

Report on the Settlement of the Land Revenue

1930



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REPORT ON THE
SETTLEMENT OF THE LAND REVENUE

OF THE DISTRICTS
IN THE MADRAS PRESIDENCY FOR

FASLI 1338 (1928-1929)

VOLUME II

EXTRACTS FROM THE DISTRICT REPORTS



MADRAS

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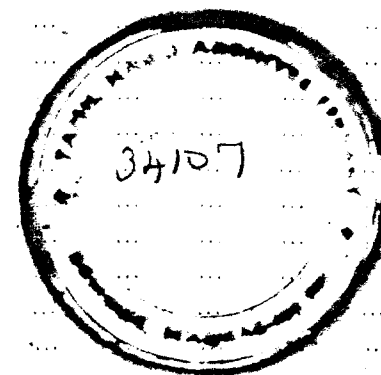
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EXTRACTS FROM THE DISTRICT REPORTS

GANJAM.

(T. AUSTIN, Esq., I.C.S., *Collector*.)

1. COERCIVE PROCESSES UNDER ACT II OF 1864.—The number of demand, distraint and sale notices issued was 16,272, 121 and 13, respectively, against 18,497, 318 and 29 of fasli 1337. There was no appreciable variation in the number of notices issued.

2. JUNIOR CIVILIANS.—The Civilian officers who worked in the district during the year were (1) Mr. C. F. V. Williams and (2) Mr. A. S. Panchapakesa Ayyer. Both knew Telugu. No Assistant Collector was posted to this district during the fasli under report.

3. INFORMAL CONFERENCE.—Informal conferences were held by the Jamabandi officers at fixed centres. The Executive Engineer, Ganjam division, and the Revenue Divisional officers held special conferences on matters of irrigation and drainage. During the jamabandi of the Aska taluk, Mr. Henderson, the Collector, got the Agricultural Demonstrator, as usual, to address a meeting of the ryots.

VIZAGAPATAM.

(G. T. H. BRACKEN, Esq., I.C.S., *Collector*.)

1. JUNIOR CIVILIANS.—Mr. V. N. Kudva, Sub-Collector, Vizianagram, and Mr. J. R. Bett, Sub-Collector, Parvatipuram, worked in the district during the fasli. Mr. V. N. Kudva possesses an adequate knowledge of Telugu. Mr. Bett appeared for the higher standard examination in Telugu but failed. Mr. Muir and Mr. Bell, Assistant Collectors, have passed the lower standard examination in Telugu. Mr. Bell is now undergoing settlement training at Cocanada, whereas Mr. Muir has finished his training and is being deputed to assist Divisional officers in office and local inspections.

2. CONFERENCE WITH RYOTS.—During their tours, the Taluk officers, Divisional officers and the Collector consulted the ryots as to their needs.

3. EFFECT OF RECENT LEGISLATION.—The village courts have afforded ample opportunities to the people to administer local affairs, and the Acts are gradually gaining popularity.

4. EFFECT OF ORDERS EMPOWERING TAHSILDARS TO DISPOSE OF UNAUTHORIZED CASES OF OCCUPATION AND IRREGULAR IRRIGATION.—The Tahsildars exercised the powers judiciously.

EAST GODAVARI.

(J. B. BROWN, Esq., I.C.S., *Collector*.)

1. COERCIVE PROCESSES UNDER ACT II OF 1864.—The number of processes of all kinds issued for the realization of Government dues, was 791 as against 1,165 of the previous fasli. The number of defaulters whose property was sold was 9 against 6 of the previous fasli.

2. JUNIOR CIVILIANS.—Mr. D. H. Elwin, I.C.S., Assistant Collector, passed the lower standard in divisions A, B, C and D.

3. INFORMAL CONFERENCES WITH RYOTS.—At the jamabandi of the Chodavaram and Yellavaram divisions, conferences with ryots and muttadars were held by the Assistant Agent, Polavaram. Ryots' conferences at several jamabandi centres were attended by officers of Public Works and Agricultural departments. The officers of the Agricultural Department explained to the ryots the utility of sowing certain kinds of seed grains, the methods of manufacturing manure at minimum cost and other modern developments in agriculture. They also discussed questions relating to the demand for and supply of water in the canals of the Godavari Delta System. Representatives of rural bodies—Village Panchayats, Irrigation Panchayats and Village Panchayat Courts—communicated freely with local officials on matters of public utility.

4. DELEGATION OF POWERS TO TAHSILDARS AND DEPUTY TAHSILDARS.—The Revenue Divisional officers' work has been considerably lightened owing to the delegation of powers to Tahsildars and Deputy Tahsildars to pass final orders on unauthorized occupations and water-rate accounts. Delay in passing orders, on these accounts, is checked at the time of the jamabandi.

WEST GODAVARI.

(A. R. C. WESTLAKE, Esq., I.C.S., Collector.)

1. TERRITORIAL CHANGE.—The name of the Nidadavole taluk was changed into Kovvur taluk.

2. COERCIVE PROCESSES UNDER ACT II OF 1864.—The following are the details of processes issued during faslis 1337 and 1338 :—

	Fasli 1337.	Fasli 1338
Notices of demand	1,266	7,472
Notices of distraint	173	84
Notices of sale	56	20

3. JUNIOR CIVILIANS.—The Sub-Collector, Mr. P. Rajagopalan, has a good knowledge of Telugu and the Assistant Collector, Mr. T. S. Swaminathan, has a fair knowledge of Telugu.

4. PREVIOUS NOTICE TO RYOTS TAKING GOVERNMENT WATER IRREGULARLY.—The system of publishing in the village a general notice has worked well.

5. CONFERENCES WITH RYOTS.—No conferences were held.

KISTNA.

(H. R. UZIELLI, Esq., I.C.S., Collector.)

1. COERCIVE PROCESSES UNDER ACT II OF 1864.—The following are the details for the processes issued during the faslis 1337 and 1338 :—

	Fasli 1337	Fasli 1338
Demand notices	4,343	4,770
Notices of distraint	239	149
Sale notices	201	133

Process service establishments were employed in Tiruvur and Nuzvid divisions and Gudivada and Kaikalur taluks during the year and a sum of Rs. 364 was realized on account of process fees while the cost of the establishment was Rs. 227.

2. PREVIOUS NOTICE TO RYOTS TAKING GOVERNMENT WATER IRREGULARLY.—The system of publishing in each village a general or collective notice as prescribed in B.P. No. 58, R.S., dated 10th April 1919, has worked satisfactorily.

3. JUNIOR CIVILIANS.—The Collector is unable to report on the knowledge of Telugu possessed by Mr. T. S. Ramachandran and Mr. R. A. Gopalaswami, as neither of them were in the district during the time he was in charge, Mr. Hejmadi, Sub-Collector, Bezwada, can speak and read Telugu.

GUNTUR.

(F. W. STEWART, Esq., I.C.S., Collector.)

1. COERCIVE PROCESSES UNDER ACT II OF 1864.—The number of processes of each kind issued, during the fasli under report and the previous fasli are compared below :—

	Fasli 1337.	Fasli 1338.
Demand notices	2,213	2,459
Attachment notices	120	197
Sale notices	36	142
Sales	8	11

No special process service establishment was employed in the fasli.

2. JUNIOR CIVILIANS.—Mr. T. N. S. Raghavan acquired a satisfactory knowledge of Telugu and was in independent charge of Ongole division and Mr. T. Sivasankaran acquired some knowledge of Telugu during the period of his training in this district.

3. CONFERENCES WITH THE RYOTS.—The Revenue Divisional Officer, Guntur, held conferences with the ryots during the course of his jamabandi of Pabnad and Sattenapalle taluks and action is being taken on the representations made by the ryots. In other taluks opportunity was given to the ryots to represent their grievances at the time of the jamabandi.

4. PREVIOUS NOTICE TO RYOTS TAKING GOVERNMENT WATER IRREGULARLY.—The system laid down in B.P. No. 58, dated 10th April 1919, regarding the issue of notices to ryots about the levy of water-rate is working well.

NELLORE.

(A. C. WOODHOUSE, Esq., Collector.)

1. COERCIVE PROCESSES UNDER ACT II OF 1864.—A comparative statement showing the processes issued during faslis 1337 and 1338 is given below :—

	Fasli 1337.	Fasli 1338
Demand notices	26,679	21,044
Attachment notices	981	1,369
Sale notices	961	999

No special agency was employed during the year, nor was any fee levied.

2. **ENHANCED WATER-CESS FOR IRREGULAR IRRIGATION.**—The system of publishing a general notice in each village has worked satisfactorily. It resulted in the prompt investigation of objections and a reduction in the number of water-rate appeals. The ryots are aware of the rules and present applications in time for permission to take Government water. In cases where Government water was used without permission deterrent penalties were imposed.

3. **CONFERENCES WITH RYOTS.**—Conferences were held at the time of jamabandi, and the grievances of ryots were attended to. Special irrigation conferences were held in Kovvur and Nellore taluks.

4. **GENERAL.**—Hard, earnest and systematic work in the kist months was rewarded by greater ease for the rest of the year. Most of the revenue officials have begun to realize that protraction of collection work imposes a greater strain than strenuous work in the kist months.

CUDDAPAH.

(M. R. Ry. Rao Bahadur K. C. MANAVEDAN RAJA AVARGAL, B.A.,
Collector.)

1. **COERCIVE PROCESSES UNDER ACT II OF 1864.**—The statement below compares the number of processes of each kind issued during faslis 1337 and 1338:—

	Fasli 1337.	Fasli 1338.
Demand notices	2,986	2,591
Distrain notices	1,709	1,088
Sale notices	518	385
Sales	74	125

The reduction in the issue of demand notices was due to the fact that the season for agriculture was favourable and no difficulty was experienced by ryots in paying Government dues.

Six hundred and fourteen acres of dry and 2 acres of wet were bought in by Government for want of bidders. No special agency was employed for the service of processes.

2. **INFORMAL CONFERENCES WITH RYOTS.**—The Revenue Divisional officers and the Collector held informal conferences with ryots during their tours and during jamabandi. Several subjects relating to irrigation, grazing fees, repairs to irrigation sources, formation of roads, etc., were discussed and prompt action taken wherever necessary.

3. **JUNIOR CIVILIANS.**—Mr. P. N. Ramaswami Ayyar passed the Telugu test and was in charge of the Rajampet division during the fasli.

4. **EFFECT OF RECENT LEGISLATION.**—The Madras Decentralization Act VIII of 1914 which empowers Tahsildars and Deputy Tahsildars to charge enhanced assessment in cases of unauthorized occupation and to deal with cases of irregular irrigation has been working satisfactorily. The new District Municipalities Act, the Local Boards Act and the Village Courts Act afford greater opportunities to the people to participate in the administration of local affairs but the successful working of these Acts is retarded by the existence of factions and the lack of co-operation and of public spirit.

The Madras Survey and Boundaries Act, 1923, the Indian Income-tax Act XI of 1922 and the Madras Court Fees and Stamp Amendment Acts, appear to have been fairly well understood. The people are beginning to understand the advantages of the Hindu Religious Endowments Act, but little useful work has yet been done. The committee to further the temperance movement was formed only recently and has not yet commenced its work.

ANANTAPUR.

(T. BHASKARA RAO, Esq., I.C.S., *Sub-Collector in charge.*)

1. **COERCIVE PROCESSES UNDER ACT II OF 1864.**—No separate establishment was employed in the year for the service of processes.

2. **JUNIOR CIVILIANS.**—Messrs. A. G. Blake, I.C.S. and T. Bhaskara Rao were in charge of Penukonda division during the year. Telugu petitions were being read out to Mr. Blake and the correspondence with the Taluk office was carried on in English.

3. **PREVIOUS NOTICE TO RYOTS TAKING GOVERNMENT WATER IRREGULARLY.**—The system is reported to have worked fairly well. It is also reported to have had the effect of reducing the number of water-rate appeals.

4. **EFFECT OF ORDERS EMPOWERING TAHSILDARS AND DEPUTY TAHSILDARS TO DISPOSE OF CASES OF UNAUTHORIZED OCCUPATION AND IRREGULAR IRRIGATION.**—The system has apparently worked well. No complaints of any kind have been brought to notice.

5. **INFORMAL CONFERENCES.**—The Revenue Divisional Officer, Anantapur, discussed with the ryots during jamabandi matters relating to the assignment of lands to the depressed classes.

BELLARY.

(E. BENNET, Esq., I.C.S., *Collector.*)

1. **COERCIVE PROCESSES UNDER ACT II OF 1864.**—No special establishment has been employed in this district, and the processes are served by the ordinary village agency.

2. **EFFECT OF RECENT LEGISLATION.**—The people are beginning to realise the significance and importance of the Madras Hindu Religious Endowments Act. The District Municipalities and Local Boards Acts afford ample opportunities to the people to participate in Local Self-Government. Party feuds and factions have, however, affected the administration of the Bellary Taluk Board. Owing to the illiteracy and apathy of the ryot population, the co-operative societies are monopolised by a few interested persons. Village Panchayat Courts are not working as satisfactorily as they ought to owing to factions in villages, and want of education. Most of the Forest Panchayats are working satisfactorily under the guidance and supervision of Forest Panchayat Deputy Tahsildars.

3. **JUNIOR CIVILIANS.**—No officers of this cadre were deputed to undergo training in this district during the year.

4. CONFERENCE WITH RYOTS.—The Collector held ryots' conferences at Adoni and Hadagalli. At Adoni the problem of securing coolies for repairing the anient at Sathanur was discussed and necessary action has been taken by the President, Taluk Board, Harpanahalli. The District Health Officer discussed improvements to drinking water sources, and burial-grounds. During jamabandi also the ryots had ample opportunities to ventilate their grievances. Necessary enquiries were made by jamabandi officers and the grievances of the ryots were redressed wherever possible.

5. EFFECT OF ORDERS EMPOWERING TAHSILDARS AND DEPUTY TAHSILDARS TO DISPOSE OF CASES OF IRREGULAR IRRIGATION.—The system of publishing a general or collective notice in each village in accordance with B.P. No. 58, Settlement, dated 10th April 1919, is reported to have worked satisfactorily, in most of the taluks. The issue of notices in Adoni and Hadagalli taluks has not, however, been prompt. The Collector has issued instructions to the Tahsildars. No appeals have been received against the orders of the Tahsildars or the jamabandi officers in this connection.

KURNOOL.

(W. SCOTT BROWN, Esq., I.C.S., *Collector.*)

1. COERCIVE PROCESSES UNDER ACT II OF 1864.—Particulars of coercive processes, issued for the realization of Government dues in the fasli under report, and the previous fasli are given below :—

	Fasli 1337	Fasli 1338
Demand notices	4,332	2,842
Distrain notices	315	100
Sale notices	49	24

The property of 97 defaulters was attached against 298 in the previous fasli.

2. JUNIOR CIVILIANS.—Mr. S. A. Venkataraman, I.C.S., who was in charge of Nandyal Division, has an adequate knowledge of Telugu. Mr. R. M. Sundaram, I.C.S., was under training. He made fair progress in Telugu and passed the Lower Standard Examination.

3. CONFERENCE WITH RYOTS.—The Collector held two conferences—one in Cumbum taluk and another in Sivvel taluk—during the jamabandi. The officers of the Agricultural and Veterinary Departments attended and gave demonstrations in the use of iron ploughs and methods of inoculation for rinderpest. Exhibitions of special varieties of seed grains and manures were also given at the conferences.

4. EFFECT OF ORDERS EMPOWERING TAHSILDARS AND DEPUTY TAHSILDARS TO DISPOSE OF CASES OF IRREGULAR IRRIGATION.—The system of issuing notices to ryots before the imposition of enhanced water-cess has worked well, and the powers delegated to Tahsildars and Deputy Tahsildars in dealing with unauthorized occupations and irregular irrigation were properly exercised.

MADRAS.

(H. S. SHIELD, Esq., I.C.S., *Collector.*)

COERCIVE PROCESSES UNDER ACT II OF 1864.—In 16 cases as against 17 in the last fasli, movables were attached. Land has been attached only in one case and will have to be sold as the occupant has absconded and his whereabouts are not known.

CHINGLEPUT.

(D. N. STRATHIE, Esq., I.C.S., *Collector.*)

1. COERCIVE PROCESSES UNDER ACT II OF 1864.—The following extract reveals the number of processes of each kind issued during the fasli under report as compared with the previous fasli :—

	Fasli 1337	Fasli 1338
Demand notices	11,625	12,833
Distrain	2,291	3,882
Sale notices	1,611	3,016
Sales	559	308

The rule that the processes should be issued only when absolutely necessary has been kept in view. Immovable property to the value of Rs. 24,386 was sold for an arrear of Rs. 2,967. The amount realized by sale was Rs. 6,964. The disparity is mainly due to the fact that in cases of default by military assignees, the entire extents assigned are generally attached, and these are estimated at values, obtaining for similar lands in the vicinity. In many cases they have been bought in by Government, for want of bidders.

2. JUNIOR CIVILIANS.—Mr. J. E. Maher, I.C.S., was attached to this district during the fasli. He has completed his lower standard examination and is undergoing settlement training.

3. EFFECT OF RECENT LEGISLATION.—The provisions of the Madras Estates Land Act and Land Encroachment Act are becoming well known and continue to work smoothly. The Madras Decentralization Act of 1914 which empowers Tahsildars and Deputy Tahsildars to pass orders on unauthorized occupations and water-rate cases is working satisfactorily.

4. CONFERENCE WITH RYOTS.—No conferences were held either by the Collector or by the Divisional Officers; but all representations from the ryots were fully heard at the time of jamabandi.

CHITTOOR.

(C. F. BRACKENBURY, Esq., I.C.S., *Collector.*)

1. COERCIVE PROCESSES UNDER ACT II OF 1864.—The extract given below shows the number of processes of each kind issued, as compared with the previous year :—

	Fasli 1337	Fasli 1338
Demand notices	1,702	1,372
Distrain or attachment notices	277	455
Sale notices	249	397
Sales	10	12

The extent of dry land sold and bought in by Government for want of bidders was 25 acres under dry as against 20 acres under dry in the previous fasli.

2. EFFECT OF RECENT LEGISLATION.—The panchayat courts are gradually becoming popular, and the members of the depressed classes are taking more part in public life.

3. JUNIOR CIVILIANS.—Mr. Kudva, I.C.S., Sub-Collector of Madanapalle, and Mr. Ramachandran, I.C.S., Sub-Collector of Chendragiri, are both well acquainted with Telugu. Mr. Arunachalam, I.C.S., the Assistant Collector, has passed the lower standard examination in Telugu.

4. CONFERENCE WITH RYOTS.—Informal conferences were held during jamabandi by the Collector and the Revenue Divisional Officers, and matters relating to the repairs of irrigation sources and the forest panchayats were considered. The Collector published notices inviting representations during the jamabandi particularly from ex-military men and members of the depressed classes.

NORTH ARCOT.

(D. H. BOULTON, Esq., I.C.S., *Collector*.)

1. COERCIVE PROCESSES UNDER ACT II OF 1864.—The table below compares the figures with those of the previous fasli :—

	Fasli 1337	Fasli 1338.
Demand notices	390,844	333,744
Distraint „	6,365	5,713
Sale notices	1,847	1,966
Sales	225	214

The general decrease is due to the earnest attempts made by the subordinate officers from the beginning of the kist season, to realize the revenue, without recourse to coercive processes.

2. JUNIOR CIVILIANS.—Mr. D. W. Dodwell is conversant with Tamil and Malayalam and has been in charge of Tiruppattur division from 19th October 1928.

3. EFFECT OF RECENT LEGISLATION.—The Madras Decentralization Act of 1914, which empowered Tahsildars and Deputy Tahsildars to levy penalties in cases of irregular irrigation and unauthorized occupation has worked well. The introduction of the Village Officers Restoration Act has facilitated the prompt collection of land revenue.

4. CONFERENCE WITH RYOTS.—During jamabandi, conferences were held, with the leading ryots of the villages, and lectures were delivered on (1) village sanitation, (2) agriculture, (3) forest and village panchayats and kudimaramat.

SOUTH ARCOT.

(Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD HABIB-UL-LAH KHAN SAHIB Bahadur, B.A.,
Collector.)

1. COERCIVE PROCESSES UNDER ACT II OF 1864.—Details of processes issued in faslis 1337 and 1338, are given below :—

	Fasli 1337	Fasli 1338.
Demand notices	18,480	19,933
Attachment notices	16,145	13,299
Sale notices	13,008	12,468
Sales	1,417	592

The year having been favourable less difficulty seems to have been experienced by them in paying Government dues. Lands were purchased by Government owing to the fact that they were of poor quality, and belonged to non-resident ryots, who left their lands to lie fallow for a number of years.

2. JUNIOR CIVILIANS.—Mr. M. V. Subramanya Ayyar, I.C.S., is in charge of the Tindivanam division. His mother tongue is Tamil.

3. EFFECT OF RECENT LEGISLATION.—The Annamalai University Act was passed, and the University has come into existence, since the close of the fasli. Its effects are bound to be salutary.

4. CONFERENCE WITH RYOTS.—The Collector and the Revenue Divisional Officers, in their tours, and, at jamabandi, gave full opportunities to the ryots, to discuss general questions.

5. RECLASSIFICATION OF PORAMBOKES.—Reclassification of porambokes was attended to by the Settlement department.

TANJORE.

(J. A. THORNE, Esq., I.C.S., *Collector*.)

1. COERCIVE PROCESSES UNDER ACT II OF 1864.—Demand notices were issued in 275,397 cases against 249,870 in the previous fasli. The increase was due to the less favourable character of the season in the delta. Out of 15,876 cases of sale notices, properties were sold only in 1,386 cases.

2. JUNIOR CIVILIANS.—Mr. O. Pulla Reddi, I.C.S., Assistant Collector, underwent treasury training and was employed in trying criminal cases in acquainting himself with all branches of a Revenue Inspector's duties.

3. ENHANCED WATER-CESS FOR IRRIGATION.—The system of issuing prohibitory notices, in cases of irregular irrigation, before passing orders on enhanced water-cess accounts, has worked satisfactory, and the ryots have understood the rules well enough.

4. RECLASSIFICATION OF PORAMBOKES.—An extent of 32 acres was transferred from poramboke to assessed waste, as against 61.97 acres in the previous fasli. The decrease is due to the prohibition of assignment on account of the Cauvery-Mettur Project.

5. CONFERENCE WITH RYOTS.—Ryots' conferences were held in all the taluks during jamabandi. The attendance was fairly large and the ryots

showed considerable interest in questions of irrigation, drainage and co-operation. The Officers of the Public Works Department and Co-operative departments and the Agricultural Demonstrators were present. The wants of the ryots were fully gone into, and remedial measures were taken as suggested.

TRICHINOPOLY.

(M.R.Ry. Rai Bahadur U. RAMA RAO AVARGAL, B.A., *Collector.*)

1. COERCIVE PROCESSES UNDER ACT II OF 1864.—The figures of fasli under report are compared with those of the last fasli:—

	Fasli 1337.	Fasli 1338
Demand notices	2,366	2,232
Distrain	944	694
Sale notices	916	592

There is no special process-service establishment in this district.

2. EFFECT OF RECENT LEGISLATION.—The delegation of powers to Tahsildars and deputy tahsildars to dispose of cases of unauthorized occupation and irregular irrigation, has worked satisfactorily.

3. CONFERENCE WITH RYOTS.—Conferences of the ryots were held by the Collector at the jamabandi camps both at Karur and Kulittalai, where improved methods of agriculture, the benefits of co-operative credit, and methods of reducing cattle mortality were explained to the ryots. Demonstrations with magic lantern illustrations were given by the officers of the Industrial, Agricultural, Civil and Veterinary departments.

MADURA.

(E. B. COBBALD, Esq., I.C.S., *Collector.*)

1. COERCIVE PROCESSES UNDER ACT II OF 1864.—The following abstract shows the number of processes of each kind issued during the fasli, as compared with the previous fasli:—

	Fasli 1337.	Fasli 1338
Demand notices	35,263	22,411
Distrain	6,314	5,460
Sale notices	6,792	8,145
Sales	2,424	2,944

2. JUNIOR CIVILIANS.—Messrs. W. R. S. Sathianadhan and P. Ramalingam were attached to the district as Sub-Collectors, and they both have an adequate knowledge of Tamil.

3. EFFECT OF RECENT LEGISLATION.—The only legislation of importance recently passed is the Hindu Religious Endowments Act, which is working fairly well in the district. Act I of 1908, and the Madras Decentralization Act VIII of 1914 are working satisfactorily. The advantage of the Madras Agricultural Pests and Diseases Act of 1919 were more appreciated by the ryots than in previous years. The civil and criminal work of the village panchayat courts is fairly good and the usefulness of the co-operative societies is appreciated by the people.

1. ASSIGNMENT OF LANDS TO KALLARS AND DEPRESSED CLASSES.—Good progress has been made in the assignment of waste lands to members of the depressed classes.

5. CONFERENCE WITH RYOTS.—A conference with the ryots of the Delta was held at Melur, at which the officers of the Public Works Department and the leading ryots of the district were present. All the grievances of the ryots were fully discussed and steps taken for redressing them as far as possible.

RAMNAD.

(P. MACQUEEN, Esq., I.C.S., *Collector.*)

1. RECLASSIFICATION OF PORAMBOKE LANDS.—There was no reclassification in the fasli.

2. INFORMAL CONFERENCES.—During the jamabandi in Aruppukkottai taluk several ryots were present and their grievances were chiefly in respect of transfer of registry and encroachments. The Collector held conferences on irrigation at Rajapalayam and Watrap with Public Works Department officers and the ryots, as a result of which a programme of major works to be attended to, in future years, was drawn up, accepted by the Executive Engineer, and published in diglott in the District Gazette.

3. WORKING OF ACT III OF 1905.—During the jamabandi of Sattur and Srivilliputtur taluks, the Sub-Collector, Sivakasi, noticed that the penalty imposed by the tahsildars in cases of unauthorized occupation and irregular irrigation was neither judicious nor sufficiently severe, in several cases. The Sub-Collector issued necessary instructions to the tahsildars.

TINNEVELLY.

(M.R.Ry. Rao Bahadur T. BAGHAVANTAM GUPTA (Garu, B.A., B.L., *Collector.*)

1. COERCIVE PROCESSES UNDER ACT II OF 1864.—The statement below gives details of coercive processes adopted, for recovery of arrears:—

	Fasli 1337	Fasli 1338.
Demand notices	1,397	894
Distrain	33	5
Sale notices	29	1

The large decrease under all items shows that revenue was collected without coercion. In only one instance was land sold. This was for Rs. 320 to recover an arrear of Rs. 254-12-0.

2. EFFECT OF RECENT LEGISLATION.—The rules framed under Madras Survey and Boundaries Act, 1923, for the collection of charges for the renewal and repair of survey marks, are working satisfactorily, and no difficulty is reported to have been experienced.

3. ENHANCED WATER CHARGE FOR IRREGULAR IRRIGATION.—The appreciable decrease in the revenue derived from irrigation cess is due to the strict

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enforcement of the rules on the subject and the consequential levy of maximum penalties. Mr. Hemmingway's scheme is working properly.

4. **CONFERENCE WITH RYOTS.**—No ryots' conference was held; but the ryots attended the inspections made by the Collector and Revenue Divisional Officers during jamabandi. Agricultural demonstrations were held by the Demonstrator at the Collector's jamabandi camp at Srivaikuntam and were largely attended by the ryots who evinced keen interest in improved methods of agriculture.

COIMBATORE.

(E. F. THOMAS, Esq., C.I.E., I.C.S., *Collector.*)

1. **COERCIVE PROCESSES UNDER ACT II OF 1864.**—During the year under report the personal property of 69 persons was attached for arrears of Rs. 962. Real property of 53 defaulters was attached for arrears of Rs. 597 against that of 75 defaulters in the previous fasli. In 23 cases the property attached was sold for Rs. 5,194. In one case the property attached was bought in by Government, and in other cases the arrears were realized before sale.

2. **ENHANCED WATER-CESS ON LANDS IRREGULARLY IRRIGATED.**—The system of publishing a general notice in each village is working satisfactorily.

3. **INFORMAL CONFERENCES.**—The Revenue Divisional Officers, Kollegal and Gobichettipalayam, held informal conferences with the ryots, at the close of the jamabandi. The Revenue Divisional Officer, Pollachi, was not able to hold similar conferences owing to the apathy of the ryots. The ryots had no grievances worth mentioning.

4. **JUNIOR CIVILIANS.**—The Assistant Collector Mr. J. B. L. Munro sat for the Lower Standard Examination at Madras. His knowledge of Tamil is improving. He is now undergoing Survey and Settlement training at Salem.

THE NILGIRIS.

(A. R. COX, Esq., I.C.S., *Collector.*)

1. **JUNIOR CIVILIANS.**—Messrs. R. B. MacEwen, I.C.S., and S. P. Thompson, I.C.S., were in charge of the Coonoor division and the Collector was in charge of the Gudalur division.

2. **CONFERENCE WITH RYOTS.**—Conferences with ryots were held by the Collector and the Sub-Collector at jamabandi camps.

3. **CLASSIFICATION OF PORAMBOKES.**—An extent of 231 83 acres was transferred from 'poramboke' to 'assessed' in Coonoor and Ootacamund taluks.

SALEM.

(C. K. VIJAYARAGHAVAN, Esq., I.C.S., *Collector.*)

1. **COERCIVE PROCESSES UNDER ACT II OF 1864.**—The following figures compare the number of coercive processes of each kind, issued for the realization of land revenue, during faslis 1337 and 1338:—

	Fasli 1337	Fasli 1338.
Demand notices	5,664	4,954
Distrain or attachment notices	1,273	1,130
Sale notices	780	628
Sales	113	40

The decrease under all the items was due to the prompt issue of notices and their effective execution. No special agency was employed in the district for serving demand notices. The area of land bought in by Government for want of bidders was 101 acres against 146 acres in the previous fasli.

2. **JUNIOR CIVILIANS.**—Mr. N. D. Krishna Rao, I.C.S., the Assistant Collector, has completed the Lower Standard Examination and has a good knowledge of Tamil. Mr. T. Bhaskara Rao Nayudu, I.C.S., was Sub-Collector, Hosur, for a month and he attended the Collector's jamabandi at Salem and Pennagaram.

3. **EFFECT OF RECENT LEGISLATION.**—The Madras Decentralization Act VIII of 1914, which empowers Tahsildars and Deputy Tahsildars to charge penalties, in cases of unauthorized occupation, and to deal with cases of irregular irrigation, has been properly and efficiently applied, by the Tahsildars and Deputy Tahsildars. The ryots, being generally aware of the rules, made timely representations to the jamabandi officers. The panchayat courts are growing in popularity and usefulness.

4. **CONFERENCE WITH RYOTS.**—The Revenue Divisional Officers held informal conferences, where the ryots' grievances and suggestions, regarding facilities for irrigation and cultivation were heard and discussed. The Agricultural Demonstrator, who was present at the time of jamabandi in Namakkal, Omalur and Salem taluks, explained to the ryots the advantages of improved methods of agriculture. The necessity for the eradication of cotton plants before 1st September was also explained to the ryots. Irrigation conferences were held at important centres by the Executive Engineer, Salem.

5. **GENERAL.**—The labouring class found employment on the Mettur Dam Railway, Salem-Atur Railway and under the Magnesite Syndicate and other works. Emigration to Ceylon and other places continued, and was considerable from the Namakkal taluk.

SOUTH KANARA.

(G. W. WELLS, Esq., M.A., I.C.S., *Collector.*)

1. **COERCIVE PROCESSES UNDER ACT II OF 1864.**—There was an increase in the number of demand notices and notices of sale, while there was a fall in the number of distraint notices, as will be seen from the figures noted below:—

	Fasli 1337	Fasli 1338
Demand notices	3,223	3,650
Distrain "	373	347
Sale notices	168	198

All processes were served as usual through the village agency.

2. JUNIOR CIVILIANS.—The Sub-Collector, E. W. Doig, Esq., I.C.S., can follow petitions in Kanarese, if read out to him, and can pass orders without the aid of translations.

3. EFFECT OF RECENT LEGISLATIONS.—There has been no complaint from the people with regard to any legislation passed in recent times.

4. CONFERENCES WITH RYOTS.—The Collector held conferences with ryots at the time of jamabandi of Coondapoor and Kasaragod taluks. The attendance of the ryots was very poor, for only the village officers and their menials were present and no special representation of any hardship or grievance was made. The Divisional Officers also held similar conferences during jamabandi.

MALABAR.

(C. G. HERBERT, Esq., I.C.S., *Collector.*)

1. COERCIVE PROCESSES UNDER ACT II OF 1864.—The total number of processes issued was 21,056 against 24,002 in the previous fasli.

2. INFORMAL CONFERENCES.—The Revenue officials have kept in touch with the people. As usual agricultural demonstrations were held at the jamabandi centres in various parts of the district. The agriculturists are generally indifferent to the instruction imparted by the Agricultural Department.

3. JUNIOR CIVILIANS.—Mr. Vittal Pai, who was in charge of Palghat division during the fasli, has no difficulty with the Malayalam language. Mr. Carleton is in charge of the Malappuram division. He has not passed in Malayalam yet, but is studying the language.



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