

Report on the admin. of the
Madras presidency

1923-24

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REPORT
ON THE
ADMINISTRATION
OF THE
MADRAS PRESIDENCY

FOR THE YEAR

1923-24



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PREFATORY NOTE

IN compliance with the orders of the Government of India, Part I of this publication—the “General Summary”—deals with the calendar year 1924 and Part II—the main report—with the official year 1923-24 except where it is specifically stated otherwise.

PART I

GENERAL SUMMARY

1. *General.*—The Right Hon'ble Sir Freeman Freeman-Thomas, Baron Willingdon of Ratton, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., G.B.E., resigned the office of Governor of the Presidency of Fort St. George on the 12th April 1924. The Right Hon'ble the Viscount Goschen of Hawkhurst, G.C.I.E., C.B.E., arrived at Madras on the 14th April 1924 and took charge of the office of Governor on the forenoon of the same day. In the short interregnum between the date of Lord Willingdon's departure and Viscount Goschen's arrival the office of Governor devolved upon the Hon'ble Sir Charles Todhunter, K.C.S.I.

On the 18th February an agreement was executed on behalf of the Government of Madras and the Mysore Darbar which finally settled the long-standing dispute relating to the utilization of the waters of the river Cauvery in Madras and Mysore respectively. This agreement was subsequently ratified by the Secretary of State and it was published in July.

Prior to the introduction of the Reforms there was one combined staff for the administration of the Salt and Excise (Abkārī) Department and the charges of this combined staff were shared between the Government of India and the Local Government. This arrangement was continued although under the Reforms "Excise" became a Provincial transferred subject and "Salt" a Central subject. With effect from 1st April 1924, however, two separate departments were constituted. Pending necessary legislation to be undertaken by the Government of India for the centralization of the Salt administration, the Salt Department continued to be under the control of the Local Government.

2. *Legislative Council.*—The Legislative Council session that commenced in the month of November 1923 was continued in February, March and April of the year under report. A second session was held in the months of August, October, November and December. Apart from the Madras Hindu Religious Endowments Bill, which had been returned by His Excellency the Governor for the consideration of certain amendments suggested by him and which was finally passed by the Council after further consideration in its amended form, the main piece of legislation which occupied the attention of the Council was the Madras Irrigation Bill. The object of this Bill is to enable the State to control and regulate irrigation in the interests of the general community. The discussion on this Bill occupied a large portion of the time of the Council in the session that commenced in August and divisions were taken on numerous amendments. The Bill was passed by the Council in December. Other Bills passed by the Council during the year were the Tuticorin Port Trust Bill, the Madras Stage Carriages and Hackney Carriage Act Amendment Bill, the President's Salary Bill, a Bill to amend the Madras City Municipal Act and a Bill to amend the Madras Children Act. The Tuticorin

Port Trust Bill was designed to make provision for the regulation of conservancy and for the improvement of the port of Tuticorin and for the constitution of a Board of Trustees to administer the port. A clause of the Bill disqualifies from membership of such board any person who, not being an Indian by birth, is domiciled in any British possession or colony the laws of which do not confer or recognize rights and privileges in respect of resident Indians which are equal to those conferred or recognized in respect of other residents.

In the March meeting of the Council Government introduced a Bill for the settlement of land revenue in the Presidency with a view to bringing the process of assessment in future re-settlements under regulation by statute. The Council, though practically unanimous in wishing for legislation on this subject, did not accept the Bill, a large majority opposing it either on the grounds that it did not give power to the Legislative Council to fix the rates of re-settlement or on the grounds that they favoured a permanent settlement. The following Government Bills passed their first reading and were referred to Select Committees :—

(1) The Madras Pilferage Prevention Bill, intended to put a stop to danger to the public in general and to the trading community in particular resulting from thefts of unidentifiable merchandise in ports, railways, workshops and other places.

(2) A Bill to amend the Madras District Municipalities and Local Boards Amendment Act, 1921.

(3) A Bill to amend the Madras Town Planning Act.

(4) The Madras Local Authorities Entertainments Tax Bill which provides for the levy of a tax on entertainments and amusements for the benefit of the local authorities.

(5) The Madras Civil Courts Amendment Bill. The main object of the Bill is to enable the appointment of more than one judge to a court of a subordinate judge or a district munsif and thereby to avoid the difficulties arising from the creation and abolition of temporary courts.

Three non-official Bills were also introduced and referred to Select Committees. The first of these was the Malabar Tenancy Bill, the object of which is to confer, subject to certain conditions, occupancy rights on kanom tenants and actual cultivators of the soil; the second was a Bill to amend the Madras City Municipal Act, 1919, and to do away with the intervention of the Standing Committee in regulating the private service of water to buildings with a comparatively low annual value. The third was the Madras Local Boards Act Amendment Bill intended to enable District Boards to utilize sums accumulated from the proceeds of railway cess for other purposes provided they obtained the previous sanction of Government. The Council also gave leave to introduce two other non-official Bills.

The budget was introduced on the 4th of March and the general budget debate and the voting on the various demands occupied practically the whole time of the Council during March. A large number of motions for the reduction of demands were tabled but in the time allotted the Council discussed only about half the demands. The only reductions voted were as follows :—

(1) The deletion of the provision for the establishment of the Board of Revenue as a protest against the continuance of that body. This provision was subsequently restored on the certificate of His Excellency the Governor.

(2) A reduction of Rs. 100 in the grant for criminal justice, a token motion signifying the Council's desire for a separation of judicial and executive functions.

(3) A reduction of one lakh in the jails budget on the question of releasing Mappilla prisoners.

(4) A reduction of Rs. 1,000 under Stamps to signify the Council's desire for a reversion to the old rates of court fees and stamp duties.

(5) A reduction of Rs. 100 under General Administration—Legislative Bodies, to press the motion for the provision of library facilities and other conveniences to members of the Legislative Council.

The number of resolutions admitted during the year was 645, of which only 19 were discussed. Among the more important resolutions passed by the Council were a resolution in favour of Provincial Autonomy and a resolution conveying the opinion of the Council that the recommendations of the Lee Commission should not be adopted in this province. The criticism of these recommendations was directed rather against the insufficiency of the Indianization proposals than against the concessions proposed to officials.

The number of questions of which notices were received in the year was nearly two thousand six hundred and there was also a marked increase in the number of supplementary questions. The volume of questions indeed became so great as to lead all parties in the house to agree to a system of starred questions being introduced in the Council.

The Hon'ble Diwan Bahadur L. D. Swamikannu Pillai, C.M.S., I.S.O., was appointed President of the Council in succession to Sir P. Rajagopala Achariyar and took his seat in the presidential chair for the first time on the 5th February.

3. *Political*.—On the termination of the All-India Congress which was held at Cocanada in the closing days of 1923 some of the Khilafatist leaders and other agitators from the north of India, including Shaukat Ali and Dr. Kitchlew, made tours of various lengths in the Presidency. Shaukat Ali's speeches were generally objectionable in tone but did not, on the whole, excite much interest. The Khaddar Board also made a lengthy tour of the Presidency. Attempts to celebrate a "Gandhi month" from February 18th fell remarkably flat and the centre of popular interest changed to the doings of the Swarajist party. In addition to the part played by their representatives as a section of the opposition in the Legislative Council, the Swarajist party turned their attention to the capturing of local bodies and gained some seats in the elections at Madras; they also gained seats at Bezwada and Madura.

Early in the year a movement was started among the mirasdars of the Tanjore district to resist the introduction of the new rates of settlement or to press for their reduction. The Government after receiving a deputation from the ryots and considering their requests decided not to reduce the re-settlement rates. The Congress party

attempted to seize this opportunity to induce the ryots to come over to them *en bloc*, but at a conference of the mirasdars at Mannārgudi in May, a proposal to adopt mass civil disobedience failed after heated arguments and a similar fate befell the proposal to merge the Mirasdars' (Ryots') Association in the District Congress Committee. A Bill had already been introduced in March which contained provisions for limiting the enhancement of rates at all future re-settlements to 18½ per cent. Though this Bill was rejected by the Legislative Council, Government decided to lay down the rule that in future re-settlements, where the enhancement is based on the rise of prices only, the enhanced rate should not exceed 18½ per cent of the rates immediately preceding. They also decided as a special case to give retrospective effect to this limit in respect of the re-settlement of Tanjore, Bellary and Anantapur (black soils).

In April a "Satyagraha" campaign was started at Vaikom in Travancore as a protest against the prohibition against the use of certain roads by particular castes, which attracted agitators from this Presidency and from other parts of India and occupied a good deal of space in the daily press.

There was a certain amount of tension in the relations between the railway companies and their employees during the year. Strikes of the employees of the South Indian Railway occurred in several districts at the end of May. As the Agent of the railway promised to remedy most of the men's grievances, the strikes soon came to an end except in Pōdanūr and Salem where, fanned by local agitators, the strikes lasted till the 16th and 22nd June, respectively. There was also some unrest among the employees of the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway at Perambūr near Madras.

The action of Government in releasing nearly 600 Mappillas whose part in the recent Mappilla rebellion was small and whose previous behaviour was shown by police records to be good was received with gratitude especially by the people of Malabar as evidence of the Government's desire to carry out a policy of clemency in so far as it is compatible with maintaining tranquillity in the district. Government further decided to drop the further collection of fines under the Suspended Sentences Scheme whereby the sentences imposed on certain Mappillas were held under suspension, provided they continued to pay by monthly instalments the fines imposed upon them; 477 Mappillas who were in prison for failure to pay these fines were also released.

The year saw the end of the rebellion in the Agency tracts which started in August 1922. The police forces engaged in these operations were reinforced in January by a strong detachment of the Assam Rifles, which was employed in systematically searching the country above the ghats, while the police forces continued to operate in the country below. The chief obstacle encountered by the Government forces was the active and passive sympathy shown to the rebels by many of the inhabitants of the area, including many muttadars and village officers. Government accordingly decided in March to appoint Mr. Rutherford, of the Indian Civil Service, as Special Commissioner in charge of the operations with authority over all military and civil officers in the rebellion area. The

measures taken by Mr. Rutherford had some effect on the attitude of the local inhabitants but it was found that still more troops were needed to search effectively the large and difficult extent of country in which the rebel leader and his bands were hiding. Accordingly the Government of Madras accepted the offer of the Government of Assam to send another detachment of the Assam Rifles, 200 strong, and on their arrival an effort was made to clear up the situation before the arrival of the monsoon. The country both above and below the ghats was therefore methodically searched by both the troops and the police. In the course of these operations a band of the rebels was brought into action and defeated on the 6th May and on the next day Srirama Razu himself was captured. He was brought in to the Officer Commanding the detachment of Assam Rifles but was shot shortly after while making an attempt to escape. After his death more active assistance was given by the villagers to the Government forces and, before the Assam Rifles left in June, numerous rebels were killed or captured. The other rebels, including one of the Razu's chief lieutenants, Gantam Dora, were gradually accounted for by the police; others absconded and by the end of September there was only one rebel of any importance still at large. The Government therefore decided to reduce the strength of the East Coast Special Police, who were retained in the Agency, to 240, all ranks, and to withdraw the whole force with the exception of one or two small posts from the rebellion area.

4. *Economic*.—The unfavourable nature of the season in a number of districts at the beginning of the year gave rise to considerable anxiety, and regular relief measures had to be taken in the Bellary and Anantapur districts and in the Chokapadu khandam of the Ganjam district. In the Coimbatore district the grant of concession rates for the importation of fodder proved sufficient to meet the situation. The south-west monsoon set in early in June and in the second half of July exceptionally heavy rains were received by the Western Ghats which resulted in unprecedented floods. The regions which suffered most were the districts of Malabar, Trichinopoly and Tanjore, while the districts of South Kanara, the Nilgiris, Coimbatore, Salem and South Arcot were less seriously affected. Besides the extensive damage to standing crops, houses, roads, bridges and railways, a large area of cultivable land was covered with sand and silt, especially in the Tanjore and Trichinopoly districts. A large breach was made by the floods in the left bank of the Cauvery about a mile above the Grand Anicut, through which the waters of the Cauvery poured into the Coleroon, leaving the great Tanjore delta unirrigated. Efforts were made to close this breach but these were not successful until the end of the year. The south-west monsoon partially atoned for these disasters by providing good rains in August and September in the districts where famine operations were being conducted and all famine works were closed by the end of October. The north-east monsoon also gave timely assistance. Not only did the areas which usually depend on it receive sufficient rain but enough was received in the Tanjore district to avert a total loss of the rice crop. In spite of these mitigations the economic condition of the Presidency was seriously affected, the disastrous floods which occurred in

so many districts occasioning a considerable loss of wealth both to Government and to private individuals. The price of rice was higher than in the previous year. The prices of dry grains too were generally higher but in Vizagapatam and parts of the Deccan they fell below the previous year's level after August.

5. *Civil and Criminal Justice*.—The alteration of the rules of the High Court, effected at the end of 1923, by which the classes of cases that should be tried by a single judge were increased and by which certain judicial or quasi-judicial work was delegated to the Registrar, led to increased disposal of civil suits. The pendency, however, in the High Court, especially in first appeals, second appeals and on the original side, was such that in October the temporary appointment of two additional judges was sanctioned. This increase in the strength of the bench will also enable the High Court to inspect District Courts and such other courts in the mufassal as may require inspection.

In civil courts in the mufassal there was a general increase in the institution of original suits. There was an increase in the number of small cause suits instituted in Subordinate Judges' Courts, whilst there was a further decline in the institution of small cause suits in District Munsifs' Courts attributable to the institution of Panchayat Courts. The position in the superior courts was not satisfactory as the pendency of original suits in District and Subordinate Judges' Courts was equal to about a year and a half's institutions and the position was reviewed by a judicial officer put on special duty for the purpose. In order to lighten the burden of miscellaneous work which falls so heavily on District Courts and in order that these courts may have more time to devote to the trial of original suits, extended jurisdiction in such matters was given to the lower courts.

In the sphere of criminal justice the sessions file of the High Court continued to be light. The appellate file tended to return to the normal of the years previous to the Mappilla Rebellion. There was a considerable decrease in the number of criminal appeals, but though there was a fall in the number of referred trials it still remained high owing to the prevalence of grave crime in parts of the Presidency other than South Malabar. The file of Sessions Courts for the Presidency as a whole showed a slight decrease. The Government of India during the year relaxed the restriction on the number of Subordinate Judges that might be invested with the powers of Assistant Sessions Judges. The number of Subordinate Judges exercising these powers was therefore increased with a view to relieving District Judges of some of their less important work and to training Subordinate Judges in criminal work. Coimbatore as usual had the heaviest sessions file and the number of cases in that district showed a marked and unaccountable increase. There was no marked variation for the Presidency as a whole in the number of cases in Magistrates' Courts but the increase of crime in certain districts was probably attributable to unfavourable economic conditions. During the year, Military Cantonment Magistrates ceased to exist and their functions were transferred to the regular Magistracy and Bench Courts. A number of Panchayat and Bench Courts were created during the year and on the whole these courts worked satisfactorily.

6. *Police*.—The abolition of the post of one Deputy Inspector-General and other measures of retrenchment were effected during the year. The numbers of the Police force fell to nearly 1,450 below strength and recruitment was revived in many districts. The discipline of the force was good except in Kumbakonam where the placing of a constable in custody for disorderly conduct led to a partial strike of the constables of the station. Some of the men were dismissed and others were prosecuted and convicted under the Police Act. The King's Police Medal was awarded to five officers of the Imperial Police Service, one sergeant and one constable for distinguished service in the Agency operations and elsewhere, and the bar to the medal was awarded to an officer of the Imperial Service. A head constable also received the medal for the courage he displayed in an incident arising in the ordinary course of police duty. An Assistant Commissioner of Police and four Inspectors received titles.

Owing to the economic stress due to abnormal climatic conditions there was an increase of about ten per cent in the number of crimes against property in a majority of districts, but the situation improved with the more favourable agricultural outlook at the end of the year. There was a slight improvement in detection and organized crime was well controlled. A special party was at work in the Ceded Districts making inquiries into the manufacture and use of bombs which have come into favour in recent years in that region as weapons for the settlement of private feuds. A notorious outlaw, Arumuga Padayachi, who had committed numerous murders and dacoities, was shot dead on the 21st September and his gang was broken up. The organized activities of the dacoit gangs of Vetti Periya Karuppa Tevan and Hari Krishna Tevan in the Tinnevely district were brought to a close by the death of the latter and the capture and conviction of the former. In October a cowardly attempt was made to murder Mr. S. A. Venkataraman, a junior member of the Indian Civil Service, in his sleep.

The conduct by the City Police officials of the investigation and prosecution in a sensational case in which certain persons were accused of defrauding the Imperial Bank of large sums was a topic of extended comment in the press and the subject of many questions in the Legislative Council. Government, however, while expressing their disapproval of certain indiscretions on the part of particular officers, found no justification for any general aspersions on the conduct of the City Police.

Further progress was made in the work of reclaiming the Kallars. The number of schools and co-operative societies for members of this community increased and there was an appreciable increase in the demand for the products made in the industrial centres.

7. *Jails*.—The average daily population of the jails declined during the year. There was also a decline in the number of prison offences but the number of corporal punishments, inflicted only for assaults and offences involving gross moral turpitude, was as high as fourteen. As many as 150 long-term prisoners who had completed two-thirds of their sentence and were not habitual criminals were released on the recommendation of the Advisory Board constituted in 1923. The remission system was extended also to prisoners sentenced to imprisonment for terms

of six months and over. Elementary education was imparted as usual to all convicts below 30 years of age and moral instruction was given by honorary lecturers. The new "Star" classification for non-habitual prisoners gave promise of good results and the facilities for recreation after lock-up allowed to well-behaved prisoners in association wards were much appreciated. A weekly newspaper for the use of convicts was started early in the year.

The designation of the Borstal Institution, Tanjore, was changed to that of "Borstal School." Fourteen boys of this school were released on licence for service under private employees on probation. There was also a large number of adolescents confined in Palamcottah Jail under a modified Borstal régime. The work of the Central Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society expanded considerably and non-official provincial jail visitors did much propaganda work in stimulating the activity of branch societies. Arrangements were also made for the representation of the society on the Boards of Visitors to the various jails.

The health of prisoners was even better than in 1923 and the jails were free from epidemic diseases. All prisoners admitted to jails were treated for hookworm if they were found to be suffering from this parasite.

Large orders were received by the jails for drill for police uniforms and boot machinery was installed at the Central Jail, Vellore, for the supply of boots to the Police Department. An Industrial Conference was also held to reorganize jail industries to meet the requirements of the public consuming departments.

8. *Trade and Ports.*—There was a further increase in the aggregate sea-borne trade of the Presidency during the year which if not commensurate with the large expansion of the previous year was nevertheless substantial. To this increase foreign and coasting trade both contributed. The volume of imports was comparatively small in the early part of the year owing to the unsettled political conditions prevailing in Europe but subsequent months showed a rapid improvement. The volume of export trade continued to expand under the stimulus of high prices in the consuming countries, which had been especially effective towards the close of 1923. There was a favourable movement in the balance of trade, the excess in the value of exports over imports being appreciably greater than in the previous year. There was a slight decline in the trade of the Presidency with the British Empire.

The port of Madras was favourably affected by the general improvement in trade and there was a substantial increase in the total tonnage handled. The net result of the year's working was a profit of Rs. 3.82 lakhs. Pipe lines for fuel oil were laid to four west quay berths so as to enable ships to fill their bunkers alongside. Satisfactory progress was made in the construction of a new deep water quay and a new break-water outside the harbour. There was an increase in the average size of the vessels using the port.

The trade of the minor ports also showed an improvement over that of 1923. Preliminary work was carried out in connexion with the scheme for the creation of a deep water harbour at Tuticorin. Work at Cochin was confined to maintenance pending the receipt of the opinion of a

committee appointed by the Secretary of State on the Harbour Engineer's report on the work done up to 1923.

9. *Local Self-Government.*—The financial condition of local bodies was the subject of much consideration by Government. A committee was appointed for each district, consisting of the presidents of district and taluk boards, the Collector and the treasury officer. These committees examined the finances of the local boards in each district and framed normal budgets for each board. They found that district boards generally were able to maintain their services with the revenue assigned to them but that many of the taluk boards were unable to make both ends meet even after levying all taxes at maximum rates. To meet this situation Government proposed to abolish such of the boards as could not maintain their services. Further assistance was given to local bodies in strengthening their "ways and means" position by making monthly, instead of yearly, payments of Government subsidies on account of elementary and secondary education.

An interesting constitutional point was decided during the year. Under the Government of India Act, while Local Self-Government is a transferred subject, an exception is laid down in the case of the audit of Local Fund Accounts. On the question arising as to the proper authority to pass orders on the audit accounts and to deal with appeals against surcharges made by the Examiner of Local Fund Accounts it was decided that these matters should be dealt with by Government on the transferred side in the Ministry of Local Self-Government.

In pursuance of the policy to which reference was made in Part I of last year's administration report, five more district boards were permitted to elect their presidents. Panchayats formed under the Madras Village Panchayats Act, 1920, were working in all districts except three and nearly five hundred were in existence at the end of the year.

The cadre of District Board Engineers was formed into a provincial service with three grades under the control of the Ministry of Local Self-Government.

10. *Co-operation.*—The progress made by the Co-operative Department both in the formation of new co-operative societies and in the development of those registered in previous years was very satisfactory. There was a large increase in the number of members and in the amount of share capital, of working capital and of reserve funds. The steadily increasing efficiency of many of the local supervising unions gave evidence of the success of the policy adopted by the Government of transferring, within statutory limitations, the control of primary societies to non-official organizations, whenever such a course is practicable. The division of the subordinate staff of the Co-operative Department referred to in last year's administration report resulted in a distinct improvement in the quality of the audit of societies' accounts. Interesting features of the co-operative movement during the year were the increased activity of building societies stimulated by financial help from Government, the marked development in the organization of labour societies and the increase in the number of societies formed by ryots to enable them to hold up their crops for a favourable market and for the joint

sale of their produce. The labour societies were formed to provide work for their members and many of them were able to get contracts from local boards, municipalities and Government. Co-operation also made substantial progress among the depressed classes during the year.

11. *Labour*.—The labour situation during the year was calm except for the strike of the firemen and drivers of the South Indian Railway and of the employees at the Company's workshops at Podanūr. Of the other ten strikes which occurred, eight were among the employees of municipalities and of the Port Trust. Except in the railway strikes little difficulty was experienced in bringing about a settlement. The Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923, came into force during the year and two cases under the Act were decided by the Commissioner of Labour. The Indian Emigration Act of 1922 and the rules framed under it, which were applied to emigration to Ceylon, the Straits Settlements, the Federated Malay States and the Unfederated Malay States, worked smoothly with the co-operation of the representatives of the Governments concerned. There was an increase in emigration attributable to the failure of the north-east monsoon at the end of 1923 in the recruiting areas and to the increased demand for labour from outside the Presidency.

A large number of coolies emigrated from the districts of Bellary, Cuddapah and Anantapur to work in the Assam tea gardens. Many of these returned after a short period and this fact led to demands both in the Press and the Legislative Council for the cessation of recruitment for this province. The Commissioner of Labour was deputed by Government to obtain first-hand information from the repatriates themselves as to the reasons for their return. He found that the main cause of the exodus was the fact that the sardars or recruiting agents sent by the planters had painted the conditions of work in Assam in too glowing colours and that the emigrants were disappointed in the extravagant hopes which they raised. The Commissioner, however, saw nothing to justify the Government in refusing to allow a coolie to go to Assam, if conditions are fairly explained to him, that would not apply to his going to any other part of India.

Work for the amelioration of the conditions of the depressed classes was carried on in nine districts of the Presidency as in the previous year and a special officer was appointed in Madras City for the same purpose. By the end of the year over nine hundred schools and over eleven hundred co-operative societies for the benefit of the depressed classes were in existence. Special assistance was given to the members of these classes who suffered from the floods in the Tanjore district.

12. *Agriculture*.—Though the classes in the Agricultural College, Coimbatore, were smaller, for the reasons mentioned in Part I of last year's report, the results of the examination held during the year were satisfactory. It was decided, however, to abolish the certificate course at the end of the year. The Agricultural Middle Schools at Taliparamba and Anakapalle provided two-year courses in Agriculture for those who intend to return to their lands for farming. Research work on sugarcane, paddy, cotton, coconuts, fruit culture, potatoes and plantation crops was carried out as usual on the various agricultural farms and stations.

A first crop was also sown in a newly constructed millets-breeding station. A preliminary examination of the soils of the Presidency was conducted from which it was ascertained that as regards ammonia fixation these soils fall into two main types each needing different treatment. Various manurial experiments were also conducted and work in Entomological and Mycological research was continued. The Department of Agriculture was especially active in the field of demonstration. A campaign was organized against the *mahali* disease of the arecanut palm and in co-operation with the local co-operative societies some 800,000 trees were sprayed and effectually protected. A special feature was made of demonstration plots on the ryots' own lands. Some 600 plots were in existence during the year and the popularity of this method increased. Four special demonstration areas were also established with the object of demonstrating methods advocated by the department side by side with local methods, a careful profit and loss account being kept of each. A number of agricultural exhibitions were held during festivals and fairs. Other features of this branch of the department's work were the popularization of iron ploughs, green manures and the Sindewahe furnace for boiling jaggery. The new system, under which cotton seed farms buy only seed from the ryots who gin the lint co-operatively, enabled much larger purchases of seed to be made with the money available. The department published 14 new leaflets during the year in addition to a Year Book, a Villagers' Calendar and a regular monthly digest of the department's work. The year was, on the whole, not an unhealthy one for cattle. Considerable advance was made during the year in the breeding of live-stock. A buffalo-breeding station was opened at Guntūr and the Hosūr Remount Depot near Bangalore was obtained for the purpose of a central cattle farm. Hosūr offers ideal conditions for the purpose and its acquisition will be of great value to the Department of Agriculture in its endeavours to improve the live-stock of the Presidency.

13. *Forests*.—The policy of abandoning such forest reserves as were not of sufficient value to justify the expenditure entailed by reservation and which could be utilized for agriculture was abandoned in favour of and which could be utilized for agriculture was abandoned in favour of the policy of extending the panchayat system of management, the principle adopted being that no such land should be disforested unless there were no reasonable prospect of a panchayat being formed for its management. The spread of the panchayat movement under the guidance of a specially appointed staff rendered possible the abolition of two ranges and one forest division. The number of offences against conservancy regulations decreased and the extension of the system of early burning as a prophylactic against forest fires was attended with much success from the point of view of both protection and finance. Satisfactory progress was again made in the regeneration of the important timber forests, both deciduous and evergreen. The creation of a special Forest Engineering staff and the introduction of improvements in the working of logging machinery resulted in a reduction of the working costs and an increase in the output of timber from the Chenai Nair Exploitation division. To further the utilization of the timber extracted

from these forests Government decided with the approval of the Legislative Council to erect a saw mill and seasoning plant at Olavakkode and these were under construction at the end of the year. The Saw Mill at Russellkonda continued to work during the year; there was a considerable increase in the intake of logs and, owing to more careful selection, the percentage of wastage in conversion decreased. A Forest Utilization Officer was appointed to deal exclusively with the commercial side of the Forest Department and the expansion of the relations between this department and the timber trade soon necessitated the appointment of a second officer to cope with the work of this branch.

14. *Fisheries*.—The recommendations made by the Retrenchment Committee to the effect that the Department of Fisheries should be abolished, that such of its activities as were unremunerative should be curtailed and that the remainder should be transferred to other departments were rejected by Government who considered that these proposals would not result in real economy and decided that the department should continue in its present shape. On the bifurcation of the Salt and Abkâri Department at the beginning of April, all the fish-curing yards in the Presidency were transferred to the control of the Department of Fisheries; as a result of this, the department acquired a greatly increased staff and was brought into even closer touch with the fishing community and fishing industries. The fishing season of 1923-24 on the West Coast, where the principal Government establishments are situated, was a poor one and the output of canned and cured fish, fish oil and guano was considerably reduced. A substantial profit was, however, realized from the chank fisheries as in the previous year. The net profits on inland fisheries were also reduced owing to unfavourable seasonal conditions in certain districts but progress was made in the work of stocking inland waters with improved varieties of fresh-water fish. The Department of Fisheries continued its efforts to improve the socio-economic condition of the fishing community. The exhibits of the department displayed at the British Empire Exhibition resulted in the receipt of a number of inquiries for fish oil, guano and similar products.

15. *Industries*.—A considerable number of applications for assistance under the State Aid to Industries Act were received by the Board of Industries but many of them showed little or no appreciation of the requirements of the Act. The only application actually sanctioned by Government on the Board's recommendation during the year was for a loan of Rs. 50,000 to a firm of silk cloth manufacturers for the purpose of developing their factory. The Bureau of Commercial and Industrial Information dealt with an ever-increasing volume of inquiries and the services rendered by this bureau were much appreciated. As a preparatory step in the development of the lace and embroidery industry in the Presidency a Lady Assistant was appointed in October to carry out a comprehensive survey of the industry and to supply all the facts bearing upon the question that could be collected within a reasonably short period. The inquiry conducted by the Industrial Chemist into the conditions which govern the retting of coconut husk was completed and the scientific results of the investigations were published in the journal

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of the Indian Institute of Science. Government decided that the manufacture of a high-class malted food from cholam, the practicability of which was demonstrated by the experiments conducted in co-operation with the Department of Agriculture, should be left for private enterprise to develop. There was an increased demand for the soaps manufactured by the Kerala Soap Institute at Calicut and a profit was earned. The installation of the glycerine plant in the institute was completed and it is now working on a commercial scale. The Industrial Institute, Madras, which is exclusively devoted to the manufacture of ink, was fully occupied with the orders it received and may be said to have established itself as a paying concern. The results of the operations of the Fruit Preserving Institute were not satisfactory and Government are considering whether the results obtained offer any prospect that the industry will become self-supporting in the near future. In view of the difficulty of manufacturing glue on a small scale at a competitive rate and of finding a market for the product, Government ordered the Government Glue Factory to be closed. Demonstrations by ten weaving parties, nine of which were peripatetic, were continued during the year. Power driven machinery for starting a pioneer warp preparation factory was erected in Madras. As a result of propaganda work for the introduction of sericulture, several tracts have been brought under mulberry cultivation, while in others the rearing of silk worms has been successfully initiated. An increased demand was made upon the boring machinery operated by the Department of Industries and steps were taken towards procuring more machinery of an improved type. The new buildings of the Madras Trades School were occupied during the year; the efficiency of the school was well maintained and the type of instruction it provides continued to be appreciated by the industrial firms and apprentices of the city. The Madura Industrial Institute was reorganized and the School of Arts and the Leather Trade Institute continued their activities. Six new scholarships tenable at the Indian Institute of Science and five new scholarships tenable at the Victoria Jubilee Technical Institute, Bombay, were awarded during the year. The number of recognized industrial schools increased to fifty.

16. *Public Works*.—The revision of the administrative orders of Government relating to the Public Works Department account as contained in the Public Works Code and the Works Audit Manual was undertaken by an officer of the department specially appointed for the purpose in collaboration with an officer of the Accountant-General's department. The Special Officer was also instructed to make a rigorous scrutiny of all temporary establishments with a view to reducing such establishments to the absolute minimum necessary. His proposals for effecting this are under the consideration of Government.

Among the more important works completed or in progress during the year were the Leper Colony at Tirumani, formally opened by His Excellency Lord Willingdon and Lady Willingdon in March; the hostel for the Madras University Students' Club, opened by His Excellency Lord Willingdon in March and named after him; and a group of residences for clerks, declared open by Sir Charles Todhunter, K.C.S.I., in April

and named after him as "Todhunter Nagar." Several main blocks of the King George's Hospital, Vizagapatam, were completed and occupied. The main building for the Madras Trades School was also completed. Other works on the verge of completion include the Rāyapuram Hospital and the new Medical School at Tanjore. There was a welcome activity in electrical matters during the year. The works erected under the Bellary Electrical Licence, 1921, were completed, those in connexion with the Cochin Electric Licence were in progress and licences for the supply of electrical energy to three other places were granted during the year. In response to Government's decision to afford professional assistance to local bodies desiring to undertake electric supply schemes, applications were received from five Municipal Councils.

As regards irrigation the chief event of the year was the conclusion of the agreement between the Government of Madras and the Mysore Darbar. This agreement defined the respective rights of Madras and Mysore to the waters of the Cauvery. It rendered possible the execution of the Cauvery project, including the construction of a reservoir at Metur, which will supply 301,000 acres of new irrigation and greatly improve the existing irrigation under the Cauvery river. The plans and estimates for this project were forwarded to the Government of India in March for the sanction of the Secretary of State. Pending the receipt of this sanction a special division of the Public Works Department was created in December to carry out certain preliminary works in this connexion.

17. *Financial*.—After a series of years of financial deficits, the year 1923-24 provided a surplus of 28 lakhs of rupees. The surplus was utilized for the purpose of paying off the greater portion of the accumulated deficits of previous years, the outstandings under which head have now been reduced to nine lakhs of rupees. The surplus was due both to the restriction of expenditure within the lowest possible limits and to the increase of 41 lakhs on the Revenue side of the account, largely under the heads Excise and Stamps. The curtailment of expenditure, in spite of adverse circumstances due to the fituri, famine and cyclones, was the result in the main of the policy of retrenchment that was pursued throughout the year. The Retrenchment Committee, which had been appointed in the latter half of the financial year 1922-23, completed its work in September 1923. It presented interim reports and recommendations throughout the year and the final report was presented early in December. As the result of the recommendations of the main and subsidiary retrenchment committees, action has been taken by Government which has resulted in an immediate saving of 18 lakhs of rupees and which will eventually, when the measures taken have attained full realization, secure a further saving of 18 lakhs.

The budget estimates for 1924-25 were presented to the Legislative Council on the 3rd of March 1924 and revealed a further surplus, after the repayment of the due instalment of the advances taken from the Government of India, of three and a half lakhs of rupees. The abnormal conditions of the year under report, which have combined famine with floods of unprecedented magnitude, render it unlikely, however, that the expected surplus will be realized.

18. *Excise*.—An experiment in the way of practical prohibition was started from the beginning of the financial year by the closure of all arrack shops in certain taluks of the Tanjore, Rāmnād, Tinnevely and Salem districts where toddy is the prevailing drink. Another experiment was also under trial in the Nilgiris with the object of preventing the hill tribes, especially the Badagas, from drinking. Under this experiment the sale of liquor to any member of a hill tribe except on a medical certificate signed by a registered medical practitioner has been prohibited. There was a fall in excise revenue during the year under all heads except "foreign liquor" and "opium." The fall in the revenue from "country spirits" was principally due to the closure of arrack shops in certain areas to which reference is made above. The increase under both "opium" and "foreign liquor" was slight.

19. *Public Health*.—The total number of births and deaths recorded from January to September exceeded those of the previous year. There was a smaller mortality from smallpox, fevers and plague but the rise in the number of deaths from cholera, diarrhoea and dysentery was abnormal when compared with the figures for the previous year. Respiratory affections also claimed a heavier toll of lives. A slight increase was also noticeable in the total infantile mortality. In spite of the efforts of the new Health staff directed to the improvement of the accuracy of the registration of vital statistics, registration cannot yet be said to be satisfactory and the recorded variations are subject to a large margin of error.

Relapsing fever still continued to be prevalent in the Nilgiris and an intensive campaign against it was begun under the superintendence of a District Health Officer specially deputed for the purpose. This disease was also present in a rather mild form in the districts of Anantapur and South Arcot and a few isolated cases were reported from other places.

The first National Health Week was held in the Presidency from 14th to the 19th January and was attended with considerable success in most parts of the Presidency. The holding of this Week was timed to coincide with the Pongal festival when there is a general spring-cleaning in Hindu households. Health propaganda was carried on in various ways with the object of creating a public "sanitary conscience." Owing to the praiseworthy labours of the Madras Health Council and the efforts of the District Health staff health propaganda received considerable attention. The celebration of a "Baby Week" simultaneously with that of a Health Week was attended with equal success. In spite of the widespread superstition of the "Evil Eye" baby shows were held in as many as 150 centres and nearly 10,000 babies were exhibited. Full advantage was taken of the presence of the mothers at these shows to impart elementary instruction to them regarding maternity and child welfare.

The appointments of municipal health officers were also included in the provincial cadre of health officers during the year.

20. *Medical*.—As the method of bringing medical relief within easy reach of the rural population by means of itinerating dispensaries did not prove successful, Government decided to try the method of spreading medical relief in rural areas by offering subsidies to private medical

practitioners to induce them to open dispensaries in villages. This scheme, if effect is given to it by local boards, will also, to a certain extent, solve the problem of reducing unemployment among qualified medical practitioners. This unemployment was aggravated by the fact that owing to the reduction in the cadre the actual strength of the sub-assistant surgeons' cadre was in excess of the sanctioned strength and therefore civil medical pupils in medical colleges were not provided with appointments on passing out.

The opening of two new dispensaries was sanctioned. Six medical institutions were closed and in some places Ayurvedic dispensaries were opened in their stead. The campaign against hookworm infection (Ankylostomiasis) was continued in the City of Madras, Coimbatore district (including the Anamalai plantations) and three other districts. On the recommendation of the Medical and Public Health Retrenchment Committee a Special Officer was appointed by Government to inquire into, and report on, the working of the Presidency State Hospitals and certain selected mufassal headquarter hospitals. As a result of this inquiry Government effected certain measures of retrenchment in hospital establishments, and in the matter of diet certain limits in the average cost of a patient's diet per diem were fixed in order to prevent waste and extravagance.

The post-graduate courses which had been introduced to enable civil assistant surgeons and sub-assistant surgeons to keep themselves abreast of advances in medical science were abolished. Two efficiency bars were, however, introduced in the scale of pay of civil assistant surgeons and sub-assistant surgeons and, to enable them to keep their professional knowledge up to date, they will be allowed to avail themselves of the benefit of the study leave rules as far as possible.

A school of Indian Medicine was established in Madras by the Government and formally opened by His Excellency the Governor. It consists of three sections—the Ayurvedic, the Unani and the Siddha—and the course of instruction will extend over three years. The training given in the respective Indian systems is supplemented by a course of instruction in Anatomy and Physiology according to the Allopathic system.

✓ 21. *Education*.—The University of Madras entered a new phase of its history during the year when the controlling authorities established by the Madras University Act of 1923 began to function. There has been no indication so far of any change in the general policy of the Madras University with regard to the further affiliation and recognition of colleges in the mufassal.

At the end of 1923-24, a small but satisfactory increase in both the number of public and private educational institutions was recorded. With a view to the systematic expansion of elementary education in the Presidency, a detailed survey of the educational requirements of villages in rural areas was undertaken and, as a step towards helping local bodies which had levied the education cess and were still unable to open schools in school-less villages, Government sanctioned a subsidy of Rs. 1,61,504 to enable these bodies to open schools in 839 villages which had a population of 1,000 and over. During 1923-24, a large expansion in the number

of Muhammadan educational institutions took place especially among those intended for Mappillas. With a view to the further improvement of Mappilla education, the Government Lower Elementary Training School at Malappuram was raised to the status of a Higher Elementary Training School. Compulsory elementary education was introduced in two municipalities during the year. A new Text-Book Committee was constituted containing representatives of the District Secondary Education Boards. The Adviser to Government on Physical Education was given an assistant with a view to enlarging the scope of his activities.

✓ 22. *British Empire Exhibition*.—The Madras Court in the Indian Pavilion at the British Empire Exhibition covered a space of 11,000 square feet but owing to the heavy demand for space from private exhibitors, the space allotted for the exhibits of the various Government departments had to be reduced from 3,500 square feet to 950 square feet. The various activities of the several Government departments in the Madras Presidency were adequately represented, while Madras forests contributed some of the finest timber utilized in the All-India exhibit. The exhibits in the Madras Court as a whole comprised a wide range of articles and commodities including various raw materials, food products, textiles, lace and embroidery work, leather articles, ores and minerals, essential oils and perfumes, drugs and medicines as well as articles representative of South Indian arts and crafts.

PART II

THE REPORT

CHAPTER I

PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY

PHYSICAL

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

1. *Vide* pages 1 to 11 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921-22.

POLITICAL

HISTORICAL SUMMARY

2. *Vide* pages 12 to 40 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921-22.

FORM OF ADMINISTRATION

3. *Vide* pages 41 to 63 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921-22.

CHARACTER OF LAND TENURES

4. *Vide* pages 64 to 70 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921-22.

SYSTEM OF SURVEY

- 5. *Vide* pages 71 to 83 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921-22.

SYSTEM OF SETTLEMENTS

6. *Vide* pages 84 to 99 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921-22.

CIVIL DIVISIONS OF THE BRITISH TERRITORY

7. *Vide* pages 100 to 116 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921-22.

DETAILS OF THE CENSUS OF 1921—TRIBES AND LANGUAGES

8. *Vide* pages 117 to 120 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921-22.

CHANGES IN THE ADMINISTRATION (1923-24)

9. His Excellency the Right Hon'ble Lord (now Viscount) Willingdon, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., G.B.E., held office as Governor throughout the year. The Hon'ble Mr. (now Sir Arthur) Knapp, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., C.B.E., I.C.S., took six months' leave from the 1st May 1923 and the Hon'ble Mr. R. A. Graham, C.S.I., I.C.S., was appointed as a Temporary Member in his place. The Hon'ble Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Habib-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur, Kt., K.C.I.E., having been appointed, from the 1st November 1923, a Member of the Royal Commission on the Superior Civil Services in India, Raja V. Vasudeva Raja Avargal, Valiya Nambidi of Kollengode, C.I.E., was appointed to be a Temporary Member of Council to fill the vacancy. The Hon'ble Sir Muhammad Habib-ul-lah resumed charge of his office on the afternoon of the 31st March 1924. Upon the dissolution of the first Legislative Council with effect from the 11th September 1923, the Ministry having resigned office, the Hon'ble the Raja of Panagal and the Hon'ble Rao Bahadur (now Sir) A. P. Patro, Kt., were re-appointed by His Excellency the Governor with effect from the forenoon of the 19th November 1923. The Hon'ble Diwan Bahadur T. N. Sivagnanam Pillai Avargal was appointed from the same date in succession to the Hon'ble Sir K. Venkata Reddi Nayudu Garu, Kt.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR'S TOURS

10. On the 8th August 1923 His Excellency the Right Hon'ble Lord Willingdon, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., G.B.E., Governor of Madras, visited Bellary to open the Industrial Exhibition, and on the 8th September opened the Toludur Project Irrigation Works in the South Arcot district. From the 2nd to the 5th October His Excellency visited Cochin and Travancore and arrived in Madras on the 7th October. On their way up to Ootacamund His Excellency the Governor and Lady Willingdon halted at Vellore on the 19th December to open the new wing of the Women's Medical College, and then visited the Anamalais from the 20th to the 23rd December. His Excellency returned to Madras on the 31st December after staying in Ootacamund for a week. On the 29th January 1924 His Excellency the Governor and Lady Willingdon visited Pithapuram, where His Excellency presented to the Raja the sanad conferring the title of "Maharaja." Opportunity was taken of the visit to lay the foundation stones of the Town Hall and the Ladies' Club. His Excellency also received an address from the Pithapuram Taluk Board and inspected the Mission Hospital at Pithapuram and the Orphanage at Cocanada. His Excellency returned to Madras on the 31st January. On the 3rd February 1924 His Excellency the Governor and Lady Willingdon visited the Tuberculosis Sanatorium at Madanapalle.

RELATIONS WITH TRIBUTARY STATES *

TRAVANCORE STATE

(M.E. 1098—1922-23 A.D.)

[*Report on the administration of the Travancore State for the year M.E. 1098—1922-23 A.D.*]

[The Maharaja, His Highness Sri Padmanabha Dasa Vanchi Pala Col. Sir Rama Varma Kulasekhara Kiritapati Manne Sultan Maharaja Raja Rama Raja Bahadur Shamsher Jang, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., was born on the 25th September 1857 and has been Maharaja since the 19th August 1885. There is an heir-apparent. The area of the State is 7,625 square miles and the population in 1921 was 4,006,062]

11. In response to the invitation of His Highness the Maharaja of Cochin, His Highness the Maharaja of Travancore visited Cochin in February and March 1923. In July 1923 His Majesty the King-Emperor was graciously pleased to appoint His Highness the Maharaja Honorary Colonel of the 10th Battalion, 3rd Madras Regiment.

12. The total revenue realized during the year was Rs. 1,95,87,147 and the ordinary expenditure was Rs. 1,88,26,714, resulting in a surplus of Rs. 7,60,433. The assets of the State at the end of the year exceeded its liabilities by Rs. 70,84,834, exclusive of certain capital liabilities on account of the Railway and the Kodayar Irrigation Project. The rise in the gross revenue was chiefly attributable to increased receipts from Land Revenue, Income-tax, Salt-tax, Stamps, Interest, Education and Railways. There was a decrease in the revenue derived from Forests and Excise, while a fall in the receipts from Land Customs was partially balanced by a rise in those from Sea Customs. The decrease of Rs. 3,34,817 in expenditure was mainly due to a reduction in the number of taluks, to a fall in the expenditure on the extraction of timber from forests consequent upon the small demand for timber and to retrenchment in the Police Department. There was, however, an increase in the expenditure on Education and Medical Relief.

13. Three meetings of the Legislative Council, lasting in all for 26 days, were held during the year; two regulations were passed, five bills were referred to Select Committees and six were discussed. A Standing Finance Committee was constituted to examine the draft annual budget, while seven special committees were also appointed. The sanctioned strength of the police force was 1,938 (or 4 less than in the previous year) while the actual strength on the last day of the year was 1,908. The number of cognizable cases which required police investigation was 5,189 as against 2,937 in M.E. 1097. The total number of grave crimes reported was 1,564 as against 1,570 in the previous year, a decline in cases of culpable homicide, dacoity and robbery being partly set off by an increase in the number of thefts. The average daily strength of convicted prisoners was 435 as against 413 in the previous year. At the close of the year there were 481 prisoners in confinement as against 474 at the close of M.E. 1097. The number of prisoners confined in the lock-ups was 4,364 as against 3,754 in the preceding year. A further step was taken in the direction of the separation of judicial and executive functions by relieving most of the Tahsildars of the work of trying criminal cases and by increasing the number of Stationary Sub-Magistrates. Four first-class Benches and four second-class Benches composed of non-official gentlemen were also established. The total number of courts exercising criminal jurisdiction was, however, reduced from 79 to 62. There was an increase in the number of offences reported but a decline in the number of cases under the Penal Code. The number of juvenile accused fell from 717 to 197, while the number actually brought to trial and the number convicted

* The five Indian States in the Madras Presidency having been brought into direct political relations with the Government of India on the 1st October 1923, the paragraphs under this heading will be omitted in future Presidency Administration Reports. The submission of the administration reports of the States has been discontinued and no information is therefore available.

rose from 43 and 8 to 82 and 13, respectively. There was an increase in the file of the magistracy and in the number of cases pending at the end of the year, but each magistrate disposed of 455 cases as against 356 in the previous year. The number of persons tried in the Sessions Courts fell from 413 to 390. There was a substantial drop in the number of appeals both in the Sessions and in the High Court. The year was marked by an increase in the volume of original civil suits throughout the State. The increase was chiefly due to institutions in the Munsifs' Courts and to some extent to cases instituted in the Village Panchayat Courts. Taking the institutions as a whole, litigation increased by 6,501 suits or 9.19 per cent. There was an increase in the number of appeals in the District Courts and in the number of cases pending at the end of the year.

Civil justice

Registration The total number of documents presented for registration increased from 284,316 in M.E. 1097 to 291,517 and the aggregate value of transactions rose from Rs. 9,49,75,179 to Rs. 10,57,22,577.

Production and distribution

Agriculture 14. The season was on the whole favourable to agriculture. The wages of labour remained steady but prices of food grains went down a little. The average rainfall was 110.06 inches, or 17.62 inches more than the fall in the preceding year. Research work in Agricultural Chemistry and Entomology was continued. Energetic measures were adopted for the suppression of the coconut-leaf roller disease. Progress was also made in experimental work on the cultivation of the staple crops. The number of veterinary institutions remained the same as in the previous year. Foot and mouth disease was prevalent in six taluks and there were a few cases of other infectious diseases. Prompt measures were taken to combat these outbreaks. One hundred and fifty-one new co-operative societies were registered during the year. The total number of societies at the end of the year was 518 of which 444 were actually working. There was a slight reduction in the amount of arrears of both capital and interest but the progress made was not very satisfactory. There were 157 factories in existence at the end of M.E. 1098 as against 146 in M.E. 1097. The largest class of factories were those for the manufacture of black tea. The total number of operatives employed was 25,861 and the average daily wages ranged from 2 annas to Rs. 2-12-0. The value of external trade was Rs. 13,33,36,756 as against Rs. 12,34,65,157 in M.E. 1097. Exports accounted for 62 per cent of the total trade as against 60 per cent in the previous year, the value of imports decreasing proportionately. One hundred and ninety-two steamers called at the ports as compared with 129 in the previous year. This increase is attributed to the increase in shipping and landing dues at the Port of Cochin.

Veterinary

Co-operative societies

Factories

Trade

Marine

Public health 15. The birth-rate and the death-rate declined from 17.58 and 11.46 per mille in M.E. 1097 to 17.21 and 11.34, respectively. The number of deaths from smallpox was 320 and there was only one case of cholera and one case of plague during the year. The total number of vaccinations performed was 263,944 as against 233,727 in the previous year. Twenty-nine hospitals and 31 dispensaries were maintained, the number of in-patients being 20,834 as against 19,947 in M.E. 1097 and that of out-patients 970,388 as against 960,291.

Hospitals

Education 16. The total number of recognized institutions in the State rose from 3,197 to 3,294 and their strength from 402,181 to 427,143. The system of according partial recognition to schools was abolished. There were 783 private unrecognized schools with a strength of 25,768.

COCHIN STATE

(M.E. 1098—17TH AUGUST 1922 TO 16TH AUGUST 1923)

[Report on the administration of the Cochin State for the year M.E. 1098]

[His Highness Maharaja Sri Sir Rama Varma, G.C.I.E., was born on the 6th October 1858 and became Maharaja on the abdication of his uncle on the 7th December 1914. The heir-apparent, Rama Varma, was born on the 30th December 1861. The State has an area of 1,417½ square miles and a population of 979,080. It pays an annual subsidy of Rs. 2,00,000.]

17. His Highness the Maharaja of Travancore visited the State in **General** February and March 1923. Prominent among the other guests of His Highness during the year were the Hon'ble Sir Charles Todhunter, Mr. C. W. E. Cotton, I.C.S., Madras, the Hon'ble the Raja of Panagal, the Hon'ble Sir Venkata Reddi Nayudu Garu and the Hon'ble Raja Vasudeva Raja of Kollengode. Two darbars were held by the British Resident during the year for the purpose of conveying the grant by His Majesty the King-Emperor of the dignity of "Companion of the Imperial Service Order" to the Diwan M.R.Ry. Rao Bahadur P. Narayana Menon Avargal, the sanad of the title of Rao Sahib to Mr. P. K. Varughese and the sanad of the title of Rao Bahadur to the Chief Judge of the Chief Court, Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar.

18. The total revenue realized during the year was Rs. 74,60,952 and **Revenue and finance** the total expenditure incurred was Rs. 74,76,101, entailing a net deficit of Rs. 15,149. In M.E. 1097 the revenue amounted to Rs. 55,46,463 and the expenditure to Rs. 55,28,759. There was a large increase in the revenue derived from the railway during the year, and all other sources of revenue, except land revenue and stamps, provided larger contributions to the exchequer than in the previous year. The excess in the expenditure over that of the previous year was mainly due to greatly increased outgoings for the railway and for public works. The cash balance to the credit of the State at the end of the year was Rs. 34,18,670, of which Rs. 18,39,898 was in actual cash and Rs. 15,78,772 in securities or loans.

19. Nine regulations were passed during the year and ten rules were **Protection and legis-** issued under the regulations in force. The police force consisted of 92 **lation** officers and 547 men and the ratio of effective police to the population was 1 to 1,602.3 persons as compared with 1 to 1,605.5 persons in the **Police** previous year. The total number of cases that required investigation by the police was 785 as against 745 in M.E. 1097. The number of grave crimes rose from 451 in M.E. 1097 to 463; the perpetrators were detected in 61.8 per cent of these cases as against 52 per cent in the previous year. There was no change in the number of Courts exercising jurisdiction in **Criminal justice** criminal cases. Of the 2,293 cases for disposal in Magistrates' Courts, sentence was pronounced in 2,185, leaving 108 pending as against 132 at the end of the previous year. In the Sessions Court thirty-eight out of forty-six cases were disposed of before the end of the year. There was an increase in the appellate work in all Courts except the Chief Court. The average daily population of the Central Jail was 146.40 as against **Jails** 120.61 in the previous year. There was also a rise in the number of convicts classed as "habituals." The number of tribunals exercising civil **Civil justice** jurisdiction remained the same as in the previous year. The number of suits instituted rose from 16,512 in M.E. 1097 to 16,991 and 860 appeals were lodged as against 855 in that year. The number of documents **Registration** registered in registrars' offices rose from 52,943 in the previous year to 55,525 and nine new joint stock companies were registered as against eight in M.E. 1097.

20. The total area under occupation and cultivation during the **Production and distri-** year was 504,205 acres as against 503,874 acres in M.E. 1097. The **bution** extent under kole cultivation, however, decreased from 16,596 to 15,761 acres. The aggregate demand under "Land Revenue" amounted to Rs. 12,05,206, of which a sum of Rs. 12,03,285 was collected, the percentage of collection to current demand being 99.9. There was a decrease

Agriculture

in the total expenditure under "Land Revenue," less being spent on leave allowances and the maintenance of survey records. Experimental work was continued in the Government Central Farm at Ollukara and works for improving the experimental coconut and paddy station in the Cochin Kanayannūr taluk were started. The endeavours of the Agricultural Department to popularize the use of spraying machines for combating the *mahali* disease of arecanut palms met with signal success. Seven societies were newly registered during the year and there were 104 societies in existence at the end of the year as against 98 in M.E. 1097. The total number of members rose from 12,175 to 13,327 and the total receipts from subscriptions from Rs. 1,25,501 to Rs. 1,43,949. Repayments continued to be fairly satisfactory. The extent of reserved forests remained the same, viz., 593 square miles. The result of the working of the Forest Department was a surplus of Rs. 2,16,211 as against Rs. 1,65,188 in the preceding year. The South Indian Railway Company continued to work the State Railway. The accounts for M.E. 1097 were not received and brought to book until M.E. 1098. The net earnings for the two years came to Rs. 4,45,855 which gave a return of 5.93 per cent on the capital outlay.

Co-operative societies

Forests

Railway

Medical

Vital statistics

Medical relief

Vaccination and inoculation

Education

21. Apart from an outbreak of smallpox in sporadic form which resulted in 630 deaths, public health was satisfactory during the year. The registered birth-rate per mille of the population fell from 14.60 in M.E. 1097 to 13.40 in M.E. 1098 and the death-rate rose from 9.42 to 10.18. There were thirty-six medical institutions in the State as against thirty-three in the previous year and the total number of patients treated was 351,674 as against 310,442. The number of vaccinations performed during the year was 53,974 as against 42,004 in M.E. 1097, a higher percentage of success being also obtained.

22. The number of Government schools fell from 167 to 161, while the number of aided schools rose from 269 to 270. The number of pupils in Government schools was 40,162 and in aided schools 53,271, as against 39,085 and 48,313, respectively, in M.E. 1097. Of the 1,074 candidates who appeared for the School Final examination 328 were declared eligible for public service.

PUDUKKÖTTAI STATE

(FASLI 1333—1ST JULY 1923 TO 30TH JUNE 1924)

[Report on the administration of Pudukkōttai for fasli 1333]

[The Raja, His Highness Sri Brihadamba Das Raja Sir Martanda Bhairava Tondaiman Bahadur, G.C.I.E., is a Kallar by caste and is 48 years of age. The population of the State, according to the census of 1921, is 426,813. The Raja pays no tribute and maintains a military force of 19 cavalry and 110 infantry]

General

23. During the absence of His Highness the Raja, who continued to reside in Europe with his family, the administration of the State was conducted by the Regent, assisted by the Diwan. The Representative Assembly and the Legislative Advisory Council were superseded in April 1924 by the creation of a single institution styled the Pudukkōttai Legislative Council, based on a wider franchise and possessing larger powers. Owing to the time required for the election of its members the new Council did not assemble before the close of the fasli.

Revenue and finance

24. The actual receipts for the year amounted to Rs. 21.35 lakhs, or Rs. 1.82 lakhs less than those of the preceding year. The chief cause of this difference was the absence of the extraordinary items of credit referred to in last year's administration report. Actually there was an increase in the revenue derived from all the ordinary sources of revenue. In the same manner a decrease of Rs. 22.15 lakhs in the expenditure of the State was mainly due to the inclusion in the expenditure for the previous

year of a sum of Rs. 20 lakhs which was transferred to His Highness the Raja. Apart from this, however, there was a decrease of Rs. 2.15 lakhs in the expenditure when compared with that of the previous year.

25. The agricultural year was favourable for wet crops but dry crops suffered from want of rain in the earlier part of the year. There was an appreciable rise in the price of all food grains except rice. The condition of the cattle was good; there were no epidemics and pasture and fodder were sufficient. Four agricultural instructors were employed during the year to demonstrate agricultural methods, three touring in the taluks and one being in charge of the Agricultural Farm at Pudukkōttai. Eighteen new co-operative societies were registered during the year, the total number working at the close of the year being 79. These included three weavers' societies, two consisting of silk weavers and the other of cotton weavers. The societies as a whole showed progress in all directions. Expenditure under the head of public works fell from Rs. 5.03 lakhs in fasli 1332 to Rs. 3.96 lakhs. About 50 per cent of the amount expended under this head was applied to minor irrigation. Two new roads were constructed, an earth road was metalled and progress was made in the construction of a bridge across the Periyār river. Altogether, 437 miles of road, of which 315 miles were either gravelled or metalled, were maintained by the Public Works Department.

26. The Legislative Advisory Council met twice before its dissolution and discussed several amending regulations. Ten Regulations including the Pudukkōttai Legislative Council Regulation were passed during the year. The strength of the police force was slightly reduced. The number of crimes continued to decrease and there was a small increase in the standard of detection, which was, however, still unduly low. The conduct of the force was, on the whole, satisfactory. The number of cases that came up for inquiry or trial before magistrates fell from 7,367 in the previous year to 6,464. The average duration of trials before magistrates was 10.17 days as against 9.13 in the previous year. Only 13 per cent of the persons accused of offences under the Indian Penal Code and brought to trial were convicted. The total number of institutions in civil courts rose from 10,219 in the previous year to 11,169. For the State as a whole one suit was instituted for every thirty-eight persons of the population. There was also an increase in the number of appeals presented to the appellate courts. The working of the Chief Court was satisfactory, the percentage of disposals being higher and the average duration of a trial being less than in the previous year. There was no change in the number of jails. The average daily population of the Central Jail fell from 91.76 to 73.67. The health of the prisoners was good. A Board of Honorary Visitors was constituted during the year and their visits were regular and useful.

27. The health of the public was good throughout the year. The registered birth-rate was 21.77 per mille as against 20.84 per mille in the previous year and the registered death-rate 17.07 per mille as against 17.74 per mille. Infant mortality continued to be high and contributed 18 per cent of the total deaths. There was a fall in the number of labour cases attended to by trained midwives or qualified medical men. The daily average of patients treated in State medical institutions rose from 918 in the previous year to 973. The temporary ayurvedic dispensary was established permanently and continued to be popular. Though vaccination was compulsory, the number of persons successfully vaccinated during the year decreased and the work of the vaccinators was found to be far from satisfactory.

28. The number of educational institutions in the State rose from 564 to 574 during the year and, including pupils in private schools, the number of pupils receiving instruction rose from 29,529 to 30,265. There was one school for every 2.06 square miles or for every 743 inhabitants. The boys and girls who attended schools in rural areas formed 48.44 per cent of the total population of school-going age as against 43.88 in the

Production and distribution

Public works

Protection and legislation

Police

Criminal justice

Civil justice

Jails

Vital statistics and medical services

Education

previous year. The expenditure on education was Rs. 1,73,303 as against Rs. 1,80,899 in fasli 1332. Forty-three schools were maintained exclusively for the education of children belonging to the depressed classes. The number of pupils on the rolls of the college increased from 560 to 570. Of the forty-five students who sat for the Intermediate examination, thirty passed in both parts, while of the sixty-two students who sat for the Secondary School Leaving Certificate examination thirty-five were declared eligible for the University course.

BANGANAPALLE STATE

[Administration Report of the Banganapalle State for the official year 1923-24]

[The Nawab of Banganapalle, Mir Fazl Ali Khan Bahadur, succeeded his father as ruler of the State in January 1922. He maintains no army and pays no tribute. The area of the State is 275 square miles and its population 36,646]

General

29. The year was signalized by the marriage of the Nawab Sahib with the only daughter of Nawab Mir Asad Ali Khan Sahib Bahadur and by the marriage of the Nawab Sahib's sister with Saiyid Raza Ali Khan Bahadur. The Diwan, Khan Bahadur Khaja Akber Hussain Sahib, retired after 33 years' service to the State. He was succeeded by Khan Bahadur Muhammad Habib-ul-lah Khan Sahib.

Finance

30. The total revenue, exclusive of receipts under debt heads, fell from Rs. 3,99,825 in 1922-23 to Rs. 3,69,535. Expenditure under service heads also fell from Rs. 3,38,228 to Rs. 3,26,277 but with the inclusion of expenditure under debt heads the expenditure increased by Rs. 4,404.

Protection

31. There was an increase in crime, probably owing to an unfavourable season, but there was a decrease in the proportion of crimes detected. The number of convicts admitted to the jail during the year was 37. There was a slight decrease in the number and value of documents presented for registration but, owing to enhanced rates, the revenue from this source slightly increased.

Production and distribution

32. The rainfall during the year was insufficient and some of the crops failed in a number of the western villages. Fodder also was scarce but there was no disease among the cattle. The State forests continued to be worked on the permit and lease systems. Plantations of valuable trees were tended and satisfactorily maintained. The gross revenue from forests was Rs. 13,564 as compared with Rs. 12,413 in the previous year.

Medical

33. The average daily number of out-patients treated in the hospital was 90.6 as against 84.08 in the previous year and the average number of in-patients 7.23 as against 6. There were 1,241 births and 585 deaths registered during the year as against 1,081 and 686, respectively, in the previous year. The number of vaccinations performed was 2,789 as against 1,877 in the previous year and there was a substantial decline in the number of unsuccessful cases. As in the previous year, glycerine lymph, supplied by the King Institute, Guindy, was used.

Education

34. There was an increase in the number of both boys and girls who attended schools during the year. The number of the latter rose from 404 in the previous year to 430. The result of the annual examinations was satisfactory.

CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE

(FASLI 1333—1ST JULY 1923 TO 30TH JUNE 1924)

[Season and Crop Report for fasli 1333 ; Statistical Abstract for British India—Prices and Wages in India]

35. There were no tracts requiring special notice on the ground of any permanent lowering in the standard of agricultural prosperity. Stocks of grain were generally sufficient, the deficit in the districts affected by scarcity having been made up by imports from outside. The prices of food-grains were at first generally lower than in the previous fasli but rose steadily owing to the unfavourable season except in Rāmnād, Tinnevely and South Kanara. The prices at the end of the fasli were generally high, especially in Ganjām, Vizagapatam, Gōdāvari, the Deccan and the Central districts. The high price of sugar was maintained owing to the large demand for Java sugar in European countries and the average price was even higher than in the previous year; there was much fluctuation, however, in the local prices, the price coming down in August and September 1923 owing to heavy receipts from Bombay and Java and rising again steadily till it reached the old level in March. There was an abnormal demand for jaggery from the United Kingdom as the price compared favourably with that of molasses and crude sugars from Mauritius; the price of jaggery was therefore higher than in the previous year. Prices of articles of import declined except in the case of sugar and cotton twist and yarn. The prices of important articles of export such as cotton, hides, raw skins, tea, castor, copra and rubber showed an advance but the prices of groundnut, oil-cakes, manures, pepper and coffee showed a decline. Except in the tracts where scarcity prevailed, wages continued high and employment was generally available. The casual labourer was not so hard hit generally as the small agriculturist and tenant farmer. In Ganjām, Vizagapatam, Anantapur and Salem, labourers emigrated in fairly large numbers to Burma and the plantations in Assam and Ceylon. The year was generally bad and harvests were poor except in the deltas and the South but, owing to the mobility of agricultural produce due to facilities for railway and road transport, distress was not much felt except in the areas where famine was declared. The unfavourable season restricted progress in the demonstration of agricultural improvements by the Department of Agriculture, especially in the Deccan, where sufficient seed of improved varieties of cholan and cotton could not be laid in for next year's work, and in Chittoor and North Arcot. The delta ryot had a prosperous season. The condition of the people was not satisfactory in parts of Ganjām and Vizagapatam owing to the uneven distribution of rain and the damage caused by the cyclone but was fairly satisfactory in the rest of the Circars. The position of the Deccan ryot was very unsatisfactory, especially in Bellary and Anantapur. As a result of three bad seasons in the last five years, his stores of food-grains and fodder became depleted and he was faced with the necessity of purchasing his food at very high prices. The increasing cultivation of industrial crops like cotton and groundnut had no doubt given him more money but left him with less stocks of food to meet such a contingency. Some of the smaller ryots had to sell their lands and cattle to richer neighbours or money-lenders. The season was not much better in the greater parts of the Central districts but there was no distress owing to the fair harvests of the previous year. The condition of the ryot in the southern districts was fair. The West Coast ryot got a good paddy crop in September on high-lying lands but his condition was not very satisfactory owing to the damage by floods in July and August, the failure of the second crop season, the poor coconut crop and the low yield and price of pepper. The insufficiency of manures continued to be a serious handicap to the increased yield of crops in general.

POLITICAL PENSIONS (1923-24)

36. The political pensions in force on the 1st April 1923 amounted to Rs. 2,59,612-2-0 and were distributed among 466 pensioners. During the year under report pensions amounting to Rs. 2,021-13-0 were newly sanctioned and pensions amounting to Rs. 8,623-9-0 lapsed. Eighteen pensioners died during the year, the pensions of nine persons were commuted, three pensions were transferred to other provinces and one lapsed as the pensioner attained his majority. Ten pensioners were newly added to the list. The pensions in force on the 1st April 1924 amounted to Rs. 2,53,010-6-0 and were distributed among 445 pensioners. The payments made to the Carnatic stipendiaries and the Tanjore family aggregated to Rs. 1,91,706-13-8 and Rs. 29,719-9-11, respectively. The former amount includes a sum of Rs. 2,517 which represents commutations.

CHAPTER II

ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND

SOURCES AND REALIZATION OF LAND REVENUE.

(FASLI 1332—1ST. JULY 1922 TO 30TH JUNE 1923)

[Report on the settlement of Land Revenue for fasli 1332; Statistical Abstract for British India—Financial Statistics—Land Revenue]

37. There was no change in the nature of the sources from which the land revenue of the Presidency is derived. The total current demand under land revenue and cesses was Rs. 8,18,07,670 as against Rs. 8,00,16,689 in fasli 1331. Rupees 7,93,52,058 were collected within the fasli and Rs. 2,510 were written off the accounts. The total amount of peshkash payable within the fasli was Rs. 49,79,964 as against Rs. 49,86,020 in the preceding year. The quit-rent payable on villages held on shrotri-yam or favourable terms was Rs. 7,52,774 as against Rs. 7,53,172 in the preceding year. The total extent of ryotwari holdings during the year was 26·32 million acres which exceeded the extent of the previous year by 87,157 acres. The increase was contributed by all the districts except Vizagapatam, Bellary, Salem and the Agency division. The increase was marked in Anantapur (16,346 acres) and was ascribed, as in the previous year, to the growing demand for land. The increase of 14,289 acres in South Arcot was due to fresh assignments and to the adoption of resurvey areas in the Vriddhachalam taluk. The total assessment on holdings was Rs. 543·60 lakhs as against Rs. 541·27 lakhs, the revised figure for the previous year. The increase of Rs. 2,32,811 was shared by all districts except Vizagapatam and Anjengo. The marked increase in South Arcot (Rs. 1,18,886) was due to the introduction of resettlement rates in the Vriddhachalam taluk. The total area cultivated in ryotwari holdings during the year was 19·82 million acres as compared with 19·84 million acres in the previous fasli. The area under dry cultivation, 14,933,260 acres, showed a decrease of 32,353 acres and that under wet, 4,882,458 acres, an increase of 7,058 acres. The decrease under dry was marked in Anantapur and was due to the want of sufficient rain. Including the area under "miscellaneous cultivation" the total area cultivated was 20·77 million acres as against 20·86 million acres in the previous year. The revenue derived from water-rate and second-crop charge amounted to Rs. 34·49 lakhs as against Rs. 32·60 lakhs in fasli 1331. The increase was large in North Arcot, South Arcot and Chingleput and was due to the favourable character of the season. As compared with the previous year, there were decreases under "season remissions" and "fixed remissions" and an increase under "beriz deductions," the net decrease under all three heads amounting to Rs. 64,103. The receipts from "miscellaneous revenue" amounted to Rs. 107·96 lakhs as against Rs. 100·27 lakhs in the previous year. The net ryotwari demand, including water-rate, second-crop charge and miscellaneous revenue and deducting remissions, amounted to Rs. 667·16 lakhs as against Rs. 654·61 lakhs (revised figure) in the previous fasli. The current demand under cesses increased from Rs. 81,64,813 in fasli 1331 to Rs. 87,15,070. The total balance outstanding at the end of the fasli including both arrears and current was Rs. 26,37,525.

Sources of
land revenue

Peshkash

Quit-rent

Assessment
on ryotwari
lands

Remissions

Miscellaneous

38. The charges of district administration, including the salaries and allowances of revenue inspectors but excluding those of the village establishment, were Rs. 1,08,07,870 or 13.23 per cent of the land revenue and cesses realized, the ratio in the preceding fasli being 13 per cent. The village service charges (including proprietary estates) during the fasli amounted to Rs. 1,20,50,640. Including this sum the total charges were Rs. 2,28,58,510 or 27.97 per cent of the collections of land revenue and cesses.

39. The revenue was collected without much difficulty although there was a considerable increase in the total number of processes issued which numbered 1,021,355 when compared with the number issued in fasli 1331 and the previous two faslis. There was also a considerable increase in the ratio borne by the number of distraints and attachments to that of demand notices. Out of 111,939 defaulters whose property was attached, 60,799 or 54.31 per cent paid the arrears before the sale notices were issued. The number of defaulters whose property was sold was greater than in the preceding fasli. There was a noticeable increase in South Arcot, which is attributed to the tightness of the money market. The percentage of actual sales to sale notices was 12.87 as against 12.78 in fasli 1331 and the percentage of the number of defaulters to the total number of pattas was 0.13 as against 0.10. Immovable property of the estimated value of Rs. 11,26,587 was sold for the recovery of arrears amounting to Rs. 2,38,719, the amount realized being Rs. 1,68,976. The extent of land sold during the year was 8,276 acres under "dry" and 2,335 acres under "wet" as against 10,509 acres under "dry" and 1,737 under "wet" in fasli 1331. The total area of land bought in by Government for want of bidders was 6,773 acres of dry and 643 acres of wet land as against 5,180 acres of dry and 523 acres of wet land in fasli 1331. The number of processes served by special agency was less than in the previous fasli.

40. The number of applications for transfer of revenue registration received during the fasli from sub-registrars was 316,706 as against 332,319 in the previous fasli, the decrease being about 4.70 per cent; applications received directly by the revenue staff rose from 75,328 in the previous fasli to 94,278 or by about 25.16 per cent. The total number of applications of all kinds that required to be dealt with in the fasli, including the number pending disposal at its beginning, was 560,475; of this number, 440,657 were disposed of during the fasli, leaving a balance of 119,818 as against 150,513 in the previous year. Of the total number of applications dealt with, 6.35 per cent were rejected.

41. The advances made under the Land Improvement Loans Act during the year amounted to Rs. 7.61 lakhs and those under the Agriculturists' Loans Act to 7.20—a total of 14.81 lakhs as against 21.38 lakhs in fasli 1331. The advances granted in Kurnool and Bellary showed a considerable decrease as, owing to famine, loans had been granted on a large scale in the previous year. There was an increase in the amount advanced in Rāmnād, which was due to the grant of a large loan to the Raja of Rāmnād for the repair of certain railway-affected tanks in his zamindari. Of the sums repayable under the Acts on account of principal, 73.4 per cent under the Land Improvement Loans Act and 70.6 per cent under the Agriculturists' Loans Act were collected. The aggregate amount of principal and interest repayable during the year under both the Acts was Rs. 24,40,982, of which 15.6 per cent was collected without resorting to coercion and 51.1 per cent after the issue of demand notices. The balance outstanding at the end of the year was Rs. 6,79,910 as against Rs. 6,80,693 in the previous year.

SURVEYS (1923-24)

[Report on the administration of the Survey Department for the official year 1923-24 : G.O. No. 1685, Revenue, dated the 31st October 1924]

42. As in the previous year there were eight survey parties at work. Parties Of these, three were solely employed on the resurvey of ryotwari areas in the Anantapur and Malabar districts; two, partly on the resurvey of the delta taluks in the Kistna district and partly on the survey of the big estates of Tirumalai Devasthanam in the Chingleput district and of the Kannivādi zamindari in the Madura district; and two more, entirely on the survey of estates. The remaining party had very little original field work and was engaged mostly on the preparation of maps for the large areas already resurveyed in the Trichinopoly district.

43. The total out-turn of the survey parties engaged upon the cadastral resurvey of ryotwari areas was 1,999 square miles as against the forecast of 1,877 square miles. The excess of the actual over the anticipated out-turn was due to the easy nature of the resurvey of large tracts in the Anantapur district, which alone accounted for 1,283 square miles. Rain and floods, however, retarded the operations for over three months in the Ernād and Walavanād taluks in the Malabar district. An aggregate of 427 square miles in the Kistna district and 1,283 square miles in the Anantapur district was resurveyed. In Trichinopoly the resurvey of the three remaining taluks, comprising 60 square miles, was completed. Sixty-two square miles in Walavanād and 155 square miles in Ernād were resurveyed and the forecast would have been largely exceeded but for the unfavourable weather. Minor surveys were carried out in South Kanara, Tanjore, Gōdāvari and other places. Surveys of large proprietary estates were in progress in the districts of Kistna, Chingleput, Tanjore, Madura and Rāmnād. In Kistna 74 square miles of canal-irrigated non-Government villages were surveyed at Government cost. The survey of Kachinād taluk (Tirumalai Devasthanam villages) in the Chingleput district was completed by the survey of 54 square miles, and that of the chattram villages in Tanjore was taken up and completed, 104 square miles being covered. In the Madura district the survey of the Kannivādi estate was concluded by a survey of 65 square miles, and five taluks of the Sivaganga estate, measuring 324 square miles, in the Rāmnād district were surveyed. Small extents of proprietary areas, aggregating 29.9 square miles, were also surveyed. The survey of Ongole municipality was completed. Work in the street survey of the union of Ariyalūr was started in July, but was stopped the next month owing to serious obstruction by the residents. In January, however, an advisory committee was formed and the survey was resumed. The number of inspections made by gazetted officers of the department was 1,330, of which 18 disclosed bad work—a percentage of 1.4 as in the preceding year. All work discovered to be bad was revised.

44. The total expenditure of the department during the year was Rs. 20,72,587 as against Rs. 20,55,310 in the previous year.

SETTLEMENTS (1923-24)

[Report on the administration of the Settlement Department for the year 1923-24 : G.O. No. 1685, Revenue, dated the 31st October 1924]

45. There were four settlement parties at work during the year Parties under report. Party No. I worked in the Tanjore district, Party No. II in the districts of South Arcot, North Arcot and Chingleput, Party No. III in the districts of Bellary and Anantapur, and Party No. IV in the districts of Trichinopoly, Madura, Rāmnād and Tinnevely. Party No. V was kept in abeyance during the year, while the work connected with the resettlement of the Nilgiri and Malabar Wynaads continued up to the 31st December.

Operations
Bellary and
Anantapur

North Arcot

Chingleput

South Arcot

Tanjore

Trichinopoly

Madura

Rāmnād
TinnevelyThe Nilgiri
and Malabar
Wynaads

Registers

Finance

46. In the black soil taluks of the Bellary and Anantapur districts the introduction of the new rates was completed, but in view of the seasonal conditions the difference between the revised and existing rates of assessment was remitted on all lands except those irrigated by the Tungabhadra channels. In the red soil taluks of the Bellary district, viz., Hospet, Hadagalli, Harpanahalli, Kūdligi and Rāyadrug, the introduction of the new rates was postponed to fasli 1334 (1924-25). In the North Arcot district the issue of addenda slips to the printed diglot registers, consequent on the reclassification of lands registered as grazing ground poramboke at the resettlement, was almost completed. Settlement was introduced in the resumed inam village of Erivākkam in the Conjeeveram taluk of the Chingleput district and fair accounts embodying the new rates were handed over to the Revenue Department. In the South Arcot district fair accounts for 125 villages were furnished to the Revenue Department, the reports on the introduction of resettlement rates in the Chidambaram and Vriddhāchalam taluks were submitted and the survey and classification of thirteen disafforested blocks situated in five taluks were completed. In the Tanjore district the hearing of objections to rough pattas was completed and fair accounts based on the new rates were furnished to the Revenue Department for the remaining 288 villages in the taluks of Tirutturaippūndi, North Tanjore, Shiyali and Pāpanāsam, for all the 59 villages of Pattukkōttai and for 126 villages of the Kumbakōnam taluk, as well as for several villages included in municipalities. As regards the taluks for which fair accounts based on the resurvey had already been furnished, revised accounts incorporating the new rates were supplied for the whole of the Nannilam taluk and for the remaining portions of South Tanjore, Mannārgudi, Māyavaram and Negapatam. In the Trichinopoly district the revision of adangals and the preliminary field inspection were in progress in five taluks; in Musiri taluk fair accounts based on the resurvey for fifty-four villages were handed over to the Revenue Department; and finally the scheme report for the resettlement of the district was submitted. In the Madura district the field inspection by classifiers was completed in eight out of the sixteen villages of the Kodaikānal taluk and diglot registers were prepared for twenty-nine out of the thirty whole inam villages. In the Rāmnād district the final scrutiny of the survey records of the resumed inam village of Kunankulam was completed and in the Tinnevely district preliminary accounts were prepared for seventeen villages included in three municipalities. The final scrutiny of the survey records was completed in all the villages in the Nilgiri and Malabar Wynaads.

47. The resettlement registers of 1,198 villages were sent to the Press from the Settlement Party offices and those of 805 villages were printed and despatched to Collectors.

48. The total expenditure during the year, including the cost of printing and binding resettlement registers, amounted to Rs. 11,74,785 as against Rs. 8,47,520 in 1922-23.

LAND RECORDS (1923-24)

[Report on the administration of the Land Records Department for the year 1923-24; G.O. No. 1685, Revenue, dated the 31st October 1924]

General

49. The reports of Collectors showed that, in the absence of any special agency for supervision, the maintenance of land records was deteriorating. During the year the Commissioner inspected maintenance work in nine districts and found a most unsatisfactory state of affairs in each.

50. Regular maintenance was in progress throughout the Presidency, except in portions of the South Arcot, Tanjore, Trichinopoly and North Arcot districts. In the excepted tracts in the South Arcot and Tanjore districts regular maintenance was not commenced pending the completion of operations preliminary to maintenance. The excepted tracts in the Trichinopoly district were under resurvey. In certain taluks in the Kistna delta, in the Gōdāvari district and in parts of Malabar where resurvey was taking place or was about to take place, maintenance was confined to the measurement of current subdivisions and the replacement of stones on poramboke boundaries. Satisfactory progress was made in the check-measurement of subdivisions, but the arrears of mapping increased considerably in many districts. Stone maintenance work was again unsatisfactory in many districts. The total number of stones requiring attention decreased by 14 per cent, while there was a decrease of 13 per cent in the number of stones repaired or replaced. There was a net increase of 6 per cent in the arrears at the end of the year. The fees charged for the time and labour of the revenue staff for the renewal and repair of stones amounted to Rs. 35,388-4-0. The fees levied and collected after the Survey and Boundaries Act of 1923 came into force were refunded to the parties concerned. The condition of the great trigonometrical stations and bench marks was generally satisfactory.

51. Fifteen joint survey schools were held during the year in various districts by tahsildars specially appointed for the purpose, and 357 subordinates were trained. The training of karnams was conducted by competent firka revenue inspectors and schools were held in all districts except North Arcot and the Nilgiris.

52. The question whether the town and union surveys should be transferred to the control of the municipalities or local boards concerned was still under the consideration of Government. The Commissioner inspected the town surveys in five municipalities and found that the work of town surveyors had deteriorated. The maintenance of land records in Madras City was satisfactory.

Training

Maintenance
of town and
union
surveys

WASTE LANDS

(FASLI 1333—1ST JULY 1923 TO 30TH JUNE 1924)

[Season and Crop Report for the agricultural year 1923-24]

53. The total area of the Presidency for which detailed information was received was 90·420 million acres, of which a net extent of 32·293 million acres was under cultivation as against 32·997 million acres in the preceding fasli. The area classed as forest increased from 13·108 million acres to 13·226 million acres, while 21·403 million acres (or 0·084 million acres more than in the previous fasli) were not available for cultivation. Of the remainder, 11·122 million acres were fallow and 12·376 million acres formed culturable waste other than fallow, as against 10·211 million acres and 12·171 million acres, respectively, in the previous fasli.

GOVERNMENT ESTATES

54. There is nothing to record under this head for the Presidency.

WARDS' ESTATES

(FASLI 1332—1ST JULY 1922 TO 30TH JUNE 1923)

*[Report on the administration of the estates under the Court of Wards:
(in the Madras Presidency for fasli 1332 1922-23)]*Estates
under
manage-
mentEstates
handed over

55. Of the twenty-one estates that were under the Court's superintendence at the end of fasli 1331, the Shērmuhammadpuram estate in the Vizagapatam district was handed over to the proprietrix's half-brother, the Pedda Mēraṅgi estate was handed over to the Collector appointed as Receiver by the Civil Court and the Kadambūr estate was restored to its proprietor on his attaining his majority. The Bodokhemidi (or Pedda Kimedi) estate in the Ganjām district and Ilayarasanendal, Part I, in the Tinnevely district were taken under superintendence on the 21st October 1922 and the 28th July 1922, respectively, in consequence of the minority of their proprietors. Thus the number of estates under the Court's management at the end of fasli 1332, including Ūttumalai, which still continued under formal superintendence, was twenty. The Kadambūr estate was under the Court's management for nearly fifteen years. During this period the land revenue demand of the estate rose from Rs. 13,910 in fasli 1318 to Rs. 15,519 in fasli 1331; debts amounting to Rs. 14,960 were paid off and Rs. 10,624 were spent on improvements to pannai tanks and estate buildings. In April 1919 the ward passed the Matriculation examination from the Newington Institution in Madras. He went through the Intermediate course in the Hindu College at Tinnevely, but failed to pass the public examination. He underwent training in the details of the estate administration for about a year under the Estate Manager prior to taking over charge. In consequence of the heavy law charges incurred some time before rendition, it was possible to hand over only Rs. 1,092 to the proprietor when he took charge. Shērmuhammadpuram was handed over with the sanction of Government, as the ward's title to the estate was not free from doubt and there were other peculiar difficulties connected with its management. The Court divested itself of the management of the Pedda Mēraṅgi estate, as the succession to the estate after the late ward's demise was under litigation which was likely to be prolonged and there was no ward on whose behalf the Court of Wards could continue to be in charge for an indefinite period.

Finance
Demand,
collection and
balance

56. Leaving out of account the Pedda Mēraṅgi and Shērmuhammadpuram estates which were restored in the early part of the fasli and the Ūttumalai estate which was under the direct management of the Civil Court Receiver, the gross current demand of the estates amounted to Rs. 30.31 lakhs. Excluding remissions which amounted to Rs. 0.09 lakh, the net demand was Rs. 30.22 lakhs. Among the seventeen estates which were under management during both the faslis 1331 and 1332, there was a net increase of Rs. 1.58 lakhs in the demand of fasli 1332, which was the result of increases (Rs. 1.75 lakhs) in eleven estates and decreases (Rs. 0.17 lakh) in six others. The bulk of the total increase occurred in Sivaganga (Rs. 1,11,279) and was presumably due to the favourable character of the season and the discovery of encroachments during the course of survey. Of the total current demand of Rs. 30.22 lakhs, Rs. 22.51 lakhs were collected and Rs. 0.11 lakh written off during the fasli, leaving a balance of Rs. 7.60 lakhs at its close. Excluding subsequent collections, remissions and amounts which Collectors and Estate Collectors recommended for remissions after the close of the fasli, the net recoverable balance on the 1st October 1923 amounted to Rs. 7.10 lakhs or 23.4 per cent of the demand. The balance was nil in Mētrātti, Māmbārai and Kadambūr, and less than 5 per cent in five other estates, while in six estates it exceeded 25 per cent. Excluding the Pedda Mēraṅgi, Shērmuhammadpuram and Ūttumalai estates, the arrear demand of the remaining estates at the beginning of the fasli amounted to Rs. 11.13 lakhs, of which Rs. 5.87 lakhs were outstanding at its close. There were no outstanding arrears in

Māmbārai and Kadambūr. In seven estates the balances were below Rs. 1,000, in three below Rs. 5,000, and in two others below Rs. 10,000. In the remaining six estates, the outstanding balance exceeded Rs. 10,000. Excluding Pedda Mēraṅgi, Shērmuhammadpuram and Ūttumalai, the aggregate cash balance of the other estates at the beginning of the fasli was Rs. 5.61 lakhs. The total cash receipts during the fasli amounted to Rs. 40.44 lakhs. The total assets in cash of the fasli were thus Rs. 46.05 lakhs. Deducting from this the total expenditure aggregating Rs. 40.30 lakhs, the cash balance at the close of the fasli was Rs. 5.75 lakhs. Including Government promissory notes and other securities of the aggregate face value of Rs. 3.13 lakhs held on behalf of some of the estates and the estimated value of grain on hand at the end of the fasli, viz., Rs. 2.35 lakhs, the closing balance to the credit of the estates was Rs. 11.23 lakhs. The estates of Bodokhemidi, Sivaganga and Ūrkkādu had surplus balances amounting to Rs. 1.96 lakhs, Rs. 3.89 lakhs and Rs. 1.38 lakhs, respectively. The Court ordered the investment of Rs. 0.50 lakh out of the surplus balance of Bodokhemidi in three months' fixed deposits in the Imperial Bank of India at Berhampur. The surplus in Sivaganga was applied to *maramat* and to the ordinary expenditure. The cash balance in Ūrkkādu was spent on the ward's marriage and on the construction of a new palace for him. The Government promissory notes at the credit of the estate were converted into stock certificates and these certificates of the face value of Rs. 0.85 lakh were handed over to the proprietor after he assumed charge of his estate. The two model farms (viz., the Kalathikunnu and Pokkunnu farms) attached to the Dēvaswam section of the Zamorin's estate continued to work during the year. The Kalathikunnu farm is situated within the Calicut municipality and is intended not so much for purposes of demonstration as for the reclamation of waste lands. Though the yield was slightly better than in the previous year, the cost of cultivation continued to be very high. On the suggestion of the Agricultural Department, channels were opened to drain away the salt water which interfered with cultivation. The condition and yield of the coconut trees on the farm improved considerably. The Pokkunnu farm at Ottapālam, on the other hand, serves primarily as an object lesson to the adjoining tenants. Planting of coconut trees was continued during the year on the improved surface-planting system as opposed to the local pit system. Experiments were made in the cultivation of red Mauritius sugarcane and the planting of vines. The combined agricultural and dairy farm attached to the Guruvāyūr Dēvaswam estate was also worked during the year and attempts were made to demonstrate to the neighbouring ryots the utility of scientific methods of cultivation. Excluding the three estates, Pedda Mēraṅgi, Shērmuhammadpuram and Ūttumalai, the average percentage of establishment charges and Government commission to normal receipts for all the other estates was 21.8 as against 24.6 in fasli 1331. In Mādugula the percentage, though high (40.4), was appreciably less than that of the previous year, viz., 54.6. An increase in Kadambūr was due to the smaller receipts during the fasli and the adjustment before rendition of the Government commission due on the receipts from the 1st January 1923 to the 18th March 1923, which would be ordinarily adjustable only after the close of the fasli.

Surplus
balancesAgricultural
improve-
mentsEstablish-
ment charges

57. The Court paid special attention to this branch of administration as far as the finances of the estates permitted. The programmes in Chundi, Rāmapatnam, Kadavūr, Sivaganga and Talaivankōttai were followed as far as possible. The Arni programme had to be curtailed owing to the necessity for devoting all available funds to the repayment of debt. Including the trust institutions, the total *maramat* allotment in all the estates was Rs. 9.08 lakhs; the value of work done and the work paid for amounted to Rs. 8.49 lakhs and Rs. 8.44 lakhs or 93.6 and 93.0 per cent, respectively, of the allotment. The *maramat* expenditure (Rs. 8.44 lakhs) was 24 per cent of the total ordinary charges (Rs. 35.19 lakhs) including those of the trust institutions.

Works

Debts

Debts due to
the estates

58. The debts due to the several estates at the beginning of the fasli amounted to Rs. 9.54 lakhs. Including the loans newly granted (Rs. 0.05 lakh), debts newly brought to account (Rs. 0.01 lakh) and the interest and costs that accrued during the fasli (Rs. 0.20 lakh), the aggregate amount due was Rs. 9.80 lakhs. Of this amount, Rs. 0.79 lakh was collected and Rs. 0.02 lakh was written off, leaving a balance of Rs. 8.99 lakhs at the end of the fasli. The outstanding balance was large in Bodokhemidi (Rs. 0.38 lakh), Jeypore Kumārikā's estate (Rs. 7.75 lakhs) and Sivaganga (Rs. 0.56 lakh). The amount due to the Jeypore Kumārikā's estate was made up of (1) Rs. 5½ lakhs covered by the Court's decree against the Zamindars of Peddabuddidi and Lakkanapuram, of which Rs. 27,550 were recovered during the fasli and (2) Rs. 2.50 lakhs lent to the ward's brother, the Maharaja, the bulk of which will be recovered and utilized for the expenses connected with the ward's marriage. The liabilities of the estates at the beginning of the fasli amounted to Rs. 10.57 lakhs. Including the debts newly contracted and those newly brought to account during the fasli (Rs. 5.91 lakhs) and the interest and costs that accrued during the fasli (Rs. 0.66 lakh), the total liabilities amounted to Rs. 17.14 lakhs. Rupees 5.34 lakhs were repaid and Rs. 0.24 lakh was struck off, leaving a balance of Rs. 11.56 lakhs at the end of the fasli. The outstanding debts exceeded Rs. 50,000, in the estates of Arni (Rs. 3.34 lakhs), Madukkūr (Rs. 1.15 lakhs), Kadavūr (Rs. 0.87 lakh), Kūdāpalli (Rs. 1.41 lakhs), Sivaganga (Rs. 2.01 lakhs), Mannārkōttai (Rs. 0.53 lakh) and Ilayarasanendal (Rs. 0.53 lakh). The provisions of section 45 of the Court of Wards Act were in force in the estates of Kadavūr, Arni, Bāgalūr and Shūlagiri. Debts amounting to Rs. 91,652 were paid off in Kadavūr (with the help of a loan taken from Bodokhemidi), leaving a balance of Rs. 86,625. In Arni a debt of Rs. 38,617 was repaid and a sum of Rs. 10,909 was struck off, leaving a balance of Rs. 3,34,072.

Encumbered
estates

Education

59. The arrangements for the education and up-bringing of the wards were the same as those in force in the previous year and the wards continued to attend the local schools and colleges.

Religious
and chari-
table insti-
tutions
attached to
the estates

60. The administration of these institutions was satisfactory and their financial condition was generally sound. In Sivaganga, the Devasthanam and Chatram sections of the estate, which own extensive endowments and which were placed under a separate Manager and establishment, were amalgamated in 1920 with the Ayan estate, in the interests of administration and economy, except in the matter of accounts, and this change has not so far resulted in any practical difficulty. The religious and charitable institutions under the Zamorin are not, however, self-supporting, but are actually a drain on the secular funds.

Miscella-
neous

61. The second-grade college maintained by the Zamorin's estate worked satisfactorily during the year. The record of this college is one of steady progress. The strength of the institution increased and, though the scale of fees was raised, its popularity did not suffer. The college has on its rolls five Muhammadans, fourteen Chaliyans (weavers) and thirteen Tiyanas, besides members of the more literary castes. The results in the public examinations were on the whole satisfactory. The Teachers' Provident Fund system was introduced and it is hoped that this will tend to reduce the number of changes in the personnel of the staff. Eight free scholarships were instituted during the year and, besides these, the Zamorin Maharaja granted a free scholarship in commemoration of his visit to the Chowghat Board High School. As usual, hockey, badminton, football and volley-ball were the favourite games of the students. The hostel attached to the college continued to work satisfactorily. The college was visited by the Hon'ble the Raja of Panagal and the Director of Public Instruction. The Government conferred on the Zamorin the personal title of "Maharaja" in recognition of the conspicuous services rendered by him to those who suffered during the Mappilla rebellion. The Raja's High School and Alice Millar Girls' School, which continued under the personal supervision of the Zamindar of Sivaganga subject to

the Estate Collector's control, worked fairly well. The financial condition of the high school was sound, but the girls' school was far from self-supporting. The hostel attached to the school was very useful. Under the personal influence of the Zamindar, football, hockey, cricket and other field games were played with vigour and zest. The Zamorin's estate continued to maintain the residential Vedic School known as the "Othenmar Madam" and to contribute to the upkeep of the Sanskrit College at Pattāmbi. The Elementary School at Urkkādu continued to work satisfactorily. Two Elementary Schools and one Middle School were maintained by the Bodokhemidi estate during the year; one of the Elementary Schools is for girls. Rapid progress was made with the survey of the important estate of Sivaganga. At the close of fasli 1332 about 530 square miles (out of about 800 square miles) had been surveyed. The forests in Sivaganga, Mādugula, Chundi, Arni and Kadavūr were worked under the rules sanctioned by Government under sections 26 and 32 of the Madras Forest Act. The subject of "Forests" is in the hands of the Zamindar of Sivaganga under the Estate Collector's general control. Proposals for extending the provisions of the Forest Act to the Shūlagiri estate are under consideration. As to the Mādugula forests, the Court has decided that no Special Forest Officer is necessary and that the District Forest Officer, Vizagapatam, may continue to exercise supervision over the estate forests. The Court instructed the Estate Collector, Zamorin's estate, to keep the forests under direct control, if there was any chance of their being taken up for rubber plantation and, if not, to lease them out, with such restrictions as he could suggest as to the conservation of immature trees. The Collector of Malabar considered that it would be to the advantage of both Government and the Zamorin's estate to lease the larger forest areas to Government. The Court, however, doubts whether the Forest Department would seriously contemplate taking a lease of the estate forests. The Cochin portion of the Rāmapatnam estate continued to be under the management of the Cochin Darbar. Its receipts amounted to Rs. 24,808 and its expenditure to Rs. 19,238. Out of the debt of Rs. 77,906 due by the estate, Rs. 11,000 were repaid, leaving a balance of Rs. 66,906, the bulk of which was due to the Cochin Devasthanam.

REVENUE AND RENT-PAYING CLASSES

(FASLI 1332—1ST JULY 1922 TO 30TH JUNE 1923)

[Report on the settlement of Land Revenue for fasli 1332]

62. The principal revenue-paying classes of the Presidency are zamindars, whole inamdars, minor inamdars and ryotwari pattadars. The last class predominated largely and contributed about 75.02 per cent of the land revenue. There was an increase of about 33 per cent in the total extent of ryotwari holdings, as compared with that of the previous fasli.

Revenue-
paying
classes

63. Tenants in zamindari and whole inam villages constitute the rent-paying classes. Sub-letting was prevalent among absentee pattadars, among those engaged in professions other than agriculture, and among capitalists and large landholders. The system was on the increase in the Chingleput district, where the Adi-Dravidas, who were hitherto working as farm servants, now own lands themselves and are becoming more and more independent of the land-owning classes. There was a decrease of sub-letting in Gōdāvari and parts of the Bellary district on account of the general tendency of the ryots to secure for themselves a full share of the produce owing to its enhanced value due to the rise in the prices of food-grains. In the Anantapur district, the poverty of the soil and of the average ryot, coupled with the unfavourable character of the season in the last three years, checked the tendency to sub-let.

Rent-
paying
classes

CHAPTER III

PROTECTION

LEGISLATING AUTHORITY

64. *Vide* pages 140 to 143 of the Report on the Administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921-22.

COURSE OF LEGISLATION (1923-24)

Changes in
the Council

65. The second general elections to the Madras Legislative Council and the Legislative Assembly were held on the 31st October 1923. Owing to heavy floods in certain parts, the poll could not be completed until the 10th November 1923. Between the original date and the date fixed for the completion of the poll in the Ganjam district one of the candidates died and this necessitated a bye-election for his seat. Twenty candidates were returned unopposed for seventeen constituencies of the Legislative Council. The elected members consisted of 62 non-Brahman Hindus, 12 Brahmans, 13 Muhammadans, 5 Christians, 5 Europeans and 1 Anglo-Indian. Of the candidates returned to the Council, fifty-one were members of the previous Council. The total number of registered voters in the Presidency was 1,283,923. Of these, 425,983 out of 1,174,808 voters in contested constituencies, or 36 per cent, went to the poll. The number of voters who exercised their franchise exceeded 50 per cent in twenty-four constituencies. Although special arrangements were made to enable women to record their votes in separate polling booths, they did not exercise the franchise except to a very limited extent. Of the 89,329 female voters, 82,367 belonged to contested constituencies and of these 9,361, or 11 per cent, went to the poll. An outstanding feature of the elections was the participation in it, both as voters and as candidates, of non-co-operators, as the result of which nine Swarajists were returned to the Legislative Council. Two vacancies occurred among nominated members by resignation. These were duly filled up.

Legislation

66. The Hindu Religious Endowments Bill, to which reference was made in the previous report and which was passed by the Council on the 3rd April 1923, was returned by His Excellency the Governor with messages, dated 9th December 1923, 11th March 1924 and 31st March 1924, for reconsideration by the Council. Three Bills were introduced in the Council during the year, of which one became law. These were (1) the Tuticorin Port Trust Bill, (2) the Bill to repeal the Stage Carriages Act, 1861, in its application to the Presidency of Madras and to amend the Madras Hackney Carriage Act, 1911, and (3) the Madras Irrigation Bill. The Tuticorin Port Trust Bill, which became law, had for its object the improvement and development of Tuticorin port. It provided for the constitution of a board of trustees to administer the port under the control of the local Government. The Bill to repeal the Stage Carriages Act, 1861, in its application to the Presidency of Madras and to amend the Madras Hackney Carriage Act, 1911, had for its object the removal of certain difficulties which were experienced in the working of the Stage Carriages Act in certain districts. The expenses of working the Hackney Carriage Act had increased considerably and, as it was desirable that the

revenue to Government should approximate to the expenditure in working the Act, it was decided to raise the scale of fees. The Madras Irrigation Bill was introduced in the Council on the 6th February 1924. The Bill was before the Select Committee at the close of the year. A Bill further to amend the Court Fees Act, 1870, in its application to the Presidency of Madras, was brought before the Council on the 29th November 1923. It had for its object the removal of certain inequalities between the scales of fees paid by advocates and vakils. This Bill was opposed by the Council and the motion to read it in Council was by leave withdrawn. The motion to introduce the Madras Land Revenue Settlement Bill was made on the 28th March 1924 but it was rejected by the Council.

POLICE (1923)

[*Report on the administration of the Police of the Madras Presidency for the year 1923 ; Statistical Abstract for British India—Police*]

67. The sanctioned strength of the permanent force, exclusive of the East Coast Special Police, on the last day of the year was 29,400 or 196 less than the sanctioned strength in the previous year. The biggest factor in this decrease was the abolition of the Rajahmundry Special Force. The post of Special Superintendent of Police created in 1922 for the charge of the rebellion area in Malabar was abolished and the police districts of North Malabar, South Malabar and Malappuram were re-constituted into two districts, namely, North Malabar comprising the pre-rebellion North Malabar district with the Calicut Circle, and South Malabar comprising the rest of Malabar. In consequence of the abolition of the Agency Division the police district of Jeypore was re-constituted and the Agency areas which formerly belonged to the districts of Ganjam, Vizagapatam and Gōdāvari were restored to them. Casualties in the permanent force numbered 1,717 as against 1,910 in 1922. This decrease was mainly due to there being fewer discharges. The health of the force continued to be good.

68. As the force in a number of districts was below sanctioned strength, recruitment was renewed in March but was stopped in October owing to the projected reductions in strength which had been recommended by the Police Retrenchment Committee. There was a slight increase in the number of departmental punishments inflicted, which, expressed as a percentage of the actual strength of the force, amounted to 30.8 per cent as against 29.6 per cent in 1922. This increase was mainly due to the necessity for special severity in certain districts. There was, however, a further decline in the number of police officers convicted by criminal courts. Of the 97 officers so convicted, 51 were convicted for offences committed by them in their private capacity. The I.S.O. was conferred upon Mr. A. B. G. Snedell, three officers obtained the title of Khan Bahadur, one officer that of Rao Bahadur, and five officers that of Rao Sahib, while twelve officers received the King's Police Medal. The number of officers who were granted monetary rewards increased from 4,534 to 5,623, and the amount granted, from Rs. 32,907 to Rs. 44,223.

69. The percentage of illiterate head constables was 0.7 of the total strength of this rank at the end of the year, while that of illiterate constables was 6.4, both being less than the corresponding figures for the previous year. The Central Recruits' Schools at Vellore and Anantapur were reopened during the year. At the close of the year there were 10 probationary officers under training at the Provincial Training School, Vellore, and the class for Sub-Inspectors was reopened in November with a strength of 100. In addition to the usual instruction in Law, Survey and First-aid, a course of special physical training was added. There

Adminis-
trative
changes

Casualties

Recruit-
ment and
discipline

Rewards

Education

**PRO-
TECTION****Shorthand
Bureau**

were 36 Sub-Inspectors on the strength of the Shorthand Bureau at the end of the year. During the year they attended 999 political meetings and 13 conferences and gave evidence in ten prosecutions, of which nine were successful. The higher speed in Telugu was increased from 80 words per minute to 90 and the higher speed in Urdu Shorthand from 135 to 140 words per minute.

Cost

70. The total cost of the department for the year 1923-24 was Rs. 1,67,99,238 as against Rs. 1,72,42,974 for the previous year. This decrease amounting to Rs. 4,43,736 would have been considerably greater but for the "fituri" in the Agency which caused an expenditure of about 9 lakhs of rupees. Various measures of retrenchment, including the abolition of certain conveyance and local allowances and of one appointment of Deputy Inspector-General of Police, effected a saving of Rs. 7.74 lakhs.

**Village
Police**

71. The reporting of crimes by village officers was fairly satisfactory; but the watching of criminals and the performance of patrols were to some extent neglected. Rewards amounting to Rs. 4,020 were granted to 520 village officers as against Rs. 5,179 given to 607 officers during the previous year. Letters of thanks or certificates of appreciation were granted in cases where they were likely to be more acceptable than monetary rewards.

**Armed
Reserves**

72. The Armed Reserves in districts were maintained in a state of efficiency. A striking force, designated the East Coast Special Police, was organized on the lines of the Malabar Special Police and was employed in the Agency operations. The permanent strength of this force which is in charge of an Assistant Superintendent of Police and is organized in two companies is 7 Indian officers and 221 other ranks. An additional company was formed temporarily for the Agency operations.

**Railway
Police**

73. The jurisdiction of the Madras Railway Police remained unchanged while that of the Trichinopoly Railway Police was extended by 38 miles in consequence of the opening of a branch railway line from Tinnevely bridge to Tiruchendūr. The number of thefts decreased from 2,738 to 2,242, but there were 34 attempts to derail trains as against 9 in the previous year. In Tanjore there was an attempt, apparently aimed at the life of the District Traffic Superintendent, to turn the Boat Mail train into his private carriage by altering the points.

**C.I.D. and
control of
criminals**

74. The importation of a large quantity of seditious literature by agitators from abroad, the increased activities of communists in India, the visit of His Excellency the Viceroy to this Presidency and the sitting of the All-India Congress at Cocanada, entailed heavy work on the Criminal Investigation department. Special enquiries were also made on a variety of subjects including corruption in the railway, note-forgery, tracing of all-India criminals, railway shortages and missing postal bags. The Finger-print Bureau dealt with 16,595 references for the antecedents of unidentified persons, i.e., 1,143 references less than in the previous year. The introduction of the system of taking the finger-prints of the menials employed by the traffic departments of the railways was effective in deterring undesirables from seeking employment. The finger-print staff attended courts on 426 occasions to prove convictions or give expert evidence and in 79 cases written opinions were furnished. The provisions of sections 3 and 10 of the Criminal Tribes Act were applied to thirteen tribes during the year and the members of another tribe were ordered to report themselves at fixed intervals under section 10 (a). A satisfactory feature of the year was the fact that convictions under the Criminal Tribes Act fell from 2,849 to 2,322. At the close of the year there were 7,139 men, women and children belonging to criminal tribes in the various settlements. A good deal of the organized crime in the neighbourhood of the criminal settlements in Guntūr and Nellore districts was still attributable to the members who had escaped from the settlements. Continued success attended the special measures employed in the Madura district to reform the Kallars without the application of the Criminal

Tribes Act, but an attempt to reform the Kallars in the Tanjore district by similar measures was not successful.

75. A slight fall in the average prices of staple food grains was accompanied by a considerable decrease (8.2 per cent) in the amount of grave crime, there being 2,928 cases less than last year. The total number of true cases of cognizable crime further declined from 52,067 to 48,610. The largest proportion of crimes occurred in Madras City, Kurnool, the Nilgiris, Anantapur and Cuddapah. Taking the Presidency as a whole there was one case for every 2,222 inhabitants. Except for the "fituri" in the Agency there were no disturbances of the public peace of any magnitude during the year. The Police forces engaged in the suppression of this outbreak, however, were unable to make much progress. The chief causes for this appear to have been that, although the numbers of police engaged were more than sufficient to deal with the rebels in action, they were not sufficient to patrol and search adequately the very large area of country in which the rebels were likely to be found. The attitude of the villagers also continued to be hostile to the Government and information which the police might reasonably have hoped to receive was denied to them or withheld intentionally until it was too late to take any action upon it. In the Tinnevely district sustained efforts were made to capture Jambulinga Nadan, as the result of which the notorious criminal and his chief associate were shot dead, after they had wounded three of the party who were seeking to arrest them. After his third escape from jail the dacoit became a sort of hero to his community in the area where he operated, and with some justification newspapers referred to him as the "Indian Robin Hood."

76. The percentage of detections remained substantially at the same figure as in the previous year. There was a slight fall in the percentage of murders that were successfully detected and a slight improvement in the detection of theft and cattle theft. In 7.1 per cent of the total number of cases reported investigation was refused, the percentage of such cases being 8.1 in the previous year. The percentage of lost property recovered was 20.7 as against 23.6 in 1922. The number of prosecutions conducted by the prosecuting staff in Madras City was 2,057 as against 1,695 in the previous year, in the mufassal the number was 8,257 as against 10,751. The percentage of successful prosecutions in the mufassal fell from 76.4 to 71.7.

77. During the year 119 persons escaped from police custody as against 183 in the previous year and of these 88 were re-captured in addition to 18 who had escaped in previous years. Of the police responsible, 77 were punished departmentally and 14 were convicted. In addition 13 officers responsible for escapes in previous years were convicted under the Indian Penal Code or the Police Act.

78. The number of cases struck off as wilfully and maliciously false was 3,495, i.e., 118 less than in 1922. In 179 cases the persons preferring the false complaints were prosecuted and 66 persons were convicted. Of the cases instituted by the police 0.09 per cent were declared false after trial.

79. The number of persons of bad livelihood who were ordered by the Criminal Courts to furnish security during the year was 1,343 as against 1,793 in 1922. Of these, 598 were petty thieves, 402 were known depreicators and 36 were receivers of stolen property.

80. The sanctioned strength of the permanent force on the last day of the year was 1,969 or 23 less than at the end of the previous year. Recruitment was easy and a better type of recruits was obtained. The total cost of the force was Rs. 12,98,331 as against Rs. 12,39,970 in 1922, the increase being mainly due to the formation of a motor investigation staff consisting of one inspector and four sub-inspectors, the payment of certain charges that were in arrears and to the comparatively small number of vacancies in the force. The number of departmental punishments awarded (including black-marks) expressed as a percentage of the actual strength of the force was 54.2 as against 35 in 1922. The system of

Crime

Detection
and preven-
tion of crime

Escapes

False cases

Security
proceedingsMadras City
Police

inflicting deferred punishments was freely employed. There was no substantial variation in the statistics of crime. A satisfactory feature of the year was that out of the 1,172 cases under the Indian Penal Code instituted by the police no case was declared false after trial. Seventy-two persons were prosecuted under the security sections of the Criminal Procedure Code and of these 62 were ordered by the Courts to furnish security for their good behaviour, as against 30 in 1922. The work of the Intelligence Department continued to be heavy.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE (1923)

[Statistics of Criminal Courts in the Madras Presidency for the year 1923 ; Statistical Abstract for British India—Criminal Justice]

General

81. The number of Criminal Courts in the Presidency at the end of the year, including the High Court, was 966 as against 948 at the end of the previous year. In addition, six Subordinate Judges exercised the powers of an Assistant Sessions Judge. At the close of the year there were 96 Honorary Magistrates sitting on the Benches of Magistrates for the town of Madras and these Benches continued to render a substantial measure of assistance to the stipendiary magistrates. In the mufassal six new Bench Courts were established and one was abolished. Besides Magistrates of the classes already mentioned 2,207 Village Magistrates and 1,450 Panchayat Courts exercised criminal jurisdiction, the number of Panchayat Courts with criminal jurisdiction being nearly trebled during the year.

Original
casesVillage
Magistrates'
CourtsVillage
Panchayat
Courts

Bench Courts

Regular
MagistratesPresidency
MagistratesSessions
Courts

High Court

Appeals
Magistrates'
Courts

82. The total number of original cases instituted in the Criminal Courts during the year was 326,293, or 21,251 more than in the previous year, while the number of appeals fell from 8,661 to 7,975, the average for the preceding five years being 8,686. In the Village Magistrates' Courts the total number of cases instituted fell from 6,212 to 5,337. Of these, 16.05 per cent were convicted as against 15.48 per cent in 1922. The total number of cases instituted in the Village Panchayat Courts was 21,030 and the number of persons tried was 33,721, both figures being many times in excess of those for the previous year. The Bench Courts continued to work satisfactorily on the whole. They disposed of 84,876 cases, while 706 cases were pending at the end of the year. For the causes mentioned in last year's administration report, however, the relief they were able to give to the regular magistracy was limited. The number of cases instituted in the regular Magistrates' Courts in the mufassal was 179,398 as against 183,949 in 1922, of which 4,499 were pending at the end of the year as against 5,393. The average duration of each trial fell from nine days to eight days. Before Special Magistrates the average duration was 2 days; before Sub-Magistrates, 12; before Assistant Magistrates, 18; before Joint Magistrates, 33; and before Deputy Magistrates, 12. The total number of cases instituted in the Presidency Magistrates' Courts was 40,752 as against 31,036 in 1922 and 288 cases were pending at the close of the year. The number of cases committed to Sessions Courts in the mufassal was 1,710 as against 1,876 in 1922 and the total number of cases pending at the end of the year was 88 as against 171. The average duration of cases in these Courts fell from 49 days to 46 days. Of the persons brought to trial 51.97 per cent were acquitted. The number of cases committed to the High Court Sessions was 24 as against 32 in the previous year. Three cases were pending at the end of the year. The percentage of conviction in the High Court was 65 per cent.

83. Of the persons convicted and sentenced by second-class and third-class Magistrates, 11,255 appealed to first-class Magistrates as against 11,861 in 1922. The number of appeals pending at the end of the year was reduced from 847 in 1922 to 582. The average period which elapsed between the presentation of an appeal and its disposal in the Courts of the

Subdivisional Magistrates was 21 days as against 24 days in the previous year. The percentage of appellants successful in having their convictions reversed or the proceedings quashed was 34.81 as against 34.94 in 1922. The number of persons who appealed to the Sessions Courts against the decisions of first-class Magistrates was 2,391 as against 2,177 in 1922 and the number of persons whose appeals were pending at the end of the year increased by one. The average duration of appeals in the Sessions Courts rose from 33 days in 1922 to 35 days. The percentage of appellants who succeeded in their appeals rose from 18.89 in 1922 to 26.80. The number of appellants to the High Court was 3,381 as against 3,728 in 1922 and 1,450 in 1921. The Special Tribunals and other Courts in Malabar contributed 909 appeals involving 2,291 persons out of a total of 3,245 persons. The pressure of criminal work in the High Court therefore continued to be very heavy. The Government appealed against the acquittal of 93 persons as against 46 persons in the previous year. In the case of 56 of these the acquittal was upheld, while in the case of 30 the acquittal was set aside and a conviction recorded. In the case of 7 proceedings were still pending at the end of the year. The appeals of 701 persons were rejected *in limine*. In the case of 1,595 persons the finding and sentences were maintained after notice, in the case of 435 persons the sentences were reduced or altered and in those of 390 the sentence was reversed. New trial or further inquiry was ordered in the case of twelve persons. The appeals of 248 persons were pending at the end of the year as against 545 in 1922. The percentage of entirely successful appellants was 12.45 per cent as against 4.71 per cent in the previous year.

84. The District Magistrates received 706 applications for revision as against 593 in 1922 and took up 17 cases *suo motu* or on reports from their Subdivisional Magistrates as against 24 in the previous year. In the Sessions Courts 583 applications were presented, or 67 more than in 1922, and the number of cases taken up by them *suo motu* was 47 as against 39. The number of revision petitions received in the High Court was 961, a decrease of 15 on the figure for 1922. One hundred and thirty cases were reported by District Magistrates and Sessions Judges and 54 were taken up by the High Court *suo motu*. The death sentences pronounced on 161 persons were referred to the High Court for confirmation. In the case of 109 persons the convictions were upheld and the sentences of death confirmed. The sentence was commuted to transportation for life in the case of 33 persons and to rigorous imprisonment for a term of years in the case of three. Ten persons had their convictions reversed and were acquitted, while in the case of six persons the conviction was set aside and a new trial ordered. One person was reprieved by the local Government and another by the Government of India.

85. Of the 1,391 persons tried by jury, the verdict was approved in the case of 1,366. In the case of 25 persons, when the Judge considered the verdict sufficiently perverse, a reference was made to the High Court. Of the references which came before the High Court during the year, the verdict passed on seven persons was upheld and that passed on 19 was reversed. Of these latter, nine had been found guilty and ten not guilty. The number of persons tried with the aid of assessors was 2,204. In the case of 1,283 persons the Judges agreed with all the assessors, in the case of 440 persons they differed from one or more of them, and in the case of 481 from all the assessors.

86. Of the cases for disposal under the Indian Penal Code, 13.15 per cent were rejected under section 203, Criminal Procedure Code, as the magistrates found no reasonable grounds for proceeding. The percentage of such cases in the previous year was 12.78. Compensation was awarded to only 1,579 persons against whom frivolous and vexatious complaints were brought under section 250 of the same Code, as against 1,524 in 1922. As a very large percentage of cases involving certain offences, such as hurt, criminal force and assault, theft, insult and annoyance did not result in conviction, it would seem that, as in the previous year, neither of

Punishments

these sections were sufficiently employed by the Courts. The percentage of conviction in all cases tried under the Indian Penal Code was 38.56 as against 40.20 in 1922. The total number of sentences passed during the year was 219,378, of which 109 were of death, 241 of transportation, 6 of penal servitude, 18,594 of rigorous imprisonment, 7,935 of simple imprisonment, 131 of forfeiture of property, 189,837 of fine and 617 of whipping. The fines imposed amounted to Rs. 11,95,825, of which a sum of Rs. 49,329 was paid to complainants as compensation. The number of juveniles convicted during the year was 1,682 boys and 391 girls as against 1,958 boys and 379 girls in 1922. Of the 723 juveniles convicted under the Forest Act, 290 were girls. The sentences on 28 boys were commuted to detention in the reformatory schools; 78 were discharged after admonition and 44 were delivered to their parents or guardians. There was a small decrease in the amount disbursed as travelling allowance and batta to witnesses, but the sums paid to jurors and assessors on this account rose from Rs. 26,620 to Rs. 29,100.

PRISONS (1923)

[Report on the administration of the Jails of the Madras Presidency, 1923; Statistical Abstract for British India—Prisons]

Accommoda-
tion

87. The number of central, special and district jails remained the same during the year, viz., 10, 2 and 4, respectively, but the number of sub-jails decreased from 322 to 317 owing to the closure of the sub-jail at Virudupatti and the abolition of the four temporary sub-jails opened in the Malabar district to accommodate Mappilla undertrial prisoners. The Police Recruits' School at Coimbatore, which was temporarily utilized for accommodating extra prisoners in connexion with the Mappilla rebellion, was handed over to the Police department. There was temporary overcrowding in a few jails but timely arrangements were made either for the transfer of the excess prisoners to jails with accommodation to spare or for housing the excess prisoners in tents or temporary sheds.

Prisoners of
all classes

88. The year opened with a population of 24,348 prisoners of all classes, while 94,202 were received and 97,623 were discharged, leaving 20,927 in confinement at the close of the year. The daily average fell from 24,397.53 to 22,242.95. The decrease was chiefly due to the small number of Mappilla prisoners admitted during the year. The number of undertrial prisoners in confinement at the beginning of the year was 4,087, while 38,846 were admitted, making a total of 42,933. The daily average was 2,423.31 as against 5,134.90 in 1922. Of the number confined, 43.15 per cent were convicted and 56.59 were acquitted and released. Twenty-five prisoners escaped and 42 died in prison. Prisoners awaiting trial before Sessions Courts were detained on an average for 30.08 days and those pending trial before Magistrates for 10.68 days as against 30.50 and 19.40 days, respectively, in 1922. There were 709 civil prisoners (including State prisoners) in custody at the beginning of the year; 4,255 were received and 4,044 released during the year; 34 were transferred and 9 died, leaving a population of 877 at the close of the year. The daily average was 645.15 as compared with 484.35 in the year preceding. There were 90 State prisoners in confinement at the beginning of the year and 117 were admitted during the year. Of these, one was released on medical grounds and 3 died. Two hundred and three prisoners remained at the close of the year. With the exception of two Agency prisoners, all the others were Mappillas concerned in the Malabar rebellion.

Civil
prisonersState
prisoners

Convicts

89. On the 1st January 1923 there were 19,300 male and 252 female convicts. The number received by direct committal was 22,839 males and 983 females as compared with 31,830 males and 1,079 females in 1922. The total number of convicts received by transfer was 27,279 as

against 42,975 in the previous year. Of those discharged during the year, 2,872 were released on appeal, 17,555 on expiry of sentence, 4,460 under the remission rules and 363 by order of Government. Thirteen convicts were deported to the Andamans, 30 convicts were transferred to the Mental Hospital, Madras, 10 escaped and remained at large till the end of the year, 124 were executed and 317 died. At the close of the year, 18,243 convicts were in custody. The daily average number of convicts was 19,174.49 or 396.21 more than in 1922. Hindus formed 79.94 per cent of the admissions, Muhammadans 15.31 per cent and Christians 4.74 per cent. The number of convicts admitted under 16 years of age decreased from 104 to 59, and the number of youthful offenders under the age of 15 years from 25 to 17; of the 17 juveniles (14 boys and 3 girls), 8 boys were transferred to the Reformatory and Senior Certified School, Chingleput, 3 boys were released by the District Magistrates concerned and 3 boys and 2 girls completed their sentences in prison; one girl was conditionally released by the order of Government and sent to reside in a Salvation Army institution until the expiry of her sentence. On the last day of 1922 there were 358 adolescents in confinement in the Tanjore Borstal School, of whom 308 were between 15 and 21 years and 50 were aged 21 years and over. Only 18 were received by direct committal; 402 were transferred from other jails; 289 were discharged and 489 remained at the end of 1923, excluding three adolescent State prisoners. A large number of Mappilla adolescents, for whom accommodation was not available at Tanjore, and of whom many were not in every respect entirely suitable for the Borstal school, were concentrated in the District Jail, Palamcottah, under a modified Borstal régime. The scheme worked profitably and the boys took a keen interest in the educational and industrial training given to them and showed considerable development in this respect. The system of grades introduced in the Tanjore school last year, viz., the ordinary, the star and the special star, worked satisfactorily. The privileges allowed to boys of the star grades were appreciated and inspired those in the ordinary grade with the desire to earn similar privileges. Owing to the difficulty in finding suitable probation officers willing to take charge of the inmates, only 6 inmates were conditionally released during the year, of whom 4 were released on the recommendation of the Advisory Board. One was released and sent as a tailor maistry and drill instructor to the District Jail, Palamcottah, on a salary of Rs. 30—1—35, and another, who was a monitor and assistant to the Tamil teacher in the school, was released and entrusted to the care of his father. The Madras Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society and its District Committees rendered much help in affording after-care to Borstal boys on release. Small money grants are given to adolescents on release from the Borstal School, Tanjore, by the Society, to enable them to start in life, and probation officers are found in the majority of cases to see to their after-care.)

90. The conduct of the prisoners was on the whole satisfactory, a substantive reduction in the number of escapes and offences and punishments being noticeable. There were 18 escapes during the year, of which 10 were from sub-jails, as compared with 27 escapes during 1922, of which 7 were from sub-jails. Twelve convicts, including 3 who escaped in previous years, were recaptured during the year. There was an appreciable decrease in the number of jail offences dealt with by Superintendents which fell from 4,829 to 3,485 in spite of an increase in the daily average convict population. Sixteen offences were dealt with by criminal courts as against 96 in the year previous. The total number of punishments and the ratio per cent of punishments to average strength also declined from 4,939 and 26.30 in 1922 to 3,501 and 18.26, respectively. There was only one case of corporal punishment during the year, which shows that whipping as a punishment is now only resorted to in very grave offences. The system of classification introduced during the latter part of 1922 for non-habitual prisoners, viz., star class and ordinary, was extended and developed during the year. In this

Juveniles

Conduct

Star class

Special
division
prisoners

Habituals

Remission

Advisory
Boards

Education

Aid on
dischargeVital
statistics

system, the best of the casual class are separated from the worst to avoid any possibility of contamination, and the two classes are kept apart rigidly at night, and, as far as possible, at work parades, school, recreation, etc. The system worked well and was appreciated by the star class prisoners. A "special division" for the treatment of selected prisoners sentenced to simple imprisonment, for whom the ordinary treatment is considered unsuitable owing to their education, status and character, was created during the year. The selection of prisoners for inclusion in this division is made by the convicting courts subject to confirmation by the Government. Pending such confirmation, the prisoners so selected are treated as undertrial prisoners. The prisoners of this class are kept separate from ordinary prisoners and given special privileges in regard to diet, clothing and bedding, interviews, etc. A very few special division prisoners were confined during the year but the privilege of the classification was undoubtedly appreciated. The total number of habituals dealt with was 6,991, forming 19.61 per cent of the convict population, and these were the recipients of 38.62 per cent of the total number of punishments. Habitual offenders whose confinement in ordinary jails was considered inadvisable were removed to the recidivist jails at Salem and Vizagapatam according as they belonged to the south or north. During the year 4,160 convicts were released under the remission rules as compared with 3,647 in the preceding year. Special remission for continuous good conduct was awarded to 8,085 convicts, as against 3,331 in 1922. Extra remission for work turned out over and above the prescribed task was earned by 1,311 convicts.

91. Advisory Boards for reconsidering the sentences of long-term prisoners who are not habituals were constituted during the year in all central and district jails. A Board consists of the Inspector General of Prisons as Chairman, the Sessions Judge and a non-official member with the Superintendent of the jail as Secretary. The cases of all prisoners sentenced to periods over three years and who have completed two-thirds of their sentences are considered by these Boards who make recommendations for the conditional release of such as are thought to be deserving. Five hundred and sixty cases were placed before the Boards during the year for consideration, of which 260 were rejected and 300 recommended to Government. The release of 233 prisoners was effected during the year on such recommendations. The paid teaching staff continued to impart elementary education to prisoners under 30 years of age and to deliver lectures on religious and moral subjects. Honorary lecturers appointed for the purpose and the senior members of the jail staff delivered lectures on moral and religious subjects and the medical subordinates lectured on matters of medical interest. The jail schools are frequently visited by the inspecting officers of the Educational Department and their suggestions were carried out as far as possible. As usual, technical teaching was imparted by paid instructors to convicts employed in the various industries with a view to making them expert craftsmen. Each central and district jail is furnished with a library and the prisoners were given facilities for reading and study. The scheme of providing recreation for well-behaved prisoners in association wards between lock-up and sleeping time, and of employing literate convicts to read aloud to other prisoners, was carried out in all jails and was much appreciated. The Madras Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society did good work during the year in rendering assistance to deserving discharged prisoners. Three new District Committees and two Branch Committees were formed during the year. No less than 600 prisoners were assisted by the Society in securing employment, providing shelter and food and granting small sums of money to start life afresh. The Prisoners' Home in Madras filled a much felt want and sheltered no less than 94 homeless ex-prisoners during the year, while endeavours were being made to find them suitable employment.

92. The health statistics, in spite of the large number of old and decrepit prisoners suffering from chronic ailments in custody during the

year, were remarkably good, and the sick and mortality rates were among the most favourable for some years past. The admissions to hospital fell from 14,959 to 8,280, as also the daily average sick from 742.70 to 383.61. There were only 368 deaths during the year as compared with 1,230 in the preceding year. The death-rate per mille fell from 50.41 to 16.54 which is the most satisfactory on record since the year 1917. There were no deaths from cholera during the year, though cholera prevailed in the vicinity of several jails and took its toll from the free population. A type of dysenteric gastro-enteritis in epidemic form broke out in the Alipuram Jail, but was soon brought under control. There were four suicides, one accidental death and three deaths which occurred out of hospital, the other deaths being chiefly due to dysentery, pulmonary tuberculosis, pneumonia, etc. The treatment of hookworm on modern lines, as advocated by Government, was carried out in all jails. All wells were periodically cleaned and hankinised. As a preventive measure water for drinking purposes was chlorinated. At Vellore, an automatic chlorinating apparatus was provided. The scheme for supplying water to the Bellary Central Jail through pipes from the artesian well was completed. In many jails improvements were made in kitchen and latrine accommodation and in the systems for the disposal of refuse. The Central Laundry system introduced in all jails in the previous year proved to be satisfactory. A surgical ward for female prisoners was constructed at Rajahmundry and an additional tubercular ward for ten patients was added at Bellary. Improvements to the hospitals at Rajahmundry, Alipuram, Salem, Madura and Berhampur were carried out. Many other minor improvements were effected and sanitary fittings supplied to jails requiring them.

93. The total expenditure, excluding the outlay on jail buildings by the Public Works Department, amounted to Rs. 32,77,381 or Rs. 5,13,776 less than that of the previous year. The decline in prison population and the favourable rates obtained for food supplies were responsible for the low expenditure. The cash earnings amounted to Rs. 1,11,841 as compared with Rs. 3,27,285. The decline in cash earnings by Rs. 2,15,444 was due partly to a curtailment of orders from public consuming departments, owing to the general policy of retrenchment enforced by Government, and to the large outlay in the purchase of khaki dyeing plant. The outlay on jail buildings was Rs. 3,55,147 as against Rs. 3,81,019 in the preceding year. The amount spent by this department under petty construction and repairs was Rs. 49,556 as against Rs. 37,054 in 1922. The increase in expenditure under petty construction and repairs was chiefly due to the several works being undertaken by Superintendents instead of by the Public Works Department, due to the enhanced limit of financial powers.

94. Official and non-official visitors paid 738 visits as against 727 in the preceding year. His Excellency the Governor and the Quarter-master General, Army Forces in India, visited the Alipuram Jail. The Hon'ble Sir Arthur Knapp visited the Alipuram Jail and the Borstal School, Tanjore; the Hon'ble Sir Charles Todhunter, the Central Jail, Vellore, and the Hon'ble Mr. R. A. Graham, the Central Jail, Coimbatore.

CIVIL JUSTICE (1923)

[Statistics of Civil Courts in the Madras Presidency for the year 1923 ;
Statistical Abstract for British India—Civil Justice]

95. The total number of permanent Courts which exercised civil jurisdiction during the year was fifteen more than in 1922. There were in addition nineteen Temporary Subordinate Judges' Courts and fourteen Temporary District Munsifs' Courts.

96. The total number of suits instituted in the Presidency, including those in Village and Panchayat Courts, during the year was 551,370 as against 530,538 in 1922. The increase in institutions occurred in the

**PRO-
SECTION**

Revenue and the Village Panchayat Courts. In the Presidency as a whole, one suit was instituted for every 77 persons of the population as against one for every 80 persons in 1922, while in the Presidency town the ratio increased from one for every 30 persons in 1922 to one for every 27 persons. The revenue district of Malabar was the most, and the Bellary district the least, litigious district. The number of suits instituted for money or movable property was 483,153 or 91.5 per cent of the total number as against 95.4 per cent in 1922. The number of suits for immovable property, other than mortgage suits, was 18,818 as against 19,779 in the previous year, while the number instituted in Revenue Courts was 23,115 as against 18,708. The number of mortgage suits instituted was 20,621 as against 22,485 in 1922 and the number of suits for specific relief was 3,857 as against 4,160. The total value of suits instituted in courts, other than Village and Panchayat Courts, Revenue Courts and unpaid tribunals, was Rs. 9,94,85,620 or Rs. 1,65,21,553 less than in 1922, the average value of a suit being Rs. 331 as against Rs. 371 in that year. Apart from suits in the Revenue Courts but including those in the Village and the Panchayat Courts, 28.69 per cent of the suits instituted were of the value of Rs. 20 and under as against 28.43 per cent in 1922 and 65.84 per cent were between the values of Rs. 20 and Rs. 500. The number of suits above Rs. 500 in value was 28,085 as against 29,464 in 1922. The number of suits triable by Village or Panchayat Courts, which were filed before higher tribunals, was 68,923, being 13,320 less than the number of such suits in the previous year. Plaintiffs succeeded in obtaining decrees for the whole or a part of the relief claimed by them in 79.13 per cent of the suits decided during the year apart from suits compromised or settled before trial. In 73.10 per cent of contested cases the plaintiffs obtained decrees for the whole or a part of the relief for which they applied. The total number of appeals preferred was 16,645 or 940 more than in the previous year.

**Original
jurisdiction**
Village
Munsifs'
Courts
Village
Panchayat
Courts

97. The total number of suits instituted in Village Munsifs' Courts decreased from 99,545 in 1922 to 88,106, the fall being again due to the opening of Village Panchayat Courts. The total number of suits instituted in Panchayat Courts increased from 99,569 in 1922 to 139,630. At the end of the year 22,935 suits remained for disposal as against 15,776 at the end of the previous year. Though these courts gained in popularity, only one-quarter of the suits filed in them represented relief to the regular courts. This was due, in part, to the fact that the latter did not make full use of their powers of transferring suits to the Panchayat Courts, only 1,042 suits being so transferred. The number of suits filed in the Revenue Courts, other than in the Agency tracts, rose from 18,579 to 22,533. The disposals increased from 17,173 in 1922 to 23,823, but the pendency also increased from 10,019 to 10,420. The average duration of uncontested suits was 120 days and of contested suits 327 days as compared with 90 days and 231 days, respectively, in the previous year. The percentage of appeals preferred against the decision of these Courts rose from 12.25 in 1922 to 13.27, while only 23.41 per cent of original decrees were confirmed as against 34.18 per cent in 1922. The number of suits instituted in Agency Courts was 1,274 as against 1,526 in the previous year. Of these 647 were left pending at the end of the year as against 480 in 1922. In the District Munsifs' Courts, other than those in the Agency tracts, 101,896 ordinary suits were instituted as against 106,184 suits in 1922. This decrease in litigation was attributable to the continued effect of the recent Court Fees Act. The number of suits pending fell from 52,559 to 50,956 during the year. There was also a marked decrease in the number of suits pending for over a year in these Courts and in the number of small cause suits instituted in them. The average duration of contested ordinary suits rose from 345 days in 1922 to 351 days in 1923, while that of uncontested suits fell from 63 days to 61 days. The average duration of contested small cause suits fell from 93 days to 86 days, the duration of uncontested suits (45 days) remaining the same. In the Special Small Cause Courts 17,181 suits were filed as against 19,207 in 1922, the average duration of contested and uncontested suits falling from 133 days and 42 days, respectively, to

Revenue
CourtsAgency
CourtsDistrict
Munsifs'
CourtsSpecial Small
Cause Courts

129 days and 37 days. The number of suits instituted in Subordinate Judges' Courts during the year was 2,627 as against 3,058 in 1922. The pendency decreased from 4,159 to 3,529 during the year, as did also the number of suits pending for over a year. There was an increase in the number of small causes filed but the pendency decreased by 123. The average duration of contested original suits in Subordinate Judges' Courts was 615 days as against 541 days in 1922 and 81 days as against 100 in the case of uncontested suits. The average duration of contested small cause suits rose from 155 days in 1922 to 160 days, while that of uncontested suits fell from 147 days to 57 days. In the District Courts, other than those in the Agency tracts, 475 ordinary suits were filed, this figure being 57 lower than that for the previous year. The pendency increased by one. The average duration of contested original suits fell from 510 days in 1922 to 464 days, while that of uncontested suits rose from 130 days to 169 days. In the Madras City Civil Court 582 suits were instituted as against 553 in 1922. The arrears fell from 362 to 346 during the year. The average duration rose from 332 days in 1922 to 345 days, but fell from 57 days to 50 days in the case of uncontested suits. In the Presidency Court of Small Causes the number of suits instituted rose from 15,942 in 1922 to 17,773, the arrears from 3,107 to 4,518 and the average duration of contested and uncontested suits from 107 days and 43 days, respectively, to 123 days and 50 days. In the High Court of Judicature 979 suits were filed as against 1,105 in the previous year. The total number of suits for disposal decreased from 2,379 in 1922 to 2,311, while the arrears rose from 1,306 to 1,349. The average duration of contested suits was 497 days and of uncontested suits 175 days as against 432 and 160 days, respectively, in the previous year.

98. The number of regular appeals filed in the Agency tracts fell from 79 in 1922 to 57. The number of appeals pending at the end of the year was 38. The average duration of appeals in these Courts was 105 days as against 141 days in 1922. The percentage of confirmation was 54.76 as against 32.39 in the previous year. In the District and Subordinate Judges' Courts the number of appeals filed was 13,313 as against 12,548 in 1922. Subordinate Judges disposed of 5,757 appeals as against 5,946 in 1922 and the arrears in these Courts fell from 2,928 to 2,767. The average duration of contested appeals rose from 353 days in 1922 to 380 days and that of uncontested appeals fell from 260 to 255 days. District Judges disposed of 4,835 appeals as against 4,924 in 1922 and the arrears in these Courts increased from 9,108 to 10,709. The average duration of appeals was 392 days for uncontested and 344 days for contested appeals as against 278 and 377 days, respectively, in the previous year. The number of appeals from original decrees of Courts in the mufassal filed in the High Court during the year was 470 as against 462 in 1922. The Court disposed of 214 as against 212 in the previous year and the arrears rose from 911 to 1,167. The number of appeals filed against orders of the mufassal courts was 496 as against 471 in the previous year; 386 were disposed of and 621 were pending at the end of the year, the corresponding figures for 1922 being 280 and 511. The number of appeals filed against decrees passed on the Original Side of the High Court was 120 as against 124 in 1922; 106 were disposed of and the arrears at the end of the year rose from 138 in 1922 to 152. The number of appeals from the City Civil Court was 147, the figure for the previous year being 68. Fifty-three appeals were disposed of as against 82 in 1922, leaving 181 pending at the end of the year as against 87 in 1922. The average duration of appeals of the above classes decided during the year was 556 days as against 463 days in 1922. The number of Letters Patent appeals (other than Original Side appeals) filed during the year was 34 as against 29 in 1922. The number disposed of was 28 as against 34 in the previous year and the arrears rose from 20 to 26. Appeals against appellate decrees received during the year amounted to 1,899 as against 1,831 in 1922; 770 were decided as against 933 in the previous year and the arrears rose from 2,310 to 3,439. Appeals against appellate orders increased from 118 in 1922 to 143; the Court

Subordinate
Judges'
CourtsDistrict
CourtsCity Civil
CourtPresidency
Small Cause
CourtThe High
CourtAppellate
CourtsAgency
CourtsDistrict and
Subordinate
Courts

High Court

disposed of 93 as against 133 in 1922 and the arrears rose from 141 to 191. The average duration of second appeals was 582 days as against 646 days in the previous year. The rise in the pendency of first and second appeals was attributable to the increase in institutions and to the pressure of criminal work. The number of revision petitions filed in the High Court was 1,221 as against 943 in 1922. Of these, 553 were for the revision of decisions in small cause suits as against 432 in the previous year. The arrears rose from 996 to 1,344. The number of cases referred by lower courts, by the Board of Revenue, or by the Commissioner of Income-tax was thirteen, the average for the preceding five years being fifteen. Nineteen were left pending at the end of 1922 and the Court disposed of twenty-three out of the total of thirty-two. There were 183 working days in the Courts and a first Appellate Bench, including a Bench to try Original Side and City Civil Court appeals, sat on 141 days, a second Appellate Bench on 168 days, a Miscellaneous Bench on 156 days and a Civil Admission Court on 142 days.

Miscella-
neous

99. The number of insolvency petitions presented to the mufassal courts was 2,860 as against 2,610 in 1922. These courts disposed of 4,579 as against 4,420 in that year and the number pending at the end of the year rose from 1,338 to 1,663. The total amount of creditors' claims admitted was Rs. 22,04,104 and the total amount of assets distributed was Rs. 6,48,773. In the High Court 405 petitions were presented as against 276 in 1922 and the arrears rose from 1,058 to 1,375. The total amount of claims admitted during the year was Rs. 21,29,916 and the total amount paid as dividends to creditors was Rs. 3,65,189. The total number of applications for execution received in all mufassal courts, except Village Courts, was 337,480 as against 339,945 in 1922. The number pending at the end of the year was 52,926 as against 51,003 at the end of the previous year. Satisfaction in full was obtained in 15.94 per cent of the applications as against 16.68 per cent in the previous year and satisfaction in part in 7.98 per cent of the applications as against 7.60 per cent. The number of debtors imprisoned in execution was 3,482 as against 2,932 in the previous year. There was also an increase in the number of applications for execution received in the courts in the Presidency town and in the number pending at the end of the year. In the mufassal courts, other than Village and Panchayat Courts, 2,890,509 processes were executed, of which 348,807 were executed by amins and the remainder by peons, the proportion executed by peons being somewhat less than in 1922. The records of 3,854 Village Courts were inspected by the District Munsifs as against 3,631 in 1922. At the end of the year there were on the rolls of the High Court 223 advocates, 2,061 vakils and 63 attorneys, and in the mufassal courts there were 3,018 first-grade pleaders and 1,327 second-grade pleaders. During the year 279 new legal practitioners were admitted.

Finance

100. The total receipts of Civil, Criminal and Revenue Courts in the Presidency during 1923 amounted to Rs. 1,54,87,843 and the charges to Rs. 98,19,863, leaving a surplus of Rs. 56,67,980.

REGISTRATION (1923) AND COMPANIES (1923-24)

[G.Os. No. 93, Law (Registration), dated the 21st May 1924, and No. 1903, Law (General), dated the 26th June 1924; Statistical Abstract for British India—Registration and Joint Stock Companies]

101. The number of district charges and of District Registrars was 29 and 39, respectively, as in the preceding year. Five new sub-offices were opened as a permanent measure at Razam (Vizagapatam), Vempalle (Cuddapah), Arani (Madras-Chingleput), Valatti (Villupuram), and Bhattiprolu (Guntūr), while the appointment of a second joint sub-registrar for the Registrar's office at Vellore was made permanent. The sub-offices of Arikkod, Vandūr and Kalpakanchēri (Calicut), which had been amalgamated with other sub-offices as a temporary measure, were opened again as separate sub-offices. The experimental office at Guduru (Kurnool) was made permanent and the continuance of the temporary offices at Kosigi (Bellary) and Adirampatnam (Tanjore) for one year from 1st April 1923 and of that at Podili (Nellore) for two years from 1st December 1923 was sanctioned. As a result of the above changes, the number of sub-offices rose from 517 to 525 and the number of sub-registrars, including the seven officers borne on the establishment of the Inspector-General's office, increased from 578 to 583. To afford further convenience to the public, transfers of villages from one sub-district to another were effected in eight districts and the itinerating system of registry introduced in three more districts. The accuracy of the indexes was ensured by the daily examination of indexes by the sub-registrars and opportunities for tampering with records were reduced by the introduction of the record issue register. The number of registrations declined from 1,374,026 to 1,339,007, or by 2.55 per cent, the decrease occurring in all the districts except Tinnevely, Villupuram, Calicut, Palghat and Tellicherry. The decrease was largest in Kistna (10,034), due to the fall in the price of food-grains and the stringency of the money market. The decrease occurred in every class of document except gifts compulsorily registrable and bonds and wills optionally registrable. The aggregate value of the documents registered declined by 4.92 per cent and the average value from Rs. 450 to Rs. 439. The average registration fee, on the other hand, increased from Rs. 2-2-6 to Rs. 2-2-10 in consequence of the operation of the revised table of fees throughout the year. Applications for encumbrance certificates rose from 63,149 to 72,857, but those for copies fell from 121,787 to 117,701. Documents presented by or on behalf of co-operative societies advanced from 27,845 to 32,945 and searches made on their behalf from 5,852 to 7,023, the fees foregone being Rs. 1,38,303 as against Rs. 1,09,450. There were eight prosecutions pending at the commencement of the year and sixteen were instituted during the year, bringing up the total to 24. Of these, eight ended in conviction and seven in acquittal, while nine were left pending. Owing to the decrease in registrations, the income from fees thereon fell from Rs. 29.60 lakhs to Rs. 29.18 lakhs; but the deficiency was made up by an increase of Rs. 42 lakh under fees for searches. Nevertheless, the total income declined slightly from Rs. 36.41 lakhs to Rs. 36.30 lakhs, subject to a deduction of Rs. .08 lakh on account of refunds made during each of the years 1922 and 1923. The expenditure of the department rose from Rs. 24.38 lakhs to Rs. 24.43 lakhs owing to the grant of increments to officers and establishment and to the opening of new offices. The total surplus of income over expenditure was Rs. 11.79 lakhs as against Rs. 11.95 lakhs in 1922.

Registration
Administra-
tive changes

Registrations

Value of
transactionsSearches and
copiesCo-operative
societies

Prosecutions

Finance

102. The number of registered companies in existence rose from 706 in 1922-23 to 755. Of these, 683 possessed share capital and 72 were without. New companies numbered 96 as against 101 in the previous year and 47 companies ceased to work as against 40. The authorized, subscribed and paid-up capitals of the new companies were only 219, 34 and 19 lakhs of rupees, respectively (in round figures), as against 307,

Registered
companies
The Indian
Companies
Act, 1913

47 and 30 lakhs of rupees in the previous year. There was an appreciable increase in the number both of "Trading and Industrial concerns" and of "Banking and Loan companies." The number of new registrations was large in Madras (21) and Coimbatore (17). Of the 96 companies newly registered, 25 were private companies formed by two or three persons with the object of conducting auction or prize chits. The largest flotations in the year were two cotton mills with an authorized capital of Rs. 50 and Rs. 20 lakhs, respectively. Two corporations for the supply of electricity to the public were established by Nattukkōttai Chetties in the Rāmnād district, each with an authorized capital of two lakhs of rupees. Of the 47 companies which were removed from the register during the year, 20 went into voluntary liquidation and 27 had ceased to do any business. Trading companies possessed 35 per cent of the total paid-up capital, while both "Banking and Loan companies" and "Mills and Presses" claimed 28 per cent. Eight companies incorporated outside British India established themselves in the Presidency, and five ceased to have a place of business within its boundaries. The number of certificated auditors rose from 36 to 38. Two prosecutions only were instituted during the year. Owing to the fall in the authorized capital of the new companies registered, receipts fell from Rs. 32,634 to Rs. 29,026, while expenditure also fell from Rs. 33,127 to Rs. 29,937. One provident society went into voluntary liquidation. Of the twelve remaining societies the majority were conducted by missionary organizations. The number of Life Assurance Companies in the Presidency was unchanged.

Provident
Insurance
Societies and
Life Assur-
ance SocietiesNotaries
Public

103. The number of registering officers who exercised the functions of a Notary Public rose from 196 to 199 consequent on the appointment of the Sub-Registrars of Karaikudi, Palakollu and Kumbakonam as Notaries Public. Operations were confined to thirty-four stations as against twenty-nine in the previous year. The total number of transactions rose from 160 to 215 with an aggregate value of Rs. 3,22,023 as against Rs. 2,27,067 in the previous year. The increase in the total number of documents dealt with occurred in all the districts except Calicut, Tellicherry, Trichinopoly, Kistna and Vizagapatam and was due to the increase in the volume of trade with the consequent fluctuations. The decrease in Calicut was attributed to the return of normal trade conditions and the set-back in Trichinopoly and Tellicherry to the depression in trade. The fall in Kistna was due to the withdrawal on payment of the bills presented in the first instance. In the South Kanara district three forged promissory notes were presented at the Imperial Bank at Mangalore. The first note was Rs. 5,000, and the forgery in connexion therewith could not be detected in consequence of the payment of the amount and the destruction of the note. The other two promissory notes which were for Rs. 1,000 each were sent for protest by the Imperial Bank at Mangalore to the Registrar (Notary Public) who found on inquiry that they were forged. The alleged accused was traced and charged by the police, but was discharged by the Sub-Magistrate as the offence against him could not be proved. The District Magistrate has, however, ordered a revision of the case. Fees realized amounted to Rs. 926-3-0 as against Rs. 634-8-0 in 1922-23, and a sum of Rs. 55-7-3 was expended by Notary Public as against Rs. 46 in the previous year. Rs. 871-3-9 were remitted to the treasury during the official year, leaving a balance of Rs. 5-8-0 to be remitted in the current year. Additional charges amounting to Rs. 1-9-0 were incurred for making a seal for the newly appointed Notary Public at Palakollu. No office of Notary Public was inspected during the year by the District Judges under rule 4 of Notarial Rules.

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES

(1ST JULY 1923 TO 30TH JUNE 1924)

[Report on the working of the Co-operative Societies Act (II of 1912) for the year 1923-24 : Statistical Abstract for British India—Co-operative Societies]

104. As in the previous year there were 22 Assistant Registrars' sections. General In addition the Co-operative officer in charge of the Agency division was on its abolition retained under the designation of Extra Assistant Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Vizagapatam, and remained in charge of co-operative work in all the Agency tracts except Bhadrāchalam division which was transferred to the Assistant Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Cocanada. A scheme for the reorganization of the upper controlling staff, designed to replace the Assistant Registrars borrowed from the cadre of Deputy Collectors by a less costly agency and to make the Co-operative Department self-contained and self-sufficient while affording adequate prospects for each grade and class of officers, was under the consideration of Government during the year. Ten gentlemen were appointed as Honorary Assistant Registrars during the year, making a total of 85 at the end of the year. In November 1923 the appointments of a portion of the subordinate staff, which up till then had been only temporary, were confirmed by Government. The cost of the working of the Co-operative Societies Act during the year was Rs. 6,28,743, a sum equivalent to 75 per cent of the working capital of societies : the cost in the previous year was equivalent to 87 per cent. In most districts in the Presidency the consolidation of existing societies and the development of the movement by the formation of new societies made satisfactory progress during the year. In the Bellary and Anantapur districts, owing to an adverse season, the expansion was small and in Chittoor the attention of the co-operative staff was devoted mainly to the consolidation and rectification of bad societies. In the districts in which a marked expansion took place this result was achieved without detriment to the work of consolidation. There were 8,443 societies of all classes at the beginning of the year. During the year 1,416 societies were registered and the registration of 75 societies was cancelled. Of the societies registered during the year, 1,160 were agricultural societies, 225 were non-agricultural societies, 28 were local supervising unions and 3 were district federations of local unions. There were at the end of the year 9,785 societies in all, including one the registration of which had been cancelled in the previous year and restored upon appeal to Government. At the end of the year there were 616,628 members in 9,505 societies (excluding local supervising unions and federations of unions) giving an average of 65 members to a society as in the previous year. The total membership, however, represented less than 1.46 per cent of the total population of the Presidency. The total working capital of all societies increased from Rs. 711.59 lakhs to Rs. 839.27 lakhs during the year ; the paid-up share capital from Rs. 95.42 lakhs to Rs. 114.50 lakhs ; the deposits from individuals from Rs. 253.71 lakhs to Rs. 290.05 lakhs and the reserve fund of societies from Rs. 31.73 lakhs to Rs. 38.35 lakhs. The amount of loans advanced by Government and outstanding against societies at the end of the year was Rs. 7.88 lakhs as against Rs. 2.90 lakhs at the end of the previous year. Excluding the amount invested by one co-operative society in another, the total capital employed in the movement at the end of the year was Rs. 421 lakhs as against Rs. 359 lakhs at the end of the previous year. The large proportion represented by individual deposits (Rs. 290.05 lakhs) showed the continued confidence of the public in the soundness of the co-operative movement. Of the Rs. 7.88 lakhs due to Government by societies, loans to building societies accounted for Rs. 3.99 lakhs and loans to societies in charge of the Labour Department, for Rs. 3.89 lakhs. There was no change in the number of financing banks (33). During the year a substantial addition was made to the sums invested in the

financing banks by local boards and municipalities and, as a result, the Madras Central Urban Bank had to invest a considerable amount outside the Presidency in other provincial co-operative banks. There were 272 local supervising unions at the end of the year, twenty-eight being newly registered, and in most districts the formation of local unions kept pace with the organization of primary societies. The number of district federations of unions rose from three to six during the year. The Madras Provincial Co-operative Union did useful propagandist work during the year. The propagandist union at Masulipatam issued a co-operative periodical in Telugu (the *Sahakari*). There was a small increase in joint purchase by primary societies and in joint sale by trading societies. An interesting feature of the year's work was the development in the organization of labour on co-operative lines. The total number of societies organized for the purpose of finding work for labourers rose from nine to seventeen in spite of the opposition aroused in certain quarters and works to the value of Rs. 1,59,177 were executed by them. Another feature of special interest was the formation in the Tanjore district of four societies for the purpose of carrying out "kudimaramat" work which is generally neglected to the ryots' own detriment. There was a marked increase in the number and activity of co-operative house building societies due to the financial assistance furnished by Government. A few primary societies for weavers and a central society were started in Vellore. As a result of a change in system many societies prepared their own financial statements with the assistance of the local unions where necessary, instead of waiting, as in previous years, till the departmental auditor arrived, to complete the audit and the high percentage of such societies in certain districts showed that in these districts societies are rapidly acquiring the business capacity necessary for ascertaining their own financial position.

Working
of societies
Provincial
and Cen-
tral Banks

105. The by-laws of the Madras Central Urban Bank were amended during the year so as to enable central banks to take additional shares in order that the redemption of preference shares might not affect the borrowing capacity of the bank. The maximum limit up to which a central bank can take shares was raised to Rs. 30,000. The total share capital held by central banks in the Madras Central Urban Bank at the end of the year was Rs. 4,48,600 as compared with Rs. 3,31,000 at the end of the previous year. The policy of buying in preference shares in the Madras Central Urban Bank was continued during the year. Further progress was made in the transfer to district central banks of the loans originally given direct to primary societies by the Madras Central Urban Bank. The latter gave loans to the extent of Rs. 34.01 lakhs during the year as compared with Rs. 22.96 lakhs in the previous year. The chief reason for the large increase in transactions was the reduction in the rate of interest charged by the bank from $7\frac{1}{2}$ to 7 per cent. The total loans due to it by district central banks at the end of the year was Rs. 78.54 lakhs as against Rs. 67.79 lakhs at the end of the previous year. In spite of the reduction of the interest on loans and deposits the working capital of the central bank increased from Rs. 85.45 lakhs to Rs. 91.60 lakhs and the net profit from Rs. 1.37 lakhs to Rs. 1.52 lakhs. The total working capital of all the financing banks (including the Provincial Bank) rose from Rs. 333.27 lakhs at the beginning to Rs. 387 lakhs at the end of the year. The money borrowed by all the financing banks from outside the movement amounted on 30th June 1924 to Rs. 212.35 lakhs as compared with Rs. 183.87 lakhs at the end of the previous year. As usual the Imperial Bank of India rendered great assistance to the movement, particularly in allowing overdrafts to the financing banks at a flat rate of $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. The money deposited in the financing banks by local boards and municipalities, abkari and jail contractors and employees and contractors of local boards amounted at the end of the year to Rs. 67.39 lakhs as compared with Rs. 37.56 lakhs at the end of the previous year. All the district central banks reduced their rate of interest on loans to primary societies. The book profit and

the net divisible profit of all the financing banks (including the Provincial Bank) amounted to Rs. 7.37 lakhs and Rs. 5.88 lakhs for the year as compared with Rs. 5.64 lakhs and Rs. 5.40 lakhs, respectively, for the previous year. In regard to principal due to the financing banks the percentage of balance to demand ranged from 1.35 in the Srivilliputtur Central Bank to 57.69 in the Chittoor Central Bank. In the large majority of banks the percentage was under 40. The number of agricultural credit societies increased by 1,003 during the year to 8,103, of which 26 were on a basis of limited liability. The total number of members of agricultural societies of all classes increased during the year from 384,957 (audited figures) to 454,033, of whom 347,895 were agriculturists, 59,747 were non-agriculturists and 46,391 were partly dependent on agriculture for their livelihood. Of the members depending entirely on agriculture 36,168 were non-cultivating landholders, 230,798 were cultivating landholders, 50,908 were tenants and 30,021 were field labourers. The marked increase in membership among Adi-Dravidas and Adi-Andhras showed that the movement was making good progress amongst the depressed classes. During the year the total working capital of all agricultural societies increased from Rs. 2,65,39,957 to Rs. 3,14,97,536 and the paid-up share capital from Rs. 28,74,138 to Rs. 35,68,127. Deposits made by individuals rose from Rs. 15,53,087 to Rs. 16,69,177 while loans from financing banks increased from Rs. 2,04,91,263 to Rs. 2,42,30,373. The increase of Rs. 1,16,090 in deposits, of which members contributed Rs. 91,836 as compared with Rs. 23,547 in the previous year, was an indication of the growing appreciation by members of rural societies of the thrift aspect of the movement. The total divisible profit earned by societies during the year amounted to Rs. 4,71,557 as against Rs. 4,06,067 in the previous year. Collections again deteriorated during the year, the percentage of balance to demand under capital having risen steadily from 23.98 for the year 1919-20 to 41.69 in 1923-24. In regard to current interest the percentage rose from 21.56 to 34.73 during the same period. The percentage under arrear interest also increased as compared with the previous year. This unpunctuality in the repayment of loans was attributable, apart from special causes, to inefficient supervision on the part of a large number of local unions. This was evidenced by the fact that large variations occurred between union areas in regions where economic and climatic conditions were practically uniform. The practice of fictitious payments was at one time prevalent in agricultural credit societies but, as a result of systematic attempts to root out this evil, cases of this kind were comparatively rare. The number of agricultural societies for purchase or purchase and sale in existence at the end of the year was 77 as in the previous year, three new societies taking the place of three societies the registration of which was cancelled. Forty-seven societies earned a divisible profit of Rs. 10,221 and 30 societies incurred a loss of Rs. 38,208. There were four agricultural societies for production and sale at the end of the year. Of these, two worked at a net profit of Rs. 2,560 and the remaining two at a loss of Rs. 14,783. Agricultural credit societies effected joint purchases to the extent of Rs. 1,93,256 with an estimated saving of Rs. 12,484 to members as compared with Rs. 1,76,450 and Rs. 7,729, respectively, in the previous year. As regards joint sales, the transactions amounted to Rs. 53,972 with a gain to members of Rs. 1,414 as against Rs. 33,788 and Rs. 1,392, respectively, in the previous year. There were 122 agricultural societies of other descriptions at the end of the year. These included 112 societies consisting of members of the depressed classes and having for their main object the purchase of land and house-sites. Of the remaining ten societies, one was an irrigation society, four were societies for "kudimaramat" work, three were crop loan unions and two were building societies. The number of non-agricultural credit societies rose from 805 at the beginning of the year to 955 at the end of the year. Of the 955 societies 764 were on a basis of limited, and 191 on a basis of unlimited, liability. Substantial progress was made during the year in these societies. The membership increased from 120,588 to 138,530, the paid-up share capital from Rs. 27,63,114

Agricultural
societies

Non-agricul-
tural societies

to Rs. 33,79,065, the deposits from individuals from Rs. 51,01,668 to Rs. 58,49,827 and the working capital from Rs. 98,08,990 to Rs. 1,17,80,115. The net divisible profit for the year was Rs. 4,62,140 as compared with Rs. 3,84,692 for the previous year. The fact that deposits by non-members amounted to Rs. 31,30,009 indicated the extent of the confidence placed by the outside public in the financial soundness and good management of these societies. There was a considerable improvement in the collection of arrear interest and a slight improvement in current interest but in recoveries towards principal there was a slight decline. All limited liability societies which accepted deposits exceeding a total of Rs. 20,000 were required to maintain fluid resources in respect of those deposits in the form, and according to the standard, prescribed by Government. Wage-earners' societies, i.e., societies for Government servants, municipal employees, factory employees, etc., were among the most successful of the non-agricultural credit societies. In addition to the ordinary activities of a co-operative urban bank the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway Employees' Society and one other society undertook fidelity guarantee business on behalf of its members. There were three credit societies exclusively for women. At the end of the year there were 139 non-agricultural societies for purchase, purchase and sale, production or production and sale as compared with 127 at the beginning of the year. Of the 33 societies registered during the year, seven were urban stores, three were for the purchase of cotton and the sale of hand-spun yarn, six were for the supply of stationery to students, one was for the production and sale of khaddar cloth, one for the preparation and sale of ayurvedic medicines, one for the purchase of raw materials for basket making, one for the manufacture of slates and thirteen were purchase and sale societies for weavers. The number of co-operative stores at the end of the year was the same as at the beginning, namely 85, but there was a satisfactory increase in the value of the stock sold. Weavers' societies increased in number from 35 to 43 during the year. There was a substantial increase in the value of the stock purchased and sold and the previous years' losses were partly recouped. The number of non-agricultural societies of other descriptions rose from 31 to 72 during the year. Of these, 17 were building societies, 17 were labour societies, 1 were printing societies, 2 were co-operative hostels for students and 1 was a milk-supply society. The remaining society was a college society. Among the nine labour societies in existence at the beginning of the year, the Puttur society (South Kanara) obtained contracts from local boards and executed work to the value of Rs. 9,118; the Amalapuram Labour Union did work to the value of Rs. 1,338; the Tanjore Labour Union undertook the supply and spreading of gravel for the District Board and did work to the value of Rs. 25,000; the Pattukottah Labour Union did work to the value of Rs. 28,502; the Arantangi Labour Union supplied gravel to the local board and did work to the value of Rs. 41,000. The Madras Salt Loaders' Co-operative Society continued to work well, the wages earned for work on contract amounting to Rs. 41,334.

Miscella-
neous

106. At the end of the year there were 1,235 societies composed wholly or mainly of Adi-Dravidas or Adi-Andhras as compared with 904 such societies at the end of the previous year and the total number of Adi-Dravida and Adi-Andhra members of societies of all classes increased from 52,856 to 62,956. Of the 1,235 societies, 690 were organized by, and in charge of, the Labour Department. Societies exclusively for scavengers and sweepers increased from 32 to 35. The number of societies in the Agency tracts rose from 13 to 16 during the year. The reserve fund of all societies amounted to Rs. 38,34,994 as compared with Rs. 31,73,416 in the previous year. The Madras Central Urban Bank invested the whole, and a few district central banks a part, of their reserve in Government paper. The total reserve fund of all societies increased by 20.85 per cent, while their total working capital increased by 17.95 per cent during the year. The amount contributed by the societies for their own supervision continued to increase and the amount spent during the year under this

head was equivalent to 30.47 per cent of the amount spent by Government in working the Co-operative Societies Act. In the Presidency as a whole there was a substantial decrease in the number of civil suits filed as compared with the previous year. There was a large increase in the number of arbitration references in many districts owing to the systematic overhauling of bad and indifferent societies. The number of applications made to District Collectors for execution under the Land Revenue Recovery Act of arbitration awards was almost double that of the previous year. Four cases of misappropriation by office-bearers of societies were taken to court and ended in conviction. Model by-laws for audit unions, central weavers' societies and land mortgage banks were drawn up during the year and the model by-laws for other types of societies were revised. A few exhibits were sent to the British Empire Exhibition by co-operative societies in the Presidency and at the Exhibition in Bellary in August 1923 a first-class certificate for "cumbli" was awarded for "cumbli" produced by the Kuduthani Cumbli Weavers' Society. The annual Madras Provincial Conference was held in December 1923 and there were twelve district conferences. The sympathetic attitude of the general public towards the co-operative movement and the cordial relationship between non-official co-operators and the Co-operative Department remained unchanged.

LOCAL BOARD ADMINISTRATION (1923-24)

[Statistical Abstract for British India—District and Local Boards]

107. The number of district boards remained the same (24) but the total number of the members sitting on them fell from 972 to 970. All the district boards except the Nilgiri District Board were presided over by non-officials, eight of whom were elected. At the end of the year 950 members were taking part in the deliberations of district boards in the Presidency. Of these, 125 were ex-officio, 230 nominated by the Government and the remaining 595 elected by taluk boards as against 125, 200 and 599, respectively, in the previous year. The district boards held 232 meetings in the course of the year. One additional taluk board was constituted in the Rāmnād district and the number of taluk boards rose from 125 to 126. The presidents of 115 boards were non-officials elected by the taluk boards concerned and of the remainder all except two were presided over by non-officials. The sanctioned strength of the taluk boards rose from 2,437 to 2,702. The actual number of members at the end of the year on the taluk boards in the Presidency was 2,433, of whom 627 were nominated and 1,806 elected as against 692 and 1,710, respectively, in the previous year. Elections were held for 137 seats, of which 94 were contested, 29.9 per cent of the registered voters attending the poll as against 35.7 per cent in 1922-23. The taluk boards held 1,163 meetings during the year. The number of union boards in important villages fell from 552 to 507 owing to the abolition of certain boards and the reconstitution of others as village panchayats. The actual number of members on the 31st March 1924 on these boards was 5,264, of whom 10 were ex-officio, 1,199 nominated and 4,055 elected.

108. Under the Local Boards Act, 1920, the levy of land cess at the rate of one anna in the rupee of the annual rent value is obligatory. An additional cess up to a maximum of 3 pies can be levied for the purposes of the district board and a similar cess for purposes of the taluk board. Such additional cess was levied by 15 district boards and 87 taluk boards at varying rates. The levy of profession and companies taxes is also authorized by the Act. The former was levied during the year by 62 taluk boards and the latter by 33 taluk boards. Tolls upon carriages, carts and animals were collected in all the districts. House tax was

Finance—
Receipts

PRO-
TECTION

collected in all unions. The Elementary Education Act, 1920, authorizes the levy of a tax for the expansion of elementary education and 57 taluk boards availed themselves of this power. The cash balance under local funds at the beginning of the year was Rs. 64.92 lakhs. The total receipts amounted to Rs. 358.99 lakhs as against Rs. 337.75 lakhs in 1922-23. The increase is mainly due to extraordinary transactions under "Deposits and Advances" account. The grants received from provincial funds aggregated Rs. 88.37 lakhs as against Rs. 82.26 lakhs in the previous year. Of this sum, Rs. 7.06 lakhs were given in aid of the general resources of local boards, Rs. 25.03 lakhs for trunk roads, Rs. 38.60 lakhs for education and Rs. 2.33 lakhs for hospitals and dispensaries. A sum of Rs. 50,000 was given as a special grant to the Nilgiri District Board for the improvement of its communications besides the usual grant of Rs. 87,000.

Expenditure

Communica-
tions

109. The total expenditure of local boards was Rs. 332.38 lakhs as against Rs. 337.89 lakhs in 1922-23 and the year closed with a balance of Rs. 91.53 lakhs. The outlay on communications was Rs. 106.13 lakhs, of which Rs. 38.35 lakhs were met from Government grants, the outlay in the previous year being Rs. 103.95 lakhs and the Government grant over Rs. 17 lakhs. The length of the new roads constructed was 110 miles and the total mileage maintained at the end of the year was 26,253 of which 3,139 miles were trunk roads, towards the maintenance of which the Government contribute up to a maximum rate of Rs. 500 per mile. In 1922-23, sixty-seven miles of new road were constructed and 25,696 miles, of which 3,040 miles were trunk roads, were maintained. At the close of the year, a Sanskrit college, 163 secondary schools and 9,400 elementary schools were maintained by the local boards. A few sessional schools were also maintained. The total attendance at all the schools, other than sessional schools, was 562,565 pupils as against 538,100 in 1922-23. The total expenditure of local boards on education was Rs. 70.37 lakhs towards which provincial funds contributed Rs. 38.13 lakhs, while the income from fees and other receipts was Rs. 13.70 lakhs. The net outlay from local funds was thus Rs. 18.54 lakhs as against Rs. 21.12 lakhs in the previous year. The number of hospitals maintained by local boards was 105 and the number of dispensaries 329, or 15 dispensaries more than in the previous year. The cost of their maintenance amounted to Rs. 19.54 lakhs; 19,250 in-patients and 4,952,933 out-patients were treated. The number of vaccinators employed by the local boards rose from 480 in 1922-23 to 483; they performed successful vaccinations on 1,125,697 persons, or 29.7 per mille of the population. This was a distinct improvement on the work of the previous year when almost the same staff performed only 867,338 successful vaccinations. The total expenditure on preventive medicine including sanitation and water-supply amounted to Rs. 15.18 lakhs as against Rs. 15.52 lakhs in the previous year.

Education

Medical
relief

Vaccination

Sanitation and
preventive
medicine

Railways

110. The only district boards which possess open railways are those of Tanjore, Coimbatore, Guntūr, Salem, Kistna and Tinnevely. The total length of the lines was 275.17 miles. The total capital outlay on them was Rs. 148.76 lakhs. The gross traffic earnings of the Tanjore District Board Railway increased by Rs. 0.61 lakh to Rs. 15.82 lakhs and the working expenses fell by Rs. 1.69 lakhs to Rs. 10.11 lakhs. A sum of Rs. 0.46 lakh was paid to provincial funds towards the loan advanced by Government. The profit derived from the working of the railway was Rs. 5.71 lakhs, or 8.5 per cent of the capital outlay as against 5 per cent in 1922-23. During the year a sum of Rs. 4.49 lakhs was spent on works of a capital nature and Rs. 2.47 lakhs were appropriated to the General Account. The balance in favour of the railway cess fund at the end of the year was Rs. 30.37 lakhs in investments and Rs. 4.57 lakhs in cash. The gross earnings of the Pōdanūr-Pollāchi Railway were Rs. 3.92 lakhs and the working expenses Rs. 2.10 lakhs. The net profit on the working of the railway was Rs. 1.82 lakhs, or 12.98 per cent of the capital outlay as against 13.6 per cent in 1922-23. The railway cess fund in the district closed with a balance of Rs. 9.30 lakhs in investments and Rs. 3.24 lakhs in cash. The gross earnings of the Tenali-Rēpalle Railway in Guntūr

PRO-
TECTION

were Rs. 2.09 lakhs and the working expenses Rs. 1.04 lakhs. The net earnings amounted to Rs. 1.05 lakhs, or 6.9 per cent of the capital outlay as against 6.6 per cent in 1922-23. The closing balance of the railway cess fund was Rs. 6.98 lakhs in investments and Rs. 0.05 lakh in cash. The gross earnings of the Salem-Suramangalam Railway were Rs. 1.30 lakhs and the working expenses Rs. 0.80 lakh. The net earnings amounted to Rs. 0.50 lakh or 9.6 per cent of the capital outlay as against 8.9 per cent in 1922-23. The closing balance of the railway cess fund was Rs. 8.55 lakhs in investments and Rs. 1.16 lakhs in cash. In Kistna the gross earnings of the Bezvada-Masulipatam Railway were Rs. 8.25 lakhs and the working expenses Rs. 3.71 lakhs. The net earnings of the line amounted to Rs. 4.54 lakhs, or 19.8 per cent of the capital outlay as against 19.3 per cent in 1922-23. The closing balance of the railway cess fund was Rs. 22.93 lakhs in investments and Rs. 3.56 lakhs in cash. The Board had to repay Government at the end of the year Rs. 4.96 lakhs out of the loan taken for the construction of the railway. The gross earnings of the Tinnevely-Tiruchendūr Railway which was opened for traffic in February 1923 amounted to Rs. 4.32 lakhs and the working expenses to Rs. 2.23 lakhs. The net earnings of the line was Rs. 2.09 lakhs, or 8.5 per cent of the capital outlay. A sum of Rs. 3.58 lakhs was spent during the year on the construction of the railway and in repairing the damage caused to it by the floods in December 1923. The balance to the credit of the railway fund was Rs. 5.50 lakhs in investments and Rs. 1.43 lakhs in cash. At the close of the year this Board had to repay Rs. 14.94 lakhs to Government and Rs. 5.50 lakhs to the Tanjore District Board towards the loans taken by it for railway construction.

MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION—MUFASSAL (1923-24)

[Statistical Abstract for British India—Municipalities]

111. The total number of municipal councils remained the same as in the previous year, viz., 80. The total sanctioned number of seats rose from 1,724 to 1,734. The number actually occupied at the end of the year was 1,677. Of the members, 2 were ex-officio, 408 nominated by the Government and the remaining 1,267 elected by the rate-payers. There were elected members in all the municipalities except Anantapur. In Anantapur, as the councillors failed to take the oath of allegiance to the Crown within the period prescribed by law, the Council ceased to exist on the 24th November 1922. It was reconstituted from the 1st February 1923. On its reconstitution all the councillors were appointed by the Government for a period of eighteen months. The proportion of Indian to European and Anglo-Indian members remained almost stationary. Forty-eight councils consisted entirely of Indian members as against forty-six in the previous year. The councils held 2,283 meetings in all, or 31 more than in the previous year, and 257 meetings were adjourned for want of a quorum. The average attendance of councillors at each meeting was 59 per cent of the total strength as against 60 per cent in 1922-23.

112. The opening balance was Rs. 25.64 lakhs. Current receipts, excluding the opening balance, amounted to Rs. 138.43 lakhs as against Rs. 125.17 lakhs in 1922-23. Though the difference was largely due to extraordinary items such as loans there was a substantial increase in the general revenues by over Rs. 4 lakhs. Of the receipts Rs. 54.18 lakhs were derived from taxes. The average incidence of taxation per head of population was Rs. 2-2-8 as against the Presidency average of Rs. 2-0-4 in 1922-23. The grants from Provincial funds amounted to Rs. 10.62 lakhs as against Rs. 12.13 lakhs in 1922-23; of this, Rs. 7.44 lakhs were for education, Rs. 1.70 lakhs for trunk roads and Rs. 0.41 lakh for medical relief. The increase in the grant for trunk roads was due to the payment in advance during 1923-24 of three-fourths of the maximum grant admissible to local bodies in addition to the usual grants. Loans

amounting to Rs. 7.60 lakhs were advanced by the Government as against Rs. 3.75 lakhs in the previous year. The Madura municipal council took a loan of Rs. 4.30 lakhs for drainage works and the Ootacamund municipal council Rs. 2.00 lakhs for the lighting of the town with electricity and Rs. 11,000 for the construction of rat-proof godowns. Seven other councils borrowed smaller sums for various purposes.

ExpenditureCommunica-
tionsWater-supply
and drainageMedical
relief

Education

Preventive
medicine and
sanitation

Debt

113. The total expenditure amounted to Rs. 133.75 lakhs. The expenditure on communications amounted to Rs. 23.73 lakhs, of which Rs. 10.79 lakhs were spent on the maintenance of roads and Rs. 8.35 lakhs on lighting. The Public Works Department had under execution water-works in four municipal towns, improvements and extensions to the existing water-works in four other municipalities and drainage schemes in three towns. In three towns the municipal staff was carrying out improvements to the water-supply. Water-supply schemes for two towns, schemes of improvements to existing water-works in two municipalities, a drainage scheme for one town and a scheme of improvements to drainage in another were sanctioned for execution, but all of these, except the two schemes of improvements to water-supply, have been deferred on account of financial considerations. The total expenditure under Water-supply and drainage including the capital charges was Rs. 21.35 lakhs, of which Rs. 0.08 lakh was met from Provincial grants and Rs. 4.30 lakhs from loans advanced by the Government. Municipal councils maintained 57 hospitals and 56 dispensaries. The number of in-patients treated was 27,018 and the number of out-patients 2,073,960. The total cost of medical relief was Rs. 8.94 lakhs. There were 1,257 elementary schools maintained by municipal councils, or 97 more than in the previous year. The number of municipal secondary schools increased from 37 to 45. The total expenditure on elementary education was Rs. 11.34 lakhs, of which Rs. 5.78 lakhs were met from Government grants and Rs. 4.95 lakhs from municipal funds. The total expenditure on secondary education was Rs. 7.22 lakhs, of which Rs. 1.84 lakhs were met from Provincial funds, and the net debit to municipal funds was Rs. 2.27 lakhs. The expenditure in 1922-23 under this head was Rs. 6.64 lakhs, Rs. 1.59 lakhs being provided from Government funds and Rs. 1.40 lakhs from municipal funds. The expenditure under preventive medicine including conservancy was Rs. 24.45 lakhs. The closing balance of the year was Rs. 30.32 lakhs. The public debt outstanding against municipalities rose from Rs. 38.29 lakhs to Rs. 42.67 lakhs.

MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION CITY OF MADRAS (1923-24)

[Administration Report of the Corporation of Madras for the year 1923-24 :
Statistical Abstract for British India—Municipalities]

Finance

114. The total receipts for the year, including the opening balance, amounted to Rs. 93,43,136 as compared with Rs. 97,57,369 last year. Revenue from all sources amounted to Rs. 53,95,037 as against Rs. 53,71,938 in 1922-23, an increase of Rs. 23,099. Towards this income municipal taxes contributed Rs. 39,90,685 and municipal fees and miscellaneous receipts Rs. 14,04,352 as against Rs. 40,34,853 and Rs. 13,37,085, respectively, in 1922-23. The incidence of taxation (including tolls) per head of the population was Rs. 7-9-2 as against Rs. 7-12-3 in the preceding year. The Corporation received from Government during the year a free grant of Rs. 2,00,000 and a loan of Rs. 2,00,000 for improving the water-supply and the drainage systems. A loan of Rs. 5,00,000 was also received from Government for the Mambalam Town Planning scheme. The debt at the end of the year amounted to Rs. 138.79 lakhs and the sinking fund relating to the various loans, exclusive of Government loans repayable in instalments, was Rs. 39,40,635, of which Rs. 39,23,700 were invested in Government securities and Madras municipal debentures, and a sum of Rs. 16,935 was held in cash. Payments amounting to Rs. 5,28,187 were

made during the year towards the repayment of, and as interest on, the Government instalment loans of Rs. 55 lakhs.

115. The total sum expended on works during the year amounted to Rs. 33.94 lakhs as against Rs. 31.54 lakhs in 1922-23. Of this sum Rs. 16.12 lakhs were spent on new works, Rs. 16.00 lakhs on repairs and Rs. 1.82 lakhs on establishment and miscellaneous charges. Rupees eighty-four thousand eight hundred and sixty-seven were spent during the year on general improvements in the communications of the city, including Rs. 68,610 on the construction of a bridge over the railway in Police Commissioner's Office Road, while Rs. 6.97 lakhs were spent on repairs as against Rs. 7.02 lakhs in the previous year. One mile, 7 furlongs and 101 yards of unmetalled roads were metalled for the first time, and 50.50 miles of roads were re-formed as against 62.22 miles last year. The cost of re-forming the roads was Rs. 3,518 per mile as against Rs. 4,524 per mile in 1922-23, the saving being entirely due to a fall in the price of metal. Seven miles, 2 furlongs, 114 yards and 2 feet of road were tarred for the first time, and 4 miles, 1 furlong, 155 yards and 2 feet were re-tarred. One furlong, 36 yards and 3 feet were laid with asphalt macadam. Rupees five lakhs thirty-seven thousand and seventy were expended on new buildings and acquisition of land for the Mambalam scheme, and Rs. 56,621 on repairs to buildings as compared with Rs. 71,690 and Rs. 30,937, respectively, in 1922-23. Fourteen bathing fountains were constructed during the year; alterations and improvements were made to the Model Milch Depot in the Basin Bridge Road and to the sheep slaughter-house in Perambūr, and five wells were constructed in the Chetput and Robinson Park Dhoby Khanas. Land was acquired in Egmore for the Pudupet hutting ground, and the construction of the main buildings of the model lines for conservancy coolies was completed. The construction of an infectious diseases hospital at the old Fiji emigration depot was in progress and the re-construction of the evening bazaar near the Moore Market was completed. During the year the Mambalam scheme under the Town Planning Act was undertaken by the Corporation. The Mambalam scheme covers an area of about 1,200 acres and the town planning of the portion known as Eastern Mambalam comprising about 600 acres in extent was first taken up and about 430 acres of land were acquired. During the year the limits of the Madras City were extended by the addition of nearly 2 square miles. A sum of Rs. 6.07 lakhs was expended on new works during the year and Rs. 4.10 lakhs on maintenance. The revised restricted programme was completed and considerable progress was made with the urgently required drainage works. The Napier Park, Ice House Road and Purasawakam pumping stations were completed and 145 house connexions to the sewers were made during the year. Expenditure on new works amounted to Rs. 3.80 lakhs as compared with Rs. 6.64 lakhs last year while Rs. 3.74 lakhs were spent on maintenance work during the year as against Rs. 3.25 lakhs in 1922-23. The quantity of water supplied during the year was 5,476.20 millions of gallons, which is equivalent to nearly 28.7 gallons per head per day; the maximum average daily consumption per head in any month was 32.7 gallons and the minimum was 24.5 gallons. During the year the waste detection staff examined 18,961 houses and brought to notice as many as 1,792 defects in the service pipes. Six hundred and twenty-six new services were laid by licensed plumbers and 2,371 were repaired, cleaned, altered or extended in the year. The total number of house service connexions in the city on the 31st March 1924 was 32,501. On the 31st March 1924 there were 1,575 meters on house services in use, metering having been extended as rapidly as possible and as fast as funds would allow. During the year 6 furlongs and 36½ yards of pipes were removed, cleaned and relaid and 1 mile and 5 furlongs and 75 yards of new mains were laid as compared with 3 miles, 1 furlong and 88½ yards last year. Fourteen valves, 371 stop-cocks, 39 hydrants and 146 meters were also fixed. One hundred and fifty-two fountains, 4 cattle troughs and 14 bathing fountains were erected and 120 fountains and 4 cattle troughs were

Works

Communica-
tions

Buildings

Drainage

Water-supply

removed during the year. At the end of the year, there were 2,014 fountains, 77 cattle troughs and 47 bathing fountains. The quantity of water taken out of Red Hills lake during the year was 1,051,532,577 c.ft. as against 919,933,794 c.ft. in the previous year. Towards the end of December 1923 it became apparent that the year's rainfall had proved a failure and thus the prospect of getting any considerable quantity of water into the Red Hills tank was quite remote. All possible measures were therefore taken to conserve the water in the lake and also to reduce consumption in the city.

Education

116. A sum of Rs. 2,02,400 was paid from Corporation funds as contribution towards the Education Fund. The expenditure on education during the year amounted to Rs. 1.87 lakhs as against Rs. 1.76 lakhs last year. Three schools were opened during the year in buildings constructed by the Corporation and two girls' schools in rented buildings, while the two Government Muhammadan girls' schools were taken over by the Corporation from Government in April 1923. The total number of schools under the management of the Corporation thus rose from 35 to 42 including the branch school at Nochikuppam. The number of pupils on the rolls of the Corporation schools was 8,727 (6,731 boys and 1,996 girls) on the 31st March 1924 as compared with 6,215 (5,281 boys and 934 girls) on the last day of the previous year. There were 234 male teachers and 19 female teachers employed on the 31st March 1924, of whom nearly all were qualified. Thirty-three of the schools were held in Corporation buildings and nine in rented ones. Thirty schools provided manual training in wood work and three schools gave practical instruction in tailoring. Night schools were held in twenty-five of the Corporation schools, seven of which were provided with electric lights for the convenience of those attending them. The medical inspection of boys attending the Corporation schools was conducted by the medical officers in charge of the twelve Corporation dispensaries.

Sanitation
and medical
services

117. Expenditure on sanitation amounted to Rs. 8.10 lakhs as compared with Rs. 7.96 lakhs last year. The usual contribution of Rs. 20,000 for hospitals was paid to the Provincial Funds during the year and contributions amounting to Rs. 19,104 were made to other hospitals and dispensaries. The maintenance of the Corporation hospitals and dispensaries cost Rs. 2.09 lakhs as against Rs. 1.54 lakhs in the previous year. The total number of patients treated was 312,283 as compared with 265,434 last year. The expenditure on vaccination and registration of births and deaths increased from Rs. 38,737 to Rs. 47,423 during the year. The total number of persons vaccinated was 36,629 as compared with 51,863 in the previous year. Operations for the prevention of malaria were continued during the year and several insanitary tanks and anti-malarial drains were cleaned.

Vaccination
and registra-
tion of births
and deaths
Anti-malarial
operationsMiscella-
neous

118. On the 31st March 1924, there were 6,421 electric lights and 1,058 oil lamps in use in the city. Expenditure under this head was Rs. 3.99 lakhs, of which a sum of Rs. 1.98 lakhs was spent on maintenance. Expenditure on the public parks during the year amounted to Rs. 37,879 as against Rs. 30,182 in the previous year. The cost of maintaining the fire engines was Rs. 41,810 as compared with Rs. 35,762 last year. There were 85 fire calls as against 69 in the previous year, but only in 25 cases was there any work for the engines.

MILITARY—AUXILIARY AND TERRITORIAL FORCES (1923-24).

119. The strength of the twelve Auxiliary Force units in the Madras district on 31st March 1924 was 6,209 all ranks, including 2,527 in the reserve. During the year under review progress was made in the formation of a Light Motor Boat Patrol at Cochin. The Kolar Gold Fields Battalion, Auxiliary Force (India), formed a Cadet Company of 79 and good progress was made in the training of this Company. Nearly 70 per cent of the members of the Auxiliary Force attended the annual camps. Internal security and defence post schemes were rehearsed in conjunction with regular troops. Very satisfactory progress was made by all units and a very keen spirit was exhibited by all ranks.

Military
Auxiliary
Force

120. The 11th, 12th, 13th and 14th Battalions, 3rd Madras Regiment, carried out very successfully their periodical and recruits training. No difficulty was found in keeping these Battalions up to their authorized strength. The 5th (Madras) Battalion, University Training Corps, continued to be successful. Recruiting for this unit is very satisfactory and at their annual camp in Bangalore there were very few absentees. During the year under review all Indian Territorial Force units were inspected by the General Officer Commanding, Madras District, who was impressed by the keenness and enthusiasm displayed by all ranks.

Indian
Territorial
Force

MARINE (1923-24)

[Reports of the Madras Port Trust and of the Madras Port Department for the year 1923-24; Statistical Abstract for British India—Port Trusts]

121. The gross receipts of the harbour under taking during the year proved to be the largest on record and amounted to Rs. 29,84,285 and showed an increase of Rs. 1,80,034 when compared with the receipts of the previous year. This increase was, however, largely due to the inclusion, in revenue, of interest amounting to Rs. 1,63,819 derived from Government securities purchased with the proceeds of capital loans. Expenses also showed an increase, which was almost entirely due to payments of interest and sinking funds. The net result of working for the year was a profit of Rs. 1,64,582 as compared with Rs. 3,33,659 in 1922-23. A sinking fund was raised for the repayment of the loan raised in London in the previous year. The outstanding amount of loans due to the Secretary of State for India in Council was Rs. 1,46,59,610 at the end of the year.

Madras
Port Trust
Finance

122. Some progress was made in the collection of materials for the new deep-water quay which it is proposed to construct at a cost of Rs. 12,00,000 and also in the construction of a new breakwater which, it is estimated, will cost Rs. 9,00,000. The low-level tank which forms part of a new fresh water reservoir was completed. Two berths were equipped with 8-inch pipes for bunkering oil-burning vessels; the boilers of the hydraulic power house and the boilers of the tug *Thruster* were converted to burn oil. The suction dredger *Madras* worked for 200 days during the year, of which 103 were spent on maintenance dredging and 97 days in deepening the harbour to 32 feet. This boat dredged 110,268 tons of mud at a cost of 24.941 annas per ton including interest and cost of depreciation.

Works

123. A further record was reached in the total tonnage of imports and exports, which amounted to 984,715 tons as compared with the previous record of 975,883 tons in 1922-23. Imports increased slightly from 758,928 tons in 1922-23 to 759,578 tons, but the tonnage of exports was the largest on record, being 225,137 tons. Of the total traffic 963,106 tons were sea-borne as against 975,100 tons in the previous year, the difference between the total traffic and the amount sea-borne consisting almost entirely of rail-borne coal. Imports of rice showed little variation as compared with those of the previous year. Imports of coal showed an increase of 13.6 per cent and were the largest on record. They consisted for the most part of Bengal coal.

Traffic

Ninety per cent of the sea-borne coal was loaded direct into waggons at the quay. The imports of kerosene oil increased by 11.6 per cent during the year and there was a large expansion in the imports of spices and unmanufactured tobacco. The increases in the imports of glassware and matches were due chiefly to consignments from Germany and Austria, respectively. Other imports which showed an increase were piece-goods, motor-cars, paper, provisions and oilmanstores, hardware and fodder. Imports of machinery and metals were much below the exceptionally heavy imports of 1922-23, while there was also a decrease in the imports of motor cycles, fuel and mineral oils (other than kerosene), raw cotton, yarn, gunnies, teak, chemicals, Government stores and building materials. There was a considerable expansion, however, in the imports of Australian timber. The exports of groundnuts, which form the principal commodity shipped from the Port of Madras, showed a decrease of 8.8 per cent when compared with those of the previous year. Exports of raw cotton, however, increased from 10,666 tons to 18,319 tons or by 71.8 per cent. There was also a new development of the export traffic of the port in the shape of the shipment to Europe of 21,649 tons of cane jaggery. The export trade in tanned hides expanded by 24 per cent; that in raw hides by 15 per cent. Other exports which showed an increase were castor-seed, oil-cake, piece-goods, raw and manufactured tobacco, Government stores, and vegetables. There was a decrease in the exports of bone-manure, onions, ores and vegetable oils.

Minor ports
Finance

124. The receipts of the Port, Marine and Coast Light funds amounted to Rs. 31.18 lakhs and the expenditure to Rs. 31.83 lakhs as against Rs. 25.37 lakhs and Rs. 20.37 lakhs, respectively, in the previous year. The closing balance consisted of Rs. 10.61 lakhs in cash and Rs. 22.97 lakhs in Government securities, the corresponding figures for the previous year being Rs. 15.39 lakhs and Rs. 16.80 lakhs, respectively. The total collections from port dues amounted to Rs. 6.67 lakhs as against Rs. 5.12 lakhs in 1922-23. The aggregate value of sea-borne trade of the minor ports in the Presidency was 49.12 crores as against Rs. 43.65 crores in the previous year. Tuticorin continued to hold the foremost place among the minor ports, Cochin remaining second. Nineteen thousand five hundred and twenty-eight vessels with an aggregate tonnage of 6,887,301 tons entered the various outports during the year as against 18,677 vessels with an aggregate tonnage of 5,740,593 tons in the previous year. The total number of passengers that arrived at, and sailed from, the various outports was 552,193 as against 518,261 in 1922-23. The largest number, as usual, travelled via Danushkodi.

General

125. Original works to the value of Rs. 17.41 lakhs were executed by the Port Department, the Public Works and the Harbour Engineer's departments for the Port and Marine funds. Schemes for the improvement of the Negapatam bar were considered during the year. The Harbour Engineer's report on the result of the experimental works at Cochin was also under the consideration of Government at the close of the year. The supply of boats was equal to the demand at the various ports. With effect from the 1st January 1924 the port of Tuticorin was constituted a separate port with a separate port fund. A Port Conservancy Board was constituted at Cochin from the 1st November 1923. Cocanada and other northern ports on the coast experienced a severe cyclone in November. At Vizagapatam eight licensed boats and a ferry boat were washed away, and at Baruva six boats were smashed, but there was no loss of life. The total number of wrecks and casualties reported from the outports during the year was 17 as against 15 in the previous year. Dredging operations for the maintenance of boat channels were carried out at Cocanada, Cuddalore, Negapatam, Mangalore, Cochin and Tuticorin. All coast lights, with the exception of Havelock Point which was extinguished and abandoned as of no further use to shipping, were exhibited throughout the year without interruption.

MORTALITY FROM WILD ANIMALS AND SNAKES (1923)

[Report on the mortality caused by wild animals and snakes, and the measures adopted for the destruction of wild animals during the year 1923]

126. The number of persons killed by wild animals during the year was 851 as against 901 in the previous year. The mortality from wild animals was highest in Ganjam and Vizagapatam and caused mostly by tigers. The number of persons who died as the result of snake bite rose to 1,150 from 936 last year. The largest number of deaths (169) occurred in Tanjore.

Mortality
Wild animals
Snakes

127. One thousand seven hundred and twenty-five animals were destroyed during the year as compared with 2,022 in 1922, and rewards of the aggregate value of Rs. 19,790 were paid as against Rs. 21,246 last year.

Rewards

MISCELLANEOUS (1923)

[Reports on the working of the Indian Arms and Explosives Acts: Return of sulphur licences in force during the year 1923]

128. The total number of licences in force under the Indian Arms Act rose by 3,437 to 62,223, the increase being chiefly in Malabar, Madura and Chittoor districts. In the Malabar district the abnormal increase was due to the fact that the issue of licences in the previous year had been restricted as a consequence of the Mappilla rebellion. The increase in the Madura and Chittoor districts was attributed to the freer issues of licences in those districts. The number of licences issued for the destruction of wild animals doing injury to crops or cattle rose from 13,261 to 14,634. Licences to carry arms for sport, protection or display numbered 46,557, or 2,246 more than in the previous year. The number of breech-loading guns licensed rose from 13,379 to 15,292. There was a fall (243) in the total number of revolvers licensed, the Coimbatore district showing a marked decrease. The number of pistols which were licensed was 567 as against 570 last year. The total number of licences issued under the Indian Explosives Act rose by 1,442 to 9,731, the increase being mainly due to a large number of licences issued in the Coimbatore district for blasting wells. There were 553 prosecutions under the Arms and Explosives Acts, of which 455 resulted in conviction giving a percentage of 82 as against 86 in the previous year. The Salem district contributed the largest number of prosecutions. There was a slight increase in the number of sulphur licences but the quantity for which licences were obtained remained practically the same. No illicit manufacture of fire-arms was detected in any part of the Presidency.

Arms, explo-
sives and
sulphur

CHAPTER IV

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION

AGRICULTURE (1923-24)

[Report on the operations of the Department of Agriculture and the Administration Report of the Civil Veterinary Department for 1923-24 : Statistical Abstract for British India—Agricultural Statistics]

General

129. Two senior officers of the Department of Agriculture retired on proportionate pension, four of its senior officers in two years being lost to the Department in this manner. The Government Agricultural Engineer's section was reorganized. Following the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee the posts of two upper subordinates, four lower subordinates and one overseer were abolished in the department. Land was acquired for a millet breeding station and the lay-out of the farm and the construction of some of the necessary buildings were completed. A representative collection of specimens of various crops together with models of agricultural implements was sent to the British Empire Exhibition. Bales of cotton were also supplied to the Indian Central Cotton Committee for this purpose and specimens were supplied to the section dealing with the mycological diseases of Empire crops. The construction of four provincial quarters and sixteen quarters for subordinate officers partially relieved the shortage of quarters. The Certificate course at the Agricultural College, Coimbatore, was not popular and it was decided to abandon it and replace it by a special intermediate course with agriculture as the main subject. The results of the B.Sc. Ag. examinations held in 1923 were disappointing, only eight out of the seventeen students who appeared obtaining a degree. Selection for the new class in the degree course was made by a committee consisting of the Hon'ble the Minister for Development, the Director of Agriculture and the Principal. There were 68 applicants, 20 were selected and out of these only seven actually joined, of whom two resigned early in the session. College Day and the usual Agricultural Conference were held in July 1923, the Hon'ble the Minister for Development, Sir K. Venkata Reddi Nayudu Garu, presiding. The work at the Talipparamba Agricultural Middle School was satisfactory and the school is gradually becoming popular. The Agricultural School at Anakāpalle was housed in permanent buildings and 23 students were enrolled. The south-west monsoon was favourable on the west coast and in the great deltas, but was feeble elsewhere and it was not until September that good rains were received. The north-east monsoon commenced in time and gave heavy rains along the east coast in October, but was afterwards diverted to the north and south with ruinous effects. A severe cyclone in November caused serious damage in Ganjām and Vizagapatam, while the Deccan and central districts and the west coast received little or no rain.

Season and rainfall

Agricultural research and experiments
Sugarcane

130. The sugarcane breeding station at Coimbatore experimented with 170 different combinations and 130,000 seedlings were raised. Seeds were sent to the Government experiment station at Anakāpalle and raised there with fair success. A survey of the sugarcane tract in the north of the Presidency was effected by a special officer. Experiments were conducted at the Samalkot station with a view to ascertaining how far the "Red Rot" disease of canes is controllable by cultivation methods. The system of line-planting was found to give an increased yield of 11·3 per cent and to result in a saving of 12·6 per cent of setts. Manurial experiments were continued at Pāiūr station. At the paddy breeding station,

Paddy.

Coimbatore, an especially good season was experienced. The strains known as Co. Nos. I and II as well as G.E.B. No. 24 were multiplied and seed was distributed on a large scale. A new strain, Co. No. III, was evolved, while other promising strains continued under trial. Seventeen thousand and ninety-four pounds of seed were distributed from the Coimbatore station during the year. The station at Aduturai gained in popularity and attracted an increasing number of visitors. The total quantity of seed distributed from this station was 71,805 lb. Breeding experiments in cotton were continued on the various stations. A new farm at Guntūr was put in working order during the year. It was definitely established as the result of six years' experiments at Nandyal that it does not pay to manure cotton followed by sorghum each year, but that manuring in alternate years results in a profitable return. Work was begun in the new millets breeding station at Coimbatore and the study of *calocoris* resistance in cholam was taken up by the Millets Specialist in co-operation with the Government Entomologist. Research work with coconuts was continued on the lines of past years. A new line of research was definitely undertaken, however, viz., the self-pollination of a few trees specially selected as being of a desirable type and heavy yielders. During the year Mr. Sampson's book on coconuts summarizing the results obtained on Government experimental stations for the past five years was published. Apples and plums at the pomological station at Coonoor did particularly well but the only variety of raspberry which has proved successful is that known as the "Bangalore Raspberry," a cultivated variety of the species indigenous to the Nilgiris—*Rubus lasiocarpus*. At Kallar the sapodilla (*Aschras Sapota*), a fruit new to the district, was successfully grown. Various problems arising in the cultivation of coffee, tea and rubber were studied by officers of the department. Special attention was paid to the diseases of tea and the Rubber Mycologist carried out research on several problems, the most important of which is the question of protecting rubber trees from the ravages of *Phytophthora Meadii*, which produces an abnormal leaf-fall. Classes were also held to teach estate writers how to apply the Keuchenius isolation method for the treatment of brown bast. The study of potato cultivation was continued during the year on the Nanjanad potato farm and the study of chillies was begun on the Guntūr farm. Manurial experiments were conducted in Guntūr with a view to improve the tobacco crop. Good results were obtained from the cross-breeding of cattle at Coimbatore. The production of milk per cow per day in the college dairy in January was 14·7 lb. per cow as against 8·2 lb. in January 1921, before the introduction of cross-breds. A buffalo breeding station was opened at Guntūr.

131. In the Chemical section 1,051 analyses of soil, manure, etc., were conducted during the year either in connexion with field research or for the public. A further study was made of the manurial action of calcium cyanamide and other manures and of the conditions governing ammonia fixation in the different soils of the Presidency. The result of experiments on the storage of farmyard manure was in favour of the loose-box system. Large scale experiments on the malting of cholam were conducted and it was clearly shown that it is possible to control the temperature and to malt cholam satisfactorily on a commercial scale. Though the Bacteriological section was abolished in 1922-23, a limited amount of bacteriological work was done. A large number of plants were identified by the Botanical section, and Part V of Gamble's *Flora of the Madras Presidency* was published. A satisfactory method of budding Hevea rubber, an operation which is attended by special difficulties in the South of India, was discovered by the Rubber Mycologist. The abnormal year was exceptionally favourable to most insect pests. Investigations into the habits of the fruit moth in the Kistna district and into the methods for the control of the hairy caterpillar were conducted. In the field of mycology, investigation was made into various diseases of cotton, arecanuts, coffee, cholam and cardamoms.

Cotton

Dry grains

Coconuts

Fruit culture

Planters' crops

Miscellaneous crops

Live stock

Scientific research and experiments
Chemistry

Bacteriology

General botany

Entomology

Mycology

**Chapter IV
PRODUC-
TION AND
DISTRIBU-
TION****Aids to the
public****Operations
against
disease****Demonstra-
tion of
farms and
plots****Crops****Agricultural
and cattle
shows****Agricultural
Engineering****Statistics****Finance**

132. The Pest Act was applied to the cultivation of Cambodia cotton for the fourth year in succession in five taluks of the Salem district, five taluks in the Trichinopoly district, to the whole of the Madura district and to the whole of the Coimbatore district except the Kollegal taluk. The time for the removal of the plants from the ground was again extended to the 1st September, but the removal of cotton was not completed till the 20th September or later. The effect of lengthening the cropping season for two years in succession was bad and, as a sufficient "dead season" was not provided, insect pests were found to be again increasing. Operations under the Pest Act to combat palm disease in the Northern Circars were continued, as also were those directed against the coconut caterpillar. The *mahali* disease of arecanuts was favoured by climatic conditions and spread to coconuts. A very strenuous educational campaign was undertaken to teach the ryots the correct method of dealing with this disease (viz., early spraying with Bordeaux mixture) and, in conjunction with the co-operative societies, chemicals and sprayers were placed at the command of the ryots as cheaply as possible.

133. There were about 600 demonstration plots of the kind described in the Administration Report for 1922-23 in existence during the year. The majority were successful and appreciated by the ryots, but it was found impossible to obtain harvest results from all of them for lack of staff. The marked improvement in cultivation methods and the consequent increase in profit to the ryots in the neighbourhood of the demonstration farm established some years previously at Gudiyattam resulted in the decision to establish three or four similar but smaller farms in different places in order to spread the knowledge over a wider area. Improved varieties of sugarcane were introduced in the Vizagapatam and Ganjam districts and in the Rajahmundry taluk of the Godavari district. "Red Mauritius" has almost completely replaced local varieties in South Kanara. The demonstration of iron mills for crushing sugarcane was carried on in sugarcane districts. Steady progress was made in the introduction of the "Sindewahe" furnace for boiling jaggery with fuel consisting of sugarcane waste. The use of this furnace is calculated to effect a saving of Rs. 60 per acre on fuel and cultivation expenses and an increase of Rs. 30 per acre on the out-turn of jaggery. The reduction of the seed-rate and the adoption of methods of economic planting were taught to paddy growers throughout the Presidency. Progress was made in the popularization of improved strains of cotton. In Bellary district 81,000 acres were cropped with H. 25 cotton seed which has nearly supplanted the local variety. The department sold 1,340 iron ploughs as against 584 in 1922-23. The use of green and other manures was encouraged in all circles.

134. An increased number of small agricultural exhibitions was held at local fairs and festivals, numbering some 50 in all as against 25 in the previous year. These exhibitions proved to be of great use and arrangements were made to develop this line of work more fully in the future. Owing to the prevalence of famine conditions the usual cattle show at Tiruppur was not held.

135. No research work in Agricultural Engineering was conducted during the year owing to lack of personnel.

136. The usual reports and returns were issued during the year and press summaries were also published in the newspapers. A condition report of the cotton crop was published in January to meet the wishes of the cotton trade. The areas estimated in the crop forecasts in 1922-23 differed from the actuals by 0.2 to 3.8 per cent.

137. Expenditure decreased from Rs. 14,82,243 to Rs. 14,47,949 and receipts rose from Rs. 3,22,815 to Rs. 3,54,655, the net expenditure thus declining from Rs. 11,59,428 to Rs. 10,93,294. The increase in receipts was mainly due to the higher price which the cotton lint and seeds sold by the department fetched over the ruling price.

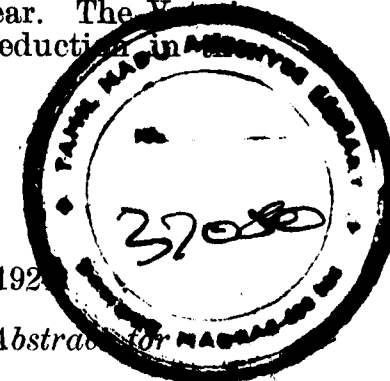
138. The department consisted of a Chief Superintendent, one Divisional Superintendent and four Deputy Superintendents till the 1st November 1923, when the post of the Divisional Superintendent was abolished and the Presidency was divided into five circles each in charge of a Circle officer under the direct control of the Chief Superintendent. On account of the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee, the grade of Inspector was abolished and the men holding charge of ranges were posted to the charge of veterinary institutions. There were 190 Veterinary Assistant Surgeons on the rolls. Six new dispensaries were opened and three more touring Assistant Surgeons appointed during the year. At the veterinary institutions in the Presidency, excluding the Madras Veterinary College Hospital, 2,688 castrations were performed, 82,401 in-patients and out-patients treated, and 4,209 cases supplied with medicine without being brought to the institutions. The touring staff carried out 18,540 inoculations, treated 40,030 contagious and non-contagious cases and castrated 6,844 animals. The mortality amongst cattle from contagious diseases dropped from 28,178 in the year 1922-23 to 23,134 during the year under report, but there was an increase in the number of casualties under the heads of Anthrax, Hæmorrhagic Septicæmia and Blackquarter. The total provincial expenditure of the department, excluding veterinary instruction, amounted to Rs. 4,40,040-9-4 during the year as against Rs. 4,60,400 in the previous year. The Veterinary College maintained its strength in spite of a reduction in the number of Government stipends granted to students.

WEATHER AND CROPS

(FASLI 1333—1ST JULY 1923 TO 30TH JUNE 1924)

[Season and Crop Report for fasli 1333; Statistical Abstract for British India—Agricultural Statistics]

139. The south-west monsoon commenced later than usual on the West Coast but heavy rains commenced in the second fortnight of June and continued till the middle of August. This excessive rainfall caused heavy floods in rivers in South Kanara in July and again in South Kanara and North Malabar in August, which damaged crops of paddy and sugarcane on low-lying lands. The rainfall was, however, favourable to the crops on high-lying lands, except pepper and coconut. Freshes in the main rivers dependent on the rainfall in the Western Ghats were plentiful in July and August and the season was favourable in the great deltas. In the rest of the Presidency the monsoon was generally late and the rainfall inadequate and ill-distributed. The rainfall was less than in the previous year, except in Godavari, Kistna, Nellore and the Deccan and even there it was less than the average. Anantapur and the Central districts received only about half the average rainfall for these districts. The Circars and Deccan received a fair amount of rainfall in July and dry lands were extensively sown but there was little subsequent rainfall till September and the crops suffered severely from drought. Sowings of early crops were restricted in the Carnatic and Central districts. Good rains were received in September in most districts, which brought fair supplies to irrigation sources, stimulated the sowing of late crops and revived standing crops and pasture. The north-east monsoon was very unfavourable in strong contrast with the previous year. The monsoon burst in time and gave heavy rains in the second fortnight of October in the Carnatic and the South. There was also copious rainfall in the Circars, Chittoor and North Arcot. The behaviour of the monsoon thereafter was extremely disconcerting. There was little subsequent rainfall in the Carnatic, Chittoor and North Arcot except in the middle of November and the beginning of December.



Very heavy rains were received in the south about the middle of December, especially in Tinnevely where the Tāmbraparni rose in flood, breached tanks and caused considerable damage to crops and houses. A severe cyclone swept over the coastal taluks of Ganjām and Vizagapatam on the 17th November: it damaged crops and houses, breached several tanks, especially in Vizagapatam, and dislocated railway traffic for over a month. There was also heavy rainfall at the same time in Gōdāvari and Kistna. The monsoon failed almost completely in the Deccan and Central districts and on the West Coast. Sowings of late crops were restricted in the Deccan. Normal areas were sown elsewhere with the help of the rainfall in September and October, but the effect of the season was seen in the reduced yields of crops, especially in the Central districts. There were rains in the first half of January in South Arcot, Trichinopoly, and the South and showers in the second half of March in South Arcot, Coimbatore and the South and on the West Coast. The hot weather showers in April and May were up to the average in Ganjām, Vizagapatam, Salem and Coimbatore. On the whole the season was generally unfavourable except in the great deltas where conditions were normal owing to the bounty of the rivers. Both the monsoons precipitated their rain clouds in torrents in a few regions and left the remaining country arid. There were rains on the West Coast and in the extreme north and south of the East Coast, but the inland districts between the Ghats, especially Bellary, Anantapur, North Arcot, Salem and parts of Coimbatore, were ill-served by both the monsoons. The agricultural situation was bad in Bellary and worse in Anantapur where the season in the previous year had also been unfavourable.

Crops

140. The total area sown was below the average in the previous year, especially in Anantapur, North Arcot and Salem. The out-turn of crops was up to the normal only in Gōdāvari, Kistna, Guntūr, Chingleput, Tanjore and Rāmnād. The out-turn in the other districts was below normal, especially in Bellary, Anantapur, North Arcot, Salem and Coimbatore. The only districts in which relief operations under the Famine Code were found necessary were Ganjām, Bellary and Anantapur. Distress in Ganjām was confined to the Chokapadu khandam where test works were opened in March and converted into relief works in April. A test work was opened at Kolur in Bellary taluk in January and converted into a relief work in February. The works in Ganjām and Bellary were closed in August and September, respectively, owing to the improvement in prospects. Distress was severe in Anantapur and test works were opened from January onwards and converted into relief works later. There were ten relief works by the end of September, but all were closed in October as the situation improved with the favourable rains of September. Seasonal remissions were granted to some extent on account of inadequate rainfall and scanty supplies in irrigation sources in parts of Gōdāvari, Kistna (Ellore, Nandigama and Bezwada), Kurnool (Pattikonda), Nellore, South Arcot, North Arcot, Salem, Coimbatore, Trichinopoly and Rāmnād. Remissions on account of inundation and loss of crop were granted in parts of Ganjām, Vizagapatam, Tinnevely (Srivaikuntam and Tiruchendūr) and Malabar. Owing to the general failure of the early crops the dry assessment in twenty-four red-soil villages in the Rayadrug taluk of Bellary was again fully remitted, the suspended revenue of the previous fasli in parts of the district was either remitted or postponed to the next fasli and the collection of dry assessment amounting to about five lakhs of rupees was suspended beyond the fasli. Collection of assessment was postponed on a large scale in parts of Anantapur and the suspended kists of faslis 1331 and 1332 were remitted in forty-nine villages of the Gooty taluk.

HORTICULTURE (1923-24) *

[Report on the operations of the Department of Agriculture for the year 1923-24: Report of the Agri-Horticultural Society of Madras for 1923-24]

141. The Government gardens at Ootacamund and the Sim's Park at Coonoor are of historic interest and very popular places of public resort. These parks contain a very valuable collection of trees and plants and in this respect compare favourably with any gardens in the East. The nurseries were kept well stocked and seeds and plants were on sale to the public. Special features during the year were two beds of *Antirrhinum* and *Schizanthus*, the latter grown from acclimatized seed. The expenditure on these gardens amounted to Rs. 32,329-7-2 and the receipts to Rs. 7,352-1-1 as against Rs. 31,544-8-10 and Rs. 7,752-1-10, respectively, in 1922-23.

Government
Botanic
Gardens and
Parks, the
Nilgiris

142. The eighty-fifth annual exhibition of flowers, vegetables and fruits was held in February 1924 and attracted a much larger number of visitors than in the previous two years. Correspondence with botanic and other public societies, planters and the general public was maintained and sales and exchanges were effected. The supply of class materials for the local colleges and schools and of specimens to students, visitors and other horticultural societies was continued as in previous years. The receipts from cut flowers and from floral work increased from Rs. 2,560-12-9 to Rs. 2,573-7-0. Several thousands of annuals were raised and distributed among members or sold to non-members. The rosary was extended to meet the growing demand for cut flowers and rose plants. Several valuable plants were planted in the ornamental gardens, chief among them were (1) *Magnolia grandiflora*, (2) *Cordia sebestena*, in a dwarf form obtained by "gootee" for the first time, (3) *Clerodendron Wallichii* (blue flowered) and (4) *Victoria Regia* raised from seed. The cultivation of *Ipecacuanha* was undertaken as an experiment at the instance of the Department of Agriculture. The quantity of plant material which the department could procure for the purpose was, however, extremely limited and consequently it was not possible to obtain any conclusive data on the best method of propagating and cultivating this important drug as a commercial crop. Of the fruit trees the *Washington Navel Orange* made good vegetative growth and bore more fruit than last year, but there was no improvement in its quality. The income of the society for the year from all sources, including the Government grant, amounted to Rs. 21,658-3-11 as against Rs. 16,878-3-10, or Rs. 4,780-0-1 more than last year. The expenditure amounted to Rs. 21,268-2-5 as against Rs. 17,982-11-9 in the previous year.

The Agri-
Horti-
cultural
Society,
Madras
(1923-24)

FISHERIES

(1ST JULY 1923 TO 30TH JUNE 1924)

[Administration Report of the Department of Fisheries for the year ending the 30th June 1924]

143. After fifteen years' distinguished service, Mr. James Hornell, F.L.S., F.R.A.L., who had been Director of Fisheries since 1918, retired on the 6th August 1923. The Retrenchment Committee, after scrutinizing the finances of the Department of Fisheries, came to the conclusion that a certain number of the department's activities were unremunerative and recommended that the department should be abolished and such of its

General

* For information about the Government Cinchona Plantations see infra under Manufactures—Industries.

Marine
fisheries
Government
establish-
ments

functions as were retained should be transferred to other departments. This recommendation was under the consideration of Government at the close of the year. At the beginning of April 1924 the fish-curing yards which were previously under the control of the Salt Department were transferred to that of the Department of Fisheries. Experiments in the introduction of new methods of deep-sea fishing were conducted with the Danish seine net from a motor launch. The launch proved unsuitable for the purpose and the experiments had to be terminated, but much valuable knowledge was gained of the fishing grounds off the West Coast.

144. The Government Fisheries Cannery at Chaliyam worked at a loss of Rs. 1,568 for the period of nine months from the 1st July 1923 to the 31st March 1924, after which date the Cannery was brought under the commercial system of accounts. The loss was largely due to a large number of tins being written off, when stock was taken of the tins which had been called in from the hands of the Madras agents. Mackerel and prawns were again scarce and only a few hundred tins were packed. The output of tins of all kinds rose from 68,029 tins in the previous year to 74,113 tins. Sales through the Madras agents became even more unsatisfactory than in the previous year and their agency was terminated. Sales fell from 36,835 tins in the previous year to 27,331 tins. The fishing season of the Tanur experimental station was, on the whole, disappointing, as sardines and mackerel were scarce. The routine commercial operations, therefore, consisting of the manufacture of oil, guano and cured fish were restricted and showed a loss of Rs. 1,275 on the year's working. There was considerable expenditure during the year, however, on apparatus and technological research. The total quantity of fish purchased for curing was 92,031½ pounds as against 249,293 pounds in the previous year and many of the usual demands of customers could not be met. The output of guano was 8,398 pounds as against 84,720 pounds in the previous year but that of fish meal rose from 10,300 pounds to 22,113 pounds. The whole of the guano manufactured was sold and the sales of fish meal increased. The lower grades of oil and stearine as well as the residues of oil refining were sold to the Government Soap Institute; the higher grades were supplied to the Cannery and to the Military Department. The products of the station were exhibited in August in the Bellary Exhibition and at Mangalore in December. Certificates of merit were received from both and a gold medal for oil from the Mangalore Exhibition. Many important improvements in the method of manufacture of fish oil, guano and fish meal were effected. Research for the purpose of discovering the means of preventing some of the well-known defects to which cured fish are liable was taken up for the first time. There were only eleven fish-curing yards under the management of the Department of Fisheries at the beginning of the year; two new yards were opened during the year and at the beginning of April the remaining 93 yards in the Presidency were brought under its control. The total quantity of fish brought into the first thirteen yards during the year was 399,277 maunds, the cured weight being 238,909 pounds. The sheds in most of the yards in the Northern Circars had suffered severe damage during the cyclone of 1923 and some of the West Coast yards suffered from the floods and from sea erosion. The quantity of guano manufactured by private factories during the season was about 22,500 tons, valued at Rs. 13,50,000, as against 32,000 tons, valued at Rs. 24,00,000, in the previous year. Seventeen thousand tons of fish manure, with an estimated selling price of Rs. 6,80,000, were also manufactured. The quantity of oil manufactured was 7,250 tons, valued at Rs. 14,50,000, as against 12,000 tons in the previous year. Owing to the failure of the sardine season in South Kanara and South Malabar there were only 440 factories working as against 647 in 1922-23. The net profit realized on the pearl and chank fisheries was Rs. 35,368 as against Rs. 38,286 in the previous year. The profit was derived entirely from the chank fisheries, a deficit of Rs. 15,165 being incurred on the pearl fisheries. Plague in Tuticorin scared away many divers and the high wages offered by Ceylon merchants

Public fish-
curing yardsPrivate oil
and guano
factoriesPearl and
chank
fisheries

induced many of the divers at Rāmēswaram and Mandapam to go to that country. The condition of the pearl oysters on all the banks was good and gave promise of a remunerative pearl fishery in 1926 and thereafter. One thousand nine hundred and twenty-six pounds of bêche-de-mer were cured as against 855 pounds in the previous season. The biological supply and the oyster supply sections were amalgamated in the month of January, and both sections worked at a profit. The value of biological specimens sent out rose from Rs. 4,740 to Rs. 5,393. The methods of purifying oysters at the Ennur oyster farm were further improved, the oysters being floated in clear tidal waters on specially designed rafts. The number of visitors to the aquarium slightly diminished from 102,349 to 95,800, the receipts from all sources amounting to Rs. 8,933 as against Rs. 9,461 during the previous year. Further progress was made in the investigation into the habits and life-history of the oil-sardine, but the observations on mackerel continued to be inadequate owing to the comparative scarcity of that fish since 1921.

Biological
and oyster
supply

Aquarium

Research

145. The net profits on inland fisheries during the year were Rs. 16,353-13-6 as against Rs. 20,450-13-5 in the preceding year. Unfavourable seasonal conditions in certain districts resulted in lower rentals, while a sum of Rs. 4,169-13-0 was paid to local boards as extra compensation on account of the newly acquired fisheries of the lower Cauvery. The stocking of the tanks and rivers under departmental control with improved varieties of fish was carried out as in previous years. The three fish farms at Sunkesula (Kurnool), Ippur (Nellore) and the Powder Factory (Madras) as well as the larvicidal fish farm at Praema (Kurnool) worked satisfactorily during the year. Difficulties with the water-supply were experienced at the Vellore Fort moat farm. The Chingleput moat farm was found to be unworkable and the Mopad farm was still under construction. Besides the anti-malarial work done in the Nallamalais, the Peddagadi pool and the Pullamadugu in Cuddapah were stocked with larvicidal fish.

Inland
fisheries

146. The total number of pupil-teachers undergoing training in the Fisheries Training Institute, Calicut, was 33. The District Educational officer reported favourably on the work of the school. The number of village schools in existence at the end of the year was 27 and the number of pupils increased from 1,761 to 2,001, of whom 504 were girls. Owing to the failure of the fishing season the working of the fishermen's co-operative societies was unsatisfactory and their number fell from 63 to 54. There was an appreciable decrease in intemperance among the younger men and efforts were made to inculcate habits of thrift and to improve their social condition in various ways.

Miscella-
neous

147. The receipts of the Department of Fisheries fell from Rs. 3.11 lakhs in 1922-23 to Rs. 2.95 lakhs and the expenditure rose from Rs. 3.15 lakhs to Rs. 3.23 lakhs, the net deficit being Rs. 28,475-12-1.

Finance

FORESTS (1923-24)

[Report on the administration of the Forest Department for the year ending the 31st March 1924; Statistical Abstract for British India—Forests]

148. In the administration of forests in the Presidency the year was marked by the introduction by the newly appointed Chief Forest Engineer of new methods of exploitation. Another important event was the appointment of a Forest Utilization Officer to deal exclusively with the commercial side of the Forest Department. A number of exhibits were sent to England for the British Empire Exhibition. Those destined for the Madras Court in the Indian Pavilion were chiefly of a museum type, except for a very fine inlaid map in wood and some ornamental screens. The timber exhibit shown by Messrs. Howard Brothers & Co. in the all-India Court, however, contained several Madras timbers, such as

General

Terminalia tomentosa (laurel wood), *Dipterocarpus turbinatus*, teak, rose-wood, *Lagerstromia*, *Cedrela Toona* and *Hardwickia pinnata*. Of the two committees appointed for the investigation of forest grievances in the Kurnool and Chittoor districts, referred to in the last Presidency Administration Report, the Chittoor committee submitted its report during the year and most of its recommendations were accepted. The report of the Kurnool committee had not been received at the end of the year.

Area

149. About 20 square miles of reserved lands were finally settled under the Forest Act and 3 square miles were added by the rectification of boundaries and the re-computation of areas. About 24 square miles in eight districts were disforested, chiefly to provide lands for the extension of cultivation, and as a result of the re-computation of areas 107 square miles were excluded. Ninety-four miles of boundaries were demarcated, chiefly in Lower Gōdāvari, South Salem, Kollegal and Madura divisions, at a cost of Rs. 2,221. The demarcation of 21,599 miles of boundary lines was repaired, while 656 miles of boundary lines remained to be demarcated at the close of the year. A Survey of India Party was engaged in defining the disputed portion of the boundary between Bastar State and the Cherla range in the Upper Gōdāvari division and another party surveyed 5.48 square miles of reserves in the North and West Cuddapah divisions on the one-inch scale. Madras Survey Parties carried out boundary surveys in Kistna, Salem, Malabar and Trichinopoly districts.

Demarcation

Survey

Manage-
ment

150. A working plan to regulate the grazing over an area of 117 square miles in the forests of the Gooty range in the Anantapur division and one for small timber, fuel and bamboos for 85 square miles in the Chandragiri range in the Chittoor division were sanctioned during the year. Working plans for the Sirvel range in the South Kurnool division and for the South and West Vellore divisions were completed. Revised working-schemes for the mangrove forests of the Kandikuppa reserve in the Lower Gōdāvari division and for the bamboo and fuel areas in the Central Salem division were sanctioned. Some useful work in the way of mapping and enumeration of stock was carried out by the newly appointed Logging Engineer in the Chenat Nair forests, topographical work and enumeration being done simultaneously and the results of the enumeration being depicted on the map in such a way that the quantity of timber in a block could be seen at a glance. The chief new work of the year was the Mount Stuart Ghat road, 6 miles and 3 furlongs of which were constructed at a cost of Rs. 68,236. One hundred and seventy-six miles of new roads were made and 1,419 miles of road were repaired as compared with 204 and 1,242 miles, respectively, in the previous year. The total expenditure on new works amounted to Rs. 1,08,083 and on repairs to Rs. 94,230 as against Rs. 1,37,655 and Rs. 95,504, respectively, in 1922-23. The total expenditure on buildings amounted to Rs. 1.45 lakhs as against Rs. 1.62 lakhs in the previous year. A sum of Rs. 7,231 was spent on the reconstruction of buildings at Nilambur damaged during the Mappilla rebellion. Miscellaneous buildings, such as inspection bungalows, range offices and subordinates' quarters, were constructed in various divisions. Rupees 11,048 were spent on the construction and repair of wells, the improvement of water-supply in the forests and the eradication of rank vegetation. Improvements to the Paishwani and Kumaradhari rivers in the South Mangalore division were effected and the transport of timber facilitated.

Working
plansRoads and
communica-
tions

Buildings

Other works

Forest
conservancy

151. The number of forest offences reported was slightly less than in the previous year, although it was still higher than the average for the preceding three years. Including cases pending from the previous year to court, 19,719 were compounded and 1,463 were withdrawn, the corresponding figures for the previous year being 30,878, 7,491, 20,790 and 2,597, respectively. Of the cases tried by magistrates the percentage of acquittal was nearly 28 per cent as against 18 per cent in the previous year. This increase was chiefly due to the larger number of cases which

were compounded after having been taken on to the magistrate's file. Rupees 2,81,310 were realized as compounding fees as against Rs. 2,72,080 in the previous year.

152. The system of early burning under departmental supervision was extended during the year to the three Cuddapah divisions, Chittoor, North Vellore, North Salem and North Mangalore divisions. The results on the whole were good, the year being a favourable one, except in Upper and Lower Gōdāvari where considerable areas were burnt. Early burning was carried out over nearly 3,855 square miles as against 2,000 square miles in the previous year. The area over which special protection was attempted was 5,811 square miles, of which 320 square miles (5.5 per cent) were burnt, the figures for the previous year being 5,480 square miles and 597 square miles (10.19 per cent), respectively. The expenditure during the official year 1923-24 was Rs. 59,929. In 1922-23 it was Rs. 78,854 and the average expenditure during the previous five years was Rs. 1,18,417. This very considerable reduction in expenditure was due to the adoption of the system of early burning.

Protection
from fire

153. The establishment of reproduction under working plans or schemes was (a) mainly natural, (b) mainly artificial and (c) by afforestation. The methods in use in the Chenat Nair and Ghoomsur (Ganjām) forests and in the Nilgiris eucalyptus plantations belonged to the first class. In the Chenat Nair forest the quantity of young seedlings in the felled area was more than sufficient and promised, with careful tending, to become a finer crop than the one which previously stood on the ground. In the Ghoomsur forest the regeneration of sal following clear felling and burning was all that could be desired. The regeneration of the area cleared by felling in the Nilgiris eucalyptus plantations was by coppice; the yield from the coppice which in many cases was in its fourth rotation was diminishing and steps were taken to replant where coppice shoots failed. In the Mount Stuart deciduous forests in South Coimbatore and in the Nilambur deciduous forests, methods of the second class were employed. In the Mount Stuart forests 251 acres, an area larger than any treated in previous years, were sown, chiefly with teak; where the soil proved to be too water-logged for teak the seeds of *Terminalia tomentosa* were sown. By the end of the year 431 acres were bearing an established crop, chiefly of teak. In the Nilambur forest the usual clear-fellings, both of mature teak plantations and natural forests, were undertaken and 175 acres were planted or sown. Very little afforestation was done. In North Coimbatore experimental work was continued in the direction of extending some small sholas (evergreen forests at a high elevation) by sowing suitable species; in the Nilgiris in order to restore the tree growth destroyed by fires, seed of various species suitable to the locality was sown and root-suckers of *Acacia dealbata* were planted. In other areas working plans or schemes were not in operation. In the Upper Gōdāvari 275 acres were clear-felled, the debris was collected into heaps and burnt and the burnt patches were sown with teak seed. In the Nallamalais (South Kurnool division) 73 acres in four different localities were clear-felled and sown with teak and other seeds. In the better portions of the Nallamalais, however, natural regeneration was plentiful. In Tinnevely, 55 acres in the Pāpanāsam forests were planted with teak, and the experimental work in the evergreen forests, referred to in last year's report, was continued. In North and South Mangalore the existing establishment was unable to do much more than tend the somewhat extensive crop of *Hopea* and it was found necessary to reduce the scale on which sowings were undertaken. In North Mangalore 535 acres were prepared for sowing and in the South Mangalore division sowing was carried out over an area of 336 acres. A further area of 32 acres cleared by felling was sown with deciduous species. In the Wynad clear-fellings were continued and 80 acres were felled in two ranges. Sixty-one acres were dibbled with teak seed, 9 acres were planted with teak stumps and 5 acres dibbled with other seeds. Tending operations were carried out in all plantations and regeneration areas where necessary and thinnings

Sylviculture

Chapter IV
PRODUC-
TION AND
DISTRIBUTION

Research

and improvement fellings were undertaken in various forests. During the year the Deputy Conservator of Forests in charge of silvicultural research continued to study the germination and early growth of the principal evergreen species of the Western Ghats and of *Terminalia paniculata*, *Xylia xylocarpa*, *Bombax malabaricum*, *Lagerstromia lanceolata* and *Gmelina arborea*. Experiments in raising an underwood of *Artocarpus hirsuta* and *Hopea parviflora* in the Nilambur teak plantations were continued during the year.

Supply
Timber

154. The output of timber during the year was 99,520 tons of 50 cubic feet, the output during 1922-23 being equivalent to 104,980 tons of 50 cubic feet. Of this quantity, 26,260 tons were extracted by departmental agency and 65,540 tons by purchasers as against 23,500 tons and 76,160 tons, respectively, in the previous year. The increased departmental extraction was attributable chiefly to the resumption of fellings in Ganjam which had been stopped in 1922-23 to prevent overstocking in the Russellkonda depot. The decrease in the quantity removed by purchasers was largely due to the increase in the factor of conversion for timber obtained from the unreserved lands in the North Mangalore division. Apart from the timber sent to London to be shown in the British Empire Exhibition, 15,951.64 cubic feet of teak, rosewood, laurel and other woods were sent to Messrs. Howard Brothers & Co. Part of this was to provide a stock of timber to be sold to buyers who might be attracted by the exhibits. The London timber trade continued to be very slack and sales during the year amounted to only 509 cubic feet. From the time when the business with Messrs. Howard Brothers & Co. was inaugurated the total sales up to the end of the year were 4,333 cubic feet, on which a net profit of about Rs. 3 per cubic foot was realized. Messrs. Parry & Co. continued to manage the Russellkonda Saw Mill during the year as agents for Government. On the 1st April 1923 the mill entered upon its second year of working. The plant ran smoothly and well throughout the year, the efficiency of the operatives improved and the intake increased by 31,000 cubic feet. In the early months of the year a shortage of water seriously interfered with the work of the mill and the Forest Department commenced the construction of a new well. During the last quarter of the year the quality of logs supplied to the mill improved greatly and the percentage of wastage fell from 70.60 for the first nine months to 55.87. The length and girth of the logs, however, left much to be desired. Sales were nearly doubled as compared with those of the previous year, the quantity sold being approximately 41,500 feet valued at Rs. 1,42,000. The result of the year's operation was a loss of Rs. 36,082-4-2 including an interest charge of Rs. 28,179-1-0, the loss during the previous year being Rs. 6,216 0-9 exclusive of interest. In spite of the fact that the Ghoomsur forests were found to contain little timber of the size for which the machinery was designed and in spite of the depressed state of the market, the mill was working at a profit towards the end of the year. The exploitation of the Chenai Nair forests was continued and 92,182 cubic feet of timber were extracted. Great improvements in the working of the logging machinery were introduced by the Chief Forest Engineer and the Logging Engineer who were appointed in October, with the result that production rose from 2,607 cubic feet in that month to 16,088 cubic feet in March and the book cost per cubic foot was reduced from Rs. 4-14-1 to Rs. 1-6-3. The work was considerably hampered by malaria. The Chief Forest Engineer made preliminary investigation into the possibility of exploiting the Papanasam forest in Tinnevely for timber, paper pulp, fuel and matches, and the forests in the neighbourhood of Someswar in the North Mangalore division for timber. From various forests 23,567 tons of fuel were removed by departmental agency and 319,267 tons by purchasers as against 21,033 tons and 304,533 tons, respectively, in 1922-23. The price of fuel in the large towns showed a tendency to decrease, the prices in Madura and Tanjore being Rs. 20 and Rs. 16 as against Rs. 24 and Rs. 22-8-0, respectively, in the previous year. The total value of bamboos removed from the forests by all agencies during the year was

Fuel

Bamboos

Rs. 4.03 lakhs as against Rs. 4.08 lakhs in 1922-23. Seven hundred and ten tons of sandalwood were sold for Rs. 7,86,118. The average price realized was Rs. 1,108 per ton as against Rs. 1,182 in the previous year. The quantity sold was much larger than the average of past years as funds were needed for the development of the more valuable timber forests. The area open to grazing was substantially the same as in 1922-23 but the average area allotted per head of cattle fell from 4.88 acres in 1922-23 to 4.59 acres. Free grazing for 93,299 animals was granted as against 74,177 animals in the previous year, the increase being due to concessions allowed in certain divisions on account of the unfavourable season. The estimated value of forest produce removed by free grantees and right-holders amounted to Rs. 87,496 as against Rs. 62,207 in the previous year, the increase being chiefly due to free grants made in connexion with the floods on the west coast and the cyclone in the Northern Circars.

Sandalwood

Grazing

Right-holders

155. The number of elephants in charge of the Forest Department at the beginning of the year was 143 valued at Rs. 3,57,550. Nineteen elephants were captured, ten were born in captivity, fifteen died and twenty-three were sold. The stud at the end of the year was 104 valued at Rs. 3,42,350. A sum of Rs. 35,855 was realized by the sale of twenty-three elephants. Of the nineteen elephants captured, three died (one shortly after the close of the year), five were sold and the remaining eleven were in good condition at the end of the year. Kheddah operations in the Mysore forests, the constant blasting incidental to the construction of the Mount Stuart Ghat road and the shortage of fodder due to an unusually short monsoon and to the flowering of bamboos, accounted for the fact that only nineteen elephants were caught as compared with thirty-two in the previous year. The stock of buffaloes and bullocks at the end of the year numbered 224 with a book value of Rs. 19,274.

Live stock

Elephants

Cattle

156. The work of the special panchayat staff was confined to the same eleven districts as in the previous year. During the year 358 square miles of forests were handed over to panchayats and at the close of the year the total area under panchayat management was 858 square miles managed by 457 panchayats. The administration of 137 of these was reported to be good and that of 169 to be fair. In some cases it was found that protection was better than it had been under departmental management, while several panchayats had successfully raised small plantations of trees and had effected improvements by providing water facilities in grazing grounds and by removing rank growth. In marked contrast to the lawlessness which prevailed there some time ago, some of the most efficient panchayats were found in the Guntur district. Towards the close of the year a conference of panchayatdars was held at Saidapet. The spread of the panchayat movement rendered possible the abolition of two ranges, one in Bellary and the other in Cuddapah. In seven districts thirty-eight panchayats working under the control of the Revenue Department administered an area of 124 square miles. The forest village system was in force during the year in certain reserves in the South and West Vellore, North and South Coimbatore, Palghat, East and South Salem, and North and South Mangalore divisions. The system on the whole worked satisfactorily, especially in the Tiruvannamalai range in the South Vellore division.

Forest
panchayats

157. Twenty-six students passed out of the College in 1924, seven of whom were from Madras. Six students, including four Government stipendiary students from Madras, obtained Honours certificates, fifteen students were granted Higher Standard certificates and the remaining five, Lower Standard certificates. There were no failures.

Forest
College

158. The total gross revenue during the year was Rs. 54.87 lakhs as against Rs. 52.73 lakhs in the previous year. The expenditure debited to the Forest Department was Rs. 46.30 lakhs as against Rs. 47.89 in 1922-23. The result was a surplus of Rs. 8.57 lakhs as against a surplus of Rs. 4.84 lakhs in the previous year. The Forest College worked at a loss of Rs. 60 lakh. General direction cost Rs. 1.18 lakhs, the Engineering branch Rs. 62 lakh and the Forest Panchayat staff Rs. 30 lakh.

Finance

MINES (1923)

[G.O. No. 1176, Development, dated the 26th June 1924; Statistical Abstract for British India—Mineral Production]

Output

159. As in the previous year, mining was carried on only in the districts of Vizagapatam, Nellore, Anantapur, Kurnool, Bellary and Salem, the minerals raised being manganese, magnesite, mica, steatite, barytes, gold and silver. No diamonds were extracted during the year. In the Nellore district "open cast" continued to be the most common method of mining, tunnels being cut in only fourteen mines. There was a considerable increase in the production of manganese, the output being 25,112 tons as against 10,845 tons in the previous year. Of these, 2,588 tons were raised in the Thambaraguddi reserve and in the Alagilawada reserve of the Bellary district. The output of magnesite increased from 18,417 tons to 19,336 tons owing to the larger quantity won from the Government Hills quarries of the Salem Magnesite Syndicate. The output of mica increased from 83 tons to 499 tons. There was an increased demand for the "Ruby" quality mica mined in the Nellore district but the demand for other qualities showed little improvement. The mica mines in the Tiruchengōdu taluk of the Salem district were abandoned during the year. As in the previous year, two gold mines were at work. From a total quantity of 1,400 tons of quartz mined during the year 1,518.91 ounces (troy) of gold and 103.42 ounces (troy) of silver were extracted as against 8,388 ounces (troy) of gold and 554 ounces (troy) of silver, respectively, in the previous year. The decrease in the output of gold during the year was mainly due to the fact that, consequent on the carrying out of development work, work in the Jubtil mine was restricted to five months of the year. Seventy-seven tons of steatite were raised from the quarry at Sydapuram and the mine at Jogipalli in the Nellore district.

General
condition
of the
employees

Wages

160. Salem, Kurnool, Vizagapatam and Anantapur were free from epidemics during the year. In one of the mines in the Nellore district two cases of smallpox occurred, one of which proved fatal. The general health of the employees in all the mines was good. There was no general increase in the contract rates of wages paid by the Vizianagram Mining Company during the year. In Anantapur, there was a slight increase in the wages of the maistris and in the maximum rates paid to surface coolies. The rates of wages at the Jubtil gold mines remained the same as in the previous year. The minimum wages of surface coolies and mechanics at the North Anantapur gold mines, however, decreased slightly. In Nellore, both women and children were employed, mostly above ground.

Employment
of women
and children
Accidents

161. One person was killed and three were seriously injured in the mines of the Magnesite Syndicate, Limited, Sūramangalam. There was a fall of an overburden at a mine in the Kalichedu shrotriyam, Nellore district, but there was no loss of life. One fatal accident occurred in the manganese mine at Garbham in Vizagapatam. There were no accidents in Anantapur, Kurnool and Bellary.

MANUFACTURES (1923-24)

[Statement of Cotton and Jute Mills at work in the Presidency during the year 1923-24 (G.O. No. 1180, Development, dated the 27th June 1924); Report on the working of the Indian Factories Act during the year 1923 (G.O. No. 1282, Development, dated the 14th July 1924); Report of the Department of Industries for the year 1923-24; Report on the Government Cinchona Department, Madras, for 1923-24; Statistical Abstract for British India—Industries]

Cotton and
jute mills
(1923-24)

162. Exclusive of establishments in Travancore, Cochin and the French Settlements there were seventeen cotton mills at work during the year as against fifteen in 1922-23. The total number of looms and spindles in all cotton mills rose from 3,714 and 481,584 to 3,734 and 517,706,

respectively. No new jute mills were erected but the number of looms and spindles in the existing mills was increased from 496 and 11,088 to 565 and 12,912, respectively. Cotton mills afforded employment to 35,381 operatives, and jute mills to 4,639.

163. At the close of the year 1923 the number of factories, other than cotton and jute mills, coming under the amended Indian Factories Act in the Madras Presidency was 710, of which 637 were perennial and 73 seasonal. The number of such factories, therefore, increased during the year by 157. The average daily number of operatives employed in these factories was 66,442 as against 63,127 in 1922, the increase being due to the increase in the number of factories. The chief industries carried on in factories subject to the operation of the Factories Act were railway engineering, rice milling, tile manufacture, printing, the manufacture of coffee and sugar, rope making, tanning, the tinning of kerosene oil, the manufacture of tobacco, bone and oil milling, metal founding and the manufacture of tea. A match factory with modern machinery capable of turning out 100,000 boxes per day started production during the year.

164. The administration of the Indian Factories Act continued to be under the control of the Commissioner of Labour. There were 769 registered factories in existence at the beginning of the year and 1,023 on the register at the end of the year. Of these factories, 670 were perennial and 353 seasonal, 33 perennial and 280 seasonal factories being connected with the cotton industry. Of the 267 factories registered during the year, cotton ginning factories (86), rice mills (74) and tea factories (27) formed the largest categories. The number of factories that were actually working during the year was 986. These gave daily employment on an average to 115,158 workers as against 110,193 in 1922, the increase being due to the increase in the number of factories. Of the 115,158 operatives, 6,129 were employed in Government and Local Fund factories. The number of women employed during the year rose from 20,355 to 23,101 and the number of boys and girls fell from 4,775 to 4,485 and from 2,549 to 2,322, respectively. (The decrease in child labour is to be attributed to the enforcement of the restrictions on child labour.) Of the 986 factories actually working, 606 were inspected once, 339 twice and 24 thrice, the total number of inspections being 1,356 as against 1,126 in 1922. In addition, 360 unregistered factories were visited with a view to bring them under the operation of the Act. One hundred and eighteen night visits, 112 Sunday visits and 46 other surprise visits were made. The health of operatives was generally good. In the 27 newly registered tea factories, dispensaries or hospitals were provided. In two other factories, first-aid appliances were available and dispensaries were provided in another two. The sanitation of factories was on the whole satisfactory though prosecutions had to be initiated in six cases. Wages fluctuated slightly in different districts and trades. There were 12 strikes during the year, none of which were of an abnormal nature. Their duration lasted from 15 minutes to 15 days, 3,044 operatives out of 8,139 in the factories affected actually going on strike. In nine cases the strike collapsed, in two the strikers' demands were granted, and in another some of the workers returned unconditionally while some left the factory. There were 13 fires during the year causing damage estimated at Rs. 2,05,004, but there was no loss of life or injury to any person. The number of accidents that occurred during the year was 938 as against 881 in 1922, the average per 100 rising from 80 to 81. There was a substantial decrease in the number of fatal accidents but an increase in the number of serious accidents. Of the 8 fatal and 41 serious accidents, 6 and 14, respectively, were caused by mechanically driven machinery. The occupiers and managers of 30 factories, 34 persons in all, were prosecuted for evasions of the provisions of the Act. Thirty persons were convicted and sentenced to fines ranging from Rs. 2 to Rs. 800. The importance of welfare work was realized by many firms. Two firms introduced a provident fund. An elected welfare committee was organized in the Cordite Factory.

Industries
(1923-24)General
assistanceIndustrial
researchChemical
researchGovernment
establish-
ments

Aruvankadu. Tiffin rooms were provided in five and washing places in nine factories in Madras City, while five of the tea factories and the Government Fisheries Experimental Station, Tānūr, provided schools for the education of their employees' children.

165. The Statutory Board of Industries was constituted in February 1924 under the Madras State Aid to Industries Act, 1922, and held its first meeting in March 1924. Seven applications for assistance were considered and appropriate recommendations were made to Government. The committee appointed by Government to conduct an examination into the steps which are desirable to further the development of the leather industry submitted its report in November 1923. A committee was also appointed to obtain the necessary material for introducing a revised Apprenticeship Bill. The Department of Industries took part in a number of industrial and agricultural exhibitions held in various parts of the Presidency. It was also adequately represented in the Madras Court of the Indian Pavilion at the British Empire Exhibition. Continuous aid to the public and to other Government departments was rendered by the Bureau of Industrial and Commercial Information and a number of inquiries in regard to overseas trade from the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence, Calcutta, and the general public were answered. A number of analyses were again carried out for private parties. Among the samples submitted was a sample of exceptionally good asbestos and the owner of the sample was advised to exploit the deposit and was put in touch with firms interested in the asbestos trade. Financial reasons hindered the establishment of a cement industry at Bezwada which the department was endeavouring to establish and no good results were obtained from the boring for coal in the Kistna and Gōdāvari districts. The development of granite quarries of Sholingūr was hindered by the cost of obtaining railway facilities. An attempt to develop the local market for "palampores" was unsuccessful, but a trial consignment was ordered by a British firm and a quantity was sent to the British Empire Exhibition. The question of producing cheaper prints for the local market was also investigated. A comprehensive exhibit of lace was also sent to the British Empire Exhibition. The possibilities of developing the copra, coconut oil and coir industries on the east coast of the Presidency were under investigation during the year. Sir Frederick Nicholson who, as stated in the administration report for 1922-23, was studying the toy industry in England, has himself undertaken the establishment of an experimental toy factory at Coonoor. An inquiry into the commercial possibilities of sugar manufacture from coconut jaggery led to an adverse conclusion. The Industrial Chemist visited Madras, Salem, Vellore and Coimbatore during the year. The main inquiry on which he was engaged was that connected with the retting of coconut husk and this was practically completed. Experiments in malting cholam on a large scale were conducted in co-operation with the Department of Agriculture. The investigation upon prickly-pear was completed but the value placed upon the paper-making material obtained from "Lantana" was lower than the probable cost of manufacture. Some experiments were also made in the preservation of rubber latex, but no new process was discovered. Numerous inquiries relating to dyes and other agents or processes were answered and proposals for reorganizing the Dye House at the Central Jail, Vellore, were submitted. The new factory buildings for the Kerala Soap Institute were completed during the year, but operations were practically suspended for five months while the machinery and plant were being erected. In spite of this, production expanded from 204 to 248 tons. The sales of soap amounted to 191 tons 10 cwt. valued at Rs. 1,33,554, a considerable decline as compared with the previous year. The reduction in turn-over was due partly to adverse trade conditions but mainly to the severe competition of cheap and colourable imitations of its products. A new sales system was introduced and some large contracts were acquired towards the end of the year. The profit and loss statement showed a net loss of Rs. 9,939-8-5 on the year's working as against a loss of Rs. 23,320-12-5 incurred in 1922-23.

The Government Industrial Institute, Madras, which is now exclusively devoted to the manufacture of ink, showed a profit of Rs. 2,796-7-6 on the year's working. It was fully employed in complying with orders received from large and small consumers. The result of the year's working of the Fruit Preserving Institute was a loss of Rs. 23,158-8-5, and the future policy in regard to the factory was under the consideration of Government at the close of the year. The Government Glue Factory was closed for five months during the year and was worked at a total loss of Rs. 17,566-2-4. The loss was attributable to the difficulty experienced in finding a market for the glue even at competitive prices for an out-turn sufficiently large to make the factory pay. The Sugarcane Crushing Factory at Pallapālaiyam worked at a profit and sufficiently demonstrated the success and economy of power-crushing. The organization of the ten peripatetic weaving parties was the same as last year, nine teaching methods and one being engaged in the construction of apparatus. The demand for new appliances was generally found to be greater in villages previously visited by weaving parties, where weavers had been fully convinced of the advantages of their introduction, than in villages visited for the first time. Sericulture operations were reorganized during the year. The demonstration silkworm rearing farm at Kamakarai near Singanallur was closed and in its place a peripatetic rearing party was established; to the hill farm at Coonoor were assigned the functions of a central distribution station for eggs, seeds, cuttings and seedlings and of a research institute for the silk industry of the Presidency; and for the development of the industry outside the Kollegal taluk of Coimbatore district, which is the only place in which sericulture is an established industry, the Silk Superintendent was deputed to various selected localities to assist private persons in establishing mulberry plantations. The number of loans granted for the purpose of installing pumping machinery was 11 as against 9 in the previous year, and the total amount sanctioned for this purpose was Rs. 73,000. Fifty-one installations of pumping or industrial machinery were undertaken by the department and 383 plants were maintained by them at the owners' cost as against 39 and 286, respectively, in the previous year. The demand for power drills was very great, but it was found possible to cope with only a few of these applications with the machinery available. The total depth bored was 24,180 feet as against 20,640 feet in the previous year, the average depth of a boring being 39 feet. Owing to severe drought in many parts of the Presidency the demand for pumping sets was also very great, not only for agricultural purposes but in connexion with municipal water-supplies. The survey of under-ground water-supplies was continued, about 275 miles of levels were taken and 185 borings were connected with mean sea level. The total receipts of the engineering section of the department amounted to Rs. 90,442-5-3 as against Rs. 52,077-10-10 for the previous year, while the charges decreased from Rs. 2,44,297-6-8 to Rs. 2,13,526-2-0.

166. The manufacture of quinine continued to be conducted by Government with satisfactory results. The accounts were maintained on a strictly commercial basis and were audited by a well-known firm of commercial auditors, while the selling price of the goods was adjusted to follow the rates in the open market. The profit on the year's working was Rs. 2,33,056, a figure smaller than last year, owing mainly to the fall in the market rate. One of the persistent problems which had to be faced was that of getting a sufficient supply of cinchona bark to keep the factory working at its full capacity. To solve this problem it was proposed to open cinchona plantation on the Ānamalais. The question was investigated during the year and definite proposals were under the consideration of Government. During the year 878,000 lb. of cinchona bark were treated, a yield of 22,856 lb. of quinine sulphate, 6,905 lb. of quinine bi-sulphate, 220 lb. of quinine hydrochloride, 240 lb. of quinine bi-hydrochloride and 17,442 lb. of malarine being obtained. As a result of the successful trial in the Madras hospitals

Sericulture

Pumping and
boringManufacture
of quinine
(1923-24)

Industrial
education

of malarene, there were large demands for this drug. This drug was manufactured at less than half the price of quinine and proved, in many cases, to be more efficacious. The policy of harvesting just as much cinchona bark from the Government plantations as would cover the working expenses and other charges was continued and altogether 261,379 lb. of bark were thus taken. The uprooted areas were planted up as far as possible with *cinchona robusta*, which yielded ordinarily about 6 to 9 per cent of alkaloids.

167. A State technical scholarship which fell vacant in the previous year was awarded for the study of textile chemistry and arrangements were made for the holder to study for the degree of Master of Science and to obtain a thorough training in bleaching and dyeing at the Manchester College of Technology. Three further scholarships which fell vacant during the year were awarded for the study of the practice and chemistry of leather manufacture, the manufacture of standard food products and electro-metallurgy, respectively. Two former scholarship-holders obtained suitable appointments on their return to India. At the end of the year there were eleven scholarship-holders from this Presidency at the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore. Four new scholarships tenable at the Victoria Jubilee Technical Institute, Bombay, were awarded. Sixty new scholarships tenable at industrial schools were also granted. The Madura Industrial Institute and the Madras Trades School maintained their efficiency. The branch of the Trades School attached to the Railway Workshops at Perambūr had 127 students on its rolls. The six students who completed the senior apprenticeship course all obtained suitable employment in the Railway Workshops. A certain number of workmen were also trained in the workshops of the Industrial Engineering Department. The Leather Trades Institute continued both educational and research work. The number of industrial schools recognized by the Department of Industries was 46, of which all except two were aided by grants from public funds to the extent of Rs. 67,450-12-0. The number of pupils under training was 2,198 as against 1,928 in the previous year. The finances of many of these institutions continued to suffer from a decrease in the amount of contributions from abroad. The average number of students on the rolls of the School of Arts and Crafts rose from 259 to 337 and the average attendance from 191 to 240. There were 20 women students on the rolls. The percentage of successes obtained in the various Government Technical Examinations rose from 58 per cent to 68 per cent. A small collection of school work was sent to the British Empire Exhibition though no funds were provided for this purpose. Seven pupils who left the school during the year obtained suitable work.

Aided
schoolsSchool of
Arts and
Crafts

Finance

168. The net cost of the Department of Industries further declined by Rs. 57,245-4-1 to Rs. 6,62,899-0-0. The decrease in the net cost was partly due to the reduction of expenditure under the heads of "Direction," "Headquarters Engineering Branch" and "Government Industrial Institute, Madura" and partly to an increase in receipts from the Weaving Branch, the Pumping and Boring Branch and from certain industrial schools.

LABOUR (1923-24)

[Report on the administration of the Labour Department for the year 1923-24]

General

169. The work of the Labour Department, a department still organized on a temporary basis, continued to cover the same field as in the previous year. The Commissioner of Labour was also responsible for the administration of the Factories and Emigration Acts reviewed in separate paragraphs.

Labour

170. The labour situation remained calm. Various unions showed signs of activity during the year, but the majority confined their activities to periods when there was a likelihood of a trade dispute. The Labour Advisory Board met during the year to consider certain amendments to the Factories Act. Special efforts were made by the Labour and Employment Bureau to assist overseas men, South African repatriates and members of the depressed classes in obtaining employment.

171. The work of the department was conducted by the agency of special staffs in nine districts of the Presidency as against three in the previous year. An extent of 200 acres of land was acquired for the provision of house-sites for the depressed classes at a cost of Rs. 2,23,000. Poramboke lands also, where available for this purpose, were converted into house-sites. Further large areas of land were also granted to individuals or leased out on favourable terms to co-operative societies. Two hundred and thirty-three such societies were organized during the year, the total number in existence at the year's end being 649. A gratifying feature of these societies is that they are repaying their loans with the utmost regularity. There were 317 labour schools at the beginning of the year and 177 schools were started during the year. Towards the end of the year Government sanctioned the grant of 400 scholarships and 135 fee remissions, and 281 scholarships were actually awarded. A hostel for students belonging to the depressed classes was opened on the 1st December 1923. One hundred and fifty-three new wells were constructed under the supervision of the departmental staff and 149 wells and 5 tanks were repaired, grants to the extent of Rs. 67,775 being made to Collectors, local boards and municipalities for a similar purpose. Pathways, bridges and burial-grounds were also provided. The depressed classes had at least one member to represent their interests on every district board except three, but there were still large numbers of taluk boards and municipal councils where they had no representative. The work of reclaiming the Kallars in Madura district made wonderful progress. There were 300 schools and 138 co-operative societies working at the end of the year. The short-term loans advanced by the societies are being repaid with the greatest regularity and punctuality. The women also were induced to take a keen interest in this work.

Depressed
classes

more

Kallars

172. The five settlements under the management of the Salvation Army worked satisfactorily during the year. The Pallāvaram Settlement obtained an order for sandalwood from the Police Department which provided work for six months. An extent of 395 acres of over-grown lanka was leased to the Sitanagaram Settlement of which 50 acres were reclaimed and brought under cultivation. The landholding population in the Aziznagar Settlement increased from 75 per cent to 83 per cent. Compulsory education for the children was enforced in each settlement. Ninety-six children were placed in an industrial school at Perambūr under the management of the Salvation Army. In February 1924 an exhibition of the articles manufactured in the Salvation Army settlements and by the Kallars was held in Madras, which attracted a large number of visitors.

Criminal
tribes
settlement

173. A sum of Rs. 7,52,000 was allotted to the Labour Department during the year against Rs. 4,86,000 last year. Of this sum, Rs. 1,87,500 were appropriated for free grants and Rs. 1,57,500 for educational charges for depressed classes. A further sum of Rs. 4,75,000 was separately provided under "Loans" for the acquisition of house-sites. Of these amounts, Rs. 1,44,419 were expended for free grants, and Rs. 1,40,400 for education, and Rs. 2,78,000 for loans, as against Rs. 1,02,991, Rs. 87,043 and Rs. 3,00,857, respectively, in 1922-23. The entire amount provided for the expenditure during the year under the head "Loans" could not be spent owing to the great delay involved in the acquisition of house-sites by the new procedure laid down by the Land Acquisition Amendment Act which came into force on the 1st January 1924.

Finance

SEA-BORNE TRADE (1923-24)

[Review of the Sea-borne Trade of the Madras Presidency for the year 1923-24: Annual Volume of the Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of the Madras Presidency: Statistical Abstract for British India Foreign Trade and Shipping: Review of the Trade of India: Accounts relating to the Sea-borne Trade of British India: Annual Statement of the Foreign Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of British India, 2 Vols.: Annual Statement of the Coasting Trade and Navigation of British India]

General
summary

174. The aggregate value of the sea-borne trade of the Presidency was Rs. 89.06 crores, an increase of Rs. 8.08 crores, or 10 per cent, as compared with the previous year. The commercial depression in Europe generally restricted India's outlet for produce and in turn diminished her purchasing power. The slow recovery of trade and the fall in prices of the imported articles resulted in a decline under import values, but the volume of the export trade continued to expand under the stimulus of high prices in the consuming countries, especially towards the close of 1923.

Foreign
trade

175. The total value of the foreign trade in private merchandise increased by Rs. 5.65 crores, or 11 per cent, as compared with the previous year. Imports valued at Rs. 19.23 crores were 1.06 crores or 5 per cent less than in 1922-23, while exports increased by Rs. 6.71 crores, or 23 per cent, to Rs. 35.60 crores. The decrease under imports was mainly due to smaller receipts of railway materials, machinery, metals, instruments, raw silk and precious stones, the chief items showing increases being tobacco, mineral oils, drugs and medicines, cotton manufactures, sugar, motor-vehicles, provisions, and raw hides and skins. There was a decrease of Rs. 102.27 lakhs in the imports of railway materials, as there were considerable stocks available from previous years' purchases for railway requirements and large orders were also placed in India for supply of certain railway materials of iron and steel manufactured in India. The decrease of Rs. 44.40 lakhs under machinery was due to smaller demand for cotton spinning and weaving machinery and jute machinery. Under metals, the decrease occurred mainly under iron and steel (— Rs. 17.42 lakhs), due to smaller arrivals of bars and channel from Belgium and Germany owing to the occupation of the Ruhr district by the French and constant fluctuations in exchange causing unsteady prices. Imports of tobacco increased by Rs. 21.85 lakhs due to larger supplies from the United States of tobacco leaf for the manufacture of cigarettes in Southern India and those of mineral oils by Rs. 17.89 lakhs as a result of increased consumption of kerosene oil stimulated by a fall in price. Under cotton manufactures the increase amounted to Rs. 6.75 lakhs, white and coloured goods showing an increase and grey goods a decrease. The year began with large stocks, especially under grey goods and at the end of April prices were steady in sympathy with the firm tone of the Manchester market. At the end of June fluctuations in cotton prices and the uncertainty consequent thereon proved a hindrance to forward business. November saw some slight improvement and prices rose, due to speculation in the local market brought about by the enhanced prices quoted by Lancashire for replacements. Towards the close of the year a little more interest was shown in forward business but, with a firm Manchester market and declining exchange, orders were only booked with difficulty. Under improved political conditions the general trend of trade was more towards finer cloths. The increase of Rs. 6.71 crores under exports was caused by heavier shipments of raw cotton, tea, leather, sugar, grain and pulse, coffee, raw rubber, cotton manufactures, tobacco and raw hides and skins, partly set off by smaller shipments of seeds, postal articles and spices. There was an increase of Rs. 335.75 lakhs, or 134 per cent, in the value of raw cotton exported. This was due partly to larger local out-turn and partly to the acute shortage and high prices of American cotton which caused increased demand in the Far East, the

Foreign
importsForeign
exports

United Kingdom and continental countries for Indian cotton. Increased production of tea, owing to favourable weather conditions coupled with larger demand from London on account of depletion of stocks, resulted in larger shipments of tea, which rose by Rs. 84.48 lakhs or 42 per cent. The increase of Rs. 81.60 lakhs under leather was brought about by large consignments of tanned cow hides to the United Kingdom, the increased demand being due to the greatly improved position of the leather trade consequent on the clearance of the accumulations of leather bought by Government for war purposes. Owing to the world shortage of sugar and the high level of prices of sugar generally, there was an abnormal demand for Madras sugar, the exports of which rose from Rs. 6.82 lakhs to Rs. 78.29 lakhs in value. There was an increase of Rs. 34.06 lakhs under grain and pulse as a result of larger shipments of Madras rice of good quality to Ceylon, stimulated by a fall in price. The export of coffee, consisting mainly of the bumper crop of 1922-23, rose by Rs. 32.96 lakhs, the demand from the European countries being very large. Owing to less restriction in tapping, there was larger production of rubber available for export and consequently shipments improved by Rs. 24.11 lakhs. The fall of Rs. 26.16 lakhs under seeds was the net result of smaller shipments of copra and groundnuts partly set off by larger shipments of castor seeds. The total value of re-exports amounted to Rs. 34.05 lakhs as against Rs. 49.72 lakhs.

176. The total value of Government stores imported and exported amounted to Rs. 48.41 lakhs and Rs. 2.45 lakhs, respectively, as compared with Rs. 50.41 lakhs and Rs. 1.50 lakhs in the previous year. Under imports, telegraph materials decreased by Rs. 5.12 lakhs, paper and pasteboard by Rs. 2.30 lakhs, and sundries by Rs. 5.07 lakhs, while stationery, machinery and woollen piece-goods improved by Rs. 5.66 lakhs, Rs. 3.98 lakhs and Rs. 1.68 lakhs, respectively.

Government
transactions

177. Imports of treasure amounted to Rs. 84.59 lakhs as against Rs. 22.94 lakhs. Imports of gold, consisting mainly of sovereigns from Western Australia, Ceylon and the Straits Settlements, amounted to Rs. 76.94 lakhs, and imports of silver, chiefly made up of bar silver from the United Kingdom and Government of India rupees from the Straits Settlements, were valued at Rs. 7.65 lakhs. Exports of treasure, consisting chiefly of Government of India rupees, to Ceylon and the Federated Malay States were valued at Rs. 31.45 lakhs.

Treasure

178. The trade with the United Kingdom represented 41.7 per cent of the aggregate trade of the Presidency as compared with 43.9 per cent in 1922-23 and expanded by Rs. 1.28 crores, or 6 per cent, to Rs. 22.87 crores in value. The trade with the British Empire was 61 per cent of the total trade as against 64 per cent in the previous year and that with foreign countries 39 per cent, Europe claiming 25 per cent, Asia 8 per cent and America 6 per cent, as against 24, 6 and 6 per cent, respectively, in 1922-23.

Trade by
countries

179. The aggregate value of the coasting trade improved from Rs. 31.04 crores to Rs. 32.57 crores, or by 5 per cent. Imports of Indian merchandise improved from Rs. 1,673.34 lakhs to Rs. 1,773.71 lakhs, and those of foreign merchandise from Rs. 243.20 lakhs to Rs. 274.35 lakhs. Exports of Indian and foreign merchandise amounted to Rs. 1,164.44 lakhs and Rs. 19.01 lakhs as against Rs. 1,152.06 lakhs and Rs. 12.46 lakhs, respectively, in the previous year.

Coasting
trade

180. The value of the sea-borne trade on private account at the port of Madras represented 44 per cent of the total trade of the Presidency as compared with 46 per cent in the previous year and amounted to Rs. 3,918.45 lakhs as against Rs. 3,658.49 lakhs, an increase of Rs. 259.96 lakhs or 7 per cent. Foreign trade improved from Rs. 2,888.17 lakhs to Rs. 3,115.81 lakhs or by 8 per cent. The total foreign trade of the outports improved from Rs. 2,054.53 lakhs to Rs. 2,482.80 lakhs. Tuticorin maintained its premier position among outports. With the exception of

Trade by
ports

**Chapter IV
PRODUC-
TION AND
DISTRIBUTION****Shipping****Foreign trade**

Cuddalore, Badagara, Porto Novo, Bimlipatam and Kulasōkarapatnam, which showed a diminished trade, all ports experienced increased trade.

**Coasting
trade**

181. The total number of vessels entered from, and cleared to, foreign countries increased from 2,678 to 2,801 and their tonnage from 3.12 million tons to 3.54 million tons. British vessels accounted for 73 per cent of the whole tonnage and British Indian and Native craft 3 per cent. The tonnage of foreign vessels rose from 18 to 21 per cent. The freight rates on general cargo underwent an all-round rise of 5s. on 15th March 1924. In the case of groundnuts to Marseilles the highest rate was 32s. 6d. and this prevailed both at the beginning and at the end of the year. The lowest rate was 22s. 6d. to which it fell by the middle of August. The number of entries from coasting ports rose from 17,089 vessels aggregating 6,790,667 tons to 17,153 vessels of 7,042,168 tons. The number of clearances to coasting ports was 17,515 of 7,088,471 tons as against 17,332 of 6,725,621 tons in 1922-23. Twenty vessels aggregating 880 tons were built and registered during the year, the previous year's figures being 17 vessels of 550 tons.

**Miscella-
neous**

182. The total revenue receipts for the Presidency rose from Rs. 316.12 lakhs to Rs. 317.51 lakhs or by 0.45 per cent. The total disbursements of the Customs Department throughout the Presidency amounted to Rs. 14.93 lakhs as compared with Rs. 12.85 lakhs in 1922-23. The number of cases dealt with under the Sea Customs Act (including those under the Merchandise Marks Act) during the year was 1,440 as against 1,363 in the previous year. Of these, 581 cases occurred at Madras and 859 at out-ports. There were seven cases of smuggling of jewellery—5 at Madras and 2 at Dhanushkodi. There was a case of smuggling at Dhanushkodi of diamonds through the letter post in a small tin box concealed in a note book. There were many cases of smuggling of gold thread and matches at the land frontiers of Pondicherry and Karikal.

PUBLIC WORKS**GENERAL (1923-24)**

[Administration Report of the Public Works Department, Madras
Presidency, for the year 1923-24]

**Adminis-
trative
changes**

183. Owing to further retrenchment one more circle of superintendence, the Third Circle, Bellary, was abolished and its divisions were added to the Fifth Circle, Madras, which, on the other hand, gave up some of its divisions to other circles. The remaining five circles, as thus reconstituted, were named after their headquarters, as the Waltair, Bezwada, Madras, Coimbatore and Trichinopoly Circles. The appointment of Deputy Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, was also abolished. An officer was placed on special duty in connexion with the Sangamēswaram and the Cauvery-Mettur Reservoir projects. The revision of the administrative orders of Government relating to the Public Works Department Accounts was also taken up during the year by another special officer in collaboration with an Accounts officer.

**Chief
Engineer's
office****Consulting
Architect's
section**

184. The Consulting Architect's section was engaged in its normal work of preparing drawings and estimates for buildings. Hospital buildings occupied a large share of the year's work. One of the most noteworthy designs prepared in the section was the design for the combined hospitals and the Hall of Victory on the Marina. The value of the work for which estimates were prepared was about Rs. 30½ lakhs. The Special Consulting Architect, whose designation was changed to that of Deputy Consulting Architect, continued to work during the year. The value of work designed in his section, exclusive of educational schemes, amounted to more than Rs. 24 lakhs. Eighty-eight plans in connexion with educational buildings were scrutinized and drawings were prepared in

**Technical
section****Electrical
section**

seventeen cases. In the Technical Section, 97 estimates of the aggregate value of Rs. 111.98 lakhs were scrutinized. Of these, 54, totalling Rs. 28.83 lakhs, related to buildings; 15, totalling Rs. 29.82 lakhs, to water-supply; 8, totalling Rs. 18.65 lakhs, to drainage; 11, totalling Rs. 18.22 lakhs, to bridges and causeways; and 6, totalling Rs. 4.26 lakhs, to roads. There were in addition three miscellaneous schemes of a value of Rs. 12.19 lakhs. Among the works for which estimates were prepared, 29 were estimated to cost over a lakh of rupees each. A welcome activity in electrical engineering was apparent throughout the Presidency. The standard of supply in Madras City was improved and the consumption of energy increased by over 20 per cent. A licence for the supply of energy to the town of Madura was granted to the Madura Municipal Council. A hydro-electric licence for the area covered by the Trichinopoly district was also granted during the year, while the Government had under consideration the development of several other hydro-electric schemes in the Presidency. The Electrical Engineer scrutinized 202 estimates of an aggregate value of Rs. 4.03 lakhs. As many as 141 works were undertaken by Government and the expenditure on original works was Rs. 1.34 lakhs as against Rs. 1.03 lakhs in the previous year. The total value of all the Government installations in charge of this department was Rs. 19.88 lakhs as against Rs. 18.54 lakhs in the previous year and the amount spent on their maintenance was Rs. 1.02 lakhs as against Rs. 1.15 lakhs. The reduction in maintenance charges, in spite of the increase in the number and size of the installations, was due to economies effected during the year and to the general fall in the price of electrical materials.

CIVIL WORKS (1923-24)

185. The total expenditure on civil works for the year, including expenditure from contributions and on minor works and repairs, was Rs. 73.36 lakhs as against Rs. 68.07 lakhs in the previous year. The total expenditure on the King George Hospital, Vizagapatam, to the end of the year was Rs. 6.09 lakhs as against the estimated cost of Rs. 6.18 lakhs. Good progress was made in the construction of a cattle farm at Chintala-devi and the construction of quarters for the Armed Reserve Police and Town Police at Nellore, the total expenditure to the end of the year being Rs. 2.11 lakhs and Rs. 1.08 lakhs as against the estimated costs of Rs. 2.15 lakhs and Rs. 1.32 lakhs, respectively. A sum of Rs. 1.28 lakhs was spent on the construction of the hostel for the Madras University Students' Club, Madras, the total expenditure being Rs. 1.24 lakhs as against the estimated cost of Rs. 1.64 lakhs. The work which was started in February 1923 made steady progress during the year and was practically completed in February 1924. The hostel was named after His Excellency Lord Willingdon who opened the building. The total expenditure on the new Rāvapūram Hospital and subsidiary buildings to the end of the year was Rs. 11.64 lakhs out of an estimated cost of Rs. 12.73 lakhs. The expenditure during the year on the Leper Settlement at Chingleput was Rs. 1.33 lakhs as against the estimate of Rs. 1.35 lakhs so far sanctioned. The total cost of the works was estimated at Rs. 5 lakhs. A good deal of attention was paid to this important work, which was commenced during the year, with the result that by the end of March 1924 there was very marked progress and many of the buildings completed. Their Excellencies Lord and Lady Willingdon formally opened the buildings in March 1924. The outlay during the year on the buildings for the Madras Trades School was Rs. 1.21 lakhs, while a sum of Rs. .79 lakh was spent on extensions to the Agricultural College and Research Institute, Coimbatore. The total expenditure to the end of the year on the construction of a hostel for the medical students at Tanjore and the construction of quarters for the Armed Reserve Police at Trichinopoly was Rs. .42 lakh and Rs. .54 lakh, respectively. The water-supply schemes for the towns of Anantapur, Chingleput and Adōni and the improvements to the Madura water-works were in progress during the year. A sum of

**Works in
progress
Buildings****Water-supply
and drainage**

Rs. 4.20 lakhs was spent on the Madura drainage scheme during the year, bringing the total outlay to the end of the year to Rs. 32.20 lakhs as against the estimated cost of Rs. 38.21 lakhs. The total outlay on the Vellore drainage works to the end of the year was Rs. 4.63 lakhs. Other minor water-supply and drainage works, involving an outlay of Rs. .20 lakh, were also in progress during the year.

Workshops

186. The value of the work of every kind done during the year in the Dowlaishwaram workshops amounted to Rs. 1.39 lakhs as against Rs. 1.51 lakhs in the previous year, the decrease, as in the previous year, being due to restricted expenditure. In the Bezwada workshops the value of the work turned out was Rs. .49 lakh as against Rs. .67 lakh in the previous year, the decrease in this case being due to the paucity of works in general in the shops. There was a slight increase in the out-turn in the workshops at Madras, the value of the work done being Rs. 2.53 lakhs as against Rs. 2.33 lakhs in the previous year, but the effects of retrenchment due to financial stringency continued to be noticeable during the year.

TRAMWAYS (1923-24)

187. The route mileage operated upon by the Madras Electric Tramways during the year remained the same as in 1922-23. The line equipment is throughout on the overhead trolley system suspended by side or centre poles. The current was obtained from the Madras Electric Supply Corporation and the power station plant was kept in reserve. The rolling-stock consisted of 82 motor cars, one special car and one road-metal carrying car, but the average daily number of cars in service was 64, i.e., four less than that of the previous year. One car was reconstructed during the year. The system of running trailer-cars was discontinued. The car mileage rose from 1,803,543 miles to 2,087,867 miles and the number of passengers also increased from 17,530,998 to 18,425,185.

CANALS (1923-24)

188. Navigation was carried on as usual on the Dumagudem, Gōdāvari, Kistna, Kurnool-Uddapah, Buckingham, West Coast and Vēdāranniyam canals. Excluding the West Coast canals for which figures are not available the total direct receipts amounted to Rs. 2.85 lakhs, or Rs. 0.07 lakh more than in the previous year. The increase occurred chiefly under the Buckingham canal and was due to larger revenue being realized under "Miscellaneous" receipts.

IRRIGATION (1923-24)

[Statistical Abstract for British India—Irrigation]

**Gross
expenditure
and
revenue**

189. The expenditure incurred on irrigation works rose by Rs. 7.35 lakhs to Rs. 90.29 lakhs but the revenue derived therefrom fell from Rs. 285.10 lakhs to Rs. 273.78 lakhs, the area charged as irrigated being 6,891,136 acres, or 444,366 acres less than in 1922-23. The decrease in the area irrigated was due to the unfavourable character of the season. Productive works showed a return of 13.70 per cent on the capital as compared with 12.77 per cent in the previous year and 8.83 per cent twenty-five years ago, i.e., in 1898-99.

**Irrigation
works**

190. Works for which capital and revenue accounts are kept are divided into (a) Irrigation works and (b) Navigation, Embankment and Drainage works, each class being subdivided into "Productive" and "Unproductive." The classification of a work as productive or unproductive is based upon the financial results of three consecutive years. The capital outlay on "Irrigation Works—Productive" (direct and indirect) rose from Rs. 6.74 lakhs to Rs. 10.74 lakhs and was incurred chiefly on the Gōdāvari delta, the Divi Pumping and the Cauvery delta systems and the Tōludur project, the last of which was opened by His Excellency the

Productive

Governor on the 8th September 1923. In the Gōdāvari delta system progress was made in carrying out the improvements to the Kōvvur-Manjair Junction canal, the Ainapur drain and the upper portion of the Yenamadurru drain. In the Divi Pumping system another engine and pump was erected, making nine in all. The improvements to Lawford's straight cut, the construction of a regulator across the Korayar and the reconstruction of the Thoppadanaveli dam were the important works in progress in the Cauvery delta system. The total area under first and second crop charged as irrigated was 3,192,022 acres and 473,557 acres, respectively, as against 3,219,911 acres and 477,674 acres in the previous year. The gross revenue and working expenses amounted to Rs. 180.98 lakhs and Rs. 36.84 lakhs, respectively, as against Rs. 173.76 lakhs and Rs. 37.64 lakhs in the previous year. The net revenue due to improvements was Rs. 97.19 lakhs as against Rs. 89.21 lakhs in the previous year, representing a return of 13.70 per cent on the capital outlay of Rs. 7.09 crores as against 12.77 per cent in 1922-23. After deducting interest charges the profit for the year was Rs. 74.60 lakhs as against Rs. 67.17 lakhs in the previous year and the accumulated profits to the end of the year amounted to Rs. 24.34 crores. Compared with the previous year the gross revenue showed an increase of Rs. 7.22 lakhs, which occurred chiefly under the Gōdāvari and the Cauvery delta systems. The increase under the former system was due to a rise in the extent under second crop cultivation. The introduction of the re-settlement rates in the Tanjore district accounted for the increase under the Cauvery delta system. There was a fall of Rs. 0.80 lakh under "working expenses," which occurred chiefly under "establishment charges" and was due to retrenchment. The capital outlay on "irrigation works—unproductive (direct and indirect)" was Rs. 0.08 lakh, incurred chiefly on the Rushikulya system. The area under first and second crop charged as irrigated was 266,749 acres and 22,585 acres, respectively, as against 267,695 acres and 24,824 acres in the previous year. The gross revenue and working expenses inclusive of old irrigation revenue and old maintenance charges amounted to Rs. 10.21 lakhs and Rs. 3.75 lakhs as against Rs. 10.30 lakhs and Rs. 4.0 lakhs, respectively, in the previous year. The net revenue due to improvements was Rs. 4.56 lakhs. After deducting interest charges the deficit for the year was Rs. 8.83 lakhs. The remissions granted under "productive" and "unproductive" works were Rs. 3,69,327 and Rs. 47,669, respectively, as against Rs. 1,28,636 and Rs. 15,104 in the previous year. The areas mainly affected were the Gōdāvari delta and the Pālār anicut systems under the former class and the Rushikulya system and the Barur tank under the latter.

Revenue and
working
expenses
(productive
works)

Unproductive

Revenue
and working
expenses
(unproduc-
tive works)

Remissions

191. There were three works classed as "unproductive navigation works," viz., the Ganjām-Gopalpūr canal, the Buckingham canal and the Vēdāranniyam canal. The gross receipts and charges amounted to Rs. 80,200 and Rs. 2,98,884, respectively, as against Rs. 75,637 and Rs. 2,81,118 in the previous year. There was thus a loss of Rs. 2,18,684 to Government on the working of the canals as against Rs. 2,05,481 in 1922-23. Heavy expenditure was incurred on the clearance of silt in the Buckingham canal and in closing the breaches in the canal banks caused by the exceptionally heavy rains in 1922.

Navigation
works—
Unproduc-
tive

192. The outlay on this class of works including that incurred by civil officers and accounted for by the Civil Department was Rs. 32.26 lakhs as against Rs. 28.44 lakhs in the previous year. The area charged as irrigated fell from 3,345,398 acres to 2,936,223 acres and the revenue, inclusive of the amount collected by the Public Works Department, was Rs. 81.10 lakhs as against Rs. 99.51 lakhs in the previous year, the decrease being due to the fall in the extent irrigated owing to the unfavourable character of the season. The total area coming within the scope of Tank Restoration Scheme investigation was 102,500 square miles. During the year an area of 947 square miles of minor basins was entered upon and 726 square miles investigated, bringing up the totals to 90,275 square miles and 84,335 square miles, respectively. Works were completed for 76,736 square miles of the area investigated, were in progress for 4,899 square miles

Irrigation
works for
which
capital and
revenue
accounts
are not kept

Tank
restoration
scheme

and were not commenced in the balance of 2,700 square miles. Estimates for Government works were sanctioned to the extent of Rs. 3.11 lakhs or Rs. 0.11 lakh less than in the previous year. The total amount sanctioned under this head from the beginning of the operations up to the end of the year was Rs. 164.80 lakhs. The expenditure during the year was Rs. 3.14 lakhs, or Rs. 4.34 lakhs including percentage charges.

Navigation,
embank-
ment and
drainage
works

Investigation
of projects

193. The outlay incurred on this class of works rose from Rs. 6.84 lakhs to Rs. 7.29 lakhs but the revenue fell from Rs. 0.78 lakh to Rs. 0.69 lakh. Negotiations with the Mysore Darbar having been concluded, the estimates for the Cauvery reservoir project were revised to meet the current schedule of rates and forwarded to the Government of India at the close of the year for the sanction of the Secretary of State. The Vengalapuram project in the Nellore district was under consideration. The Velgode project in the Kurnool district and the improvements to the Kurnool-Cuddapah canal were held in abeyance pending the investigation of the project for a reservoir on the Kistna at Sangamēswaram; this was undertaken during the year. The estimate for improvements to the Girisola channel in the Ganjām district was under the consideration of Government. The estimates for the Coringa Island project revised by the Superintending Engineer were under the consideration of the Chief Engineer for Irrigation. The Polavaram Island project was held in abeyance pending the passing of an irrigation law for the Presidency. An estimate amounting to Rs. 4.95 lakhs was sanctioned for replacing the existing 3 feet shutters of the Kistna anicut at Bezvada by shutters 6 feet high. The Pratur pumping scheme in the Guntūr district was abandoned. The Bellary West canal project for the irrigation of about 80,000 acres in the Bellary district was taken up for investigation about the close of the year. An estimate was prepared for improvement of the Basavannah channel in the Bellary district. An estimate amounting to Rs. 3.20 lakhs for the Tippayapalem project in the Kurnool district was sanctioned. The estimates for making the Nilambur river in the Malabar district navigable for conveyance of forest produce and for improvements to the Vadavar and the Veeranam tanks in the South Arcot district were still under consideration at the close of the year.

Miscella-
neous

194. Damages were caused to several irrigation works throughout the Presidency during the year owing to rains and floods, noticeably in the Ganjām, Vizagapatam, Coimbatore, Malabar and South Kanara districts and in the Cauvery delta and the Srivaikuntam anicut systems. Timely steps were taken to execute repairs necessary to safeguard irrigation.

Hydro-
electric
surveys

195. As the syndicate which had taken over the Periyār power concession did not fulfil the obligations imposed on them by the concession and licence, a notice of termination of the concession and licence was given to them. Some further concessions applied for by the Nilgiri Power Syndicate were under consideration and the programme of works called for from them was awaited. A concession for the development of power from the Pykara river in the Nilgiris was granted during the year and a licence was granted for the supply of energy in bulk within the district of Trichinopoly and the Nāmakkal taluk of the Salem district from power generated from the Kattuvadi Ar on the Kollimalais. The special division which had been engaged in gauging and in preliminary surveys of hydro-electric resources was disbanded but later in the year the policy of Government in regard to the development of the hydro-electric resources of the Presidency was reconsidered. The data and information already obtained were collected and collated, a comprehensive chart of the resources and possible grouped schemes of development was prepared and investigation was continued with a small staff working directly under the Chief Engineer for Irrigation. At the end of the year Mr. S. G. Forbes, B.Sc., A.A.I.E.E., Chief Electrical Engineer to the Government of Mysore, was called in to advise Government, in consultation with the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, on the possibilities of hydro-electric development. Mr. Forbes' report strongly recommended the adoption of an active policy in this direction

CHAPTER V

REVENUE AND FINANCE (1923-24)

[Statistical Abstract for British India—Finance]

REVENUE AND FINANCE OTHER THAN MUNICIPAL

(a) GROSS REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE

196. The following statements give the figures during each of the past two years of the Central and Provincial revenue and expenditure as well as the capital expenditure on State Railways, Irrigation Works, Civil Works, etc., not charged to Revenue but excluding expenditure on such heads as Army and Posts and Telegraphs:—

Revenue and
expenditure

A.—Central and Provincial Funds—Receipts.

Heads of account	Central.		Provincial.	
	1922-23.	1923-24.	1922-23.	1923-24.
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
I. Customs	3,10,38,389	3,11,54,900	...	...
II. Taxes on Income	1,32,21,484	1,40,10,027	...	10,61,272
III. Salt	1,51,75,975	2,13,02,996	...	...
IV. Opium	10,64,824	13,22,503	...	...
V. Land Revenue	...	...	7,20,84,310	7,14,27,726
VI. Excise	...	...	4,90,14,302	5,18,87,475
VII. Stamps	...	...	80,25,806	81,09,796
A. Non-Judicial	...	...	1,30,57,752	1,42,35,500
B. Judicial	...	...	52,72,056	54,15,557
VIII. Forest	...	...	35,94,474	36,86,532
IX. Registration	44,96,519	44,96,519	...	...
X. State Railways	12,42,04,793	12,09,28,907	...	...
Gross receipts	8,72,97,697	7,91,74,727	...	...
Deduct Working expenses	3,69,41,606	4,77,40,180	...	...
Net receipts	2,58,385	1,49,224	...	...
XII. Subsidized Companies	...	...	...	...
XIII. Irrigation, Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works for which capital accounts are kept	...	...	(-) 27,29,943	(-) 26,40,896
XIV. Irrigation, Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works for which no capital accounts are kept	7,91,611	7,77,799	1,36,476	1,24,069
XVI. Interest	...	...	9,52,606	11,17,973
XVII. Administration of Justice	...	...	15,84,212	16,47,877
XVIII. Jails and Convict Settlements	...	...	7,77,542	6,46,256
XIX. Police	...	...	13,45,310	9,12,594
XX. Ports and Pilotage	...	...	112	15
XXI. Education	...	...	7,02,450	6,98,053
XXII. Medical	...	...	3,30,524	4,34,301
XXIII. Public Health	3,064	3,125	2,62,538	56,933
XXIV. Agriculture	...	...	3,45,906	3,80,526
XXV. Industries	35,700	2,06,209	14,40,245	11,61,978
XXVI. Miscellaneous Departments	12,172	22,106	3,42,337	4,31,190
XXVII. Currency	14,322	12,493	...	...
XXX. Civil Works	1,46,347	4,06,762	7,59,189	6,61,829
XXXIII. Receipts in aid of Superannuation	184	2,116	3,88,541	3,54,113
XXXIV. Stationery and Printing	1,58,978	(-) 1,94,371	2,20,501	2,16,540
XXXV. Miscellaneous	...	...	5,49,072	7,56,274
Total (a)	10,33,59,674	12,38,41,708	16,02,67,242	16,38,50,032
Contributions to the Central Government by Provincial Government	3,48,00,000	3,48,00,000	(-) 3,48,00,000	(-) 3,48,00,000
Miscellaneous adjustments between the Central and Provincial Governments	(-) 3,07,923	(-) 8,67,944	3,07,923	8,67,944
Total including (a)	13,74,51,751	15,77,73,724	12,57,75,165	12,99,18,016
Famine Insurance Fund	...	...	5,62,358	6,77,709
Loans and advances by Provincial Government	...	...	20,44,210	21,43,071
Loans between Central and Provincial Governments	14,24,980	30,20,528	66,18,000	58,80,000
Grand Total	13,92,76,731	16,14,03,252	13,49,49,733	13,86,18,796

B.—Central and Provincial Funds—Charges

Heads of account.	Central.		Provincial.					
	1922-23.	1923-24.	1922-23.			1923-24.		
			India.	England.	Total.	India.	England.	Total.
EXPENDITURE CHARGED TO REVENUE.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
1. Customs	12,05,055	12,02,881	...	...	...	...	...	...
2. Taxes on Income	4,77,082	15,78,081	...	...	...	...	...	...
3. Salt	26,12,395	24,06,361	...	...	...	...	...	...
4. Opium	...	...	1,33,26,049	18,567	1,33,44,616	40,52,346	28,016	40,80,362
5. Land Revenue	...	...	29,10,823	15,723	29,26,546	27,39,228	13,327	28,12,555
6. Excise	...	...	6,01,161	...	6,01,161	5,79,681	1,21,788	7,01,469
7. Stamps	...	...	47,89,463	30,089	48,29,552	46,33,826	59,648	46,93,474
8. Forest	...	...	21,92,178	...	21,92,178	22,63,774	...	22,63,774
9. Registration	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10. State Railways	70,29,845	59,70,821	...	...	...	...	...	...
11. Subsidized Companies	4,00,309	51,315	...	...	...	...	...	...
12. Miscellaneous Railway expenditure	1,26,553	3,15,525	...	...	...	...	...	...
13. Construction of Railways	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
14. Interest on works for which capital accounts are kept	...	...	3,33,200	...	3,33,200	3,81,940	...	3,81,940
15. Other Revenue expenditure financed from ordinary Revenues	...	...	31,91,100	...	31,91,100	39,31,716	...	39,31,716
15. (1) Other Revenue expenditure financed from Famine Insurance grants	...	...	7,906	...	7,906	4,753	...	4,753
16. Construction of Irrigation, Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works	...	...	22,593	...	22,593	6,646	...	6,646
19. Interest on ordinary debt	65,11,242	75,77,573	3,16,449	...	3,16,449	6,90,492	...	6,90,492
20. Interest on other obligations	20,52,116	18,42,011	...	...	...	...	...	...
22. General administration	72,000	32,000	1,24,75,317	3,22,833	1,31,98,150	2,13,99,001	3,04,488	2,16,98,089
23. Audit	6,09,211	5,76,112	...	...	...	92,75,202	1,33,854	94,09,056
24. Administration of Justice	...	...	95,00,369	92,045	95,92,414	30,41,083	40,361	31,04,447
25. Jails and Convict Settlements	...	...	39,33,373	10,900	39,44,273	1,86,99,007	1,53,382	2,00,52,389
26. Police	...	...	62,90,673	1,38,900	64,29,573	...	...	...
27. Ports and Pilotage	...	...	49,371	...	49,371	51,915	...	51,915
28. Ecclesiastical	4,31,944	4,63,925	...	...	...	...	...	...
29. Political	1,44,798	1,63,212	...	...	...	...	...	...
30. Scientific Departments	...	...	1,32,611	5,717	1,38,328	1,23,200	263	1,23,463
31. Education	...	...	1,53,44,943	99,089	1,54,44,032	1,63,25,230	1,21,233	1,64,46,463
32. Medical	...	...	54,70,761	1,65,022	56,35,783	54,37,067	5,34,477	59,71,544
33. Public Health	84,086	36,643	10,31,552	18,878	10,50,430	11,42,477	3,609	11,79,536
34. Agriculture	44,249	43,107	26,57,725	35,770	26,93,495	26,17,120	54,761	26,71,881
35. Industries	...	...	16,84,480	94,975	17,79,455	15,19,507	1,01,270	16,50,777
36. Aviation	4,361	47,537	9,99,008	4,042	10,03,050	13,05,058	75,200	13,80,257
37. Miscellaneous Departments	78,823	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
38. Currency	2,01,001	2,89,754	...	...	...	...	...	...
41. Civil Works	1,10,619	1,38,206	1,03,30,369	3,56,101	1,06,86,470	1,02,40,208	3,04,441	1,05,44,649
43. Famine Relief and Insurance	...	...	6,47,320	...	6,47,320	6,47,365	...	6,47,365
44. Territorial and Political Pensions	2,80,585	2,88,283	...	...	...	...	...	...
45. Superannuation Allowances and Pensions	4,31,314	3,09,323	47,03,967	1,84,254	48,88,221	50,83,087	2,58,530	51,41,617
46. Stationery and Printing	1,25,034	85,409	10,05,236	4,24,445	14,29,681	22,55,022	3,16,022	25,71,044
47. Miscellaneous	40,765	10,460	6,50,371	38,225	9,07,596	8,63,038	32,769	8,95,807
Total expenditure charged to Revenue	2,31,50,417	2,38,32,599	12,40,10,894	20,65,984	12,60,76,848	12,40,99,731	23,90,987	12,64,90,718
CAPITAL OUTLAY ON RAILWAY AND IRRIGATION WORKS NOT CHARGED TO REVENUE.								
53. Construction of State Railways	* 1,93,02,963	* 1,60,88,761	...	...	...	...	...	...
55. Construction of Irrigation, Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works	...	...	6,42,593	...	6,42,593	10,22,544	...	10,22,544
56. (c) Capital outlay on Industrial Development	...	...	...	...	...	32,669	...	32,669
60. Civil Works	...	...	...	...	...	1,32,109	...	1,32,109
60-A. Other Provincial works not charged to Revenue	...	...	5,77,509	...	5,77,509	2,00,000	...	2,00,000
Total Capital Outlay	1,93,02,963	1,60,88,761	12,20,102	...	12,20,102	14,47,622	...	14,47,622
Loans and Advances by Provincial Governments	...	...	54,22,414	...	54,22,414	50,71,815	...	50,71,815
Loans between Central and Provincial Governments	60,14,000	58,80,000	14,24,981	...	14,24,981	36,29,528	...	36,29,528
Grand Total (Disbursements)	4,00,71,385	4,67,01,360	13,20,78,361	20,65,984	13,41,44,345	13,51,48,606	23,90,987	13,75,39,683

Cash balance

197. The year opened with a cash balance of Rs. 135 lakhs in the Exchange Treasury and in the revenue treasuries other than those managed by branches of the Imperial Bank of India and closed with a balance of Rs. 98 lakhs.

(b) CENTRAL REVENUE AND FINANCE

General

198. The receipts on account of Central Revenue exceeded those of the previous year by Rs. 2,04,82,034. The increase occurred chiefly

* Includes expenditure in England.

[These figures are subject to alteration when the Finance and Revenue accounts of the Government of India are finally made up by the Auditor-General.]

under Income-tax (Rs. 27.89 lakhs), Salt (Rs. 61.87 lakhs) and the earnings of State Railways (Rs. 108.08 lakhs). The Central expenditure charged to Revenue was more than that in 1922-23 by Rs. 6,72,782, large increases under Income-tax and interest on ordinary debt and smaller increases under Salt and other heads being partly set off by decreases under the heads of Railways, Superannuation allowances and Pensions, and interest on other obligations.

199. The increase in the revenue under Customs during the year as compared with the previous year was small and it was chiefly due to large refunds made during 1922-23 owing to the enhanced rate of duty which was provisionally levied on "Machinery and Cotton piece-goods" in March 1922 not having been finally passed by Government.

200. For information about the opium revenue see infra under Excise Administration.

201. The improvement in the receipts under this head during the year was solely due to the fact that special attention was devoted in the year to the work of collection, as a result of which the arrears were considerably reduced. Previously most of the important assessments used to be made in the closing months of the year with the result that large arrears were left outstanding. But in this year, as a result of the special measures taken, nearly 90.5 per cent of the year's demand was collected within the year as against 40.4 per cent of the demand in 1922-23. The arrears left at the close of the year were only Rs. 13 lakhs as against Rs. 85 lakhs in the previous year. The charges during the year included Rs. 10,45,949 paid to the Madras Government for income-tax work done by the Provincial staff in 1921-22 and 1922-23. Excluding this amount the increase during the year was due to the employment of the whole-time income-tax staff in the districts of Chingleput, Madura, Rāmnād, Tinnevely and Trichinopoly in addition to the City of Madras where the special staff was employed in 1922-23.

202. The season for the manufacture of salt extends generally from January to June in the north and from January to October in the south. During the year there was a decrease in output in the factories of the Waltair and the Cocanada subdivisions due partly to untimely rains in the early months of the year and partly to the fact that some factories were not worked to their full capacity as they already held large stocks. The decrease was more than counterbalanced by the increase in the other subdivisions where weather conditions were more favourable. The total quantity of salt manufactured in the year was 13½ million maunds as against 12½ million maunds in the previous year. The stock on hand at the beginning of the year was 8½ million maunds and the quantity imported, mainly from Bombay, 1½ million maunds. The total stock of salt available for consumption was therefore 23½ million maunds. The issues during the year decreased from nearly 15 million maunds in the previous year to 13 million maunds. The reason for this decrease was the enhancement of duty in March 1923 and its reduction again in March 1924. The issues during the previous year were high, particularly in February 1923, in the general expectation of an increase in the salt duty. The enhanced duty affected sales during the year to some extent and the demand for salt in February 1924 was far below normal as a reduction in duty was anticipated by the merchants. Stocks in the markets were not, however, in any way inadequate. The wholesale price of excise salt increased on the average from three annas six pies per maund in the previous year to three annas nine pies during the year. There was also a similar increase in the case of Government salt, the average price fetched being four annas nine pies against four annas six pies in the previous year. The retail prices at headquarter stations also showed an increase which was due to the enhanced rate of duty. The reduction in duty from the 1st March 1924 did not immediately result in a reduction in retail prices as the merchants continued to sell salt at the old rates till the stocks purchased by them before the reduction of duty were exhausted.

203. Of the total quantity of salt manufactured during the year, nearly 3 million maunds were Government salt and 10½ million maunds were excise salt as against 2½ million maunds and 10½ million maunds, respectively, in the previous year. The quantity of salt imported by sea mainly from Bombay fell from 1,704,429 maunds to 1,419,853 maunds, while that imported by rail from Bombay and Goa rose from 251,692 maunds to 276,498 maunds. The issues of locally-manufactured and imported salt for ordinary consumption in the areas usually supplied fell from 13,617,562 maunds to 11,885,770 maunds. The quantity issued for export by sea to Ceylon was only 20,620 maunds as against 513,374 maunds in the previous year. The quantity of salt issued for fish-curing purposes rose from 230,825 maunds to 279,462 maunds. The quantities issued to the French Government and the Travancore Darbar were 63,844 and 418,008 maunds, respectively, as against 72,298 and 314,292 maunds in the previous year. The increase in revenue was mainly due to the enhancement in the excise duty on salt from Rs. 1-4-0 to Rs. 2-8-0 a maund with effect from 1st March 1923. The increase in charges was made up of Rs. 2,46,605 under "Salt purchase and freight" partly counterbalanced by a decrease of Rs. 52,839 under other heads. The increase under "Salt purchase and freight" was due to the purchase of a larger quantity of salt on Government account than in the previous year and to cyclone damages in some of the northern factories which had to be set right immediately and also to the adjustment of a portion of the cost of the railway sidings at Tuticorin.

Net receipts
from State
railways

204. The improvement of Rs. 108.08 lakhs in the net receipts from State railways was due to a reduction of Rs. 80.93 lakhs under working expenses and an increase of Rs. 27.15 lakhs in the gross receipts chiefly due to increased earnings from goods traffic.

Contribu-
tions and
miscella-
neous
adjustments
between
Central and
Provincial
Governments

205. The net amount paid to the Central Government by the Provincial Government in 1923-24 was Rs. 3,39,32,016 made up of (a) Rs. 318.00 lakhs being the fixed contribution paid to the Central Government under rule 17 of the Devolution Rules, (b) Rs. 3.40 lakhs transferred from Central to Provincial on account of the provincialization of the Lawrence Memorial School, and (c) Rs. 5.28 lakhs being the net result of an arrear income-tax assignment (5.66) from Central to Provincial for 1921-22 under rule 15 of the Devolution Rules and some other miscellaneous adjustments.

Capital out-
lay on State
railways

206. The decrease in the capital outlay on State railways not charged to revenue was chiefly due to a decrease in the suspense balances partly counterbalanced by a larger expenditure on rolling-stock in the South Indian Railway and on structural works in the South Indian and the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railways.

Loans and
advances by
the Central
Government

207. The opening balance under Loans and Advances by the Central Government on the 1st April 1923 was Rs. 1,80,51,249. No advances were made during the year. The repayments during the year amounted to Rs. 6,44,379, the chief items being Rs. 2,19,909 by the Madras Corporation, Rs. 2,37,721 by the Madras Port Trust, Rs. 1,36,147 by the Madras Coasts Lights Fund and Rs. 46,383 by the Tanjore District Board Railway. The closing balance of the year was Rs. 1,74,06,870. On the 31st March 1924, the sinking fund constituted for the loan of Rs. 14,30,000 taken by the Madras Corporation held Government securities of the face value of Rs. 17,64,500.

(c) REVENUE AND FINANCE OTHER THAN CENTRAL

Provincial
balance

208. The Provincial accounts opened with a balance of Rs. 8,55,388 on the 1st April 1923 and closed with a balance of Rs. 19,34,501 on the 31st March 1924.

Provincial
revenue

209. The receipts on account of Provincial revenues exceeded those of the previous year by Rs. 35,82,790. This increase occurred chiefly under Income-tax, Excise, Stamps, Forest and Registration. Expenditure also increased by Rs. 4,13,870, larger increases under "Other revenue

expenditure financed from ordinary revenues," "Interest on ordinary debt," General Administration and Education being largely set off by considerable savings under Land Revenue, Forest, Administration of Justice and Jails.

210. The decrease in revenue was chiefly under "Ordinary revenue" and it was due to the effects of cyclone in Ganjām and the unfavourable seasonal conditions in the districts of Bellary, Anantapur, North Arcot, Trichinopoly and Salem. The large decrease in charges was due to the charges on account of village establishments which were debited to Land Revenue in previous years having been transferred to General Administration during the year.

211. For information about Excise revenue, see infra under Excise Administration.

212. The increase was made up of Rs. 2.44 lakhs under non-judicial stamps and Rs. 11.78 lakhs under judicial stamps. The increase in the latter was generally due to increase in litigation and to the sale of stamps of high value on probates and also to the increase of court fees under Act V of 1922.

213. Under rule 15 of the Devolution Rules the provincial share of the income-tax receipts amounted to Rs. 10,61,272 in 1923-24, while it was nil in 1922-23.

214. The increase in revenue under Forests was chiefly due to the extraction and sale of a larger quantity of timber and to the exploitation of a larger quantity of sandalwood consequent on the ravages by spike. The decrease in expenditure was chiefly due to the payment in 1922-23 of the clothing and accoutrements supplied during 1921-22 and to the reduction of expenditure during the year on the feed and keep of elephants, roads, buildings and demarcation and also to the general expansion of early burning operations in substitution of the expensive methods of fire-protection.

215. There was a small growth of Rs. 87,908 during the year under Registration receipts which was due to the rise in registrations on account of unfavourable seasons, high prices of foodstuffs and cotton, the absence of plague in Coimbatore and the restoration of normal conditions in Malabar.

216. The total receipts amounted to Rs. 2.85 lakhs, or Rs. 0.07 lakh more than in the previous year.

217. The increase of Rs. 5,60,061 was chiefly due to the adjustment to the credit of the Local Government by debit to the Central Government of Rs. 5,66,069 being the arrear income-tax assignment due to the former from the latter under Devolution Rule 15 in respect of the year 1921-22.

218. The increase of Rs. 85.00 lakhs under General Administration was chiefly due to the transfer of debit to this head as explained above under Land Revenue. The increase of Rs. 10.02 lakhs under Education was chiefly due to the payment of a larger amount under "Grants to local bodies and other non-Government institutions." The decrease of Rs. 8.40 lakhs under Jails was due chiefly to economy in expenditure.

219. Under Schedule IV of the Devolution Rules the Provincial Government is required to make every year, with effect from 1921-22, a provision of Rs. 6.61 lakhs in the budget estimate for expenditure upon relief of, and insurance against, famine. The amount is to be expended only upon the relief of famine or the construction of protective irrigation works or other works for the prevention of famine. Any portion of the amount which is not required for these purposes is utilized in building up a Famine Insurance Fund. The balance at the credit of the fund is regarded as invested with the Government of India which will pay interest on it and it will be available, when necessary, for expenditure on

any of the objects mentioned above and also for the grant of advances to cultivators. The opening balance at credit of the Fund on the 1st April 1923 was Rs. 5,62,358. In 1923-24 the expenditure on the objects mentioned above amounted to only Rs. 9,384 and the balance of the famine insurance grant transferred to the Famine Insurance Fund was Rs. 6,51,616. The amount of interest on the balances of the fund credited during the year was Rs. 26,093. The closing balance at the end of the year thus amounted to Rs. 12,40,067.

Loans and
advances by
the Provin-
cial Govern-
ment

220. The Provincial Advance and Loan Account (including loans to local boards for railway construction) opened with a balance of Rs. 1,90,57,309 and closed with a balance of Rs. 2,28,86,053. Advances to cultivators amounted to Rs. 25,06,898 as against Rs. 25,80,429 in the previous year. A loan of Rs. 3,00,000 was received by the Sivaganga Estate to meet the expenditure connected with the maramat works of the estate. The Madras Corporation received loans of Rs. 5,00,000 and Rs. 2,00,000, respectively, for the Mambalam Town Planning Scheme and for water-supply and drainage works. A loan of Rs. 3,00,000 was granted to the Port Conservancy Board, Tuticorin. The loans granted to mufassal municipalities and local boards for the construction of bridges, markets, hospitals, drainage works, etc., amounted to Rs. 12,38,405. Advances to the extent of Rs. 4,29,465 were granted to co-operative societies for the acquisition of house-sites for Adi-Dravidas. The Kallar co-operative societies and the Salvation Army received loans to the extent of Rs. 1,24,284 and Rs. 25,883, respectively. Advances amounting to Rs. 3,46,274 were made to house-building co-operative societies.

Loans
between
Central and
Provincial
Govern-
ments

221. The advances obtained by the Provincial Government from the Government of India under rule 25 of the Devolution Rules to meet capital and other miscellaneous expenditure amounted to Rs. 58.80 lakhs carrying interest at the rate of 6 per cent per annum. The amount repaid to the Government of India was Rs. 36,29,528, which is made up of Rs. 9,50,000 on account of the annual instalment in repayment of the outstanding balance of the Provincial Advance and Loan Account, Rs. 7,79,528 in repayment of the outstanding balances of the advances taken in 1921-22 and 1922-23 to meet capital and other miscellaneous expenditure and Rs. 19,00,000 adjusted towards the repayment of the outstanding advances in addition to the equated payment of Rs. 7,79,528 referred to above.

Local funds

222. The following table summarizes the transactions of funds raised from special sources and devoted to special objects and not to the general purposes of administration (Central and Provincial) :—

Name of the fund.	Opening balance on 1st April 1923.	Receipts, 1923-24.	Charges, 1923-24.	Closing balance on 31st March 1924.	* Invested balance at credit of the fund.
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
1. Bhadrachalam-Nagur Special Fund ...	17,161	10,190	7,731	19,620	...
2. Irrigation Cess Fund ...	50,018	62,011	59,825	53,194	...
3. Port and Marine Funds—The Madras Port Fund ...	17,654	1,77,822	1,91,475	3,105	24,200
4. The Minor Ports Fund ...	4,37,074	6,90,808	7,37,511	3,99,431	10,73,360
5. The Cochin Port Fund ...	1,07,891	1,30,291	1,45,408	98,774	64,930
6. The Tuticorin Port Fund ...	...	20,022	13,856	6,176	...
7. Pilotage Funds (outports) ...	5,052	12,746	14,207	3,591	1,79,000
8. Landing and Shipping Dues Funds ...	7,80,272	19,40,337	23,57,608	3,65,941	8,91,320
9. The Madras Coast Lights Fund ...	1,64,125	2,75,506	2,70,511	1,81,200	90,000
10. Cantonment Funds ...	3,05,448	6,05,108	7,01,734	2,08,856	14,000
11. Civil Hospital Fund, Secunderabad ...	18,853	1,54,702	1,17,458	50,097	...
12. Lightkeepers' Recreation and Benefit Fund ...	744	8,708	6,767	2,745	8,000
13. University Fee Fund ...	97,990	5,85,520	5,64,541	1,18,957	10,40,800
14. Kumbakonam College Hostel Fund ...	2,610	12,608	11,706	3,512	...
15. Mrs. A. V. Narasinga Rao's College Fund ...	13,008	55,210	50,956	8,262	1,00,100
16. Hyderabad Residency Bazaar Fund, Secunderabad ...	80,950	1,70,187	1,31,039	1,20,104	...
17. Local (Abkari) Fund, Secunderabad ...	2,25,473	10,54,300	10,11,160	2,69,492	...

* Includes Government promissory notes, Post office cash certificates, and fixed deposits in the Imperial Bank of India, Madras.

223. For information about Local Funds constituted under Act V of 1884, see supra Chapter III—Local Boards Administration.

MUNICIPAL REVENUES

224. See supra Chapter III—Protection—Municipal Administration (Mufassal) and Municipal Administration (City of Madras).

EXCISE ADMINISTRATION

(Report on the administration of the Abkari Department for the year 1923-24)

225. During the year there was no interference by the non-co-operators with the administration of the Excise Department except for a short time in the Madura district when they picketed the liquor shops in Madura town with the object of preventing renters from bidding at the toddy sales. The picketing was carried on with great vigour and was, as usual, attended with violence, insult and intimidation. In the Coimbatore district, some of the adherents of the Kongu Vellala Sangam gave trouble in November 1923 when a party of Kavandars of Vellaikinar attacked the tappers and coolies employed on the transport of toddy, broke the toddy pots, burnt the residential sheds of the tappers in topes where trees had been marked, and cut down plantain trees in such topes to intimidate the owners of the trees. A few toddy shops also were burnt down.

226. With the exception of certain Agency tracts, the whole of the Presidency was under the contract distillery system. There were no changes in the areas of supply or rates of duty. The number of shops opened increased from 5,917 to 5,932, but licit consumption of country spirits fell from 1,575,439 proof gallons to 1,528,381, being 0.037 proof gallon per head of population. The decrease in consumption was due mainly to the unfavourable season and economic distress in some districts. The total revenue from country spirits rose from Rs. 210.91 lakhs to Rs. 216.32 lakhs, the increase being due to increased shop rentals. In the Agency tracts under the outstill and central distillery systems 110 shops were sold for Rs. 2.18 lakhs as against 109 shops for Rs. 2.00 lakhs in 1922-23.

227. The tree-tax system was extended to another sixteen riverside villages of the Bhadrachalam taluk during the year. The sweet-toddy rules introduced in the Polavaram and Yellavaram taluks in 1921 continued to work satisfactorily but the industry was still confined to the Gamallas and Idigas of Polavaram taluk. In the rest of the Agency it was not in a thriving state. From the 1st October 1923 the half-yearly rates of tree-tax were raised in the Malabar and South Kanara districts from Rs. 3-12-0 for a coconut palm and Rs. 7-8-0 for a sago palm to Rs. 4-8-0 and Rs. 9, respectively, and the yearly rates for a palmyra or a date palm from Rs. 2-8-0 to Rs. 3. Elsewhere there was no change in the rates of tree-tax. The number of shops sold fell from 10,610* in 1922-23 to 10,531 in 1923-24. The total revenue increased from Rs. 221.63 lakhs to Rs. 241.69 lakhs. There was an increase of Rs. 1.04 lakhs under the head of "Tree-tax" and of Rs. 19.02 lakhs under that of "Rentals." The number of trees tapped up to July 1924, expressed in terms of coconut trees, was 22.39 lakhs as compared with 23.10 lakhs in 1922-23. The licit consumption per head was roughly 2.57 gallons as against 2.64 gallons in the previous year.

228. The excise duty on coconut-toddy arrack was reduced from Rs. 21-14-0 to Rs. 17-8-0 per proof gallon, while the rates of duty on other locally-made foreign liquors, as well as on imported spirits, remained unaltered. The quantity of foreign liquor imported by sea increased by 45,878 gallons. The quantity of locally-manufactured foreign spirits issued during the year was 9,246 proof gallons as against 10,392 in 1922-23. The total issues of beer from the local breweries fell from 574,000 gallons to 562,000, exports from the Presidency amounting to 9,280 gallons, while

* Revised figure.

89,059 gallons were imported from Bangalore. The issues of locally-made rectified spirits increased from 23,033 gallons to 24,805 gallons. The total revenue under foreign liquor rose from Rs. 12.14 lakhs to Rs. 13.26 lakhs.

Opium

229. The number of shops sold during the year was 608 as against 609 in the previous year. The issues of opium within the Presidency fell from 35,950 seers to 35,001 seers, the fall being mainly due to the enhancement of the issue price from Rs. 63 to Rs. 70 per seer during the year. The revenue credited to "Opium" and the gain on sale-proceeds credited to "Excise" amounted to Rs. 13.23 lakhs and Rs. 17.44 lakhs, respectively, as against Rs. 10.65 lakhs and Rs. 17.30 lakhs in the previous year. The amount of shop rentals and miscellaneous revenue credited to "Excise" was Rs. 10.35 lakhs as against Rs. 9.92 lakhs. The total opium revenue thus realized by the Excise Department increased from Rs. 37.87 lakhs to Rs. 41.02 lakhs. The incidence of taxation per head of population was 1 anna and the average consumption per head of population was 0.066 tola.

Intoxicating drugs

230. The cultivation of the hemp plant carried on in 150 acres in the neighbourhood of Santavasal in the North Arcot district produced an out-turn of 793 maunds. Four hundred and twenty-four shops were sold as against 417 shops in the previous year, but the consumption of hemp drugs fell from 41,926 seers to 38,285 seers, i.e., from 0.079 tola per head of population to 0.072 tola. The total revenue derived from hemp drugs amounted to Rs. 14.93 lakhs as against Rs. 14.76 lakhs in the previous year.

Cocaine

231. The number of cocaine licences issued during the year was 185 as against 167 in 1922-23, the total quantity consumed being about 35 ounces as against 32 ounces in the previous year. The increase in the number of licences was partly due to the abolition of exemptions accorded to the vendors of certain preparations containing this drug.

Offences

232. The number of recorded offences against the *abkari* laws fell from 16,050 to 15,918, but illicit distillation cases rose from 2,001 to 2,123. The offence was, as usual, most prevalent in the five northern districts, in the Ceded Districts and Kurnool, and in Salem, South Kanara and Malabar. 6,427 cases of the illicit manufacture of toddy were reported as against 6,623 cases in the previous year. Cases of the unlicensed possession, transport and sale of liquor increased from 5,387 to 5,413. Hemp drug offences fell from 452 cases to 404 cases and, of these, 118 cases related to unlicensed possession of hemp drugs, while there was a decrease in the number of cases of illicit cultivation of the hemp plant. Cases of smuggling showed an increase from 36 to 62 and occurred mainly in the circles bordering on the Indian States. One case of the unlicensed possession of a cocaine preparation was detected in Trichinopoly town. The quantity involved was only 54½ grains. The number of convictions under the Opium Act rose from 168 to 218, but the importance of the cases as measured by the amount of fines inflicted (Rs. 5,863 in 1923-24 as against Rs. 9,416 in 1922-23) was considerably less. Fourteen cases of the smuggling of opium were detected during the year, the most important of these being the seizure of 37½ seers of opium by the Negapatam Customs Chowky Officer on information given by the Excise Inspector for Railways. The demand for opium from Burma and Straits Settlements continued and 162 seers of opium were seized at Rangoon- 152 seers from vessels arriving from the ports in this Presidency and 10 seers smuggled by postal parcels.

* Revised figure.

CHAPTER VI

VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICES

DETAILS OF CENSUS

233. *Vide* pages 209 to 219 of the Report on the Administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921-22.

BIRTHS AND DEATHS (1923)

[The sixtieth annual report of the Director of Public Health, Madras, for 1923; Report on the working of the Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Act of 1886 during the year 1923-24; Statistical Abstract for British India—Vital Statistics]

234. Excluding the majority of the Agency population, the inhabitants of the Laccadive Islands and those of the Banganapalle and the Pudukkottai States, the total population of the Presidency in 1923, estimated on the basis of previous intercensal increases, amounted to 43,022,648; estimated on the basis of natural increase, the figure was 43,863,813. **Population**

235. In spite of the efforts of the newly appointed district health staff the registration of vital statistics continued to be defective. A noteworthy feature was that registration was more unsatisfactory in several areas where it was compulsory than in areas to which compulsion had not been extended. The fact that 62,214 unregistered births were detected by the district health staff indicates the defective and inaccurate character of the work performed by registering officers. There was, however, appreciable improvement in the registration work in rural towns and this was largely responsible for the increase in the registered birth and death-rates. The total number of births registered during the year was 1,358,748 as against 1,231,722 in 1922. Calculated on the census of 1921, these figures yield a birth-rate of 33.1 per mille for 1923, as against the estimated Presidency average rate of 42.5. This rate exceeded the decennial average for the ten years ending 1922 by 2.9 per mille. The birth-rate exceeded the death-rate in every district, but the birth-rates of Nellore and Chittoor districts showed a decrease of 8.8 and 1.2 per mille, respectively, as compared with the rates for 1922. The ratio of still-births to live-births in the districts was 18 to 1,000, the corresponding figures for 1922 and 1921 being 11 and 9 to 1,000. The average birth-rate registered in rural towns was 32.3 per mille, being 5 per mille in excess of the rate recorded in 1922. Sixty-two municipalities showed increased birth-rates as compared with the previous year and nineteen showed decreased birth-rates. Deaths registered in the various districts during the year totalled 908,825 as against 859,236 in 1922, representing a ratio of 22.2 per mille as compared with the decennial average of 25.0 per mille. All districts except six had a larger recorded death-rate than in 1922. The death-rate among Hindus was 22.2, among Muhammadans 21.8 and among Christians 20.4 per mille. The proportion of female to male deaths was 100 to 101.9, but in the age-periods between 15 and 39 the mortality rates were 11.1 per mille for females and 9.6 for males, the difference representing an excess of nearly 17,000 deaths among women during the child-bearing age. The infantile death-rate was 173.7 per mille of registered births as against 166.4 in 1922. There was an increase of 22 in the number of qualified midwives, but the number of labour cases attended by them, **Deaths**

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although 8,341 more than the previous year, only amounted to 3 per cent of the whole. The number of deaths registered in the 215 rural towns of the Presidency was 46,713, yielding a death-rate of 21.7 per mille as compared with 19.1 in 1922, while the number of deaths registered in the 81 municipalities amounted to 89,604, the death-rate being 29.7 per mille as against 31.0 per mille in 1922. The average infantile mortality rate in the municipalities was 210.2 per mille as against 231.4 in 1922, the quinquennial average being 241.7.

Prevention
of disease

236. Prior to 1922 preventive medicine in the Presidency was in an undeveloped state and it was customary to await the outbreak of an epidemic before resorting to intensive prevention. In 1922 a district health scheme was introduced into a few selected districts, and the experiment proved so successful that a district health staff was established in all districts, except the Nilgiris, on the 1st April 1923. Though the health staffs in most districts were therefore in existence for only nine months in the year, they were able to do much good, notably in the districts of Tanjore, Trichinopoly, Coimbatore, Kistna and Madura. The achievements of the health staff during outbreaks of epidemics are described in the section dealing with the chief diseases of the Presidency.

Chief
diseases
General

237. Excepting under "cholera" and "fevers" a general increase in the death-rate of the Presidency occurred under all heads. A greater part of the increase was in all probability due to the improvement in the registration of vital statistics, as the epidemic of smallpox was the only severe outbreak during the year, while the total mortality under "epidemic diseases" was less than in 1922. The number of deaths from cholera registered during the year under review was 5,169 as against 16,502 in 1922,

Cholera

the death-rate per mille being 0.1 as against 0.4 in 1922 and as against the quinquennial average rate of 1.4. This figure is the lowest on record but no district was entirely free. Investigation into the epidemiology of the disease in Cuddapah, the district worst affected, revealed the fact that the dry water courses with a flow of water underground were often carriers of infection to the villages along their course, as the dry beds were largely used as latrines and burial-grounds. Investigation in the Coimbatore district showed that cholera was a yearly occurrence along the Bhavani river and that Mottupalaiyam was the probable focus of infection. The great decline in cholera mortality in Ganjam district was attributable to the control of the pilgrim traffic from Puri by health and medical staffs and by volunteers. Twenty-four thousand four hundred and thirty-four deaths were registered under "smallpox" as compared with 22,801 in the previous year. The rate per mille of the population was 0.6 as compared with 0.5 in 1922 and with 0.7 the quinquennial average. Investigations made by the district health staff into the accuracy of the registration of deaths under this head showed, however, that there were many omissions. In the district of Malabar the disease was as bad as in the outbreaks of 1918 and 1919, mortality being heaviest among the adults, but in the Presidency as a whole 70 per cent of the victims of this disease were under ten years of age. Plague was more severe than in the previous year. The number of deaths registered was 12,110 as against 9,193 in 1922, the death-rate being level with the quinquennial average, viz., 0.3 per mille. Ninety-six per cent of the total mortality from this disease occurred in the following four districts, namely, Madura, Coimbatore, Salem and Bellary. These same districts were heavily infected in 1922. In December 1923 plague broke out for the first time in Tuticorin from infection imported from Madura. Preventive measures were carried out in all districts but it was found very difficult to convince the people of the value of inoculation.

Smallpox

Plague

Fever was the cause assigned to 318,172 registered deaths, a decrease of 1,516 as compared with 1922. The death-rate per mille was the same as that of 1922, viz., 7.8, the quinquennial average being 11.2. As in previous years, Vizagapatam stood highest in the list. The high death-rate from fevers in the Agency tracts and Ganjam, though largely due to the prevalence of malaria, was partly accounted for by incorrect classification.

Fevers

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SERVICES

The number of deaths registered under the head of dysentery and diarrhoea was 60,323, an increase of 8,518 over the number registered in 1922. The death-rate was 1.5 per mille as against 1.3 per mille in 1922, the quinquennial average being 1.6 per mille. The incidence of mortality from these diseases was greatest in the month of December as in the case of cholera. Deaths registered under respiratory diseases numbered 55,951, as against 48,166 in 1922. The incidence of these diseases, 1.4 per mille, was in excess of the quinquennial average of 1.3 per mille. The Nilgiri district showed the largest increase. The epidemic of relapsing fever in the Tanjore district was completely stamped out by the end of March, but continued in Trichinopoly till the middle of the year. An intensive delousing campaign was carried out in these two districts and had the effect of checking the spread of the epidemic. The disease also appeared in nine other districts. The outbreak in Bellary was at once checked by prompt action on the part of the district health staff. The death-rate from maternal causes in municipal towns was 14.8 per thousand births, while the figures for the districts were unreliable. Deaths registered under "other causes" aggregated 420,018 (10.2 per mille) as compared with 380,286 (9.3 per mille) in 1922.

Dysentery
and diarrhoeaRespiratory
diseasesRelapsing
fever

Miscellaneous

Europeans
and Anglo-
Indians

238. Eighty-seven births and 27 deaths of Europeans were registered under the Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Act, 1886, while 206 births and 135 deaths were registered under the City and District Municipalities Act.

EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION (1923)

[Report on the working of the Indian Emigration Act, 1922, for the year 1923 (G.O. No. 1890, Law (General), dated the 25th June 1924); Statistical Abstract for British India—Emigration]

239. No indentured emigration took place during 1923 to the West Indies, British Guiana and Fiji, as the prohibition imposed in 1917 remained in force. The failure of the north-east monsoon in the chief recruiting districts resulted in a large increase of emigration to Ceylon and the Straits Settlements in the cold weather which is generally the slack season. The number of unskilled labourers and their dependants who emigrated to Ceylon and Malaya during the year was 80,461: of these 31,304 proceeded to Malaya as against 59,169 in 1922. Sixteen per cent of the emigrants to Malaya had been to that country before, and the proportion of such emigrants among those going to Ceylon was probably higher. The proportion of the sexes was fairly well maintained, about 36 per cent of the emigrants to Ceylon being females and nearly 26 per cent of those going to Malaya. The health of the emigrants was, on the whole, good. Two thousand and thirty seven emigrants returned from Natal.

Regulated

240. The only non-regulated emigration was that to Burma, for which no statistics were maintained.

Non-
regulated

MEDICAL RELIEF (1923)

[Annual Report on the working of the Civil Hospitals and Dispensaries in the Madras Presidency for the year 1923; Annual Report of the Medical College, 1923-24; Annual Report of the King Institute, Guindy, for 1923-24; Report of the Director of the Pasteur Institute, Coonoor, for 1923-24; Statistical Abstract for British India—Vital Statistics—Hospitals]

241. In the course of the year eight dispensaries were closed and eighteen new dispensaries were opened, the total number of medical institutions at the close of the year being 768 as against 758 at the end of 1922. Of these institutions, 48 rendered medical aid exclusively to women and children, while 720 provided treatment for both sexes. The

Medical
institutions

number of Government institutions open to all classes of the community (State-public) increased to 57 as against 54 in the previous year, but there was no change in the number of those reserved for special sections of the public (State-special). Five additional local fund institutions were opened during the year. The number of private institutions receiving financial aid from Government remained the same, but there was an increase of two non-aided institutions.

Relief

242. The number of in-patients treated during the year in the hospitals and dispensaries of the Presidency, other than the State-special and the non-aided private institutions, was 133,910 as against 131,510 in the previous year. Of these, 19,979 patients were treated in the institutions for women and children. The number of out-patients treated in the institutions referred to above rose from 8,098,588 to 8,220,258. The number of beds available for the treatment of male patients was 4,479; 3,428 beds were available for female patients, being 47 more than in the previous year. Of the in-patients, the largest number were treated for injuries; next in number were those suffering from diseases of the generative system, while those suffering from malaria formed the third largest class. There was a further increase in the number of in-patients treated for tuberculosis of the lung, the number rising from 2,244 in 1922 to 2,424 in 1923. Operations to the number of 366,661 were performed on 356,721 patients as compared with 337,127 on 327,660 patients in 1922. The number of major operations rose from 24,350 to 26,501, while the death-rate among the subjects of operations was only 2.4 per cent. A campaign against hookworm was carried on during the year. Of the persons examined for hookworm infection 79.70 per cent were found to harbour the parasites in greater or smaller numbers and 94 per cent of the persons examined for all intestinal parasites harboured some kind of intestinal parasite or other. The total number of treatments administered during the year was 93,469. On the educational side of the campaign 3,034 lectures with lantern slides were delivered in various vernaculars to audiences aggregating 274,000.

Finance

243. Government contributions during the year amounted to Rs. 29,11,709, while Local Fund and Municipal contributions rose from Rs. 23,47,634 to Rs. 25,98,639. There was a further decrease in public subscriptions, which fell from Rs. 1,31,845 in 1922 to Rs. 1,17,415, while total miscellaneous receipts amounted to Rs. 2,31,230. The total expenditure amounted to Rs. 58,91,569 as against Rs. 55,46,473 in 1922. This increase occurred mainly under the heads of "medicines," "diet," "salaries of inferior servants" and "salaries of nurses," while there was a decrease in the expenditure under the heads of "buildings," "miscellaneous charges" and "salaries of medical officers."

Medical
College,
Madras

244. The total number of students on the rolls of the College rose during the year from 610 to 616, of whom 59 were women as against 58 in the previous year. The total percentage of passes at all examinations was 48.2 and at the final examination 46.2—almost the same as in the previous years. There was a marked decrease in the percentage of failures in Medicine and Surgery, while there was an increase in the percentage of failures in Midwifery. To conform with the regulations of the General Medical Council of the United Kingdom, a course of instruction in Bio-Chemistry and Bio-Physics was introduced and a Professorship on Bio-Chemistry was instituted. The continuance of the Chemist and Druggist class was sanctioned as a permanent arrangement and the preliminary educational qualification for admission to this class was raised. Three hundred and seventy-eight new volumes were added to the library during the year. Instruction in physical training was given by a duly qualified instructor, and the students, as usual, took an active interest in athletics.

Medical
College,
Vizaga-
patam

245. In order to meet the increasing demand for higher medical education and to relieve the congestion at the Madras Medical College, a second Medical College was opened at Vizagapatam in July 1923. The College was located in the buildings originally constructed for a Medical

School and utilized till April 1923 as the headquarter hospital. The number of annual admissions to this College was fixed at thirty-two. The College began with the first year class for M.B., B.S. students and other classes will be added year after year and affiliated to the University. The percentage of passes was 58.6. As the College was in the first year of its existence, it had to work under some disadvantages, such as lack of accommodation, equipment and laboratory facilities, but in spite of these difficulties the College worked satisfactorily.

246. With a view to remedy a long-felt want, a separate Medical School for Women was opened by Her Excellency Lady Willingdon in July 1923. The annual admission to this school was fixed at twenty-five, and the rate of stipend to pupils at Rs. 20 each per mensem. Of the number required, only twenty candidates were found to be qualified for admission. The school was temporarily located at the Victoria Buildings, Egmore, and the dissection classes in Anatomy were held in a building on the Marina. The opening of the Medical School for Women raised the total of medical schools to six. Of the six medical schools, those at Madras (Rāyapuram), Tanjore and Vizagapatam provided a complete course in medical studies, that at Calicut (which has since been transferred to Coimbatore) a course for first and second year classes only and that at Madura a course for third and fourth year students. Passed second year pupils of the Calicut school and those of the passed second year pupils of Tanjore and Rāyapuram schools, whose native homes were in or nearer to Madura, were, as usual, transferred to the third year class at Madura. The total number of pupils in all the medical schools, including the Medical School for Women, was 1,262 as against 1,336 in the previous year. There was an increase in the percentage of passes at the final qualifying examinations during the year 1923-24 as compared with the previous year. The students continued to take a great interest in drill and gymnastics. Sanction was accorded for the construction of the fifth and sixth blocks of the hostel building in the Rāyapuram Medical School and the work was commenced. Progress was made with the construction of hostel buildings at Tanjore. The total expenditure in all the schools amounted to Rs. 3,82,447 and the receipts to Rs. 66,714 as against Rs. 3,56,108 and Rs. 54,069, respectively, in the previous year.

247. The King Institute of Preventive Medicine, which is situated at Guindy, performed the following functions during the year. It was the vaccine lymph depot for the Presidency, the laboratory for the manufacture of bacterial vaccines, the laboratory where clinical bacteriological work was performed for the Presidency in general and for the hospitals in Madras City, the public health laboratory for the Presidency and a research laboratory for the investigation of problems connected with medicine and public health. Its activities as regards the first function are described in the section on Vaccination. From the Bacteriological section 62,521 doses of bacterial vaccines were issued, while 7,546 specimens were examined in the laboratory and 9,888 in the field. The Public Health section examined 1,346 specimens, including 1,104 specimens of water. Two investigation units were employed in investigating four outbreaks of epidemic disease. Training in bacteriological methods was given to several medical subordinates and other courses in medical subjects were held. An exhibit of twelve photographs illustrating the work of the institute was awarded a diploma de Grand Prix at the Pasteur Centenary Exhibition. There was an estimated profit of Rs. 1,63,676 on the year's work.

248. The number of patients who underwent a full course of treatment during the year was 1,354, a decrease of 2,021 from the previous year's number. The decrease was due to the extended issue of the anti-rabic vaccine to Government headquarter hospitals in the Presidency. No patient died during the course of treatment. Two died within fifteen days of completion of treatment and two after more than fifteen days from the date of its completion. The last, classed as failures, formed 0.14

Medical
schools

The King
Institute of
Preventive
Medicine
(1923-24)

The Pasteur
Institute,
Coonoor
(1923-24)

per cent as against 0.44 per cent in the previous year. Thirty-nine persons for various reasons did not complete the full course of treatment and were, therefore, excluded from the above figures. Advice, but no treatment, was given to 160 persons. At the close of the year 22 patients remained under treatment as against 103 in the previous year. The virus was in its 891st passage on the 29th February 1924. The anti-rabic vaccine was issued to all Superintendents of Government headquarter hospitals and to the General Hospital, Madras. The total number of patients treated for rabies during the year at the Government headquarter hospitals and other institutions rose from 1,248 to 3,692. Of these, nine died less than fifteen days, and nine more than fifteen days, after the completion of treatment. The results of treatment at the headquarter institutions do not show any marked difference as compared with the results obtained in the Pasteur Institute, Coonoor. The net receipts, excluding refunds of advances and bacteriological fees, amounted to Rs. 73,689, and the net payments to Rs. 46,977. The increased receipts during the year were mainly due to the recoveries of the cost of anti-rabic vaccines supplied during the previous year. The new scheme of anti-rabic treatment at the headquarter hospitals has proved successful financially as well as from the medical point of view.

MENTAL HOSPITALS (1923)

[G.O. No. 1122, Local Self-Government (Public Health) Department, dated the 5th August 1924; Statistical Abstract for British India—Lunatic Asylums]

249. The three mental hospitals at Madras, Waltair and Calicut provided accommodation for 1,082 patients as against 1,058 in 1922, the increase being solely in Calicut. The number of admissions as well as the daily average strength were slightly lower than in the previous year. Seventy-two female lunatics were admitted as against 69 in 1922. Of a total of 1,296 in-patients, 172 were discharged as cured and 89 died. The total number of criminal lunatics under observation decreased from 206 to 204. The daily average sick was 125.47 as against 125.27 in the previous year. The largest number treated was for diseases of the nervous system, dysentery and digestive diseases, but Pulmonary Tuberculosis accounted for the largest number of deaths. Of the various callings, general labourers, cultivating tenants, shop-keepers, clerks and students provided the greatest number of inmates. The chief causes of insanity in the order of frequency were mental distress and strain, heredity, infective and toxic (such as opium, Cannabis indica, alcohol) physiological defects, and errors and mental instability, unhealthy environments, previous attacks, puberty and drug habit. As in past years the majority of the patients were aged between 20 and 40. The receipts from paying patients fell from Rs. 34,329-12-9 to Rs. 32,078-13-7. Regular inspections were made by both officials and non-officials. Various amusements were provided for the patients in the mental hospitals, and in the Waltair hospital a musician was employed throughout the year for the amusement of the inmates. The results of the treatment of mental patients continued to show a steady improvement, the percentage of cures having risen gradually from 14.42 in 1920 to 17.93 in 1923.

SANITATION (1923)

[The thirty-fourth annual report of the Sanitary Engineer to Government and the sixtieth annual report of the Director of Public Health, Madras, for the year 1923]

250. No addition was made to the number of municipalities in the Presidency during 1923. There were four water-supply schemes under execution by the Public Works Department during the year, viz., Madura water-works improvement, Chingleput water-supply, Anantapur water-supply and Tuticorin water-supply. The Anantapur water-supply scheme was completed during the year, but owing to the financial position little progress was made in other major sanitary works. Twenty-nine municipalities enjoyed the advantages of a protected pipe supply. The population for which conservancy arrangements were made amounted to 3,028,859, and there was a general increase in the numbers of the conservancy staff employed. The number of public latrines of all descriptions was 1,917, the revised figure for 1922 being 1,876. Of the total number, only 1,267 were type-design latrines or well-constructed latrines of other types; the rest were mere insanitary enclosures. Public latrine accommodation was still far short of the requirements of the population in most municipalities. The total number of private latrines was 174,415 as against 172,280 in the previous year. The percentage of these which were conserved by municipal agencies, however, fell from 86.5 to 83.3 per cent, and only 39.6 per cent of the houses which were of a class that should possess private latrines were provided with them. The total allotment for sanitation made by the various municipalities amounted to Rs. 46 lakhs and the expenditure to Rs. 29 lakhs in round figures, as against Rs. 37 lakhs and Rs. 23 lakhs, respectively, in the previous year. The provision for sanitation amounted to 49 per cent of the income of these bodies and the expenditure for nine months of the year was 63 per cent of the allotment.

251. Only one union town, viz., Rāmēswaram, possessed any form of a protected water-supply and in this town the scheme was only partially completed. There was a small increase in the number of villages in which conservancy arrangements were made, but such villages formed only about 2 per cent of the villages in the Presidency. The aggregate expenditure on sanitation for nine months of the year was Rs. 8,19,360 or 54.6 per cent of the allotment as against Rs. 9,85,213 or 65.2 per cent in 1922. Most of the districts spent more than 50 per cent of their allotment during this period.

VACCINATION (1923-24)

[Annual report on Vaccination in the Madras Presidency for the year 1923-24; Report on the working of the King Institute of Preventive Medicine, Guindy, for the year 1923-24; Statistical Abstract for British India, Vital Statistics—Vaccination]

252. The administration and control of vaccination in rural areas continued to be vested in taluk boards (except in the Nilgiris and the Agency tracts) and in municipalities, in urban areas. The district health staff was responsible for the supervision and inspection of this work. The Vaccination Code was revised and published as the Vaccination Section of the Public Health Code. Glycerine lymph was used in all local board and municipal areas. Routine vaccination work was suspended in the hot-weather months except in the Nilgiris, and the season was utilized by the health staff in detecting a large number of cases of the non-registration of unprotected children. The total number of vaccination operations increased from 1,761,624 in 1922-23 to 1,912,565. This increase was attributable to the better supervision exercised by the newly created district health staff, to the increase in the minimum prescribed for the vaccinators,

to propaganda work and to the widespread prevalence of smallpox. The average cost of each successful case rose from 7 annas 10 pies to 8 annas 9 pies. This was mainly due to the cost of the new health staff. When compared with the previous year, there was a marked increase of 113,632 in the number of children under one year of age who were successfully vaccinated. The number of vaccine operations performed in municipalities fell from 203,115 in 1922-23 to 185,967. The percentage of success obtained with glycerine lymph in local fund areas and the municipalities was 89.7 and 94.4, respectively, whilst that obtained in municipalities with lanoline lymph was 71.4. The total number of deaths from smallpox was 22,626 as against 26,526 in 1922-23. The King Institute, Guindy, supplied vaccine lymph sufficient for 2,184,590 cases. This issue was the largest on record and exceeded that of the previous year by over 104,000 cases, the chief increase being in the supply to district boards.

CHAPTER VII

INSTRUCTION

GENERAL SYSTEM OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

253. *Vide* pages 228 to 244 of the Report on the Administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921-22.

EDUCATION (1923-24)

[*Report on Public Instruction in the Madras Presidency for the year 1923-24 ; Statistical Abstract for British India—Education*]

254. In the beginning of April, Coorg and Bangalore were withdrawn from the administration of the Madras Educational Department. The posts of the Inspector of Schools, Coorg and Bangalore, and the Deputy Inspector of Schools, Bangalore, are, however, still borne on the Madras cadres of the Indian Educational Service and Subordinate Educational Service, respectively. From the beginning of the year effect was given to the Provident Fund scheme for teachers in non-pensionable service which had been under consideration for some years past. In pursuance of the provisions of the Madras Elementary Education Act, six municipalities introduced compulsory elementary education in 1923-24, in addition to the seven municipalities that had introduced it in the previous year. Further effect was given to the policy of Government's withdrawal from the direct control of elementary schools by the transfer during the year of seven girls' schools to local bodies. With a view to the systematic expansion of elementary education in the numerous villages in this Presidency which have no schools, it was decided to carry out a detailed educational survey of non-municipal areas so that the actual requirements of each village might be accurately gauged. As a first step in this direction a survey of the Saidapet taluk was undertaken and completed during the year. Boarding grants similar to those awarded to European schools were distributed for the first time among 73 Indian orphanages (41 for boys and 32 for girls), the grants so distributed amounting to Rs. 15,000. The policy of giving vocational and prevocational instruction in schools was continued. A scheme for the training of drawing masters as instructors in vocational subjects such as wood-work, wood-carving, engraving, etc., was introduced in July 1923 and eleven instructors were so trained.

255. The number of public institutions rose by 2,703 to 41,541 and their strength by 132,500 to 1,976,647, the increase representing 7 per cent and 7.2 per cent, respectively, as against 4.4 per cent and 5.8 per cent in the previous year. Private institutions also increased from 2,408 to 3,323. Taking public and private institutions together, there was an accession of 3,618 to their number and of 155,471 to their strength. The percentage of those under instruction to the whole population was 4.9 as against 4.5 in the previous year, the increase occurring mainly in the case of boys, being 7.9 this year as against 7.3 last year.

256. The Madras University Act of 1923 came into force during the year and the several controlling authorities of the University under the new Act, viz., the Senate, the Syndicate, the Academic Council and

the Council of Affiliated Colleges, came into existence in March 1924. There was no increase in the number of first-grade colleges, but the number of second-grade colleges rose from 20 to 22 by the opening of college classes in the St. Francis Xavier's High School, Palamcottah, and the affiliation of the Theosophical College, Madanapalle. The Noble College, Masulipatam, was granted affiliation in Group IV (Psychology, Ethics and Logic) of the B.A. course; the Theosophical College, Madanapalle, in Group III (History, Logic and Languages) of the Intermediate course; the St. Francis Xavier's College, Palamcottah, in Groups I (Mathematics, Physics and Chemistry) and III (History, Logic and Languages) of the Intermediate course; the Hindu College, Tinnevely, in Group V (History and Economics) of the B.A. course; the St. Ann's College, Mangalore, in Group V-A (History and Economics) of the B.A. course; the Holy Cross College, Trichinopoly, in Group III (History, Logic and Languages) of the Intermediate course; and the American Mission College, Madura, in Group II-B (Physical Science) of the B.A. course. The recognition of the St. Christopher's Training College, Madras, in the L.T. degree courses was also granted during the year. The total number of students in arts colleges for men was 8,928 as against 8,631 in 1922-23. Out of these, 448 were undergoing honours courses, and 6, post-graduate courses. The number of students reading in the second-grade colleges was 2,269 as against 2,208 in the previous year. The University Training Corps was designated the Fifth Madras Battalion of the University Training Corps and organized in eight companies, six stationed in Madras and two in Trichinopoly. This expansion of the corps enabled all the colleges in Madras and three colleges in Trichinopoly to join it. The year under review was the first year in which the corps trained as a complete unit. The corps started during the year a journal of its own entitled "The University Training Corps Gazette."

Secondary
education

257. The number of public secondary schools for Indian boys rose from 486 to 494 and their strength from 153,330 to 155,140. The number of girls reading in these schools was 2,317 as against 2,196 in the previous year. There was an increase of over a thousand in the number of candidates for the public examination under the S.S.L.C. scheme. The total expenditure on secondary schools for Indian boys increased by Rs. 1.10 lakhs from Rs. 62.70 lakhs to Rs. 63.80 lakhs, towards which public funds contributed 27 per cent, fees 59 per cent and other sources 14 per cent. The average cost of educating each pupil was Rs. 43.01 and each pupil paid an average fee of Rs. 25.5. Forty-two pupils who belonged to the depressed classes were admitted to the S.S.L.C. public examination without payment of fees, of whom eight were declared eligible for entering upon a university course of studies.

Elementary
education

258. The number of public elementary schools for Indian boys increased by 2,602 to 37,708 and their strength by 119,977 to 1,579,147. The percentage of male pupils to the male population rose from 6.1 to 6.6. The total number of teachers employed in public schools increased by 4,944 to 67,128 and the number of trained teachers by 3,091 to 30,393. The percentage of trained teachers to the total number of teachers employed also increased from 44 to 45. The number of buildings constructed during the year for the accommodation of public elementary schools for boys was 559, of which 113 were for schools under public management. The total expenditure on these schools rose from Rs. 98 lakhs to Rs. 104 lakhs, towards which public funds contributed 75 per cent, fees 7 per cent and other sources 18 per cent. The average cost per pupil was Rs. 6.11-8 as against Rs. 6.13-4 in 1922-23.

Special
education

259. The number of Government training schools for masters fell from 68 to 34, but their strength rose from 4,704 to 6,148. The number of aided training schools also fell from 20 to 19, but their strength rose from 1,521 to 1,568. There were, on 31st March 1924, 13,765 students receiving instruction of a technical character as compared with 8,367 last year. Of the former, 1,625 were pursuing art education, 1,998 technical education

EDUCATION

1923-24]

in engineering subjects and telegraphy, 7,200 industrial education or agriculture and 2,942 commercial education.

260. The number of schools solely intended for Indian girls rose from 2,919 to 3,050. The number of women under instruction in women's colleges rose from 367 to 390, but there was a decrease in the number of women reading in arts colleges for men from 62 to 57. During the year the Lady Willingdon Training College for Women, Madras, commenced working as a separate college and an aided training college, the St. Christopher's Training College for Women at Madras, was also opened. The number of public secondary schools rose from 59 to 61 and their strength was 12,454. As many as 14,268 girls, inclusive of 2,317 in boys' schools, were receiving secondary education during the year as against 13,389 in the previous year. The number of girls' elementary schools rose by 89 to 2,861 and their strength by 7,830 to 190,838. The number of training schools for mistresses, Government and aided, rose from 30 to 31. There was an increase of Rs. 2.38 lakhs in expenditure on secondary and elementary schools for girls.

Women's
education

261. The total number of European institutions increased from 90 to 91, the increase being due to the starting of the Lovedale Training School for European Women, and the number of students reading in them was 10,203. Of the 724 teachers employed in these schools, 581 were certificated teachers. For the European High School examination 136 candidates appeared and 81 passed. In the Middle School examination 228 were examined and 118 passed. The total expenditure on European education fell from Rs. 25.88 lakhs to Rs. 25.59 lakhs, towards which public funds contributed 40 per cent, fees 21 per cent and other sources 39 per cent.

European
education

262. The number of public institutions intended for Muhammadans increased by 55 to 2,393. There was also an increase in the number of private schools from 727 to 857. In arts colleges, there were 215 Muhammadan students including a woman student, as against 184 in 1922-23 and the number of Muhammadan pupils in secondary schools for Indians rose by 343 to 8,388. In the ten training and sessional schools for masters and the three training schools for mistresses, 386 men and 71 women students, respectively, were under training. The number of public institutions intended for Mappillas increased by 78 to 661. The expenditure on Muhammadan and Mappilla schools rose from Rs. 14.58 lakhs to Rs. 14.60 lakhs, towards which public funds contributed 78 per cent, fees 3 per cent and other sources 19 per cent.

Education
of Muham-
madans

263. The number of public institutions for Adi-Dravidas and Adi-Andhras rose by 530 to 8,575 and their strength by 16,285 to 238,796. The total number of Adi-Dravida and Adi-Andhra scholars in public schools in the different stages of instruction rose from 161,499 to 179,548. The number of elementary schools intended for aboriginal and hill tribes in the Agency tracts rose by 45 to 256 and their strength by 951 to 7,826. The total number of pupils belonging to the aboriginal tribes under instruction in all classes of institutions in the Agency tracts was 7,109 (6,891 boys and 218 girls). In the Presidency as a whole, the total number of pupils belonging to these classes was 14,843 (13,610 boys and 1,233 girls). There were fourteen schools exclusively working for the benefit of these tribes in the Kurnool district and 54 schools in the Nilgiris. The schools for the deaf and dumb at Madras, Madura and Palamcottah and the schools for the blind at Palamcottah and Rentachintala continued to do good work. The school for the deaf and dumb at Guntur was closed during the year.

Education of
Adi-Dravi-
das, Adi-
Andhras and
other back-
ward classes

264. The total expenditure on education rose during the year from Rs. 346 lakhs to Rs. 370 lakhs. This increase was mainly contributed by public funds. The proportion which public funds and private funds bore to the total expenditure was 56 and 44 per cent, respectively, as against 55 and 45 per cent, respectively, in the previous year. The total direct expenditure rose from Rs. 261.76 lakhs to Rs. 275.37 lakhs, towards which

Finance

increase public funds alone contributed nearly Rs. 9 lakhs. The amounts spent by local bodies on their own schools showed an increase of nearly Rs. 5 lakhs. Indirect expenditure also increased from Rs. 84.01 lakhs to Rs. 94.64 lakhs, the increase being mainly under buildings and furniture. Provincial subsidies to local bodies including the amounts placed at the disposal of District Educational Councils towards elementary education rose by over Rs. 5 lakhs to Rs. 81.63 lakhs.

CERTIFIED SCHOOLS

The Reform-
atory and
Senior
Certified
School,
Chingleput

265. The strength of the school was 228 as against 226 in the previous year. The number of admissions decreased from 76 to 45. There were 24 ordinary discharges and 23 special discharges; 4 pupils were transferred to other jails. Careful attention was paid to the sanitation of the premises and the surroundings, and apart from the periodical prevalence of malaria, the health of the school continued to be good. Anti-malarial measures were as usual carried out. There was a mild attack of influenza in the school in November last, when 70 boys were admitted into the hospital in the course of two days. Influenza vaccine was immediately obtained from the King Institute, Guindy, and the rest of the boys and the whole staff were inoculated. Owing to the prompt preventive measures taken, there were no further attacks and all cases of fever were discharged from the hospital cured. The number of in-patients in the hospital was 146 as against 83 last year. The monitorial system continued to work satisfactorily. Owing to stricter discipline the number of punishments increased from 55 to 127. The total earnings of the boys were Rs. 1,035 as against Rs. 1,116 in the previous year. The religious and moral tone of boys continued to receive special attention. Out of a total of 46 boys who were sent up for various Government technical examinations, 20 passed fully and 4 partly. One boy who passed the examination in modelling stood first in the Presidency. Football and hockey were played as usual. Sixty-one new books were added to the library. Deducting the income from the industrial departments in the school, the net expenditure was Rs. 50,637 as against Rs. 47,162 in 1922. The reports received in respect of 174 ex-pupils show that 94 or 54 per cent bore a good character. The Superintendentship was temporarily filled by an officer from the Jail Department.

Government
Junior
Certified
School,
Ranipet
(1923-24)

266. The school started work as a Junior Certified School in the middle of April 1923. Twenty-nine boys were admitted into it during the year, all sent from the Madras City and all but two being first offenders. The sanitation of the premises and the surroundings received careful attention. The health of the boys was good throughout the year and the discipline very satisfactory. No boy was admitted as an in-patient in the local hospital. The monitorial system worked satisfactorily. Special attention was paid to the religious and moral tone of the boys. Though the majority of the boys admitted into the school were of diverse attainments in respect of general education, fair progress was made during the year. In addition to organized games in the evenings, football and cricket were played by the boys. They competed in the inter-school sports held at Ranipet under the auspices of the "Baby Week Committee" and won a large number of prizes. The net expenditure of the school was Rs. 14,070.

MISCELLANEOUS (1923-24)

267. Twelve examinations were held at 620 centres during the year and the number of candidates registered was 46,553, of whom 41,130 were examined. Examinations of all classes were held at several centres in the Presidency, and seven were also conducted at centres outside it. The examination for secondary school-leaving certificates was held in March, 317 institutions sending up pupils as against 289 last year. The total number of candidates registered was 15,442 as against 14,040 in the previous year; of these, 13,026 sat for the examination and 12,988 completed their certificates. Forty-two pupils belonging to the depressed classes were admitted to the examination without payment of fees. Thirteen candidates who failed in the Matriculation or Upper Secondary examination and were desirous of being admitted for secondary grade training registered their names for the special examination for teachers. Twelve appeared for the examination, one candidate being a woman. There were 46 entries for the women's secondary grade final examination and 45 sat for the examination. For the training school-leaving certificate examination 7,615 candidates were registered from 105 schools, and 7,138 appeared; of this number, 828 were for the secondary grade, 2,426 for the elementary higher and 3,884 for the elementary lower grades. Four thousand five hundred and ninety-one candidates passed the examination, the numbers in the three grades being 664, 1,597 and 2,330, respectively. For the public examination held at the end of the advanced course of studies in Sanskrit schools 159 candidates registered their names; 118 sat for the examination and 92 passed. For the test of Deputy Inspectors in the Educational Department, 134 candidates registered their names, 117 for Part I (Inspection Code, etc.) and 17 for Part II (Linguistic Test); 93 appeared for the examination and 66 were successful. Seven women candidates appeared for the examination in Part I and six passed. The scheme of technical examinations was revised in December 1923, but the examinations for 1923-24 were held on the lines of the old scheme. The total number of candidates registered for the three grades of examinations was 19,857, of whom 997 were for the advanced, 6,793 for the intermediate and 12,067 for the elementary grades. The total number of candidates examined was 18,048, of whom 8,253 were successful. The results were better than those of the previous year in the case of the advanced and elementary grades. Eight hundred and four women appeared for the examinations, and 450 passed. Three of the women candidates for the intermediate grade passed in cotton-weaving. Sixteen diplomas, which included one for electrical engineering, and 166 group certificates, of which eight were for mechanical drawing, were issued during the year. The special test examinations were held in June and December. One thousand one hundred and seventy-six candidates registered their names for the examinations held in June; 867 presented themselves for examination and 530 passed, the corresponding numbers for the examinations held in December being 1,414, 1,130 and 577, respectively. The results were satisfactory on the whole, the results at the examinations held in June being better in most of the tests than those of the examinations held in December. For the technical teachers' certificate examinations 137 candidates were registered; 110 examined and 77 declared to have passed. Five hundred and twenty-six candidates were registered for the European school and scholarship examinations, 205 for the high and 321 for the middle grades. Two hundred and two candidates appeared for the high and 311 for the middle grades; of these 124 and 163, respectively, were successful. The examination for teachers' certificates in physical training was ordered to be held in April instead of in December, and the usual examination was not therefore held during the year. A special examination was, however, conducted in December for the benefit of the teachers trained in the Young Men's Christian Association School of Physical Education, Royapetta, and five candidates appeared for

Government
examina-
tions

the examination, all of them being successful. There were 29 candidates from three schools for the examination for teachers' certificates in physical training for women. Twenty-five candidates were examined and nineteen were successful. The examination for the award of certificates of competency to instruct blind and deaf-mute children was not held during the year under report.

Finance

268. Receipts during the year amounted to Rs. 2,12,009 as against Rs. 2,59,716 last year. The expenditure rose from Rs. 2,15,871 to Rs. 2,20,291.

Lawrence
Memorial
School,
Ootacamund

269. On the 31st March 1924 there were on the rolls of the school 308 boys and 174 girls, of whom 15 boys and 14 girls were day scholars. There were 275 children on the waiting list, of whom 241 were the children of British officers and soldiers who had served or were serving in India. Out of 10 boys and 4 girls who appeared for the European High School examination, 7 boys and 2 girls passed. For the Middle School examination 7 boys and 7 girls appeared, of whom 5 boys and all the girls passed. For the Cambridge School Certificate examination, 4 boys were examined, of whom 3 passed; and in the Junior Cambridge Local, 5 boys passed out of the 7 presented. Satisfactory work was done in the telegraph class and in the classes in music, typewriting, drawing, cooking and dress-making. Games continued to be well organized and the boys took a keen interest in them. There were 27 boys and 8 members of the staff on the rolls of the detachment of cadets and of the Auxiliary force. A cadet company was formed with a strength of 135 and the girl guides had a very successful year. The school continued to maintain its efficiency and the Inspector of European Schools was favourably impressed with the work done. Among others the Most Reverend the Metropolitan of India visited the school in the year and recorded a high tribute to the work that is being done for the welfare of the children. Including the opening balance the total receipts during the financial year 1923-24 amounted to Rs. 3.33 lakhs and the total expenditure to Rs. 3.20 lakhs, leaving a closing balance of Rs. 0.13 lakh.

LITERATURE AND THE PRESS (1923-24)

[Statistical Abstract for British India—Press and Publications]

Public
librariesConnemara
Public
Library

270. The number of visitors to the Connemara Public Library rose by 2,968 to 28,988 and the total number of volumes consulted was 39,881 as against 39,256 in the previous year. During the year 309 standard works comprising 350 volumes were added to the library. Of these, 232 (268 volumes) were purchased and the remaining 77 (82 volumes) were received as gifts or exchanges. The card index system adopted for standard works was continued and typed lists of current periodicals, Government publications and recent Parliamentary papers available in the library were prepared. At the University Library the total number of readers was 15,083 as against 14,467 in 1922-23, the number of volumes consulted being 21,305 as against 21,491. The number of persons who took books on loan fell from 262 to 261 and the number of volumes taken out also decreased from 6,649 to 6,240.

University
LibraryOriental
Manuscripts
Library

271. The number of manuscripts acquired for the Oriental Manuscripts Library during the year was 147 as against 307 in the previous year. Of these, 79 were acquired by transcription, 58 by purchase, 7 by presentation and 3 by restoration. As in the previous year, no tour was undertaken for the collection and acquisition of manuscripts owing to lack of funds. Most of the manuscripts acquired through the peripatetic party and available for sale having been purchased during the previous years, only a few manuscripts remained to be purchased. Some manuscripts, however, which were offered for sale to the library, had to be returned to the owners as they demanded a much higher price than was reasonable. As the temporary publication section was abolished, the permanent section

carried on the work of publication. Nearly three-fourths of the work *Brahmasiddhi* was printed during the year. The popularity and usefulness of the library was well maintained. The number of visitors to the library was 3,947 as against 3,277 last year and the number of manuscripts consulted by them rose from 5,720 to 6,252. Some manuscripts were also issued on loan.

272. Besides the annual accession of records by transfer from the Secretariat and other offices, about 1,200 volumes, manuscript and printed, of proceedings of the Madras Government were received from the Government of India. The publication of the Records of Fort St. George was continued, and during the year Public Diary and Consultation for 1702, and letters from Fort St. George, volumes for 1700-01, and 1702, were published while despatches from England, 1702-08, and despatches to England, 1702-20, were under publication. Volume IX (September 1754 to December 1755) of the Diary of Ananda Ranga Pillai was issued and Volume X was under preparation. The volume of the Baramahal Records on Police was also published. A good collection of manuscripts, maps, plans, seals, etc., from the Record Office was shown as exhibits in connexion with the exhibition held under the auspices of the Indian Historical Records Commission during its visit to Madras in January.

The Madras
Record Office
(1923-24)

273. Three hundred and ten periodicals treating of public news were in existence at the end of 1923 as against 277 at the close of 1922. One hundred and five of these journals were started during the year, four journals already in existence began to deal with public matters for the first time and seventy-six newspapers ceased to exist. Of the 386 newspapers actually published during the year 113 or 29.27 per cent appeared in Madras City and 152 or 39.38 per cent in the mufassal, the remainder appearing outside British India. Eighty-eight or 22.8 of these newspapers were published in English, the remainder being either multilingual or in a vernacular. The chief English dailies were the *Hindu*, *Madras Mail*, *Daily Express*, *New India*, *Justice* and *Swarajya*. There was an increase in the circulation of the *Daily Express* and of *Swarajya*, and a fall in the circulation of *Justice* and *New India*. Among Tamil periodicals *Swadesamitran*, with both daily and tri-weekly editions, and the *Anandha Bodhini*, a monthly periodical with a circulation of 20,000, were the most important. Among Telugu journals the *Andhra Patrika* declined, while *Dinabandhu*, a paper for the depressed classes, *Mission News for Women* and the *Ryot Patrika* increased their circulation. Other leading vernacular journals were *Malayala Manorama* (Malayalam), *Vrittanta Patrika* (Kanarese), and *Sahifa* (Urdu). There was little change in the tone of the Press during the year. *Swarajya* with its constant adverse criticism of the Government attained to the fourth largest circulation in the Presidency. The number of publications declared forfeit under the Criminal Procedure Code rose from 125 in 1922 to 182. This was due to the increase in Bolshevik and Communistic literature broadcasted by post from Europe. Two newspapers, *Andhra Patrika* and *Satyagrahi*, were prosecuted under the sedition sections of the Indian Penal Code. The editor of the former submitted an apology and the case against him was withdrawn; the proprietor and the editor of the latter were convicted and imprisoned.

Periodicals
(1923)

274. A general increase in literary effort was noticeable during the year. The number of books registered rose from 3,025 to 3,587 and the number of periodicals from 735 to 817. The increase was noticeable in the case, both of publications in English and other European languages (from 900 to 1,103) and of vernacular publications (from 2,467 to 2,766). There was a fall in the output of Hindustani and Konkani books. The "Chin" language spoken by a hill tribe in Assam made its appearance during the year. As usual, books of a religious nature headed the list with a total of 1,534. Of the districts, Madras was far ahead of the rest with 1,916, Kistna again coming second with 383, while Kurnool occupied the last place with three publications.

Registration
of books
(1923-24)

LITERARY SOCIETIES

275. *Vide* pages 252 to 254 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921-22.

ARTS AND SCIENCES (1923-24)

Government
Museum

276. The number of visitors rose by 54,132 to 739,864. Excluding the festival occasions of Kannupongal and Dwādasi which generally attract a large number of visitors, the average attendance was 227,732 as against 212,632 in the previous year. The Museum theatre continued to be very much in demand and was used on 31 occasions (excluding rehearsals). The Historical Records Commission held its sittings in the theatre in January. The Superintendent visited Kambakkam Hill, Chingleput district, the Dhoni forests in the Western Ghats and Horsleykonda in the Chittoor district and collected many specimens, particularly of botanical and zoological interest. Three sets of two demonstrations each were given by the Superintendent between November and January for the benefit of teachers in Madras; 32 demonstrations were conducted during the year for the benefit of students, 1,845 of whom attended out of a total of 2,400 entered in the programme. The printing of transliterations and the translations of passages of various vernacular dialects recorded by gramophone showed considerable progress. The Museum was indebted to the Governments of the United Provinces and of the Central Provinces, the Curator, Central Museum, Lahore, and the Bombay branch of the Royal Asiatic Society for a total of 41 coins presented during the year. A good number of plants were added to the herbarium. Valuable additions were also made to the collection of copper images, coins and copper-plate grants relating to South India.

Meteorology
(1923-24)

277. The chief work of the Madras Meteorological office was, as usual, the publication of the Madras Daily Weather Report and of the Presidency Rainfall Tables. The Madras Daily Weather Report was published for nine months in the year, viz., April to December. The compilation of the monthly and annual rainfall statistics of the Presidency was transferred to the Board of Revenue with effect from the 1st January 1924. Excluding meteorological observatories, there were 395 rain-registering stations in the Presidency at the beginning of the year. With effect from the 1st July 1923, the observatories at five stations were abolished and the registration of rainfall at those places was entrusted to members of the Revenue or the Medical Department. The total number of stations at the end of the year was thus 400, of which about 94 per cent were inspected. There were 103 rain-gauge stations in the Province of Coorg and in the Indian States of Travancore, Cochin and Pudukkōttai.

Astronomy
(1923)Kodaikanal
Observatory

278. The Kodaikanal observatory is devoted mainly to solar research work but complete meteorological, magnetic and seismometric records are also maintained. At Kodaikanal, the record of solar activity was maintained as in former years. Spectroheliograms of the Sun's disc in calcium light were obtained on 308 days, in hydrogen light on 277 days and of prominences on the limb on 270 days. Direct solar photographs on a scale of 8 inches to the diameter were obtained on 321 days. Compared with the year 1922 there was a decrease of about 50 per cent in the number of new sunspots observed. The appearance of a few high latitude spots after September indicated that the minimum period had passed and the new cycle had commenced. The approximate mean latitude of all the spots was $10^{\circ}4$ in the northern hemisphere and $13^{\circ}2$ in the southern. The prominence activity showed an increase of 35 per cent in the case of areas and 44 per cent in numbers compared with the previous year. The distribution of the prominences in latitude was practically similar to that of the year 1922. Studies of arc spectra were made during periods of

bad weather. Experimenters have previously observed that some arc lines become double or triple according to the amount of vapour present in the arc, and have suggested that this was an effect of the electric force due to atomic fields. This was chosen for further investigation as it promised to furnish evidence of the atomic fields operating in the Sun. A continuous registration of earthquakes was made with a Milne Seismograph and 121 earthquakes were recorded during the year. The magnetic observations were completely discontinued at the instance of the Survey of India, on whose behalf these observations had hitherto been undertaken. The only astronomical observations made at Madras are those for the maintenance of an accurate time service for the whole of India. The time gun at Fort St. George failed on 22 occasions out of 726, giving a percentage of success of 97.0. Most of the failures were due to faults in the firing apparatus and to contacts on the line outside the observatory. For five days the gun was not fired either at 12 noon or at 8 p.m. owing to the shortage of ammunition. The time ball at the harbour was dropped correctly on every day except two when it failed at both 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. The 7 p.m. radio-signals from Calcutta were not received regularly up to the beginning of May, by which time the wireless receiving set to observe the signals directly had been installed. After this month radio time signals failed on 37 occasions out of 245, giving a percentage of success of 85.0. The sixteen-hour roll of signals was sent to the Telegraph office every day as usual.

Madras
Observatory

CHAPTER VIII

ARCHÆOLOGY AND EPIGRAPHY (1923-24)

Archæology

279. On the conservation of ancient monuments and the upkeep of roads and pathways connected with them, a sum of Rs. 26,275 was spent in the Madras Presidency. This expenditure comprised over one hundred different items, including the usual annual repairs and maintenance of watchmen. No exploration work was undertaken owing to want of funds. The heaviest expenditure was incurred at Udayagiri in the Nellore district, Chandragiri in the Chittoor district, Gingee Fort in the South Arcot district, and at Hampi Ruins and the Seven Pagodas. These groups of important monuments are now in a good state of repair and have been provided with good roads and pathways for the benefit of visitors. A sum of Rs. 186 was realized by the sale of photographs to the public. The first part of a Memoir on "Pallava Architecture" and a revised "List of Protected Monuments in the Madras Presidency" were submitted to the Director-General of Archaeology for publication. The expenditure on establishment amounted to Rs. 22,208.

Epigraphy

280. During the year 404 villages were visited, 709 inscriptions copied, 9 copper-plate grants examined and 90 photographs taken. The survey of the Nandigāma taluk in the Kistna district and the Rāyadrug taluk of the Bellary district was made, village by village, and the balance of the work in the Cojceveram taluk left over from last year was completed. Transcripts of all the 764 inscriptions included in the last year's report, covering 1,618 pages of manuscripts, were prepared for the press. Of special importance was the discovery of the remains of two Buddhist *stūpas*, one at Allūru and the other at Rāmireddipalle in the Nandigāma taluk and of a Brāhmī inscription in Prākṛit of about the second century A.D. near the former, recording a number of gifts in land and money by a certain Mahātalavara accompanied by his wife, son and daughter-in-law to a school of the Pūrvasailiyas, a set of Buddhist Monks. The discovery of a copper-plate inscription of the Eastern Chālukya King Jayasimha II. (A.D. 696-709), whose inscriptions have not been discovered hitherto, was also important. A grant of Ammarāja I (A.D. 918-925) of the same family is of interest since it mentions as the king's subordinate and a donee of a village as a fief, a Rāshtrakūta chief named Indaparāja II "of the Mahāratta-vamsa" and "the lord of the city Mānyakhēta (i.e., Malkhed)." Two copper-plates of the Eastern Ganga kings, viz., Indrarvarman, son of Dānārnavā, and Dēvēndravarmān, son of Rājēndravarmān, are also of some interest.

281. An inscription of the Chōla king Rājādhirāja II revealed the hitherto unknown fact that he was not a direct descendant of his predecessor Rājarāja II, but was set up on the throne after the king's death by his minister Pallavarāyar owing to the minority of Rājarāja's sons. The record also provided new information about the issue of the war of the Pāndya succession in the twelfth century, viz., that the king through Pallavarāyar assisted Kulasekhara in getting back his territory from the Ceylonese, after killing their general Lankāpura-Dandanāyaka and nailing his head over the gates of Madura.

282. The inspection of the Nandigāma taluk brought to light the names of a few chiefs of the local dynasty of Chāgis who ruled over those parts in the thirteenth century with their capital at Gudimetla. A long inscription in Mahrāthi, of Sarfoji-Mahārāja, the last king of Tanjore, copied this year, gives interesting details of the Bhonsle family and its last vicissitudes. Besides these the material collected includes many records of the South Indian dynasties of kings containing new and valuable information about their reigns.

CHAPTER IX

MISCELLANEOUS

ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION

283. *Vide* pages 259 to 262 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921-22.

ECCLESIASTICAL (1923-24)

284. On the 31st March 1924 there were in all 274 clerks in Holy Church of England Orders officiating under the licence of the Bishop of Madras. Six chaplains were granted leave out of India during the year and owing to the resignation of a junior chaplain there was a vacancy on the establishment. In accordance with the scheme formulated by the Government of India in conjunction with the Most Reverend the Metropolitan on the general question of policy with regard to ecclesiastical expenditure in India, the number of chaplaincies in the diocese was reduced by three during the year. The Reverend Norman Henry Tubbs, M.A., D.D., was consecrated Bishop in Tinnevely and Madura at Holy Trinity Church, Palamcottah, on the 25th July 1923, by the Most Reverend the Metropolitan assisted by the Bishops of Madras, Colombo, and Dornakal. The Bishop of Madras subsequently issued a commission to Bishop Tubbs in similar terms to those issued to the late Bishops Morley and Williams, by which he was vested with episcopal jurisdiction in the bishopric of Tinnevely and Madura, rendered vacant by the translation of Bishop Waller to Madras. The Most Reverend the Metropolitan of India and Ceylon made his metropolitanical visitation of the diocese from the 27th July to 2nd August 1923, and visited Madras, Ootacamund, Bangalore and Secunderabad. During the year, four Indians and two Europeans were ordained deacons and one Indian and one European were ordained priests by the Bishop of Madras, while the Bishop in Tinnevely and Madura ordained two deacons and six priests, all of whom were Indians. The Bishop of Dornakal ordained, under the commission from the Bishop of Madras, one European and eleven Indian deacons and three Indian priests. Twenty-three clergymen received licences to officiate during the year either as English ministers, missionaries or Indian pastors; of these licences, three were issued by the Bishop in Tinnevely and Madura and twelve by the Bishop of Dornakal. During the year under review, the Bishop visited Pasumalai, Madura, Ootacamund, Coonoor, Wellington, Kotagiri and Lovedale between April and July; Palamcottah in July and January; Bangalore in June, August and November and again in March; Secunderabad, Bolaram and Trimulgherry in August; Negapatam, Trichinopoly, Salem and Yercaud in October; Calicut, Cannanore, Tellicherry and Mangalore in November; Rajahmundry and Cocanada in January, and Mercara and Mysore in March. Alms and other offerings of the people made through the clergymen ministering to English congregations during the year amounted to Rs. 1,75,062-14-10½. Voluntary contributions

285. At the close of the year the establishment of the Church of Scotland consisted of the Presidency Senior Chaplain on leave, the officiating Presidency Senior Chaplain in charge at Madras, one junior Chaplain in Bangalore and one Junior Chaplain in Secunderabad whose services had been placed at the disposal of the Army Department. Church of Scotland

STATIONERY (1923-24)

General transactions 286. The value of stock with the Superintendent of Stationery at the beginning of the year 1923-24 was Rs. 6,41,032 (English stores Rs. 1,91,965 and Indian stores Rs. 1,49,067) as against Rs. 6,96,085 (English stores Rs. 4,69,460 and Indian stores Rs. 2,26,625) in 1922-23. The total value of stores received during the year amounted to Rs. 11,67,634 (English stores Rs. 11,11,905 and Indian stores Rs. 3,55,729) as against Rs. 12,15,707 (English stores Rs. 8,09,491 and Indian stores Rs. 4,06,216) in 1922-23. The total value of issues during the year amounted to Rs. 12,86,797 (English stores Rs. 9,12,572 and Indian stores Rs. 3,74,225) as against Rs. 12,70,760 (English stores Rs. 7,86,986 and Indian stores Rs. 4,83,774) in 1922-23. The value of stationery debited to Local Funds, etc., and of stationery issued on payment during the year 1923-24 amounted to Rs. 29,223 as against Rs. 33,296 in 1922-23. The value of the closing balance of stores for the year was Rs. 8,21,869 (English stores Rs. 6,91,298 and Indian stores Rs. 1,30,571) as compared with Rs. 6,41,032 (English stores Rs. 1,91,965 and Indian stores Rs. 1,49,067) in 1922-23.

GOVERNMENT PRESS (1923-24)

Finance 287. The net receipts of the year amounted to Rs. 1,68,551 as against Rs. 1,73,465 in 1922-23. The decrease was due to a decrease in the sale-proceeds of old plant and stores and to a fall in the number of subscribers for the Indian Law Reports. The expenditure rose to Rs. 7,65,128 from Rs. 6,57,318 in the previous year owing to the transfer of the High Court printing work and also to additional work, printed in connexion with electoral rolls, which entailed the payment of overtime wages.

Publications 288. Acts and books to the value of Rs. 1,07,819 were added to stock and the sales amounted to Rs. 94,463 as against Rs. 92,172 in the previous year; of this sum the sales effected by agents amounted to Rs. 10,612, or Rs. 769 more than last year. The value of repealed acts and obsolete publications was Rs. 10,011, while the value of free issues was Rs. 51,801 as against Rs. 72,854 in 1922-23. This decrease was due chiefly to the fact that less expensive publications were distributed. The total number of copies supplied free was 244,224 including 40,443 copies of proceedings placed on the "Editors' table."

Printing and binding 289. The outturn during the year in all the four presses consisted of 355,411 standard pages of composition as against 229,755 and 146,371,677 impressions as against 115,001,424 in 1922-23 showing an increase of 125,656 pages and 31,370,253 impressions. The cost per page and per 1,000 impressions fell from Rs. 1-13-9 to Rs. 1-5-4, and from Rs. 1-11-9 to Rs. 1-9-11, respectively, in the Central Press; from Rs. 1-10-11 to Rs. 1-6-10 and from Rs. 3-4-2 to Rs. 2-5-1 in the Mount Road Branch Press; from Rs. 6-7-3 to Rs. 4-13-6 and from Re. 0-7-5 to Re. 0-5-9 in the Penitentiary Branch Press, while there was an increase in these costs in the Ootacamund Branch Press due to a decrease in the number of Government Orders and notes printed during the season and to a reduction in the total number of pages of the *Nilgiri District Gazette* printed during the year. The total number of hours paid for authors' corrections during the year was 37,997 as against 40,240 in the previous year, the decrease being due to the absence of special book works. The total expenditure in binding amounted to Rs. 1,78,641 as against Rs. 1,67,902, the increase being due to the larger outturn in the registration volumes bound in full leather, book work in full cloth and standardized forms bound in quarter cloth.

Miscellaneous 290. The total outturn in the type-foundry during the year was 90,935 lb. as against 82,123 lb. in the previous year. During the year, plant to the value of Rs. 1,69,000 was added, representing new types manufactured for Legislative electoral rolls, etc., and machinery purchased from home for replacing old and unserviceable items, and the year closed

with a balance book value of Rs. 13,51,532. The opening book value of stores on the 1st April 1923 was Rs. 3,00,829. Additions during the year amounted to Rs. 7,49,846 and the issues to Rs. 7,91,546, leaving a balance at the end of the year amounting to Rs. 2,59,129. Printing bills on account of Government work executed at private presses, scrutinized and passed during the year, amounted to Rs. 13,373 as against Rs. 64,323 in the previous year, the decrease being due to the taking over of High Court printing formerly done by Messrs. Graves, Cookson & Co. The value of bills checked on account of Army departments and private bodies amounted to Rs. 36,339 as against Rs. 1,47,719 in the previous year. The total number of forms despatched during the year was 156 millions.

THE CHEMICAL EXAMINER'S DEPARTMENT (1923)

[G.O. No. 693, *Local Self-Government (Public Health)*, dated 3rd May 1924; *Statistical Abstract for British India—Medico-legal investigations*]

291. The amount of work done during 1923 shows but a small variation from that done in 1922. There was a slight fall in the number of human poisoning cases and stain cases which were investigated. The number of animal poisoning cases, which had decreased steadily in the last few years, was marked by a further decrease from 42 in 1922 to 40 in 1923—the lowest figure recorded since 1888. Miscellaneous medico-legal cases showed a marked increase. The total number of analyses of all sorts performed was 3,973 as against 3,824 in 1922, the average per year for the previous 18 years being only 3,611.

292. The number of human poisoning cases examined during the year was 204 as against 220 in 1922. Poison was detected in 92 cases—a percentage of 45.1 as compared with 49.1 in the previous year. The most common poisons detected were mercury, arsenic, opium and aconite.

293. The number of animal poisoning cases fell from 42 to 40. The percentage of detection was 42.5 per cent as against 43 per cent last year. Thevetin, the active principle of yellow oleander, was the most commonly found poison, but arsenic was a very close second. Mercury was detected in two cases.

294. Three hundred and eighty cases were investigated for blood or seminal stains or both. The number of articles examined this year was the highest on record—1,655 as against the previous record of 1,583 in 1922. One thousand and eighteen specimens of blood stains were sent to the Imperial Serologist, Calcutta.

295. The number of general analyses rose from 570 in 1922 to 688 in 1923. Three hundred and forty-three of these analyses were performed for the Customs Department, 68 for the General Hospital, Madras, 64 for the Officer in charge, Medical Stores Depot, and smaller numbers for most of the other Government departments.

296. There were 35 miscellaneous cases involving 129 articles as against 27 cases and 170 articles in 1922. These included 9 unexploded bombs, sent for examination of the explosives they contained. All were made to explode on percussion.

CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS (1923-24)

297. The number of charitable institutions in the Presidency rose from 3,249 to 3,418 and their aggregate income also increased from 19.12 lakhs, 20 muras of rice and 5 garces of paddy to 23.52 lakhs, 20 muras of rice and 5 garces of paddy. Two thousand two hundred and sixteen institutions were maintained entirely by public subscriptions and donations and by endowments of land and money, the total receipts amounting to Rs. 10.51 lakhs. Government supported 410 institutions at a cost of

Triplicane
LangarkhanaMonegar
ChoultryThe Raja of
Venkatagiri's
Choultry

Rs. 2.87 lakhs (as against 3.78 institutions and 3.12 lakhs last year) and 161 were maintained partly by Government and partly by the public at a cost of Rs. 3.88 lakhs. The maintenance of the remaining 631 institutions costing Rs. 6.26 lakhs devolved wholly or in part on local bodies. Institutions intended for helping travellers numbered 2,201 (as against 2,207 last year). Of these, 1,259 were reserved for Hindus, 63 for Muhammadans, 2 for Christians and 877 were not restricted to any particular class or sect of people. Five hundred and thirty-six institutions, supported almost entirely by the general public, were maintained for the relief of Brahmans and 489 for the relief of paupers, while for orphans, lepers, the blind and the deaf there were only ten institutions. The total number of persons aided during the year at all charitable institutions was 12,569,456 or 2,009,455 less than in the previous year. The receipts of the Triplicane Langarkhana, including an opening balance of Rs. 1,190 8-11, amounted to Rs. 5,855-8-11 as against Rs. 6,274-5-3 in the previous year. The daily average number of paupers who received help from the institution was 183 as against 179. The average cost of aiding each pauper per mensem was Rs. 2-3-9 as against Rs. 2-5-9 in the previous year. The average daily number of inmates in the Monegar Choultry was 96.36 as against 64.46 in the previous year and the average daily cost of diet per pauper was As. 3-10 as against As. 3-9 last year. The total receipts during the year amounted to Rs. 11,595 as in the previous year and the total expenditure to Rs. 12,795 as against Rs. 10,809 in 1922-23. The balance to the credit of the choultry on the 31st March 1924 was Rs. 1,231 as against Rs. 5,431 last year. The average daily number of out-door paupers in the Raja of Venkatagiri's Choultry was 123.08 as against 106.83 in the previous year, the average daily cost per pauper being one anna and two pies as in the previous year. Rs. 4,027 were received during the year as compared with Rs. 4,171 in 1922-23 and the total expenditure amounted to Rs. 4,441 as against Rs. 3,053 last year. The balance to the credit of the Choultry on the 31st March 1924 was Rs. 2,086 as against Rs. 2,500 in the previous year.

COMMUNAL REPRESENTATION IN THE SERVICE OF
GOVERNMENT (1923-24)

298. The number of Government servants from each community employed in the service of Government on the 1st April 1924 is shown in the following table : -

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Community.	Gazetted officers.	Non-Gazetted officers		Government servants on less than Rs. 35.
		On salaries of Rs. 100 per mensem and over.	On salaries from Rs. 35 to Rs. 100.	
Brahmans	573	2,578	11,224	1,971
Non-Brahmans	268	1,227	7,000	38,020
Indian Christians	116	337	1,216	2,249
Muhammadans	51	232	1,437	12,047
Europeans and Anglo-Indians	459	350	162	20
Depressed classes		2	46	1,259
Others	7	4	31	213

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