength of an Elementary School has risen from 98 to 128

in the case of the Sirkar Schools, from 51 to 55 in that of the Aided, and from 38 to 40 in that of the Private Unaided Schools. Thus the Sirkar Schools were improving in strength and the Private Schools remained almost stationary. This result is probably due to the standard of instruction having been raised in most Sirkar Schools, while the Managers of Private Schools were in most cases either unable or unwilling to advance in the same direction. In order to encourage Managers to open higher classes in their Elementary Schools, the grants-in-aid given in 1084 were so regulated, as to divert them more for supporting existing schools in which higher classes were opened than for starting new schools. In respect of the stage of instruction reached, there appears to have been a higher proportion of pupils in the upper classes of the Sirkar Schools, less in the Private Aided Schools, and lowest in the Private Unaided Schools.

The proportion of the population of school-going age attending Elementary Schools was 42.8 per cent. Of the male population of school-going age, 61.4 per cent, and of the female population of school-going age, 24 per cent, were in attendance. The average area served by each Elementary School was 2.1 square miles. Were the schools uniformly distributed; there should be one school within the reach of every child who should attend. A scheme for the re-distribution of all the Elementary Schools in accordance with local needs is in contemplation.

There were 6,149 teachers in the Elementary Schools at the end of the year. Of these, 1,807 were in the Sirkar Schools, 2,489 in the Aided Schools and 1,853 in the Private Unaided Schools. The ratio of pupils to teachers was 29 in the Sirkar Schools, 28 in the Private Aided and 35 in the Private Unaided Schools. The proportion of teachers without definite recognised qualification was 17% in the Sirkar, 29% in the Private Aided and 88% in the Private Unaided Schools. The proportion of those who held Trained Certificates was 24% in the Sirkar Schools, 19% in the Private Aided and 1½% in the Private Unaided Schools. During the last decade, the increase in the proportion of trained teachers has been small, and the extension of education has been outstripping the rate at which trained teachers were being introduced. Action towards the supply of larger numbers of trained teachers is being taken.

131. *Special Education.*—The Special Schools numbered 31, including the School of Arts at Trivandrum, and they were attended by 1,142 pupils. The number of schools was the same as in 1083, while the total strength decreased by 146.

(A) *Training Schools.*—The number of the Training Schools fell from 8 to 5 and their strength from 144 to 120. The decrease was due to the abolition of three of the schools for training teachers for backward classes, which were inefficient.

(1) *The Normal School for Male Teachers, Trivandrum.*—54 students were under training, of whom 8 were in the English High School Normal Certificate Class, 10 in the English Middle School Normal Certificate Class, 13 in the Higher Vernacular Normal Certificate Class and 23 in the Lower Vernacular Normal Certificate Class. The average attendance was not good. All were stipendiary students. As the course of instruction had been extended to two years, none of the students appeared for the Teachers' Certificate Examinations. A large and commodious building was in course of construction and will be ready for occupation during 1085. The Darbar sanctioned a scheme for the introduction of Manual Training, the Instructor being attached to the staff of the Normal School. He began his work after the close of the year.

(2) *The Nagercoil Training School.*—12 students were under training for the Lower Vernacular Normal Certificate. The average attendance was low. 12 candidates appeared for the Lower Vernacular Normal Certificate Examination and 7 passed; 11 candidates appeared for the Primary Normal Certificate (since abolished) and 9 passed.

(3) *The Normal School for Female Teachers, Trivandrum.*—14 students were on the rolls at the end of the year, of whom 3 were in the English Middle School Normal Certificate Class, 6 in the Higher Vernacular Normal Certificate Class and 5 in

the Lower Vernacular Normal Certificate Class. The attendance in the last two classes was unsatisfactory. As all the students were in the second year of the course, none appeared for any examination.

(4) *The Cambridge Nicholson Institution, Kottayam.*—The number of students in this school was 26, of whom two were in the English Middle School Normal Certificate Class and 24 in the Lower Vernacular Normal Certificate Class. 4 students appeared for the English Middle School Normal Certificate Examination and all the 4 passed in the theoretical, while only 3 passed in the practical portion. 11 students appeared for the Lower Vernacular Normal Certificate, of whom 8 passed in the theoretical and only 2 in the practical portion.

(5) *The Buchanan Institution, Pallom.*—14 female students were under training for the Lower Vernacular Normal Certificate.

(B) *Technical Schools.*—The number of the Technical Schools increased during the year, from 18 to 20, but their strength fell from 813 to 671.

(1) *The S. M. R. V. Technical Institute, Nagercoil.*—This was under Sirkar management. It continued to give instruction in weaving, carpentry and blacksmith's work, and in the subjects required for the instruction of Surveyors and P. W. D. Overseers. The number of pupils fell from 56 to 43.

(2) *Aided Technical Schools.*—The number of the Aided Technical Schools was 11 and their strength was 361. The classes were chiefly for carpentry, weaving, lace-making, embroidery and commercial subjects. Instruction was also given to students for the Madras Technical Examinations in the Engineering subjects.

(3) *Unaided Technical Schools.*—There were 8 such schools with a total strength of 267. The returns furnish very little information as to the work they were doing.

(C) *The School of Arts, Trivandrum.*—53 students appeared for different subjects at the Madras Technical Examinations and 39 passed. The results in Elementary Design and Geometrical Drawing were unsatisfactory. In the different industries, 8,691 articles were made, of the aggregate value of Rs. 4,384. Articles made in the school were sent to the Exhibitions at Mysore, Madras, Trichur and Ettiyapuram. A gold medal was awarded at Mysore and silver medals at Madras and Trichur.

(D) *Other Special Schools.*

(1) *The Sanskrit Patasala, Trivandrum.*—There were 188 pupils on the rolls at the end of the year, as against 203 in 1083. The courses of studies in the Patasala were revised during the year.

(2) There were also three Private Sanskrit Schools.

(3) *The Reformatory, Trivandrum.*—This had 4 inmates at the end of the year. The Magistracy continued reluctant to use the institution for juvenile offenders, even though they had been repeatedly told to take advantage of the institution. The attention of all District Magistrates has again been drawn to the matter. The health of the inmates was satisfactory.

132. *Female Education.*—The number of Girls' Schools was 209, being two less than in 1083. The decrease was in the Private Unaided Primary Schools. The number of girls under instruction was 53,377, as against 53,273 in 1083. Of the total number, 52,001 girls were in the Elementary Schools, 801 in the Secondary Schools, 563 in the Special Schools and 12 in the Colleges. A considerable number out of those attending the Elementary Schools, viz., 34,948, were in the Boys' Schools. This fact indicates that there are fewer facilities for female education than are necessary. It is under contemplation to increase the number of Girls' Schools throughout the

State, so as to afford adequate facilities for the female school-going population to attend such schools. In Special Schools, a considerable number of girls were receiving instruction in lace-making and embroidery and a few in weaving. Two girls passed in the English and Science Divisions of the B. A. Degree Examination from H. H. the Maharaja's College, Trivandrum.

133. *Education of Special Classes.*—The total number of Mahomedans under instruction rose from 8,816 in 1083 to 9,094 in 1084. 8,869 were boys and 225 were girls. The number of Mahomedan boys under instruction has been steadily rising, the increase during the last decade having been over 50%. Primary Education continued to make steady progress among Pulayas and Parayas. Most of the schools for these classes were under the management of Missionary agencies and were receiving full salary grants. The number of Arayans under instruction was 432, of whom 7 were attending the Secondary Schools. There has been a considerable increase in the number of Shanar pupils during recent years. But comparatively few of them attend the Secondary Schools.

134. *Hostels and Boarding Houses.*—There were three hostels attached to Colleges and three to Secondary Schools.

His Highness the Maharaja's Caste Hindu Hostel.—28 students were in residence at the close of the year, all of whom belonged to His Highness the Maharaja's College, Trivandrum. This number is said to be the maximum possible with the present accommodation. Plans for the erection of a new building were under preparation. The health and behaviour of the students were satisfactory. A Senior Tutor was appointed. The Governing Body met on 5 occasions. The total expenditure amounted to Rs. 4,538 and the receipts to Rs. 2,221.

135. *The Text Book Committee.*—4 meetings were held during the year. 149 books were examined by the Committee. Texts in English and Vernacular were recommended for use in schools.

136. *The Public Lecture Committee.*—The number of lectures delivered under the auspices of the Committee was 11, of which 7 were in English and 4 in Malayalam. The average attendance of the public was about 400. The expenditure for the year amounted to Rs. 956.

REGISTRATION OF BOOKS.

137. 20 books, one in English, 17 in Malayalam, one in Tamil and one in Syriac, were received for registration of copyright. Classified according to subjects, 9 were literary, 2 legal, 6 religious and 3 miscellaneous.

174 books were received under Section 12 of the Press Regulation (II of 1079). Of these, 2 were in Sanskrit, one in Syriac, 9 in Tamil, 27 in English, 8 in English and Malayalam and 127 in Malayalam. Classified according to subjects, 84 were literary, 22 religious, and 68 were miscellaneous.

MUSEUM AND PUBLIC GARDENS.

138. The number of visitors to the Musuem was 1,79,020. The expenditure during the year amounted to Rs. 32,519, against Rs. 29,606 in the previous year. The increase was due to additional expenditure incurred in feeding the animals.

OBSERVATORY.

139. The usual astronomical, magnetic and meteorological observations were made during the year, reduced and tabulated. Daily weather telegrams were despatched to Simla and Madras, as also special messages on five occasions when information was called for in connection with storm signals. The usual information regarding rainfall is given in para 59 *supra*.

VERNACULAR PRESS.

140. The Vernacular newspapers and magazines published during the year numbered 22, of which one was quarterly, 11 were monthly, one bi-monthly, one tri-monthly, 6 weekly, one bi-weekly, and one tri-weekly. Again, 8 of them were religious, 2 educational, and the others general, political and social. The tone of some of the papers left much to be desired.

CHAPTER VIII.

MISCELLANEOUS.

MINT.

141. The operations of the Mint during the year are shown in the following statement:—

Description of coin.	No. of coins minted.	Value Rs.	Weight in tolas.	Value of metal Rs.	Gross profit Rs.
Silver half rupee ...	43,603	21,802	34,289	25,493	11,857
Do. quarter rupee ...	54	13			
Do. one fanam ...	1,08,746	15,535			
Copper one chakram ...	2,12,396	7,586	3,68,433	6,930	8,120
Do. quarter do. ...	8,36,000	7,464			
Total...	12,00,799	52,400	4,02,722	32,423	19,977

The gross profit on silver coinage amounted to Rs. 11,857. As in the previous year, the coins were minted from English bar silver.

The gross profit on copper coinage was Rs. 8,120. The copper coins were minted from blanks obtained from Birmingham.

The total receipts of the year, including some miscellaneous items, amounted to Rs. 20,022. The cost of the establishment and the working expenses of the Mint amounted to Rs. 6,454. The net income from the Mint was therefore Rs. 13,568.

ELEPHANT DEPARTMENT.

142. It was stated in para 155 of the report for 1083 that the number of elephants at the close of that year was 127. This has since been found to be incorrect. There were only 122 elephants at the beginning of 1084. Eight elephants were captured during the year. Of the total 130 elephants, 3 died, 8 were auctioned, and 4 sold, leaving 115 elephants at the close of the year. 42 elephants were under the control of the Forest department and the rest were attached to the Sirkar Stables, the P. W. and the Maramat departments and the several temples in the State.

THE GOVERNMENT PRESS.

143. The total value of work done in the Press during the year was Rs. 78,541. New machinery and types to the value of Rs. 4,506 were purchased during

the year, and types &c. to the value of Rs. 4,399 were made at the Press. Machinery to the value of Rs. 3,858 was transferred to the Prison Press. The value of plant at the end of the year, deducting 10 per cent for wear and tear, was Rs. 64,827. The total expenditure was Rs. 38,456.

144. The following statement compares the circulation of the Gazette in 1083 and 1084:—

Year.	No. of subscribers.	No. of copies supplied free.
1083	756	431
1084	875	419

STATIONERY.

145. The total charges under stationery amounted to Rs. 1,12,248, including charges under establishment, contingencies and other incidental expenses. The value of the articles issued to the several departments amounted to Rs. 1,02,431, and that of the stock in hand at the end of the year to Rs. 70,834.

PUBLICATION OF SANSKRIT MANUSCRIPTS.

146. The Principal of the Sanskrit College at Trivandrum was entrusted with the publication of the old Sanskrit manuscripts in the Palace Library. But as this arrangement did not work satisfactorily, the Darbar sanctioned the appointment of a full time Curator for the publication of Sanskrit Manuscripts and gave him an establishment for the purpose. Mr. T. Ganapathi Sastri, formerly Principal of the Sanskrit College, was appointed to the post. The duties of the Curator consist in the selection of the more important manuscripts from the Palace Library, which is particularly rich in rare and important works, and their preparation for publication in a series of volumes. He has also to obtain rare and unpublished manuscripts from other private libraries in the State and prepare them for publication. Prior to the appointment of the full time Curator, three works had been published and four were in the press. Of the latter, two were published towards the close of the year and the remaining two were almost completed. During the year, three more works were made ready and sent to the press. The number of works borrowed from private libraries for publication was 21. The expenditure during the year, excluding the cost of printing etc., amounted to Rs. 2,283.

ARCHÆOLOGICAL DEPARTMENT.

147. A new Superintendent was appointed and he was given a subordinate establishment. The facsimiles of records collected by the late Rai Bahadur P. Sundaram Pillay having been found to be in a damaged condition, a good deal of the work had to be done over again. The Superintendent visited 36 places in Travancore and 4 places in Cochin for conducting investigations. The number

of stone inscriptions taken was 113. The Superintendent also took impressions of 7 sets of copper plates. Of the stone inscriptions, the most important is reported to be that on a stone slab found outside the Museum at Trivandrum, which refers to events in the reign of one of the Pandyan Kings about 770 A. D. Another is note-worthy as being the earliest record in the Kollam Era (924 A. D.). Of the copper plates examined, one set refers to a local dynasty of the ninth century A. D., hitherto unknown. Another set contains the first treaty of alliance between the Raja of Cochin and the Dutch East India Company. Arrangements are being made for the publication of a series of papers describing these plates and inscriptions. The Superintendent examined the ruined forts at Pallippurom and Cranganore, and the Darbar has ordered their preservation as objects of historic interest. The expenditure incurred during the year was Rs. 3,044.

GEOLOGICAL DEPARTMENT.

148. The State Geologist, Southern Division, was on tour for 134 days and was chiefly engaged in investigating the occurrence of Nickeliferous pyrrhotine in Tovala and of lime-stone found in Tovala and Agasteeswaram. He also made observations on the occurrence of minerals of lesser importance and made notes on a variety of matters. The State Geologist, Northern Division, was engaged in field work for 144 days. His work chiefly consisted of the survey along the line from Kanjirapalli through Peermade to Kumili. He also made observations on the gneisses of the northern taluks, the geology of Kayenkolam, the Quilon lime-stone mentioned by General Cullen and on the occurrence of Monazite. The expenditure incurred amounted to Rs. 9,719.

CHEMICAL EXAMINER'S DEPARTMENT.

149. 70 cases were received and attended to during the year. There were 18 cases of suspected human poisoning. Of these, poison was detected in 10—arsenic in 6, neurotic poison in one, nerium oleander in one and morphia in two. Two cases of cattle poisoning and one case of fowl poisoning were received and investigated. No trace of poison was found in the former, but arsenic was detected in the latter. 21 cases of blood stains were investigated and stains of mammalian blood were detected in 15 of them. 3 cases of seminal stains were received and detected during the year. There were 25 cases for analysis of water, opium, ganja, salt, molasses, vermicelli, etc.

STATE LIFE INSURANCE.

150. The State Life Insurance Scheme, which had been a compulsory one for all public servants who were permanently entertained in Government service on and after the 1st Thye 1073, was, in the year under report, made optional in the case of all public servants, and provision was also made for withdrawal from insurance at any time at the option of the person insured. It was also ruled that proposers for a second or other subsequent insurance should undergo medical examination.

30 proposals for first insurance, and 25 for further insurance, or 55 in all, were received during the year. Inclusive of the 391 proposals brought forward from last year, the number for disposal was 446. 405 proposals were disposed of during the year. 334 were cancelled as the proposers subsequently declared their unwillingness to insure, 65 were accepted, one rejected and 5 otherwise disposed of. Of the

41 proposals pending at the close of the year, 23 were pending with the heads of departments, 2 with the medical officers, 13 with the age referees and 3 in the office.

Policies were issued on all the 65 proposals accepted. Owing to withdrawals, resignations, dismissals and deaths, 1,295 policies ceased to pay premia. The total number of paying policies was 1,557. Of these, one Endowment policy matured. The annual premia recoverable on paying policies amounted to Rs. 19,324 and the bonus assured by them amounted to Rs. 7,69,535.

14 deaths were reported during the year. The number of claims for disposal, including those pending at the close of 1908, was 53. The following statement shows how those cases are pending, and the number of claims disposed of for which bonuses have been paid in the year.

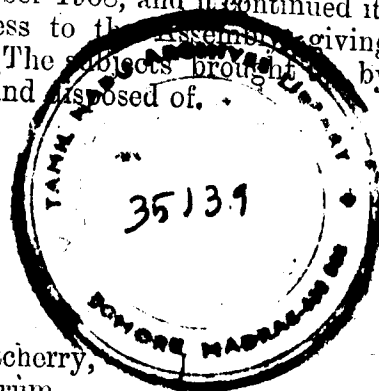
Particulars.	Number.
Non-receipt of bills for payment from the claimants ...	3
Non-production of the heirship certificate by the claimants ...	10
Non-production of the indemnity bond by the guardians of the heirs who are minors ...	7
Non-production of the decree from a Civil Court by rival claimants ...	2
Under correspondence with the heads of departments regarding delayed payment of premia by the deceased ...	2
Under reference with the Head Sirkar Vakil ...	2
The period of notification in the Gazette inviting claimants not having expired at the close of the year ...	2
Bonus paid ...	5

Inclusive of the arrears, a sum of Rs. 31,316 was recovered during the year on account of premia, interest and other dues, which, added to the amount to the credit of the Fund at the close of the previous year amounted to Rs. 1,53,946. The expenditure on establishment and contingencies amounted to Rs. 1,729, and bonus paid to Rs. 1,998, or a total of Rs. 3,727. The surrender value paid on Policies withdrawn from insurance amounted to Rs. 29,293. The balance to the credit of the Life Insurance Fund at the close of the year amounted to Rs. 1,20,926.

SRI MULAM POPULAR ASSEMBLY.

151. The Fifth Session of the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly was held on Monday, the 9th November 1908, and it continued its sittings for five days. The Dewan delivered an address to the Assembly, giving a short account of the administration during 1908. The subjects brought up by the members were then taken up for consideration and disposed of.

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P. RAJAGOPALA CHARI,

Dewan of Travancore.

Huzur Cutcherry,
Trivandrum,
28th November 1909.

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