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REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION

OF

COCHIN

FOR

THE YEAR 1112 M. E.

(16th AUGUST 1936 to 16th AUGUST 1937)



ERNAKULAM:

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CHAPTER I

GENERAL AND POLITICAL

Cochin is situated on the south-west coast of India. It is bounded on the north by British Malabar and on the south by the Travancore State. On its east are the well-known Malaya Hills, while its western shores are washed by the waters of the Arabian Sea.

The total area of the State is 1,480 square miles, and the total population, according to the Census of 1931, was 1,205,016 (589,813 males and 615,203 females). Nearly a third of the State consists of forest tracts and lagoons or backwaters.

Assuming an even distribution of the population over the whole area, there are as many as 814 persons to the square mile; and if the habitable area of about 865 square miles alone is taken into account, the density of population will work up almost to 1,400 per square mile. Cochin is thus one of the most densely peopled areas in the world. Of the total population, 64·8 per cent are Hindus.

Malayalam, the official language of the State, is the parent tongue of 90·3 per cent of the population. Tamil is the mother tongue of 5·5 per cent of the people and the Konkani dialect of Maharatta of 1·9 per cent. The great majority of those who have returned languages other than Malayalam as their mother tongue speak Malayalam as well as the languages returned.

Physical Features.—Cochin is singularly diversified in its configuration as well as in its physical aspects. Two disconnected parts make up the State, the larger lying along the coast and the smaller comprising the chief portion of the Chittur Taluk and encircled by British territory. Long spurs, extensive ravines, dense forests and thick jungles are a distinguishing feature of the eastern portion of the State. From here the land gently slopes

westward, a succession of closely cultivated valleys, with forest-clad uplands in between, following the hilly region. Nearer the seaboard the laterite table-lands gradually give way to extensive rice plains and backwaters fringed with picturesque groves of cocoanut palms. Three fairly well-marked divisions in regard to physical aspects are thus discernible—the hills, the plains and the seaboard.

The hilly portion is covered with magnificent forests comprising valuable timber of almost every description. Plants and herbs of great commercial and medicinal value are also to be found in abundance. The fauna includes all the larger animals to be seen in Southern India—elephant, bison, bear, tiger, leopard, sambhar and ibex, with many varieties of deer. The hunting leopard, hyaena, wolf, fox, monkey, etc., are also found, and birds and snakes are abundant.

Between the hills and the backwaters lie the plains. They are intersected in many places by several rivers and minor streams. The chief rivers are the Alwaye, the Chalakkudi, the Karuvannur and the Chittur. The principal produce of the plains is paddy, the cultivation of which forms the occupation of the vast majority of the people. Some of the cereals, besides rice, pulses and pepper, are also grown in several parts, while vegetable gardens and arecanut topes are to be found almost everywhere throughout the plains.

The seaboard is a long and narrow stretch of land, very irregular in form and sandy in soil. It is from four miles to a few hundred yards in width and is bounded on one side by the sea and on the other by the backwater. This stretch of land is low and generally swampy, and is, in many parts, liable to be submerged during the monsoon floods. Luxuriant cocoanut palms cover almost the whole of the coastal tract, and the various products of the cocoanut tree provide the means of livelihood for the teeming population which inhabits it. In places where there are natural or artificial embankments rice cultivation is also carried on.

One of the most striking features of Cochin is the all but continuous chain of lagoons or backwaters lying parallel to the

coast and receiving the waters of the numerous rivers flowing down from the Western Ghats. The backwaters communicate with the sea at two points—Cochin and Cranganur. Though in most places shallow, these backwaters allow of navigation at all times during the year for flat-bottomed passenger and cargo boats, and, consequently, the trade of the country is to a great extent carried on by water transport.

Early History.—Very little is known of the early history of the State of Cochin. According to tradition, the Rajas hold the territory in right of succession to Cheraman Perumal who, some time about the beginning of the 9th century, is supposed to have governed the whole country of Kerala—from Gokarnam to Cape Comorin—at first as viceroy of the Chola Kings and later as an independent ruler. In 1502 the Portuguese were given a strip of land near the port of Cochin, and in the following year they were allowed to build a fort at the place and to establish commercial relations with the State. In the earlier wars with the Zamorin, the Raja of Cochin derived considerable help from the Portuguese. About the latter part of the seventeenth century the Portuguese influence began to decline on the West Coast, and in 1663, when they were defeated and ousted from the town of Cochin by the Dutch, the then Raja entered into a fresh treaty with the latter and conceded to them the same privileges as to the Portuguese.

About a century later in 1759, when the Dutch power began to wane, the Raja was attacked by the Zamorin of Calicut, but he was expelled with the assistance of the Raja of Travancore. In 1776 the State was conquered by Hyder Ali to whom, and subsequently to his son Tippu Sultan, she remained tributary for some time. In 1791 a treaty was concluded between the then Raja and the East India Company, by which His Highness agreed to become tributary to the Company and to pay a subsidy of Rs. 1,00,000 annually in consideration of the protection promised by the Company from outside invaders. In 1809 the treaty was revised and a fresh treaty entered into, under which, in addition to the previous subsidy of one lakh of rupees, the State agreed to pay an annual sum equal to the expenses of maintaining

one battalion of native infantry, viz., Rs. 1,76,037, or Rs. 2,76,037 on the whole, the amount to be paid in six equal instalments every year. In 1818 this annual subsidy was reduced to Rs. 2,00,000, and the latter forms the pecuniary obligation of the State at the present day.

His Highness the Maharaja, Sir Sri Rama Varma, G.C.I.E., the present ruler of Cochin, was born on 30th December, 1861, and ascended the *musnad* on 25th March, 1932, on the demise of his cousin, His Highness Sir Sri Rama Varma, G. C. I. E. The family follows the Marumakkathayam or nepotic law of inheritance and succession. Her Highness Kunjikavu Tampuran, Senior Rani, the oldest female member of the Royal Family, was born on 25th March, 1860, and Kerala Varma, Elaya Raja or the heir-apparent, on 13th December, 1863. There are, besides, 183 male and 181 female members in His Highness's family.

System of Administration.—The State possesses an efficient system of administration which is conducted in the name and under the control of the Maharaja. The Diwan is His Highness's chief minister and chief executive officer of the State with whom the British Resident and Heads of Departments in Cochin correspond in all official matters. The Diwan is assisted by a Secretariat and a Civil Service.

Legislation in the State rests with the Legislative Council, but without prejudice to the right of the Maharaja to make laws. The Legislative Council, which was inaugurated in April 1925, is composed of fifty-four members, of whom thirty-six are elected. The Diwan is ex-officio President, and in his absence a Deputy President, who is elected by the Council, presides over the meetings. No measure passed by the Legislative Council can take effect in law unless it receives the Maharaja's assent.

At the head of the judicial administration in the State there is the Chief Court. Subordinate to it there are District Courts and Munsiffs' Courts to exercise civil jurisdiction. Criminal jurisdiction is exercised and controlled by Sessions Courts and Sub-Magistrates' Courts. Litigation up to a value of Rs. 50 is decided in village panchayat courts.

The State is divided into six taluks for administrative purposes—Cochin-Kanayannur, Mukundapuram, Trichur, Talappilli, Chittur and Cranganur. There are five municipal towns—Mattancherri, Ernakulam, Trichur, Chittur-Tattamangalam and Irinjalakuda. The total number of inhabited towns and villages in the State is 283.

IMPORTANT EVENTS OF THE YEAR

The year under report witnessed an important event in the history of the British Empire, viz., the abdication of His Majesty King Edward VIII and the accession to the Throne of His Majesty King George VI. The Coronation of His Majesty King George VI was celebrated in the State in a manner befitting the occasion.

Lt. Col. W. A. M. Garstin, C. B. E., continued as Agent to the Governor-General, Madras States, till 20th November, 1936, when C. P. Skrine, Esq., O. B. E., I. C. S., assumed charge as Agent to the Governor-General and continued till the end of the year. The designation, "Agent to the Governor-General," was changed to "Resident" with the inauguration of Provincial Autonomy under the Government of India Act of 1935.

A Darbar was held by His Highness the Maharaja at the Hill Palace, Trippunittura, on 20th July, 1937, at which Coronation medals were presented to some of the leading officials and non-officials of the State.

Towards the middle of the year, His Highness the Maharaja undertook a journey to Madras and stayed there for a few weeks. His Highness left the Hill Palace on 10th December, 1936, and returned from Madras on 3rd January, 1937.

There were ten births in the Royal family during the year (four males and six females). The year witnessed also the demise of two male Tampurans and one female Tampuran.

Sir R. K. Shanmukham Chetty, K. C. I. E., continued as Diwan throughout the year.

In September and October 1936, the Diwan attended two conferences of Ministers of Indian States held at Bombay, and one in February 1937 at Delhi. As a member of the South Indian Railway Advisory Board, the Diwan attended a meeting of the Board held at Madras. Early in December 1936, the Diwan visited Trivandrum to participate in the discussions on the question of the State's accession to Federation held there with Mr. A. C. Lothian, Mr. E. C. Conran Smith and Mr. A. J. Raisman, the Viceroy's representatives appointed for the purpose.

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CHAPTER II

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

FEDERATION

The question as to whether the State should join the Federation or not was under the serious consideration of Government during the year. In September and October 1936, the Diwan attended two conferences of Ministers of Indian States held at Bombay, and one in February 1937 at Delhi.

To advise the Government on the question of the State's accession to the All-India Federation, the services of Mr. N. D. Varadachariar, M. A., B. L., Advocate, Madras, were engaged for a period of six months with effect from 1st October, 1936.

Mr. A. C. Lothian, Mr. E. C. Conran Smith and Mr. A. J. Raisman, representatives of the Viceroy appointed to discuss questions relating to Federation, visited the State during the year. They arrived at Ernakulam on 27th November, 1936, and left for Trivandrum the next day, where they held a general discussion on the various issues connected with the accession of States to Federation. To participate in this discussion, the Diwan proceeded to Trivandrum on 1st December and returned on 3rd December.

At the same time, Government constituted a committee consisting of nine elected members of the Legislative Council for the purpose of consultation on matters arising out of the State's entry into the proposed All-India Federation. The committee consisted of Messrs Ambadi Sankara Menon, M. Sivarama Menon, V. K. Kutty, M. V. Cherian, T. K. Nayar, K. S. Manickam, P. Raman Menon, K. Ayyappan and A. V. Moothedan.

The committee held three meetings at "Diwan's House," Ernakulam, under the chairmanship of Sir Shanmukham Chetty, K. C. I. E., Diwan. Besides the members of the committee,

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar, Secretary to Government, and Mr. N. D. Varadachariar, Legal Adviser to the Government on Federation, were also present during the discussions.

There was at first a general discussion on the constitutional implications of a State's entry into Federation. The opinions of legal experts given on various occasions were examined by the committee, and the committee felt convinced that the rights and obligations of a Federating State would be regulated and controlled primarily by the Instrument of Accession executed by the Ruler. The full implications of a State's entry into Federation could, therefore, be determined with fair accuracy from the very outset. The committee unanimously came to the conclusion that, provided the vital interests of the State were adequately safeguarded, it would be of advantage for the State to enter the proposed All-India Federation. In the opinion of the committee, the two most vital safeguards were (a) the preservation of the entire revenues of the State, and (b) the securing unimpaired of all the rights obtained under the Harbour Agreement, including the State's share of the customs revenue.

The committee then took up the consideration of the draft Instrument of Accession sent by the Government of India to the State, and resolved that the State might press for those amendments and additions which were recommended by the Informal Committee of Ministers and by the Constitution Committee of the Chamber of Princes.

A detailed examination of all the items in the Federal Legislative List followed, and the committee proposed suitable reservations to be made in respect of each item. Among other matters, the committee recommended that the State should press for suitable provisions in the following matters :—

(a) The retrocession to the State of civil and criminal jurisdiction over the railway lands within the State ;

(b) the securing to the State of its share of the customs revenue and other rights secured under the Harbour Agreement ;

(c) the return to the State of the capital expenditure incurred on the construction of the port in case the State decided to accede to the item relating to Major Ports in the Federal Legislative List ; and

(d) the continuance of the existing arrangements under which the State got duty-free salt for its internal consumption, and the retention of its share of the excise duty on matches.

In addition to these specific reservations, the committee suggested detailed reservations under each one of the items in the Federal Legislative List.

The committee strongly pressed that, as far as possible, the day-to-day administration of all the subjects in respect of which the State federates should be retained by the State itself, and for that purpose it recommended that a suitable administrative agreement should be entered into under Section 125 of the Government of India Act.

The committee also recommended that some suitable constitutional safeguards should be made for the preservation of the rights and privileges enjoyed by the Ruler, and for the remission of the State's cash contribution of Rs. 2 lakhs per annum. The committee recommended, further, that the Government should press for the restoration to the State of certain territories which the British Government were bound to restore to the State under the terms of a treaty.

Another recommendation of the committee was that, "in view of the fact that the standards of judicial administration in Cochin are as high as in the contiguous British province, the State should press that its highest court should be recognised as a High Court for Federal purposes under Section 217 of the Government of India Act."

After finishing consideration of all the subjects arising out of the question of Federation, the committee resolved that "a representation should be made to His Highness that His Highness may be pleased to arrange for some suitable machinery of election for the purpose of choosing the State's representatives in both the Houses of the Federal Legislature."

COCHIN HARBOUR

The Government of India sanctioned during the year the execution of the fourth stage works of the harbour at an estimated cost of Rs. 92,23,000. These works include the provision of extensive railway facilities in the deep water quays and transit sheds and godowns on the Willingdon Island abutting the northern end of the Venduruthy Island. The Venduruthy Island, including the adjoining Willingdon Island, is separated by two backwater channels from the mainland (Ernakulam town) on the east and the towns of Mattancherri and British Cochin on the west. Rail connection to the Harbour Railways on the Venduruthy Island and the adjoining Willingdon Island from the mainland will be afforded by a bridge across the backwater at Perumanoor, the southernmost area of Ernakulam town on the mainland.

At present the Shoranur-Cochin Railway terminates with a combined passenger and goods station at the northern end of Ernakulam town. In order to connect the Shoranur-Cochin Railway with the proposed Harbour Railways, two alternative schemes were proposed—one to start from the present Ernakulam terminal station and run along the foreshore, and the other to start between Idappalli and Ernakulam stations, from a point about one mile north of Ernakulam station, and run to the east of the town, both joining the proposed Harbour Railways at the east approach of the bridge across the backwater at Perumanoor. The alignment to start between the present Ernakulam terminal station and Idappalli, the next station to the north, and run east of the town was considered preferable.

Accordingly, a detailed engineering survey for this alignment was conducted by the South Indian Railway Administration, and an abstract estimate for the construction of this branch line on the broad gauge in accordance with the existing gauge of the main line was received during the year under report. The total length of the line from the point of diversion between Ernakulam and Idappalli stations to the eastern edge of the bridge proposed across the backwater will be approximately 4.56 miles. The approximate cost of the work will be about Rs. 13,65,000, or Rs. 3,16,000 per mile.

The scheme involves the acquisition of about 79.42 acres of land in the Cochin State and 11.55 acres of land in the Travancore State. A special staff was appointed to expedite the land acquisition proceedings so far as the State lands were concerned, and the acquisition proceedings were almost complete when the year closed. Steps were also taken to acquire the lands required in Travancore territory.

According to the scheme, the proposed Harbour station would be the terminal station for all passenger trains as well as for goods traffic, and would be called the "Cochin Harbour Terminus." The existing Ernakulam railway station will remain as a goods station purely for local goods traffic. There will be a flag station (Ernakulam North) at a point about $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles from the point where the extension starts from the existing line, a crossing station (Ernakulam South) to the north of the Hill Palace Road, and a flag station (Mattancherri Halt) at the end of the bridge on the Willingdon Island close to where the new road bridge from Mattancherri joins the reclamation. The works were being pushed through according to a definite programme and satisfactory progress was achieved during the year.

Arrangements were made in the year for the payment to the Government of a loan of Rs. 15 lakhs out of the total loan of about Rs. 37 lakhs promised by the Government of India for the fourth stage works.

Port Advisory Board.—For the administration of the port until a Port Trust was set up, the post of an Administrative Officer and Harbour Engineer-in-Chief was created, Mr. R. C. Bristow, C. I. E., M. Inst. C. E., M. I. Mech. E., being appointed to the post. To advise the Administrative Officer and Harbour Engineer-in-Chief, an Advisory Committee was also formed. The personnel of the Committee was as follows:—The Administrative Officer and Harbour Engineer-in-Chief (*ex-officio* Chairman); one member elected by the Chamber of Commerce, British Cochin; one member elected by the Indian Chamber of Commerce, Mattancherri; one member elected by the Municipality of British Cochin; one member elected by the Municipalities of Mattancherri and Ernakulam acting together; and two members each, nominated by the Government of India,

the Government of Cochin and the Government of Travancore. The nominees of the State on the Committee during the year were Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar, M. A., B. L., Secretary to Government, and Mr. Thomas Manjuran, B. A., B. L., Government Advocate and Law Officer.

A scheme for the construction of a Palace of Arts and Crafts on the Willingdon Island was under consideration in the year.

Trade Statistics.—As per the Customs House returns, the total trade of the port for the year ending 30th June, 1937, in terms of values, was Rs. 13,81,85,793 as against Rs. 13,12,37,216 for the previous year. Exports for the year were valued at Rs. 6,23,04,879 and imports at Rs. 7,58,80,914, compared with exports valued at Rs. 5,77,26,458 and imports valued at Rs. 7,35,10,758 for the year ending 30th June, 1936.

The principal increases in exports to foreign ports were cotton (raw) 11,830 cwts., value Rs. 5,02,016; ginger 2,808 cwts., value Rs. 89,856; turmeric 3,957 cwts., value Rs. 51,441; cashew kernels 46,773 cwts., value Rs. 27,19,849; rubber 415,649 lbs., value Rs. 1,29,890 and tea 1,219,765 lbs., value Rs. 12,00,706; and the principal decreases in exports to foreign ports were coir yarn 2,613 cwts., value Rs. 25,477; coir matting 104,350 yds., value Rs. 1,12,680; coir fibre 1,266 cwts., value Rs. 10,444; pepper 2,453 cwts., value Rs. 57,645; coffee 5,779 cwts., value Rs. 2,42,718; and mineral sand 4,826 cwts.

The principal increases in imports from foreign ports were (in values) cotton piece-goods, Rs. 61,158; chemicals and chemical preparations, Rs. 56,687; copra, Rs. 7,54,643; metals and ores, Rs. 2,34,301; other oils, Rs. 5,23,053; and tea chests, Rs. 1,64,940; and the principal decreases were cement, Rs. 28,637; grains (rice and paddy), Rs. 34,08,986; kerosene oil, Rs. 3,03,338; and sugar, Rs. 9,46,590.

The Port Office statistics for the year ending 31st March, 1937, in terms of landing and shipping fees, and the tonnage based on those fees are as under, and show a total trade of 741,010 landing and shipping fees tons for the year as against 867,565 tons for the year ending 31st March, 1936.

*Tonnage of cargo imported and exported for the years
1935-36 and 1936-37*

	1935-36	1936-37
Import Tonnage	729,122	603,646
Export Tonnage	138,443	137,364
Total Tonnage as per Landing and Shipping Fees Schedule	867,565	741,010

*Total amount of Landing and Shipping Fees collected
on the above Tonnage.*

	1935-36	1936-37
Landing Fees	Rs. 7,36,548	Rs. 6,25,899
Shipping Fees	Rs. 1,30,134	Rs. 1,30,561
Total	Rs. 8,66,682	Rs. 7,56,460

The Sea Customs revenue collected at the port during the years ending 31st March, 1936, and 31st March, 1937, were:—

	1935-36	1936-37
Import Duty	Rs. 55,79,779	Rs. 35,67,216
Export Duty	Rs. 1,333	Rs. 977
Miscellaneous	Rs. 21,251	Rs. 18,573
Total	Rs. 56,02,363	Rs. 35,86,766

The decrease in the Sea Customs revenue was mainly due to the cessation in imports of foreign sugar. There were no imports of foreign sugar during the year.

During the years 1934-35, 1935-36 and 1936-37, the number of steamers which entered the port were 755, 798 and 795, respectively.

A regular passenger service to and from Marseilles and London was maintained, and during the year under review the Bibby Line had 33 sailings and the British India and P. and O. Lines 15 sailings, making a total of 48 passenger sailings. The number of passengers embarked or disembarked were 1,720 compared with 1,499 during the previous year.

TERRITORIAL DISPUTE

Mention was made in last year's report of the Court of Arbitration appointed by the Government of India to settle the dispute between the Cochin Government and the Madras Government relating to a portion of the backwater between the Cochin Harbour mouth and the Ramanthuruthu Island. The Court submitted their report during the year, and the Government of India accepted their recommendation that the British sovereignty over the backwaters in Cochin extended to the limits of the Cochin Port as demarcated on the topographical plan of 1913

(Survey of India Sheet No. 58 $\frac{C}{1 \text{ \& } 5}$). This meant, roughly, that the triangular bit from Vypin round Ramanthuruthu to Customs House should be adjudged as British territory. The question of implementing the decision of the Court by the planting of permanent boundary marks was afterwards taken up for consideration.

HUZUR SECRETARIAT

A notable change in the constitution of the Huzur Secretariat during the year was the constitution of a Publicity Department in it. Mr. K. V. Menon, who was appointed Publicity Officer, assumed charge of his duties on 30th April, 1937.

In a Press Communique the Government detailed the duties of the Publicity Officer as follows: "(a) The Publicity Officer will issue from time to time authoritative contradictions to the numerous mis-statements that sometimes appear in the local press regarding the administration of the State; (b) by issuing 'Editor's table papers' and other information from time to time, the Publicity Officer will give authentic information to newspapers and journals regarding the actions and policies of Government; (c) the Publicity Officer will issue to the press summaries of the administration reports of the various departments of the State and other Government publications, and will also be entrusted with the duty of preparing the annual administration report of the State; and (d) the Publicity Officer will meet newspaper representatives and correspondents every Friday at 3-30 p. m. in his office and give them any information that may be available for publication in the press."

About 600 cuttings from newspapers (inclusive of those sent to the Diwan and the Secretary to Government) were brought to the notice of the departmental heads during the year. The department also issued from time to time contradictions of mis-statements of facts concerning the administration of the State that appeared in certain newspapers. Towards the end of the year, the Publicity Officer was entrusted with the work of bringing out a guide book to Cochin. Work in this connection was in progress when the year closed.

STAFF SELECTION BOARD

The scheme of recruitment by the Staff Selection Board was brought into force from 1st Kanni. To facilitate the working of the Board, appointments falling within the purview of the Board were divided into two groups—Group I comprising all appointments the initial salary of which was below Rs. 40, and Group II comprising all appointments the initial salary of which was Rs. 40 and above but below Rs. 100.

For purposes of recruitment, the following order of rotation among the different communities was fixed:

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Ezhuva | 21. Ezhuva |
| 2. Romo-Syrian | 22. Nayar |
| 3. Nayar | 23. Other Hindu (backward or depressed) |
| 4. Muslim | 24. Latin Catholic |
| 5. Other Hindu | 25. Other Hindu (backward or depressed) |
| 6. Ezhuva | 26. Ezhuva |
| 7. Tamil Brahmin | 27. Romo-Syrian |
| 8. Other Hindu (backward or depressed) | 28. Nayar |
| 9. Nayar | 29. Muslim |
| 10. Latin Catholic | 30. Other Hindu |
| 11. Ezhuva | 31. Ezhuva |
| 12. Other Hindu | 32. Tamil Brahmin |
| 13. Pulaya | 33. Other Hindu (backward or depressed) |
| 14. Romo-Syrian | 34. Nayar |
| 15. Nayar | 35. Other Christian |
| 16. Ezhuva | 36. Ezhuva |
| 17. Other Hindu | 37. Other Hindu |
| 18. Other Christian | 38. Pulaya |
| 19. Jew, Anglo-Indian, etc. | |
| 20. Romo-Syrian | |

- | | |
|---|---|
| 39. Romo-Syrian | 46. Other Hindu (backward or depressed) |
| 40. Nayar | 47. Nayar |
| 41. Ezhuva | 48. Ezhuva |
| 42. Latin Catholic | 49. Other Christian |
| 43. Other Hindu (backward or depressed) | 50. Other Hindu (backward or depressed) |
| 44. Muslim | |
| 45. Romo-Syrian | |

Separate rotations were fixed for acting and permanent appointments in each of the above two groups. The stage at which the rotation should commence when first applied to any class or category of appointments was fixed as follows:

Group I—Acting and temporary—1. Ezhuva.

do Permanent 2. Romo-Syrian.

Group II—Acting and temporary 3. Nayar.

do Permanent 4. Muslim.

The qualifications required for the appointments brought within the purview of the Board were revised, wherever necessary, and minimum qualifications were prescribed for every appointment.

On the recommendation of the Board, 709 appointments were made by Government in the year under report. Of these, 632 were officiating or temporary and 57 permanent appointments in Group I, while 17 were officiating and three permanent appointments in Group II. Taken communal-war, 144 appointments went to Ezhuvas, 100 to Other Hindus (backward or depressed classes), 87 to Romo-Syrians, 44 to Latin Christians, 46 to Other Christians, 118 to Nayars, 75 to Other Hindus, 45 to Muslims, 32 to Tamil Brahmins, 14 to Jews, Anglo-Indians, etc., and four to Pulayas.

PRINTING PRESSES AND NEWSPAPERS

An amendment to the Press and Registration of Books Act was made during the year, according to which the number of copies of newspapers to be delivered free of cost to Government was raised from two to three, the Commissioner of Police also being supplied with a copy each of all the newspapers published in the State.

The owners of the following printing presses filed declarations during the year:

1. Raja Printing House, Nadama Village.
2. Vidya Vilasini Press, Chelakkara.
3. Sitharam Electric Printing Works, Chittur.
4. The Memorial Press, Mulanthuruthi.
5. Norman Printing Press, Ernakulam.
6. The Seethi Mohamad Hajee Memorial Printing Works, Cochin.
7. The Kunhirani Smaraka Mudralayam, Malipuram.
8. Kerala Chandrika Press, Narakkal.
9. Vidya Ratna Prabha Press, Kunnankulam.
10. Kerala Vilasam Press, Trichur.
11. The Sahodara Press, Ernakulam.
12. Guruvilasam Press, Trichur.
13. Poor Relief Printing Service, Cochin.
14. The Modern Printing House, Trichur.
15. The Diamond Press, Pudukad.

Of these, eight were declarations in respect of new printing presses started during the year and the rest due to change in the ownership or location, etc., of the presses. There were 83 presses working at the end of 1936. Since 10 presses ceased working in the course of the year, there were, on the whole, 81 presses working at the end of the year.

During the year the printers and publishers of the following newspapers and magazines filed declarations for the first time:

1. The Mahathi.
2. The Cochin Chronicle (old).
3. The Prakasam.
4. Navayugam.
5. Rajahamsam.
6. The Teachers' Magazine.
7. The Malabar Mail.
8. Vikraman.
9. Yogakshemam.
10. Jayakesari.
11. Hindu Matha Chandrika.
12. The Cochin Chronicle (new)
13. Yuvakesari.
14. Jayakesari.
15. The Kerala Review.
16. M. L. C.
17. Rama Charitha Manasam

Of these only nine were actually started during the year under report.

Fresh declarations were filed in respect of the following papers and magazines on account of some change either in the editorship or in the venue of printing :

1. Kairali.
2. M. N. Nayar Magazine.
3. The Prakasam.
4. The Gosri Scout.
5. St. Thomas College Magazine.
6. Sahodaran.
7. Jayakesari.
8. Yuva Catholican.

The authorities of the Rama Varma Research Institute were exempted by Government from making the declaration as required by the Press Act in respect to their annual Bulletin.

There were no prosecutions under the Press Act during the year.

On 9th Chingam the Cochin Newspapers Act was formally passed into law as Act II of 1112, and the following newspapers and magazines were granted licences under the new Act during the year :

1. Maithri.
2. The Cochin Chronicle (old).
3. Vidooshakan.
4. C. M. S. High School Magazine.
5. Mahathi.
6. The Malabar Mail.
7. The Prakasam.
8. Rajahamsam.
9. The Teachers' Magazine.
10. The Cochin Chronicle (new).
11. Jayakesari.
12. Yogakshemam.
13. Yuvakesari.

Licences in respect of *Keralan*, *Sanghatana*, the *Teachers' Magazine* (old), the *Yuvakesari* (old), the *Yogakshemam* (old), the *Cochin Chronicle* (old), and *Vidooshakan* were revoked by Government, and all of them were granted refunds of licence fees, except in the case of *Keralan*, the licence of which was cancelled with forfeiture of the fee.

There were in all 47 newspapers and magazines in circulation at the close of the year as against 40 at the end of the previous year. There were no prosecutions under the Newspapers Act, and the tone of the papers and magazines continued to be satisfactory during the year.

DEBT CONCILIATION BOARD

The Debt Conciliation Board began to function only from 19th Mithunam, and so the working of the Board was confined to a short period of a month and a half only during the year. The major portion of this period was taken up in familiarising the public with the provisions and the procedure laid down in the Act.

Petitions numbering 203 for conciliation, involving Rs. 28,00,314, were received by the Board during the year, the number of creditors concerned being roughly 958. The Board sat for five days in Mithunam and eight days in Karkadagam. Real conciliation work could not be done because notices under Sections 8 and 10 of the Act had to be issued and statements from creditors obtained. The Board was addressing itself to this task when the year closed.

CHAPTER III

FINANCE

Unexpected variations in the budget estimates relating to both receipts and expenditure occurred during the year under report, and the year closed, therefore, with a deficit of Rs. 1,15,923 instead of an anticipated surplus of Rs. 46,100.

While the budget estimate of receipts was Rs. 1,01,40,400 and the revised estimate was Rs. 99,87,600, the actual revenue realised was Rs. 1,01,01,504. The corresponding figure for 1911 was Rs. 99,47,808.

The principal heads under which receipts were less than expectations were Customs (being the actuals as per the revised Cochin Harbour Agreement), Tramway (due to the treatment of sale proceeds of rails as abatement of capital instead of as revenue receipts), Medical (due to the fact that only the normal receipts were realised in 1912 while in 1911 there were receipts on account of the Silver Jubilee Fund), Stationery and Printing (due to economy in the supply of printed forms to the various offices and the non-adjustment of cost in certain cases), Railway (due to fall in railway earnings), and Profits from Capital Outlay (owing to the fact that the Potteries did not yield the expected receipts). There were slight increases, however, under certain heads, and these were Land Revenue (due to non-remission of kists), Salt (due to larger consumption), Stamps (due to increased sale on account of economic improvement), Matches (due to larger sale of banderols), Forests (due to larger sale of timber and higher prices fetched), Interest (due to larger investments and favourable rates of interest fetched and realisation of arrear interest from the Vaniampara Rubber Co., Ltd.), Public Works (due to enhanced receipts from tolls and ferries and under contribution works), Education (due to larger strength and increase in collection of fees), and Income-tax (due to improvement in economic condition and raising of the rate of tax on income above Rs. 15,000).

The total expenditure under service heads amounted to Rs. 1,02,17,427 as against the budget estimate of Rs. 1,00,94,300

and the revised estimate of Rs. 1,03,40,800, the actuals of 1936-37 having been Rs. 1,00,43,869.

Increased expenditure was mainly under the following heads: Matches (due to the larger sale of banderols involving larger payment to the Government of India), Customs (due to refund to the Travancore Government of the duty on Jaffna tobacco), Medical (due to the grant paid to the Madanapalli Sanatorium, leprosy relief, etc.), Public Works (due to the construction of new buildings, etc.), Interest (due to payment of interest on new loans raised), and Income-tax (due to the appointment of a separate Income-tax Officer and increase in refunds made). The expenditure was less in respect to Forests (due to decrease in collections, etc., of timber), Tramway (due to treatment of sale proceeds of rails as abatement of capital charge), General Administration (due to the fact that there was no expenditure on account of special items such as economic survey, loan work, etc.), Police (due to decrease in establishment charges and in clothing expenses), Public Health (due to reduction in sanitary town improvement works), and Railway (due to reduction in maintenance charges).

The year opened with a cash balance of Rs. 22,55,963 as against Rs. 28,98,534 anticipated in the budget and closed with a cash balance of Rs. 34,12,945 as against Rs. 25,03,534 and Rs. 28,20,963 anticipated in the budget and the revised estimates, respectively, for the year. The closing balance consisted of an actual cash balance of Rs. 12,21,171 in the treasuries and Rs. 21,91,774 in the Central Bank of India, Ltd.

The total investments including the Capital Outlay at the beginning of the year was Rs. 1,74,91,581, out of which Rs. 27,65,296 was withdrawn, so that the total at the close of the year was Rs. 1,47,26,285. Of the total investments, a sum of Rs. 41,42,644 represented outlay on the Harbour, Rs. 71,00,385 on Railway and Rs. 2,15,551 on the Stoneware Factory at the beginning of the year. There was an abatement of charge to the extent of Rs. 73,383 under revenue expenditure under Railway and an outlay of Rs. 2,30,599 under Railway capital, an outlay of Rs. 3,92,644 under Harbour Works equalised by an abatement in charge to that extent under Harbour Reclamation, of Rs. 4,658 under Stoneware Factory and of

Rs. 1,09,846 under other items of investment. The capital outlay at the close of the year stood, therefore, at Rs. 1,17,30,300—Rs. 41,42,644 on Harbour, Rs. 72,57,601 on Railway, Rs. 2,20,209 on the Stoneware Factory and Rs. 1,09,846 under other items.

The 5 per cent loan of Rs. 75,00,000 floated in 1108 was outstanding at the end of the year. The third and fourth instalments of subscription amounting to Rs. 15,00,000 to the second loan of Rs. 30,00,000 at $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent floated in 1111 were collected during the year. Thus the total loan outstanding at the close of the year under report was Rs. 1,05,00,000. Both the loans held a steady position in the stock markets in India. The usual contribution of Rs. 75,000 from general revenues to the Sinking Fund was paid during the year against the first loan.

The following statement compares the financial position of the Sate at the beginning of the year with that at the end of the year :

		At the begin- ning of 1112 Rs.	At the end of 1112 Rs.
LIABILITIES			
1	State Loan repay- able		
	{ (a) 5% loan	75,00,000	75,00,000
	{ (b) $3\frac{1}{2}$ % loan	15,00,000	30,00,000
2	Advances pending adjustment	1,398	2,434
3	Remittances pending adjustment	3,77,010	4,63,062
4	Sinking Fund	2,57,161	3,44,134
5	Deposits cash balances (including Civil and Criminal Court Deposits, Devaswams, Provident Fund, Municipal Fund, etc.)	14,96,921	16,35,384
6	Contribution works refundable	1,18,449	1,38,508
Total		1,12,50,939	1,30,83,522

		At the begin- ning of 1112 Rs.	At the end of 1112 Rs.
	ASSETS		
1	Remittances pending adjustment	6,73,535	7,09,610
2	Departmental balances	3,806	2,813
3	Advances recoverable	13,09,649	45,20,204
4	Treasury balance	10,24,730	12,21,171
5	Bank Current Account balance	12,31,233	21,91,774
6	Fixed Deposits in Banks	55,50,000	25,32,100
7	Investments in shares, mortgages, etc.	4,83,001	5,45,985
8	Cochin Government Bonds	73,000	73,000
9	Foreign Government Securities	1,75,600	1,75,600
10	Contribution works recoverable	..	2,266
11	Deposits overdrawn	5,030	3
12	Capital Outlay (Railway 40,14,092 met out of Harbour 41,42,644 revenue Stoneware Factory 2,15,551	83,72,287	83,72,287
13	Do met out of Loan	30,86,293	33,58,012
14	Revenue Surplus	23,64,938	22,49,016
	Total	2,43,53,102	2,59,53,841

The year opened thus with a net asset of Rs. 1,31,02,163 and closed with a net asset of Rs. 1,28,70,319.

The financial position of the State at the close of the year is compared below with that of the preceding five years:

Year	Receipts	Expenditure	Surplus or deficit	Net Surplus
1107	89,37,162	82,97,130	6,40,032	99,58,008
1108	1,05,57,328	82,29,383	23,27,945	1,22,85,953
1109	75,32,509	90,42,945	-15,10,436	1,07,75,517
1110	97,41,280	96,83,511	57,769	1,08,33,286
1111	99,47,808	1,00,43,869	-96,061	1,31,02,163*
1112	1,01,01,504	1,02,17,427	-1,15,923	1,28,70,319*

* These figures include the amounts under the new item—"Revenue Surplus"—brought under "Asset" during the year at the suggestion of the Special Officer, Accounts.

A special officer with experience of British India Accounts was appointed during the year to examine the system of accounts prevailing in the State and his report to Government, submitted on 4th Kumbham, was under consideration at the close of the year.

The departmental system of audit continued to work satisfactorily. The existing system of reconciliation of accounts introduced from 1st Karkadagam, 1103, also worked well. The temporary establishment instituted in 1111 to cope with the arrears in local audit continued to work during the whole of the year.

CHAPTER IV

MAIN HEADS OF REVENUE

1. LAND REVENUE

Land Revenue forms the most important item of revenue of the State exchequer. The levy of a tax on land was started by the State for the first time in 1762. Prior to that year, the produce of the land used to be shared exclusively between the jenmi and the tenant in certain fixed proportions. In that year, however, it became necessary to provide additional funds for administrative purposes, and it was decided to levy from landholders a *Rajabhogam*, or king's share, as distinguished from the *Jenmibhogam*, or the landlord's share. This *Rajabhogam*, together with the *jenmibhogam* of the lands which belong to the Sirkar in jenmam, constitutes the land revenue of the State.

All assessable lands are divided into two classes—*nilam* and *paramba*. The former consist of all lands which have been levelled, bunded and adapted for the cultivation of paddy, and the latter of lands adapted for the cultivation of crops other than paddy, whether they contain taxable trees or not. All lands, whether nilams or parambas, are again divided into *pandaravaka* and *puravaka*. The former are lands over which the State has the jenmam or proprietary right, while the jenmam right over puravaka lands is vested in private individuals or public institutions. Pandaravaka lands are held by ryots directly under the Sirkar on the same tenures on which puravaka lands are held by tenants under the jenmis, viz. *verumpattam*, *kanam*, *panayam*, *anubhogam*, etc.

Revenue Settlement.—The main features of the revenue settlement now in force, as detailed in the Settlement Proclamation of 27th Kumbham, 1080 (10th March, 1905), are:—
(1) Fixing of the full State demand on pandaravaka nilams at half the net produce, arrived at by determining the gross produce in paddy, after scientific classification of soils by chemical and physical analysis and by crop experiments, and

by making therefrom liberal deductions on account of vicissitudes of season, cultivation expenses, etc.; (2) converting the demand in paddy into demand in money at 4 annas 7 pies per standard para of paddy; (3) fixing of the State demand on parambas planted up with cocoanut, areca and jack trees, with reference to the number of such trees subject to a maximum of 60 in the case of cocoanut trees and 480 in the case of arecanut trees to an acre, the cocoanut trees being charged at rates varying from one anna to 3 annas 6 pies, according to the suitability of the tracts for the growth of such tree, and the areca and jack trees being assessed at uniform rates of 4 pies and 4 annas, respectively; (4) assessment of parambas not planted with the above-said trees with very light rates (beginning with annas two and ending with Rs. 2 per acre) with reference to local conditions, fertility of the soil and yield; (5) conferring of full proprietary right in soil on the holders of pandaravaka verumpattam and kanam lands; (6) fixing of the State demand on puravaka lands at half of the full or pandaravaka rates in the case of nilams and at one-fourth in the case of parambas, the settlement in the case of puravaka lands being made with the jenmis and not with their tenure-holders; (7) assessment of pandaravaka kanam lands at two-thirds of the full or pandaravaka verumpattam rates, and doing away with the system of periodical renewals and the recognition of kanam debts; (8) settlement of the lands held under favourable tenures such as pandaravaka adima, anubhogam, karaima, etc., and karozhivu, made in accordance with the principles of the Inam Settlement in the Madras Presidency; (9) adoption of only four tenures, viz., (i) pandaravaka verumpattam or normal tenure, (ii) pandaravaka kanam, (iii) puravaka and (iv) inam; (10) abolition of the many minor cesses and substitution therefor of one cess of six pies in the rupee of full assessment on all descriptions of lands; (11) reservation to the State of all rights to minerals, whether in pandaravaka or puravaka lands; and (12) declaration of the currency of the Settlement to be 30 years.

Changes in Organisation.—A few changes in the organisation of the Land Revenue Department were made during the year. The two divisions of the Cranganur Estate were amalgamated as a temporary measure from 10th Makaram, and the Parvathiam,

Northern Division, was put in charge of the Southern Division also. A temporary clerk was also sanctioned to the Cranganur Estate Vakil for attending to the estate work at Chowghat. Of the temporary establishments during the year, one was entertained for the acquisition of lands for the extension of the railway to the Cochin harbour, and another for fishery patrol work with a view to the prevention and detection of cases of illicit fishing. A staff, consisting of a surveyor and two peons, was also entertained for the survey of sea accretions in Elangunnapuzha, Narakkal and Nayarambalam villages from 1st Kumbham. This work was supervised by the Special Survey Officer, who also undertook a survey of the cocoanut farm at Vytila and encroachments on the Ernakulam foreshore.

Crops and Prices.—Both the north-east and south-west monsoons were, on the whole, normal, the mean rainfall recorded in the year being 114·84 as against 126·7 in 1111 and 78·62 in 1110. The *viruppu* crop was generally successful, and the *mundakan* crop also yielded good results except in the Mukundapuram taluk, where it was affected by *chazhi* and to a small extent by drought also. The havoc on account of *chazhi* was particularly serious in the Kallur Thekkummuri village of the Mukundapuram taluk. To afford some relief to the ryots, Government sanctioned a remission of one-half of the assessment in cases of complete destruction of crops and of one-fourth in cases of partial destruction.

There were no marked variations in the prices of staple food grains during the year, and the wages of several kinds of workmen remained almost stationary. Though there were sporadic attacks of cholera and smallpox in some parts of the State, these did not affect the standard of public health which was generally satisfactory. The work of registration of vital statistics in rural areas was attended to, as usual, by the village officers in an efficient manner. The condition of cattle was, on the whole, satisfactory, the number of deaths being only 403 as against 492 in the previous year.

Agricultural Loans.—Out of the budgetted amount of Rs. 20,000 for agricultural loans, Rs. 3,000 was transferred towards advances for fishermen for making boats and nets; and,

of the balance, Rs. 7,040 was disbursed by way of agricultural loans. The non-utilisation of the full amount provided was partly due to the fact that the maximum limit of loans had been fixed at Rs. 500 since the starting of the Land Mortgage Bank, and partly because in several cases the parties concerned were unable to give adequate proof of their title to the properties to be hypothecated for the loan or were unable to offer adequate security.

The total amount of agricultural loans, including arrears, due for repayment in the year from all the six taluks in the State amounted to Rs. 43,641 under principal and Rs. 6,110 under interest. Of this, a sum of Rs. 26,576 under principal and Rs. 4,610 under interest was collected, leaving a balance of Rs. 17,065 under principal and Rs. 1,500 under interest. Action under the Revenue Recovery Regulation was initiated against the defaulters, although the prevailing economic depression accounted to some extent for the accrual of arrears.

Free House-sites.—The work in connection with the free gift of 1,000 house-sites to the homeless poor without distinction of caste, creed or colour, in commemoration of the Silver Jubilee of His Majesty the King Emperor, graciously announced by His Highness the Maharaja at the public darbar held in connection with the Silver Jubilee celebrations, was almost finished by the end of the year. There were 5,936 applications in all, of which 3,216 were from the Cochin-Kanayannur taluk, 940 from the Mukundapuram taluk, 962 from the Trichur taluk, 432 from the Talappalli taluk, 219 from the Chittur taluk, and 167 from Cranganur. Of the applications, 150 were selected from the Cochin-Kanayannur, 361 from the Mukundapuram, 222 from the Trichur, 235 from the Talappalli and 32 from the Chittur taluks. In the Cranganur taluk there were no sites suitable for the grant and the applicants were unwilling to go in for house-sites in other taluks. The large majority of the applicants selected belonged to the backward and depressed classes.

Lands under Cultivation.—The extent of lands under wet paddy cultivation at the end of the year was 207,461.74 acres and that of dry lands or parambas was 301,786.98 acres as

against 207,498·81 acres and 301,704·66 acres, respectively, in the previous year. Of the total extent under paddy, 120,497·73 acres were under single crop and 86,964·01 acres under double crop. Of the total extent under kole cultivation, 1,418·44 acres were in the Mukundapuram taluk, 16,458·66 acres in the Trichur taluk and 1,722·51 acres in the Talappalli taluk. There were 5,327·92 acres under coffee cultivation, and there was no increase in the number of coffee estates during the year.

Encroachments.—Special attention was paid during the year to the detection and prevention of encroachments on lands belonging to Government. Including the pending cases of the previous year, there were 1,397 cases for disposal, of which 983 were disposed of, leaving 414 cases pending at the close of the year. The number of encroachments detected during the year was 1,143 as against 673 in the previous year. Systematic inspection of lands at the disposal of Government was responsible for the increase in the encroachments detected. Out of 983 cases disposed of, assignment was ordered in eight cases, lease or license in 22 cases, and 160 cases were eliminated. In 715 cases, prohibitory assessment was charged and eviction ordered. Of cases for eviction, there were 1,172 during the year, inclusive of the 457 cases pending from the previous year. Five hundred and eighty-nine of these were disposed of, leaving 583 pending.

Land Revenue Demand.—The total land revenue demand under all the heads together was Rs. 12,50,442 as against Rs. 11,08,355 in 1111. Of this, the collection amounted to Rs. 12,22,644 and a sum of Rs. 2,342 was written off, the percentage of collection to demand working out at 97·96 as against 97·62 in the previous year. Of the balance of Rs. 25,456 outstanding at the close of the year, only Rs. 140 formed part of the State land revenue proper.

The number of cases in which coercive processes had to be resorted to was 13,718 as against 13,649 in 1111. Of these, 157 related to distraint of movables, 14 to sale of movables and 188 to sale of immovables, as against 89, 7 and 344, respectively, in the previous year. Great care was taken to avoid coercive

measures as far as possible. Revenue sales were confirmed only after the most careful scrutiny; besides, stringent orders were issued to avoid sales as much as possible. These orders, coupled with the elaborate rules framed to regulate the conduct of sales, resulted in an appreciable fall in the number of sales confirmed.

Survey.—The Superintendent of Survey and Land Records and the State Surveyors attended to all items of field work during the year, including the inspection of State boundaries jointly with the British and Travancore officers, the redemarcation of accretions in Elangunnappuzha, Narakkal and Nayarambalam villages and of forest exclusions in Talappalli and Mukunnapuram taluks, and the checking of the plots sub-divided for free grant of house-sites. There were 3,956 cases relating to the preparation and issue of revised records for disposal during the year, of which 3,527 were disposed of, the percentage of disposal being 89.1 as against 93.77 in 1111.

To attend to the work of acquisition of lands in Ernakulam for the extension of the railway to the harbour including the realignment of a part of the line between Idappilli and Ernakulam, a special staff was organised under the charge of a permanent Tahsildar appointed as Special Assistant to the Diwan Peishkar. The staff which was provisionally sanctioned for six months was entertained from 18th Meenam and continued to work till the end of the year. Besides attending to the acquisition of lands in Ernakulam, the staff was also entrusted with the work of acquisition of lands in the Venduruthi island required for the Harbour Railway. The acquisition work was nearly completed by the end of the year.

Expenditure.—The total expenditure of the department in the year was Rs. 3,10,908 as against Rs. 3,12,425 in 1111.

2. EXCISE

The Excise Department was formed at the end of the year 1075 M. E. (1900 A. D.) Prior to that, there was only a Salt Department which looked after the suppression of salt crimes. All the other branches of revenue now controlled by the department were directly administered by the Diwan's Office. But in 1075 all the present activities of the department—abkari, salt,

opium, including ganja, tobacco, marine and customs—were brought under unified control and placed under the supervision of a single officer.

The establishment of a Bonded Warehouse at Tatapuram from 1st February, 1937, consisting of one Sub-Inspector and two peons, and the purchase of a small and light motor boat for the use of the preventive staff in its efforts to stop the smuggling of dutiable articles from steamers lying at anchor in the Cochin Port, were two new developments in the working of the department during the year. Although there was no change in the total strength of the preventive force, some of the men who were found to be too old to do useful work were retired during the year, their place being taken up by the officiating men already in service.

Salt.—The year under report opened with a balance stock of 146,143 maunds of salt in the Malipuram Depot as against 141,174 maunds at the beginning of 1936. Two certificates—one for 250,000 maunds of Bombay salt and the other for 50,000 maunds of Tuticorin salt—were issued in favour of the contractors; but the actual quantities delivered by them at Malipuram were only 245,753 maunds of Bombay salt and 48,897 maunds of Tuticorin salt. Besides, 10,564 maunds of Bombay salt were taken delivery of in the year from the last consignment of 1935. There was thus for disposal a total of 453,034 maunds (inclusive of 1,677 maunds found as excess on emptying the godowns) as against 429,266 maunds in 1935. Of this, 300,586 maunds were issued in all during the year as against 283,123 maunds in the previous year, leaving a balance of 152,448 maunds as against 146,143 maunds at the close of the previous year. Of the disposal, 295,936 maunds were issued to merchants, 4,400 maunds to fish curing yards and 250 maunds to the Agricultural Department. The incidence of consumption worked out during the year to 20.208 lbs. per head of population as against 19.333 lbs. in 1935. The total receipts under salt, including Cranganur, amounted to Rs. 5,57,834 as against Rs. 5,18,073 in the previous year. Including two cases pending at the close of 1935, there were 22 cases in all for disposal. All of them except two were disposed of during the year.

Abkari.— There were no changes in the general system of Abkari administration other than by way of introduction of the system of collection of gallonage fees on both Indian made and imported foreign liquor sold in the State. Previously, there was only the fixed fee system of vend, and so the gallonage fee was an additional source of revenue during the year. Arrack of 35 U. P. and 60 U. P. was allowed to be sold as usual, but there was no demand for the 60 U. P. liquor. A fresh supply contract for the years 1112 and 1113 was entered into with Messrs. Fraser and Ross, Chartered Accountants, on behalf of the Nadar Estate. The rates per gallon of 35 U. P. issued from the Trichur Distillery and per gallon of the same strength issued from the Bonded Warehouse at Ernakulam were Rs. 1—4—0 and Rs. 1—5—0, respectively. Four annas in excess of these rates was charged for all supplies made from the depots established by the contractors. The excise duty of Rs. 6—8—0 per proof gallon in the high duty areas of Mukundapuram, Trichur, Talapilli and Chittur taluks and of Rs. 5 per proof gallon in the low duty areas of Cochin-Kanayannur and Cranganur taluks continued to be in force during the year, the Trichur Distillery and the Bonded Warehouse supplying the high and low duty areas, respectively, with country spirits as usual.

The number of arrack shops sold in auction was 199 as against 198 in 1111. Each shop served on an average 10·87 square miles and 6,758·475 persons in the high duty area and 2·22 square miles and 4,972·13 persons in the low duty area as against 10·96 square miles and 6,825·35 persons in the former and 2·22 square miles and 4,972·73 persons in the latter area in the previous year. The total consumption of arrack in the several taluks of the State together was 20·245 proof gallons as against 19,432 proof gallons in 1111. The incidence of consumption of arrack worked out to ·031 and ·009 proof gallons per head of population as against ·02 and ·009 in the low and high duty areas, respectively, in 1111.

Toddy shops sold in auction during the year numbered 367—the same as in the previous year—each shop serving on an average 4·03 square miles and 3,283·4 persons. The total demand

under tree tax in the State was Rs. 2,19,393 as against Rs. 2,21,833 in 1111. The whole of the tree tax was collected except a sum of Rs. 6,799 including arrears of the previous year. The total demand under arrack and toddy during the year was Rs. 5,78,920 as against Rs. 6,06,252 in 1111. Of this, Rs. 5,71,135 was collected, leaving a balance of Rs. 7,785 at the close of the year. Of the old arrears of Rs. 64,055 pending collection at the beginning of the year, Rs. 3,536 was collected and Rs. 2,495 written off as irrecoverable. Reductions were made from the total to the extent of Rs. 6,844 by way of remissions and special concessions, and a fine of Rs. 1,528 forfeited to the Sirkar was also waived, leaving a balance of Rs. 49,652. Together with the arrears of the year, the total abkari outstandings amounted, therefore, to Rs. 57,437. Taking into account the rentals, tree tax and excise duty on arrack, the incidence of taxation per head of population worked out to Re. 0—12—1·2 as against Re. 0—12—5·3 in 1111. Seven hundred and eight abkari cases were detected as against 862 in 1111. Including the 167 cases pending at the close of 1111 there was a total of 875 cases, of which 284 ended in conviction, 367 were compounded, 10 released, one written off and six otherwise disposed of. Of the remaining 207 cases, four were pending in courts and 203 with the inspectors.

Three wholesale and 13 retail licences for selling foreign liquor were issued during the year as against five and 14, respectively, in the previous year. Four liquor taverns were also sold in auction for a rental of Rs. 3,175. Three bottling licences for Rs. 150, four licences for dealing in rectified spirits for a fee of Rs. 10 each, six licences for the possession and sale of medicated wines for a fee of Rs. 10 each, and two hotel licences of Rs. 50 each were also issued.

Besides, licences were also issued for the tapping of 48,272 cocoanut trees, 5,112 palmyras and 1,370 sago trees for the supply of toddy throughout the State as against 49,287 cocoanut trees, 4,575 palmyras and 1,370 sago trees in 1111. The decrease in the total number of trees tapped was mainly due to poor sales of the shops. For extracting sweet toddy, 30,726 cocoanut trees were licensed, and for drawing toddy for the

manufacture of bread 44 trees were licensed. Eighteen toddy and arrack occasional licences for an aggregate fee of Rs. 125 were also issued during the year. Ten cocaine licences were issued during the year free of charge. The fee realised for the sale of denatured spirits by the licensees amounted to Rs. 4,027 as against Rs. 2,902 in the previous year.

Ganja and Opium.—The independent shop system for the vend of ganja and opium continued during the year. The rentals for the year were Rs. 31,120 as against Rs. 31,735 in the previous year for ganja and Rs. 46,955 as against Rs. 47,055 for opium. The whole rental in respect of ganja shops and all but Rs. 12 of the rental of opium shops were realised during the year. The Government issue price of ganja was Rs. 32 per seer as in the previous year, while that of opium was enhanced from Rs. 81 in 1111 to Rs. 86 per seer from 1st April, 1937, consequent on a similar change in the Madras Presidency.

Matches.—There was no change in the main principles of the Matches Excise Duty administration during the year under report. Consistent with the Bonded Warehouse rules passed in British India, a set of rules was framed to regulate the manufacture and issue of matches from the licensed manufactories in the State with effect from 9th Chingam (24th August, 1936).

Against nine licences issued in the previous year for the manufacture of matches, one for the manufacture of splints and veneers and four for their importation, 11 licences were granted for the manufacture of matches, three for the manufacture of splints and veneers and six for their importation during the year. The banderols required for the various factories were as usual supplied by the Government of India and stocked in the Trichur Treasury.

The receipts allotted by the Government of India for the previous year (1935—1936) on account of the Matches Excise Duty administration amounted to Rs. 85,793, which was credited in the accounts during the year under report. The gross revenue derived, excluding the licence fee of Rs. 1,400 out of the sales of banderols during the year, amounted to Rs. 1,37,551, out of which Rs. 7,358 was spent on the administration of the Matches Excise Duty Act, leaving a balance of Rs. 1,30,193 for common pool for division among the various provinces and States

who have joined the scheme. The State's share on this account was not fixed when the year closed.

Including the five cases pending from 1111 and the seven detected during the year, there were twelve cases in all. Out of this eight were compounded, two released and one otherwise disposed of.

Tobacco.—The biennial lease in respect of tobacco which commenced in 1111 continued in the year. There were 20 'A' class shops entitled to import tobacco without restriction from outside the State and 362 'B' class shops authorised to sell tobacco in retail. The total rental of these shops was Rs. 3,60,732. Consequent on resales and restoration of shops, the demand for the year worked up to Rs. 3,52,927. Of this, Rs. 3,50,141 was collected and Rs. 2,786 left as balance pending realisation.

Including the two cases pending at the beginning of the year there was a total of 57 cases, of which conviction was secured in 52, one released and three otherwise disposed of. There remained thus one case to be disposed of at the end of the year.

Receipts and Expenditure.—The total receipts of the department amounted to Rs. 23,10,767, excluding customs revenue, as against Rs. 22,47,757 in the previous year. Under customs revenue, there was a large fall as compared with the previous year, the respective figures being Rs. 19,00,000 and Rs. 20,10,481, respectively. The total expenditure of the department amounted to Rs. 4,05,760 as against Rs. 2,98,452 in 1111. Of this, Rs. 1,94,849 was on account of payment under Matches to the Government of India and Rs. 73,659 was by way of refund to the Government of Travancore, being the first of the seven instalments of payment on account of the balance of duty of Jaffna and other tobacco collected in Travancore during the official years 1931-1935. Excluding these two payments the expenditure of the department came to Rs. 1,37,251 as against Rs. 1,35,600 in 1111 including the expenditure under Matches. The increase in expenditure was mainly due to refunds granted to the Bombay salt contractor and certain toddy and arrack shop licensees of the year 1110.

3. FORESTS

The forests of the State are mainly situated in the eastern portion of Talappilli, Trichur and Mukundapuram taluks and in the southern portion of Chittur taluk. They extend from the Shoranur river in the north to the Chalakudi river in the south, and are more or less compact except for a small bit in the Malayattur village of the Cochin-Kanayannur taluk. Although there has been no regular survey of all the forests in the State, it has been roughly calculated that they cover an area of about 585 square miles out of the total State-area of 1,480 square miles.

A separate department to work the State forests was first organised in or about the year 1835. There have been several reorganisations of the department since, effected in response to new needs and requirements felt from time to time. Until Act III of 1080 was enacted in 1905 on the lines of the Madras Act IV of 1882, there was no code of written law relating to forests in the State. Under this Act, several sets of rules were framed to protect the interests of Government in the forests. These rules regulate, among other matters, the demarcation and settlement of forest areas, the protection of reserved and unreserved areas, the felling and removal of monopoly trees, the transport and floating of timber, hunting, shooting, fishing, etc., in the reserved forests. The rules also concede ample privileges to the ryots, such as the free grazing of cattle except goats and elephants, free removal in headloads of dry fuel, fencing materials and other produce for domestic and agricultural purposes.

His Highness the Maharaja's Visit.—An event of great interest to the Forest Department during the year under report was the visit of His Highness the Maharaja early in the year to Karikadavu, a station 14 miles to the east of Chalakudi in the heart of the forests served by the State Forest Tramway. During the trip His Highness was accompanied by the Diwan. The object of His Highness' visit was to see something of the tramway and of the Government teak plantations on either side of the tramline. The Kadirs and Malayars of the neighbouring forests were treated to a sumptuous feast on the occasion, and His Highness was pleased to distribute with his own hand the usual Onam presents of cloth, etc., to them. The occasion was

also availed of to solicit His Highness' permission to associate his august name with the "Anapandan Valley Plantations" as a memento of the visit. Since His Highness was graciously pleased to grant this request, the block of teak plantations commencing from mile 10½ of the tramline from Chalakudi (from the western limit of the reserved forests served by the tramway) and proceeding eastwards on either side of the tramline and future extensions of the plantations up to the foot of the Anapandan Hills was designated as the "Rama Varma Plantations."

Elephant-catching Operations.—Another notable event was the resumption during the year of elephant-catching operations which had been suspended for some time past. These operations were undertaken in the forests of Parambikulam under the "pit" system, and extended for a period of about four months till the end of Medam. During this period six animals fell into the pits—four tuskers and two cows. One of the tuskers died before it could be taken out of the pit, and one of the cows, being rather too old for capture, was liberated from the pit soon after the fall. The remaining four (three tuskers and one cow), which were all young healthy animals, seven to eight feet high, were safely kraaled and trained. These operations were financially satisfactory, for while the total expenditure incurred on account of the capture, training and upkeep of the new captures was Rs. 2,186, the value of the four animals was estimated at Rs. 11,000.

Exclusion of Reserved Forests.—At the commencement of the year, the aggregate area of reserved forests in the State stood at 584 square miles, 208 acres and 48·75 cents. Of this, 60 acres and 21·50 cents were excluded for the purpose of assignment for food crops cultivation or for domicile by local ryots, leaving a balance of 584 square miles, 148 acres and 27·25 cents at the end of the year. For the purpose of raising plantations of hill produce, such as cardamoms, rubber, tea, etc., reserved forests to the extent of 13,594·73 acres have been leased out to private agencies in blocks of varying sizes in different localities of the State forests, the Forest Department realising a quit rent of Rs. 26,854. A further area of 5,327·92 acres of forest land, comprised of old abandoned estates, has also been leased

out, the Revenue Department collecting a quit rent of Rs. 7,992. There was no addition to either category of leased forests during the year under report. Since the Government have made the Protector of the Depressed Classes responsible for selecting, in consultation with the Conservator, suitable areas from reserved forests in different centres for occupation by the depressed classes, for effecting leases, collecting the rents and crediting the same to the Forest Department, an area of 208·80 acres originally leased out by the Forest Department direct to the depressed classes was transferred to the charge of the Protector. A further area of four acres in Parathipara reserved forest near Vadakkancheri was also handed over to the Protector during the year.

The forests were worked in accordance with the general principles of forest conservancy, preparation of up-to-date working plans being in progress. A tentative working plan was prepared for the teak plantations, and the prescriptions of the plan were being given effect to. The works executed during the year were based upon the annual plan of operations sanctioned by Government, special sanction being obtained for such deviations as were found necessary in the course of actual working.

Collection of Timber.—For the extraction of timber from the State forests the departmental system of collection was generally resorted to, the seigniorage system of extraction (by which a purchaser is allowed to make his own arrangements for felling and collection) being employed only in such cases where the departmental system was not found feasible. The total collection of timber by departmental agency during the year amounted to 15,132 candies, consisting of 4,141 candies of teak, 563 candies of rosewood, 26 candies of ebony and 10,402 candies of junglewood, while collection by consumers and purchasers amounted to 5,085 candies, consisting of 53 candies of teak, 14 candies of rosewood and 5,018 candies of junglewood, besides 4,173 tons of fuel and 88,300 bamboos. Out of the Government collections in stock, 4,702 candies of teak, 862 candies of rosewood, 9,938 candies of junglewood and 7,171 tons of fuel were disposed of during the year, leaving for disposal a balance stock of timber and other forest produce to the value of Rs. 49,260.

The right of collection of *Vateria indica* seeds in the whole State forests was taken up by Messrs The Tata Oil Mills, for a period of one year from January 1937, as an experimental measure. The concession to remove headloads of fuel, thorns and bamboos, and to graze cattle free of charge enjoyed by the ryots of the State for their bonafide requirements from lands at the disposal of Government was allowed as usual. The departmental contractors were also allowed free grazing of the elephants employed for work under their contracts.

There were 26 cases of forest crime pending disposal at the beginning of the year. During the year 153 cases were reported, thus making up a total of 179. Of these, 152 were disposed of, the percentage of disposal being 85. Of the cases disposed of, 135 ended in conviction and one in acquittal; 15 were compounded and one was withdrawn under orders of Government.

Natural and Artificial Regeneration.—The incidence of natural regeneration was adversely affected by the paucity of rains during the monsoons and the comparatively long spells of drought that intervened. The year under report was also not a very good seed year. Artificial regeneration was undertaken on a fairly extensive scale. During the year 321·55 acres were newly planted, and thus the total extent of the plantations at the end of the year was 4,765·69 acres. Besides, two blocks aggregating to 75·75 acres, one at Chennar and the other at Kuriarkutty, which were demarcated for raising plantations in the previous year, were planted with teak departmentally. All the blocks of plantations under the department were fire protected. A fresh regeneration coupe of about 172 acres was added at Killanoor during the year, thereby raising the aggregate extent of Killanoor coupes to 540·25 acres. Besides the one coupe opened at Kuthiran in 1111, another block of about 85 acres adjoining it was also selected for conducting operations during the year, the two coupes together extending to about 179·50 acres.

Training Course for Guards.—A class for a four months' course of training for forest guards was opened at Chalakudi from 1st Mithunam with a strength of ten, five departmental candidates and five private. The private candidates admitted to the class were those selected by Government on the

recommendation of the Staff Selection Board. Instruction was mainly in the nature of practical work in the field.

Shooting Licences.—Thirteen shooting licences were issued during the year, of which eight were paid and five free licences. Three cases of illicit hunting were reported, two of which ended in conviction. The remaining case was pending in court at the close of the year.

Elephants and Ivory.—Including the four elephants captured during the year, the total number of elephants under the charge of the department at the end of the year was nine, of which three were Devaswam elephants. The Elephant Vicharippu and his assistant continued to be in charge of all the elephants in the custody of the department, excepting the new captures undergoing training at Parambikulam. Such of the animals as were fit for work or for participation in processions were let on hire according to demand.

There was a stock of 729-31/85 pounds of ivory (tusks and tushes) at the beginning of the year. During the year 126-77/85 pounds was freshly received and 120-14/17 pounds disposed of, the price fetched being Rs. 756. The balance stock on hand at the end of the year was 735-38/86 pounds.

Receipts and Expenditure.—The receipts of the department amounted to Rs. 4,12,280 as against Rs. 3,74,538 in 1111 and the expenditure to Rs. 2,52,023 as against Rs. 2,58,504 in the previous year. The net surplus realised in the year, therefore, was Rs. 1,60,257 as against Rs. 1,16,034 in 1111.

4. TRAMWAY

The State forest tramway was constructed in 1905, at a cost of about twenty lakhs of rupees, for transporting timber from the Parambikulam forests. The country over which the line passes is very hilly, run over by low and high ridges in all directions.

The total length of the line is a little over 52 miles. At mile 21 there are three rope inclines, the longest of them being more than half a mile and the total over a mile. The steepest has a gradient of 1 in 3. From the top of these inclines the line

descends by means of ten reversing stations to mile 24 and thence on a slight up-grade to mile 26½. Here are two rope inclines of a length of a mile and a half. The line descends from the top of the ridge by means of five reversing stations to mile 30, to mile 32 by three more reversing stations, and thence by an almost level line to mile 50. The rope inclines are worked by gravity, a descending load dragging up the empty trucks. The wire rope, one inch in diameter, passes twice round a horizontal wheel on top of each incline, this wheel being bracked by two independent rim bracks. There are 254 bridges and culverts along the line.

Details of Traffic.—The division of the tramway into three sections for traffic purposes was maintained during the year. In the first section (up to the 21st mile), 354 trains for timber transport, 227 trains for fuel, earth and rail ballasts, and two special trains to Karikadavu and back for the journey of His Highness the Maharaja were run as against 442 timber trains, 81 fuel trains, and one special train run in the previous year. In the second section (from mile 21 to 27¼), 699 trains for transport of timber and 14 trains for the transport of fuel were run as against 517 timber trains, 5 fuel trains, and one special train in 1111; and in the third section (from mile 27¼ to 50), 722 trains for timber transport from Komalapara to Kuriarkutty and back and 307 trains from Chennar to Kuriarkutty and back were run during the year as against 1,095 trains for transport of timber, 12 trains for fuel transport and one special train run in the previous year. Since the Kuriarkutty bridge was washed off as a result of heavy rains in Thulam, the trains in section three were worked thereafter in two sections—the line from Kuriarkutty to Komalapara forming one section and that from Kuriarkutty to Chennar forming the other. The total number of trains run in all the sections together, therefore, amounted to 2,325 as against 2,209 in the previous year, covering a total mileage of 44,351.

Engines and Trucks.—There were eight engines at work in the three sections together, and all of them were properly maintained. There were 34 pairs of trucks, 13 bogeys three luggage waggons, one saloon, one large trailer, two small trailers and an inspection carriage at the beginning of the year. Five

pairs of trucks were newly constructed, thus bringing the total number of trucks to 49 pairs at the end of the year. Eight pairs of trucks were thoroughly overhauled, and the trailer that was damaged by wild elephants in the previous year was reconstructed, and two bogeys were completely overhauled. Seventy-two new truck wheels were also purchased. All the vehicles were maintained in proper order. All the five incline haulage ropes and brake machines also worked satisfactorily.

Laying of New Rails.—Rails of $41\frac{1}{4}$ lb. section purchased from the South Indian Railway Company were laid in the whole of the second section, i. e., from mile 21 to 28, including all sidings, and on a length of three miles in section 3 from mile 28 to 31. The original estimate was for relaying the entire track that remained in sections 2 and 3, but, owing to the difficulty experienced in hauling up the rails and transporting them to site, side by side with maintaining the usual out-turn of traffic, the work could not be completed. As was done in the previous year, the old released rails were sold on tendered rates accepted by Government. Of the points and crossings purchased from the Railway, only 14 out of the 44 sets could be relaid during the year. The siding at the depot yard, Chalakudi, was extended during the year to a length of 120 feet for the use of the Annamallais Timber Trust, Ltd., at their cost.

Bridges Nos. 22 and 203 were reconstructed during the year, and the reconstruction of several other bridges was taken on hand. Besides the usual P. C. R. works, two new kitchens for the rest houses at Kavalai and Kuriarkutty and a new rest-house and kitchen at Komalapara were constructed at a cost of Rs. 2,560.

Transportation of Timber.—The number of working days during the year was 341 as against 344 in the previous year. As against 15,124 candies of timber transported in 1111, 15,247 candies of timber were transported during the year under report. Among the other articles transported were 4,690 tons of fuel, 5,662 maunds of provisions, and 156 maunds of stoneware articles. The receipts under traffic for the Forest Department amounted to Rs. 47,183 and under private traffic to Rs. 55,123 as against Rs. 49,391 and Rs. 65,017, respectively, in the previous year.

Workshop.—All the machines in the workshop were kept in proper working order. The total cost of works done in the workshop amounted to Rs. 717 as against Rs. 1,359 in the previous year. Of this, Rs. 339 was the cost of private works and Rs. 378 the cost of works for other departments, as against Rs. 391 and Rs. 968, respectively, in 1111.

Expenditure and Receipts.—The capital expenditure during the year came to Rs. 46,513 as against Rs. 68,967 in the previous year. This amount represents the cost of preliminary survey, etc., works, bridge works, realignment of track, earth work, railway siding works, laying of rails and points and crossings, repairs to and construction of buildings, repairs to rolling stock and locomotives, etc. But as the amount realised by the sale of secondhand released rails, viz., Rs. 53,004, was shown as an abatement of charge, the actual expenditure under capital was minus Rs. 6,491. The outlay on maintenance was Rs. 85,546 as against Rs. 90,861 in the previous year. The total receipts amounted to Rs. 1,06,359 as against Rs. 1,50,177.

5. STAMPS

Stamps and stamp papers required for the State (except special adhesive labels and 3 annas section papers which are manufactured locally) were got down from England.

The stamp revenue during the year was Rs. 5,96,383 as against Rs. 5,82,499 in the previous year. The expenditure amounted to Rs. 42,724 as against Rs. 43,470 in the previous year.

The number of ex-officio vendors was the same as in the previous year, viz., 7, and the number of licensed vendors was 80 as against 82 in the previous year.

6. INCOME-TAX

A tax on income began to be levied for the first time with effect from 1st Chingam, 1109 (1934), with the coming into force of the Cochin Income-tax Act (VIII of 1108).

The rates of income-tax now in force are: A. In the case of every individual, every Hindu undivided family, every undivided Marumakkathayam tarawad, every unregistered firm and

every other association of individuals not being a registered firm or a company—(1) where the total income is less than Rs. 2,000, nil; (2) where the total income is Rs. 2,000 or upwards but less than Rs. 5,000, 4 pies in the rupee; (3) where the total income is Rs. 5,000 or upwards but less than Rs. 10,000, 6 pies in the rupee; (4) where the total income is Rs. 10,000 or upwards but does not exceed Rs. 15,000, 7½ pies in the rupee; (5) where the total income exceeds Rs. 15,000, but less than Rs. 20,000, 10 pies in the rupee; (6) where the total income is Rs. 20,000 or upwards but less than Rs. 30,000, 12 pies in the rupee; (7) where the total income is Rs. 30,000 or upwards but less than Rs. 40,000, 14 pies in the rupee; (8) where the total income is Rs. 40,000 or upwards but less than Rs. 50,000, 16 pies in the rupee; (9) where the total income is Rs. 50,000 or upwards but less than Rs. 1,00,000, 18 pies in the rupee; (10) where the total income is 1,00,000 and upwards, 20 pies in the rupee. B. In the case of every company and registered firm, whatever its total income, 20 pies in the rupee.

Administrative Changes.—Although there was no change in the strength of the establishment of the Income-tax Department during the year, Government sanctioned the creation of a temporary survey staff with a view to cope with the problem of evasion of payment of tax and undertook to provide an allotment of Rs. 2,000 for the purpose in the budget of 1113. The proposal to take over the whole of the Ernakulam Anchal office building for locating the offices of the Commissioner and the Deputy Commissioner having been dropped, it was decided to locate the Deputy Commissioner's office in the upstairs portion of the Anchal Office building and the Commissioner's office in the western block of the Staff Quarters buildings.

Changes in Law.—Several important notifications affecting the assessment and collection of income-tax were issued by Government during the year under report. One of these related to exemption from tax of interest on provident fund contributions and accumulations up to six percent, and another to a similar exemption in respect of customary fees levied by traders from their customers for charitable purposes and of the income derived by the members of the Cochin Royal Family and the

Cranganur Chief from all sources except salary, profession and business. It was also notified during the year that only foreign associations having the characteristics of a company should be treated as companies for the purpose of the Income-tax Act. Besides, by another notification, assessees were given the right to appeal against orders refusing to grant relief against double tax in Cochin and British India. Better facilities to assessees to make payments and to claim refunds were also provided.

Moreover, with a view to enable the Chief Court to treat the reference fees deposited by assessees as part of the cost of the proceedings so that the court itself could order the refund in proper cases, an amending Bill to the Income-tax Act was introduced in the Legislative Council during the year. The Cochin Income-tax Rules were also amended and brought into line with the Indian Income-tax Rules, and to give effect to the provisions regarding recognised provident funds introduced by the Income-tax Amendment Act XXXVIII of 1931, the Cochin Income-tax Provident Fund Relief Rules were passed.

Assessees.—At the beginning of the year there were 1,341 assessees on the list, and the number rose to 1,471 by the end of the year. Classified according to taluks, Cochin-Kanayanur had 675 assessees, Mukundapuram 114, Trichur 499, Talappilli 93, Chittur 67 and Cranganur 23. Of the assessee-s, 375 were Indian Christians, 217 Tamil Brahmins, 135 Nayers, 131 Muslims, 71 Baniyas, and 255 from among all other castes together, besides 287 companies, firms, etc., not belonging to any particular community.

One thousand two hundred and forty-one assessees, other than companies, were called upon to file returns of income, and returns were filed by 1,106 of them. There were 261 companies in the list of assessees, and returns of income were filed by 260. Although accounts were called for in 1,167 cases and produced in 1,121 cases, it was possible to assess on the basis of accounts only in 530 cases.

Appeals and Reviews.—There were 263 appeals and 101 review petitions (including arrears of the previous year) for disposal, of which 209 appeals and 81 review petitions were disposed

of. As a result of these appeals and reviews, tax was reduced by Rs. 20,693.

The Chief Court had for disposal 14 cases including eight pending from the previous year, of which four were disposed of, three being decided in favour of the department and one partly in favour of the department and partly in favour of the assessee.

Demand.—The total demand for the year including tax deducted at source was Rs. 3,64,092 as against Rs. 3,22,934 in the previous year. Towards this amount, the five municipal towns contributed Rs. 3,19,653, the contribution of the rest of the State being Rs. 44,439. Among the towns, Mattancherri contributed the highest amount (Rs. 1,85,089) and Chittur the lowest (Rs. 4,535); and of the taluks, Cochin-Kanayannur's was the largest contribution (Rs. 2,46,007) and Cranganur's the smallest (Rs. 1,985). Classified according to communities, the Mohammedans contributed Rs. 69,827; Baniyas Rs. 56,449; Indian Christians, Rs. 42,308; Europeans, Rs. 41,680; other communities, Rs. 76,490; and companies, firms, etc., not belonging to any particular community, Rs. 77,338.

Companies.—There were 261 companies doing business in the State during the year, and the tax contributed by them amounted to Rs. 99,215. The number of assesseees other than companies with an income of less than Rs. 5,000 was 924 and the tax due from them was Rs. 43,473. There were only five assesseees other than companies with an income of more a lakh of rupees, and the tax contributed by them amounted to Rs. 75,668.

Coercive Steps.—Coercive steps had to be taken only in 86 cases, the assesseees having been more or less prompt in the payment of tax. Steps under the Revenue Recovery Act were taken in 61 cases including arrears of the previous year, and the tax was collected in full in 37 cases. In one case the assessment was cancelled in appeal, and accordingly action under the Act was dropped. In three cases the demand was found to be irrecoverable and written off.

Collection.—The total tax collected was Rs. 3,74,163 and the demand outstanding at the end of the year was Rs. 15,740. Deducting the refunds amounting to Rs. 45,229, the net revenue

collected was Rs. 3,28,934 as against Rs. 3,02,269 in 1111, the incidence of tax per head of population working out at 4 annas and 4.3 pies as against 3 annas and 11.2 pies in the previous year.

Expenditure.—The total expenditure of the department, excluding the statutory refunds, was Rs. 20,763, or 6.311 per cent of the net revenue.

7. ANCHAL

The Anchal service appears to have been in existence, in a primitive form, from a remote time, say, from 966 M. E. (1791 A.D.). Though it was established with the exclusive object of transmitting official communications from one station to another, it became subsequently available, by arrangement with the tapal carriers, for private correspondence. Private articles were allowed to be received and carried free of charge by the tapal runners, they being allowed to accept and carry them on their own responsibility. Mails were sent through village subordinates, or men engaged by them, till paid runners were appointed.

In 1039 M. E. (1864 A. D.) the question of improving the anchal service was first taken up by Government, and four years later rules were framed and issued, formally authorising the acceptance and transmission of private articles on payment by the parties concerned of fees to be levied on the different kinds of articles carried. As anchal stamps were unknown in those days, the fees levied were accepted as money.

The management of the anchal service rested with the Diwan till 1065 M. E. (1890 A. D.) when the post of a Superintendent was created and the department transferred to his control. Anchal Stamps and embossed envelopes were introduced in 1067 M. E. (1892 A. D.) with the introduction of Anchal stamps, articles for registration began to be accepted. For the remittance of money, anchal hundis began to be issued from 1088 M. E. (1913 A. D.), and that was followed by the introduction of the value payable system three years later. There is reciprocity in respect to anchal service between Cochin and Travancore, so that articles and money can be transmitted from any place in Cochin to any place in Travancore, and *vice versa*.

The Anchal Department was amalgamated with the Registration Department in the latter half of the year under report. A non-delivery branch anchal office was opened at Cherpu in the year, and the term of the branch anchal offices at Thevara, Perumanoor, Kunnamku'am City and Koonamoochi was extended till the end of 1113.

Including those in Cranganur, there were 76 anchal offices at the end of the year as against 75 in 1111. Of these, six were taluk, 29 sub and 41 branch (36 permanent and five experimental) anchal offices. There were 144 letter boxes at the beginning of the year; seven were newly planted and one removed, so that the total at the close of the year was 150. The total length of the mail lines was 399½ miles as against 398½ miles at the beginning of the year. To add to the convenience of the public, the C. S. In mail was arranged during the year to be conveyed from Shoranur by the first train instead of by the fast passenger. This arrangement resulted in an earlier delivery of the mails at all the anchal offices.

The total number of ordinary and registered articles carried by anchal during the year was 4,636,529 and 143,037, respectively. Of these, 993,983 ordinary and 36,690 registered were Government articles.

Hundis issued during the year from the anchal offices in the State, inclusive of Cranganur, numbered 67,124 (of the aggregate value of Rs. 6,21,617) as against 64,372 (of the value of Rs. 5,95,173) in the previous year. The anchal offices paid 75,393 hundis (of the value of Rs. 6,94,056) as against 68,859 (of the value of Rs. 6,65,329) in 1111. The total number of Travancore hundis paid by the State anchal offices was 22,248 (of the value of Rs. 1,94,627) as against 17,553 hundis (of the value of Rs. 1,80,858) in the previous year. The total number of Cochin hundis paid in Travancore during the year was 13,445 (of the value of Rs. 1,22,828) as against 12,173 (of the value of Rs. 1,08,663) in 1111. The excess amount paid by the State and Cranganur anchal offices on account of Travancore hundis over those issued by them on Travancore during the year was, therefore, Rs. 71,799.

The reciprocal value payable system which was introduced between Cochin and Travancore in 1096 continued during the year under report. Two thousand eight hundred and fourteen registered V. P. articles were posted in the State anchal offices and ten in the Cranganur anchal offices.

Eighty-nine complaints were received during the year as against 77 in 1111. Including the eight complaints pending disposal at the beginning of the year, the total number for disposal was 97, out of which all except six were disposed of.

Newspapers and magazines which were registered or whose registration was renewed during the year for transmission at the reduced rate of postage numbered 44 as against 52 in the previous year.

Instances of temporary misappropriation of cash balance were detected in four anchal offices, and the delinquents concerned were adequately dealt with departmentally. A few other minor offences noticed were also dealt with by the department.

The total collections of the department, including those of Cranganur, amounted to Rs. 1,27,872 as against Rs. 1,24,931 in the previous year, while the total expenditure, including that of Cranganur, was Rs. 98,534 as against Rs. 93,188 in 1111. The working of the department resulted thus in a net surplus of Rs. 29,338 as against Rs. 31,743 in 1111.

8. RAILWAY

The gross earnings of the State Railway, which continued to be worked by the South Indian Railway Company, amounted to Rs. 16,60,272 as against Rs. 17,27,334 in 1111, the respective budget and revised estimate figures being Rs. 18,00,000 and Rs. 16,60,272. The working expenses, excluding adjustment on account of meter gauge imprest stores but including the company's profits during the year, were Rs. 11,70,794. The net receipts amounted, therefore, to Rs. 4,89,478, the percentage of net receipts to gross earnings and capital outlay being 29.5 and 4.57, respectively, as against 28.0 and 4.61 in the previous year.

The following statement shows the net earnings on account of the Railway and the percentage in the capital expenditure for the past five years:

Year	Capital expenditure Rs.	Net earnings Rs.	Percentage on booked capital
1932	76,34,560	4,98,538	6.14
1933	76,31,023	5,32,795	6.98
1934	1,06,08,205	5,43,493	5.12
1935	1,04,81,612	4,83,725	4.61
1936	1,07,02,375	4,89,478	4.57

9. CUSTOMS

There was a large fall under customs revenue during the year under report, the amount realised being only Rs. 19,00,000 as against Rs. 25,10,481 in 1111.

CHAPTER V

JUSTICE AND CRIME

1. CIVIL JUSTICE

Two District Courts, seven Munsiffs' Courts and 35 (23 Group and 12 Single) Panchayat Courts exercised original civil jurisdiction during the year. The additional Munsiff's Court working at Vadakkancheri was shifted to Trichur from 16th Vrischigam, 1112.

The courts had for disposal 23,601 suits and 1,163 appeals as against 25,064 suits and 1,371 appeals during the previous year. Of these, 18,715 suits and 516 appeals were disposed of, as against 20,168 suits and 797 appeals in 1111. While the aggregate value of suits filed in the year amounted to Rs. 56,62,490 as against Rs. 60,87,800 in the previous year, the value of appeals filed was Rs. 4,45,046 as against Rs. 4,51,696 in the previous year.

Munsiffs' Courts.—The Munsiffs' Courts received in the year 6,244 original suits and 6,461 small cause suits including cases filed under the Tenancy Act. Adding these to the previous year's balance of 2,003 original suits and 1,039 small causes inclusive of tenancy cases, the courts had, on the whole, 8,247 original suits and 7,500 small causes for disposal. Of these, 6,424 original suits and 6,775 small cause suits were disposed of during the year, leaving a balance of 1,823 original suits and 725 small causes. Among the cases disposed of, 2,632 original suits and 1,136 small causes were contested. Of the cases left undisposed of, 103 original suits were above one year old, 248 were between six and twelve months, 406 were between three and six months and the remaining 1,066 were below three months. Cases over one year old under small causes were one; between six and twelve months, 18; between three and six months, 63; and those below three months, 643. Only the District Munsiffs of Cochin, Irinjalakuda and Cranganur were able to reduce the average duration of cases; in almost all the other courts it had gone up.

Appealable decisions passed in the year by the Munsiffs were 6,110, as against 5,796 in 1111. Of these, 2,362 were disposed of after regular contest as against 2,632 in the previous year. Appeals preferred in the year were 388, and the decisions confirmed were 171, the percentage of confirmation being 53—practically the same as in 1111.

Panchayat Courts.—The Panchayat Courts had for disposal 7,060 cases as against 7,214 in the previous year. Of these, they disposed of 5,189 cases, leaving 1,871 pending disposal, as against 5,782 and 1,432, respectively, in the previous year. The value of suits instituted in the Panchayat Courts during the year amounted to Rs. 97,821 as against Rs. 1,08,128 in the previous year.

District Courts.—The District Judges had for disposal 762 original suits and 32 cases under the Tenancy Act, as against 748 and 34, respectively, in 1111. Of these they disposed of 307 original suits and 20 suits under the Tenancy Act, leaving a balance of 455 original suits and 12 tenancy suits, as against 411 and 11, respectively, in the previous year. Of the 455 original suits pending disposal, three were over seven years old, one over six years, five over four years, 19 over three years, 52 over two years, 115 over one year and 260 below one year. The average duration of contested cases disposed of by the District Judge of Anjikaimal rose from 359 days in the previous year to 428 days in the year under report, and that in the Trichur District Court from 498 days to 647 days.

Including the previous balance of 344 appeals, the District Judges had for disposal 732 appeals, of which 324 were disposed of, leaving 408 pending disposal, the corresponding figures for the previous year being 929, 585, and 344, respectively. Of the 408 appeals left undisposed of, two were over four years, eight were over two years, 86 were over one year and 312 below one year. The average duration of contested appeals disposed of by the Anjikaimal District Judge rose from 287 days in the previous year to 358 days in the year under report, while that in the Trichur District Court fell from 395.6 days to 385 days.

The Chief Court.—The Chief Court had for disposal 431 appeals (152 regular appeals and 279 second appeals), of which 192 (65 regular appeals and 127 second appeals) were disposed

of, leaving 239 (87 regular appeals and 152 second appeals) pending disposal at the close of the year. The corresponding figures for the previous year were 442, 212 and 230, respectively. Cases decided after contest numbered 176 as against 184 in the previous year. Decisions of the lower courts were confirmed in 34 regular appeals and 85 second appeals, as against 43 and 57, respectively, in 1111, the percentage of confirmation in regular appeals and second appeals being 52 and 67 as against 50·6 and 44·8, respectively, in the previous year. Of the 87 regular appeals and 152 second appeals left undisposed of, 19 regular appeals and 31 second appeals were over one year old. The average duration of contested regular appeals disposed of rose from 242 days to 310 days in the year under report, and that of second appeals also rose to 427 days from 242 days in the previous year. The increase in the average duration was due to the disposal of some old appeals stayed under the Proclamation regarding the Tenancy Bill.

Execution Petitions, etc.—The Munsiffs had for disposal 38,853 applications for execution of decrees inclusive of the previous year's balance of 6,453 applications. Of these, they disposed of 31,129 applications, leaving 7,724 pending disposal at the end of the year. Satisfaction was obtained in full in 2,344 and in part in 1,378 cases.

The District Judges had for disposal 1,565 applications for execution of decrees, of which 911 were disposed of, leaving 655 pending disposal. Satisfaction in full was obtained in 132 cases and in part in 87 cases.

Including the previous balance of 11 persons undergoing incarceration in the civil jail, the total number imprisoned in the year was 114, of whom 107 were released, leaving seven under detention at the close of the year.

The Panchayat Courts had for disposal in the year 7,806 execution petitions, of which 5,944 were disposed of, leaving 1,862 pending disposal.

The District Judges had 186 land acquisition cases for disposal, of which they disposed of 94, leaving 92 pending disposal, as against 191, 110 and 81, respectively, in 1111. They had also for disposal 242 insolvency petitions, of which they disposed

of 149, leaving 93 pending disposal, as against 221, 119 and 102, respectively, in the previous year. Besides, they had for disposal 76 appeals from orders inclusive of the 13 remaining over from the previous year. Of these, 57 were disposed of, leaving 19 pending at the close of the year. The corresponding figures for the previous year were 65, 52 and 13, respectively.

The Chief Court had for disposal 181 revision petitions, of which 137 were disposed of, leaving 44 pending disposal, as against 191, 124 and 67, respectively, in the previous year. They had also 451 miscellaneous petitions for disposal, of which 390 were disposed of, leaving 61 pending disposal, as against 516, 436 and 80, respectively, in the previous year. Moreover, the Chief Court had for disposal 79 miscellaneous appeals, of which 53 were disposed of, leaving 26 pending disposal, as against 88, 60 and 28, respectively, in the previous year.

Inspection.—The two District Courts were inspected in the year by Mr. Justice V. D. Ouseph (now Chief Judge), and reports regarding the working of these courts were forwarded to Government. He visited some of the Munsiffs' Courts also while in camp. All the Munsiffs' Courts were inspected by the District Judges during the year, and the notes of inspection received in the Chief Court were reviewed and copies thereof were forwarded to Government. The conduct of the subordinates was generally satisfactory.

Receipts and Expenditure.—The receipts and expenditure of the Civil Justice Department in the year were Rs. 3,82,251 and Rs. 2,08,519 as against Rs. 4,22,415 and Rs. 2,10,680, respectively, in the previous year.

2. CRIMINAL JUSTICE

There were two Sessions Judges, one District Magistrate and seven subordinate Magistrates exercising criminal jurisdiction during the year.

Magistrates' Courts.—Including the 272 cases pending at the beginning of the year, the Magistrates had for disposal 3,609 cases, of which 3,288 were disposed of, leaving a balance of 321. The corresponding figures for the previous year were 3,587, 3,315 and 272, respectively. Of the 3,337 cases actually filed during the year, 1,564 were under Special Laws and 1,771 under the Penal Code as against 1,634 and 1,953, respectively, in 1111.

The Bench Magistrates had for disposal 3,345 cases, of which they disposed of 2,538, leaving 807 cases pending at the end of the year, as against 3,184, 2,234 and 950, respectively, in 1111.

Inclusive of the 656 persons involved in cases pending from the previous year, the Magistrates had for trial 6,310 persons of whom four died or escaped. Thus 6,306 persons were brought for trial before the Magistrates as against 5,904 in the previous year. Of the 5,432 persons actually tried, 3,385 were either discharged or acquitted, 1,926 were convicted, 70 were committed to sessions courts and 51 were otherwise dealt with. Of the total number of convictions (1,926), 105 were awarded simple imprisonment, 384 were sentenced to rigorous imprisonment, 20 to imprisonment with fine, 1,350 to fine only, 49 to whipping and 18 were released on probation for good conduct under Section 455 of the Criminal Procedure Code. Of those sentenced to whipping, 25 were juvenile offenders as against 15 in the previous year, and the punishment of whipping was awarded to seven persons in addition to other punishment. In seven cases the complainants were ordered to pay compensation to the accused under Section 226 of the Criminal Procedure Code.

The total amount of fine imposed in the year by the several Magistrates except the Sub-Magistrate of Cranganur was Rs. 9,880 as against Rs. 13,484 in the previous year. This, together with the balance of Rs. 3,125 pending realisation at the beginning of the year, made a total of Rs. 13,005, of which Rs. 8,707 was collected in the year, Rs. 2,295 written off and Rs. 191 cancelled in appeal. Hence the amount pending realisation at the end of the year was Rs. 1,812.

District Magistrate's Court.—Including the 12 appeals pending from the previous year, the District Magistrate had for disposal 99 appeals involving 198 persons, of which 85 appeals involving 169 persons were disposed of, leaving 14 appeals involving 29 persons as against 12 appeals involving 25 persons in the previous year. Appealable sentences were passed by the subordinate Magistrates on 1,823 persons, of whom 173 preferred appeals. In the case of 114 persons, the sentences of the lower courts were confirmed, the percentage of confirmation being 67 as

against 69 in 1111. The average duration of appeals disposed of was 87 days as against 67 days in the previous year.

The District Magistrate had also for disposal 16 revision petitions involving 25 persons, of which 14 petitions involving 19 persons were disposed of, leaving two petitions involving six persons pending disposal at the end of the year as against two petitions involving two persons in the previous year. Three thousand and fifty-six calendars were received by the District Magistrate as against 3,151 in the previous year; of these, 93 were returned with remarks, and in two records were called for and perused.

Sessions Courts.—The Sessions Judges had for disposal in the year 64 sessions cases, including the 13 cases pending from the previous year, as against 56 in 1111. Sixty of these cases were disposed of, leaving four cases pending, as against 43 and 13, respectively, in the previous year. Of the 93 persons concerned in the cases disposed of, 28 were acquitted and 65 were convicted. Sentences of imprisonment for life were passed on 19 persons, and these were referred to the Chief Court for confirmation. The average duration of cases between commitment and disposal was 27 days in the Anjikaimal Sessions Court and 40 days in the Trichur Sessions Court, as against 41 days and 75·7 days, respectively, in 1111.

The Sessions Judges had for disposal 33 appeals, of which they disposed of 32, leaving one appeal pending disposal in the Anjikaimal Sessions Court. Appealable sentences were passed by first class Magistrates on 91 persons, of whom 56 preferred appeals. The appeals of 52 persons were disposed of in the year. The sentences appealed against were confirmed in the case of 30 persons, modified in the case of 10 and reversed in the case of 12. The percentage of confirmation was 58 as against 50 in the previous year. The average duration of appeals disposed of fell from 43 days in the previous year to 37 days in the year under report in the Anjikaimal Sessions Court and from 55·6 days to 52·4 in the Trichur Sessions Court.

Including the three revision petitions involving 11 persons pending from the previous year, the Sessions Judges had for

disposal 13 petitions involving 36 persons, of which 11 petitions involving 32 persons were disposed of, leaving two petitions involving 4 persons pending disposal at the end of the year. The sentences sought to be revised were upheld in the case of 22 persons, and new trial or further enquiry was ordered in the case of 10 persons. Of miscellaneous petitions the Sessions Judges had 82 for disposal, of which 81 were disposed of during the year.

Chief Court.—Seventeen referred trials, inclusive of the two pending at the beginning of the year, involving 18 persons, came up before the Chief Court for confirmation of sentences of imprisonment for life passed by Sessions Judges. All the cases were disposed of in the year. Sixteen persons were convicted, one was acquitted, and in the case of the other a retrial was ordered. Of those convicted, the sentence of imprisonment for life was reduced to periods not exceeding three years in the case of three persons and confirmed in the case of 13 persons.

Including eight appeals involving 20 persons pending from the previous year, the Chief Court had for disposal 47 appeals involving 67 persons. All of them were disposed of during the year. The sentences of the lower courts were confirmed in the case of 32 persons, modified in the case of 10, reversed in the case of 24, and a retrial was ordered in the case of the remaining one person. The percentage of confirmation was 48 as against 28 in the previous year. The average duration of appeals disposed of was 28·5 days as against 73·6 days in the previous year.

The Chief Court had also for disposal 51 revision petitions, of which 47 were disposed of, leaving four pending disposal, as against 63, 49 and 14, respectively, in the previous year. Of the 75 persons concerned in the cases disposed of, the orders sought to be revised were confirmed in the case of 61 persons, modified in the case of five and reversed in the case of six. Acquittal was reversed in the case of two and new trial was ordered in the case of another.

Miscellaneous Proceedings.—Including the previous balance of 43 cases (involving 64 persons) under the preventive sections

of the Criminal Procedure Code, the Magistrates had for disposal 196 cases (involving 309 persons) as against 319 cases (involving 507 persons) in the previous year. Of these, 164 cases (involving 207 persons) were disposed of in the year, leaving 32 cases (involving 39 persons). Of the cases pending disposal (involving five persons), one related to proceedings to prevent breach of the peace, three (involving three persons) to furnish security for good behaviour, seven (involving eight persons) to disputed possession of property, 13 (involving 13 persons) to maintenance and eight (involving ten persons) to forfeiture of bail, etc.

Extradition.—Forty-one persons were surrendered to the State on extradition warrants during the year. Of these, 32 persons were from British India and nine were from Travancore. The trial of all except two extradited from British India was completed during the year.

Inspection.—All the Magistrates' Courts were inspected by the District Magistrate and the notes of inspection were submitted to the Chief Court. All of them were reviewed by the Chief Court and copies of the reviews were sent to Government. The conduct of the subordinate staff was satisfactory, and the relation between the police and the magistracy continued to be cordial.

Expenditure.—The expenditure on the department amounted to Rs. 75,781 as against Rs. 73,601 in 1111.

ARMS AND AMMUNITION

Licences issued for the import of arms and ammunition during the year numbered 33 as against 45 in 1111. Besides, 121 licences for dealing in arms and ammunition and for the manufacture and sale of fireworks were issued.

Including the one case against two persons pending at the end of the previous year, there were seven prosecutions against eight persons under the Arms Act during the year. Of these, five cases against five persons were disposed of, three of the five persons tried being convicted and two discharged.

The taking of a census of arms continued throughout the year. All the weapons held under licences which were not verified in the previous years were duly verified in the year, and weapons deposited in police stations and Magistrates' Courts were also verified. The whereabouts of almost all the missing weapons were traced out. The total number of weapons mustered in the year was 34.

About 500 weapons, including pistols, revolvers and breech-loaders, were in deposit in the several Magistrates' Courts and police stations, as the licensees were unable to pay the prescribed fees on account of the present economic depression.

The Arms Rules were got reprinted during the year, and certain amendments to the Arms Act were also introduced by the Cochin Arms (Amendment) Act, XXXIV of 1112. Besides, some additions were made to the entries in Schedule I.

PETROLEUM

It was decided by Government during the year to repeal the Petroleum Act, III of 1084, and to bring into force the new Petroleum Act, XXXVI of 1112, with effect from 1st Chingam, 1113.

The number of storage and general transport licences issued under the Petroleum Act during the year was 80 as against 103 in the previous year. The licence fees realised under these two items amounted to Rs. 2,755 as against Rs. 3,813 in 1111. The decrease in the amount of licence fees realised was due to the decrease in the number of applications for licences during the year, and also to the closing of all business by the agents of the Western India Oil Co., Ltd. There were no prosecutions under the Act during the year.

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CHAPTER VI

LEGISLATION

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

The Cochin Legislative Council was brought into existence by a Proclamation issued by His Highness the late Maharaja on 17th Vrischigam, 1096 (1920). Before the Council was inaugurated, there was no special legislative machinery in the State, except certain committees appointed now and then to help the Government in drafting bills. The usual procedure was that, whenever the Diwan thought legislation necessary on any subject, he called upon the Government Advocate, or any other officer he chose, to draft a bill on the lines indicated by him. On receipt of the draft bill, it was published in the Government Gazette for public criticism. Subsequently, after making such revisions as he thought necessary, the assent of His Highness would be taken and the bill would be enacted into law. Laws were also passed in the form of Proclamations issued by His Highness.

After the passing of the Cochin Legislative Council Act (VIII of 1098) and the inauguration of the Council itself by His Highness the Maharaja in Meenam 1100 (April 1925), the Council became the legislative machinery for passing laws. The Council was set up by His Highness the late Maharaja with a view to associate the people more and more with the administration of the State. The first Council consisted of 45 members—30 elected and 15 nominated. The franchise was based upon property qualification, and, in addition to general constituencies, certain special constituencies also were created to represent interests like those of landholders, planters, industrialists, etc.

Excepting on subjects relating to (1) the Ruling Family of Cochin; (2) the relations of the Government with the Paramount Power or with foreign Princes or States; (3) matters governed by treaties, conventions or agreements in force or hereafter to be made by the Government with the Paramount Power; (4) extradition

of criminals; (5) European vagrants; (6) European British subjects; (7) the regulation of affairs relating to seaports; (8) Imperial Post Office and Telegraph and Railways; (9) the Military forces, including the Nayar Brigade, and His Highness' Body Guard; (10) coinage or legal tender; (11) State charities; (12) Devaswams belonging to or under the control of the Government; and (13) the provisions of the Legislative Council Act, the Council has been allowed, from the very beginning, not only to introduce bills, but also to elicit information from Government on matters of public importance by means of interpellations, to move resolutions, to discuss and vote on the budget demands before the budget is finally passed by Government. It has also been allowed the privilege of moving the adjournment of the House in order to call the attention of the Government to any urgent matter of public importance.

On the occasion of the installation on the *musnad*, in January 1932, of His Highness the present Maharaja, His Highness announced his intention to extend the franchise for the Council by lowering the qualifications for the voters, to increase the privileges and responsibilities of the Council by conferring on it the right of electing its own Deputy President, and to extend to all the members of the Council the right to put supplementary questions. This intention was implemented by promulgating the necessary amendments to the rules. The strength of the Council was also increased to 36 elected members and 18 nominated members.

In 1935, as a further step in the direction of constitutional reforms, four Standing Advisory Committees of the Legislative Council were constituted. Each of these committees consists of three members—two elected by the non-official members of the Legislative Council and one nominated from among them by Government. The nation-building departments—Education, Medical and Public Health, Co-operation, Agriculture, Panchayats, Uplift of the Depressed Classes, Industries and Commerce—are brought under the purview of these committees.

Franchise Committee.—There was no change in the constitution of the Legislative Council during the year under

report. But towards the latter part of the year, Government, in accordance with the wishes of the Council, constituted a committee to consider and report on the question of an extension of the franchise for the Council. While agreeing that the time had come for lowering the franchise qualifications, Government ordered that the committee should carefully examine the extent to which franchise should be lowered and the manner in which it should be done. The exact terms of reference were as follows: "(1) Should there be any addition to the existing qualification for voters, and, if so, what? (2) Should any or all the qualifications be lowered, and, if so, to what extent? (3) Is any redistribution of the existing constituencies necessary, and, if so, what is the redistribution that the committee would recommend?" A special direction to the committee was that in making recommendations for the redistribution of constituencies the existing number of elected seats should not be exceeded.

The committee was constituted as follows: Mr. N. R. Sahasranama Ayyar, B. A., B. L., Chief judge (on leave), Chief Court (*Chairman*); Mr. C. V. Antony, B. A., B. L., Ex-Chief Judge, Chief Court; Mr. K. Achyuta Menon, B. A., B. L., Diwan Peishkar; Mr. M. Sivarama Menon, B. A., B. L., M. L. C., Chairman, Municipal Council, Ernakulam; Mr. Ambat Sivarama Menon, B. A., B. L., Advocate, Chittur; Mr. P. C. Varkey, M. L. C.; Mr. K. Ayyappan, B. A., M. L. C.; and Dr. A. K. Kunhalu, Medical Practitioner, Ernakulam. Mr. P. V. Raphael, M. A. (Hons.), Deputy Secretary to Government, was appointed Secretary to the Committee.

The work of the committee had not concluded when the year closed.

COUNCIL AT WORK

There were four meetings of the Legislative Council in the year, lasting for 28 days on the whole. There were three sittings of five days' each of the Legislative Session, and the Budget Session covered 13 days, of which two days were exclusively set apart for the consideration of the Municipal Bill.

On the first day of the second meeting of the Legislative Session (Makaram 5), the Council passed a resolution conveying to His Majesty King George VI, Emperor of India,

loyal congratulations upon his accession to the Throne and an assurance of devotion to his Royal person. On 23rd Meenam a resolution was passed by the Council, placing on record its deep sense of sorrow at the demise of Mr. C. Achyuta Menon, for some time a member of the Council and for long one of the most distinguished public servants of the State, and conveying its respectful condolences to the members of the bereaved family.

The Diwan, as usual, addressed the Council on the opening day of the Budget Session, giving a brief account of the salient features of the administration of the State during the year and some indication of the programme of development which Government had in view. (The text of the address of the Diwan is published as Appendix V.)

Bills.—Thirty-eight Bills in all, 14 official and 24 non-official, came up before the Council during the course of the year. Of the official Bills, the following were passed by the Legislative Council: (1) The Cochin Criminal Procedure Code Amendment Bill (to amend the Code so as to bring it in a line with the Code in British India); (2) the Cochin Factories Bill (to consolidate and amend the law regulating labour in factories); (3) the Cochin Chief Court Act Amendment Bill (to empower the Chief Court to frame rules for regulating its own practice and proceedings); (4) the Cochin Village Panchayat Act Amendment Bill [Section 7 A (2)] (to regulate elections to panchayats); (5) the Cochin Boilers Bill (to consolidate and amend the law relating to steam boilers); (6) the Cochin Village Panchayat Act Amendment Bill (Section 56) (to make express provision in the Act for the purpose of paying decree amounts due under decrees passed by panchayat courts into the courts authorised to execute such decrees); (7) the Cochin Village Panchayat Act Amendment Bill (Sections 9 and 46) (to enable panchayatdars and presidents to resign their offices whether the panchayats are functioning or not and to facilitate the service of summonses and other court orders from village panchayat courts); (8) the Cochin Co-operative Societies Bill (to consolidate and amend the law on the lines of the Madras Co-operative Societies Act, VI of 1932, as amended up-to-date); (9) the Cochin Municipal Act Amendment Bill (Schedule I) (to restore the original Schedule attached

to the Municipal Act, XI of 1906, relating to companies tax); (10) the Cochin Co-operative Land Mortgage Bank Act Amendment Bill (to vest power in the Bank to treat the improvements made by the lessee as accessions to the mortgaged property and available for realisation of the mortgage amount); and (11) the Cochin Village Panchayat Act Amendment Bill (Section 5) (to extend the operation of the transitory provisions enacted by the section referred to to cover cases of presidents and members of panchayats who were elected or appointed after the Act came into force).

Of these Bills, the Criminal Procedure Code Amendment Bill, the Factories Bill, the Boilers Bill and the Co-operative Societies Bill received the assent of His Highness the Maharaja during the year itself. His Highness' assent was also received during the year to the Trade Union Bill, the Patents and Designs Bill and the Limitation Act Amendment Bill passed by the Council in previous years. Of the three other Government Bills that came up before the Council, the Police Act Amendment Bill (introduced for the purpose of providing sanctions for proceeding against certain offences coming within the purview of Section 24 (A)—nuisance section—of the Act) was rejected by the Council after discussion, the Fisheries Act Amendment Bill was referred to a Select Committee and the Municipal Bill was being considered by the Council at the close of the year.

Of the 24 non-official bills, the Kuries Act Amendment Bill, the Debt Conciliation Bill and the Village Panchayat Act Amendment Bill were passed by the Council, and all of them received the assent of His Highness the Maharaja in the year itself. The Agriculturists' Temporary Relief Bill and the Free Compulsory Primary Education Bill were negatived by the Council, the former at the stage of introduction and the latter at its final reading. Other non-official Bills were in various stages of consideration by the Council when the year closed.

Supplementary Grants.—Supplementary grants to the extent of Rs. 1,29,482 relating to various items of public expenditure were considered and voted by the Council.

Cuts on Budget Demands.—At the Budget Session, fifteen token cuts on demands for grants were effected by the Council.

Of these, five were under General Administration, one each under Land Revenue, Public Works, Village Panchayats and Education, three under Medical and three under Public Health. Under General Administration, the objects of the cuts were: to have at least one Debt Conciliation Board for the northern taluks of the State; to insist upon more attention being paid towards the welfare of the villagers; to amend the rules framed under the Debt Conciliation Act so as to make the Land Mortgage Bank and the Debt Conciliation Board more helpful to the agriculturists; to suggest the necessity for a cut in the salaries of officers drawing Rs. 100 and above per mensem; and to appoint a Council of Ministers for carrying on the administration except with regard to the Ruling Family, relations with the Paramount Power, Devaswams and grave emergencies affecting the peace and tranquillity of the State. Under Land Revenue, the cut was pressed with a view to secure a land revenue remission of at least $12\frac{1}{2}$ per cent in 1113. The inadequacy of accommodation in the Women's Hostel attached to the Maharaja's College was stressed by the token cut under Public Works. Under Medical, the reductions in allotment passed by the Council were with a view to hasten the improvement of the District Hospital at Trichur; to establish an aided dispensary at Peringottukara; and to introduce the honorary system in Government hospitals as quickly as possible. The points emphasised in connection with the cuts on the demand for Public Health were the exemption of professional fishermen from the licence fee collected by the department; the giving of a 50 per cent contribution to the proposed scheme of Trichur Water Works; and the handing over of sanitation and conservancy work in panchayat areas to the respective panchayats. The token cut under Village Panchayats was to bring to the notice of Government "the delay in constituting panchayat courts and the very great inconvenience caused to the public on account of it." Under Education, the allotment for establishment was reduced by Re. 1 to urge upon Government the need for giving grants at least to all the primary schools started in 1110 or earlier or additional classes or divisions opened during that period. Since all the cuts were in the nature of token motions, none of them was restored.

Interpellations.—The total number of questions received in the year for all the meetings together was 1,000. Of these, 101 questions were disallowed, and of the remaining 899 questions 670 were answered during the year.

Resolutions.—Resolutions tabled for discussion during the year numbered 188. Of these, six were accepted by Government in Council, three carried, three negatived and 24 withdrawn after discussion. Of the remaining 152 resolutions, 29 were not moved and the rest lapsed for want of time.

Resolutions accepted by Government recommended that no original works not provided for in the budget should be undertaken as far as possible without the sanction of the Council; that a proviso be added to Standing Order No. 1 to make students eligible for University course with 40 per cent of marks in English eligible for public service if they pass one part of the Intermediate examination; that in reporting judgments of the Chief Court the main arguments be also reported; that retrenchment wherever possible be effected in the various departments; that the various Proclamations, Regulations and Rules be consolidated and published in a series of volumes; and that the Proclamations be numbered. Those carried by the Council urged the shifting of the Lower Secondary Girls' School, Jew Town, Mattancherri, to another place; the constitution of an irrigation board for the whole State; and the initiation of effective steps to alleviate the suffering caused by unemployment. Resolutions suggesting the revision of the grade of pay of the P. W. D. Work Superintendents to Rs. 25—40—60, the remission of land tax by 25 per cent in 1113, and the construction of a bridge over the Manali river in Kozhukully village were rejected by the Council. Various issues were raised by the resolutions eventually withdrawn, such as the starting of rural reconstruction farms in suitable centres, starting of more libraries by stopping increased grants to collegiate education, execution of all irrigation schemes where investigations have been completed, formation of committees to report on the scope of starting industries in the State, taking of steps to stop the anti-Indian and anti-Malayalee agitation in Ceylon, etc., etc.

Amendments to Standing Orders.—The amendment of Standing Order Nos. 31 and 32 proposed by Government and the report of the Select Committee on an amendment to Standing Order No. 12 came up for consideration, and both of them were passed by the House. The amendment proposed by Government was approved, while the other was disallowed by Government during the year itself. The amendments approved by Government are as follows:

“1. Delete clause (4) of Standing Order 31 and substitute for it the following:—

‘(4) (a). The Member in charge or any other member may then immediately move—

(1) that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee composed of such members as he may specify in his motion; or

(2) that it be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon by a date to be specified in the motion.

(b) If any member moves that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee, any other member may move as an amendment that the Bill be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon by a date to be specified in the motion’.

2. Delete clause (5) of S. O. No. 31 and introduce the following as clause (5) of that Standing Order:—

‘(5). If the Council agrees to the motion for referring the Bill to a Select Committee it shall appoint the Committee and may direct that its report shall be submitted within a specified period. The Committee shall not as a rule exceed seven in number’.

3. Introduce the following as clause (6) after clause (5) in S. O. No. 31:—

‘(6). Where a motion that a Bill be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon is carried and the Bill is circulated in accordance with that direction and opinions are received thereon, the member in charge, if he wishes to proceed with his Bill thereafter, must move that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee, unless the President, in the exercise of his power to suspend this Standing Order, allows a motion to be made that the Bill be taken into consideration.’

4. Delete Standing Order 32 and substitute for it the following:—

‘32. If no motion for referring the Bill to a Select Committee or for circulating it for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon is made under

clause (4) of the preceding Standing Order, or if such a motion is made and negatived, the member in charge shall not move that the Bill be taken into consideration until the expiration of fifteen clear days from the date on which the Bill was read under clause (3) of the preceding Standing Order.

Provided that the President may in his discretion suspend the Standing Order and allow the motion to be made at once or before the expiration of fifteen clear days."

The amendment to Standing Order 12 disallowed was as follows:

"A member desiring to give preference to a question or questions put by him may make a star mark against every such question provided that the number of such questions put by the member for a particular session shall not exceed the number of days in that session. Preference in answering will be given, as far as possible, to such questions over unstarred questions."

Adjournment Motions.--In all 22 adjournment motions were tabled for discussion during the course of the year. Two of these motions related to alleged delay on the part of Government in carrying the Municipal Bill through its various stages: both the motions were discussed together and eventually turned down by the Council. The fire accident at Ernakulam formed the subject matter of three adjournment motions: they were taken up together and withdrawn after discussion. On the question of the prohibition of public meetings at Trichur by the District Magistrate, two more or less identical adjournment motions were moved on 8th Vrischigam, but the Council refused to grant leave to discuss them. Another adjournment motion regarding the suspension of a schoolmaster without assigning reasons was moved; but it was withdrawn when the Government explained their position. The remaining fourteen adjournment motions were ruled out of order.

LAW COMMISSION

The Law Commission, which was constituted on 19th Dhanu, 1111 (January 1936), to consolidate and codify the laws of the State and bring them up-to-date, continued its work during the year. Drafts of 34 enactments were prepared and submitted, of which 15 were drafts proposing to amend existing enactments and the rest were drafts of fresh enactments. Including the previous year's figure, the total number of drafts proposed by the Commission, therefore, came to 87. On 84 of

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these drafts final orders were passed by Government during the year. While 62 drafts were approved by Government, 22 were considered as appertaining to personal law and as such fit for consideration by the Legislative Council if and when occasions arose. The remaining three drafts were pending consideration.

Fifty-seven of the approved drafts obtained the assent of His Highness and became part of the statute law of the State before the end of the year. Inclusive of the enactments passed by the Legislative Council, the total number of enactments placed on the statute book during the year, therefore, was 73.

Maritime legislation, mercantile legislation, labour legislation, and criminal legislation were the major heads under which most of the enactments were passed.

Under orders of Government, the rules and notifications under the Passport Act and the Partnership Act were drafted by the Law Commissioner's Office. A publication entitled "List of Regulations and Proclamations in force in Cochin arranged chronologically and alphabetically" was also prepared and made available to the public.

All the enactments of the State were consolidated by the incorporation of the amendments in appropriate places and by the addition of suitable footnotes to explain the same. Considerable progress was also made in getting the entire statute law of the State printed in five handy volumes. Besides, the work of collecting the rules and notifications issued from time to time under the various enactments was practically completed. These rules and notifications, it was decided, should be issued as companion volumes to the volumes of Acts and Proclamations.

A list of the Acts and Proclamations, as well as a list of the rules under the various Acts, issued during the year, is given as Appendix III.

At the close of the year, the following Bills were under the consideration of Government: (1) Tenancy Bill; (2) Factory Bill, (3) Boilers Bill, and (4) Criminal Procedure Code Amendment Bill. Besides these, Government had under consideration the advisability of revising or amending the laws or legislating anew in respect of the following: (1) Municipalities; (2) Suits Valuation; (3) Town Improvement; and (4) Land Acquisition.

CHAPTER VII

PROTECTION

1. POLICE

The police force in Cochin is organised after the British model. With a view to increased efficiency, several changes have been effected from time to time in the organisation and working of the department, the principle accepted by Government being that "an efficient police administration is a very important factor in every form of good government, and anything that helps to increase the efficiency is well worth the extra expenditure to achieve that end."

Reorganisation.—An important change was effected in the organisation of the Police Department during the year. With a view to cope with the increased volume of work consequent on the expansion of facilities for communication due to the development of the harbour, the conversion of the State railway into broad gauge and the increase in motor traffic, the strength of the force was increased by the appointment of two Assistant Superintendents of Police, two third grade head constables and 15 second class constables from the middle of Kumbham. The two Assistant Superintendents of Police were put in charge of two sub-divisions carved out of the two existing districts—the Anjikaimal sub-division, consisting of Mattancherri town, Cochin cusba, Cranganur and Narakkal stations; and the Trichur sub-division, consisting of Trichur town, Trichur cusba, Kunnamkulam and Oorakam stations. The two District Superintendents of Police were placed in direct charge of the remaining stations of each district and directed to supervise and control the work of the Assistant Superintendents of Police. In order to have uniformity in the grade of all Assistant Superintendents of Police, the post of the Assistant Superintendent of Police in charge of the Criminal Intelligence Bureau, which carried a fixed pay, was converted into a graded one on a par with that of the other Assistant Superintendents of Police.

Strength of the Force.—The sanctioned strength of 113 officers and 573 men (inclusive of the armed reserve, the police force stationed in the principality of Cranganur and the traffic staff) was maintained during the year in addition to the newly appointed staff of four officers and 15 men. Since the staff actually employed for executive work was, however, only 116 officers and 566 men, the ratio of effective police to population and area worked out at 1 to 1765·74 persons and 1 to 2·08 square miles. Twenty-eight recruits (including five school finals and one graduate) were enlisted during the year. As usual, literacy, smart appearance, good physique, character and antecedents and due regard to communal representation were the guiding factors in their selection.

Good service entries were awarded to seven inspectors, six head constables, and five constables, and money awards to the aggregate value of Rs. 193 were given to certain members of the force for creditable work. Smart and good work in the case of two constables was rewarded with grade promotions also during the year. The number of punishments meted out to the members of the force was 124 as against 150 in the previous year. There was no departmental prosecution against any member of the force. Fifteen complaints were filed by the public against 21 members of the force, and of these all but two cases were disposed of during the year. The officers accused were discharged in all the cases.

The full strength of the armed reserve, viz., two sergeants, eight head constables, 100 constables, one gymnastic instructor, two buglers and two armourers, under a European Superintendent, continued to be maintained during the year under proper discipline. The new muskets got down during the previous year according to the rearmament programme was distributed to the various stations and the old ones got back and destroyed. Arrangements were also made to give the district men training in the use of new arms.

Offences and Crimes.—Including 26 cases that were pending at the beginning of the year, the police had 907 cases for investigation, of which 765 were under the Penal Code and 142 under Special Laws. Besides these, there were also 308 cases

put up before the Bench Courts under the Nuisance Act for summary trial. Of the 907 cases that the police had for investigation, 878 were disposed of and the remaining 29 cases were pending investigation. The percentage of disposal was 95·7 as against 97·8 in the previous year.

The courts had for disposal 888 cases including 131 cases pending at the beginning of the year. Of these, 738 cases were disposed of, leaving a balance of 150 cases pending trial. The percentage of conviction was 94·9 as against 96·2 and 93, respectively, in 1111 and 1110. The average duration of charged cases, as a whole, was 16·2 as against 16·7 in 1111 and that of charged and referred cases under the Penal Code was 17·3 and 32·9 as against 14·9 and 28·3, respectively, in the previous year.

Grave crimes reported and charged during the year numbered 378 and 300, respectively, as against 377 and 308 in 1111. Seventeen of these were murder cases, and, as a result of investigations into these together with the one outstanding from the previous year, 17 were detected and charged, there being only one case pending investigation when the year closed. Including seven cases of the previous year, there were, therefore, 24 murder cases for disposal by courts. Of these, 16 were disposed of, 14 ending in conviction and two in acquittal. The remaining eight cases were pending trial. Of the 17 cases of murder reported during the year, five were cases of infanticide, and in four of them the unwanted children were killed by the mothers and in the other by the illegitimate father. There was only one case reported of murder for gain, the rest being due either to insanity, or to sex jealousy or to sudden provocation.

Of the 299 cases of grave crimes disposed of by the courts, 288 were convicted, the percentage of conviction being 96·3 as against 97·3 in 1111 and 95 in 1110. There was an increase of 36 cases of house-break with theft over the figure for the previous year, but this was mainly the result of a more careful registration of cases.

The total value of the property lost in cases reported to the police was Rs. 7,746 as against Rs. 7,700 in 1111 and Rs. 6,142 in 1110. The amount recovered was Rs. 4,616, the percentage of recovery being 60 as against 59 in 1111 and 66 in 1110.

Security Proceedings.—Proceedings under the security sections of the Criminal Procedure Code were instituted against nine persons (nine cases). Three cases against ten persons were pending in the courts at the beginning of the year. Eight cases against 12 persons were disposed of, the charge against four persons being withdrawn and the rest being bound over. The remaining four cases against seven persons were pending disposal at the end of the year.

There were three cases of escape from police custody, but the accused in all the three cases were re-arrested immediately, charged and convicted. Accidental deaths and suicides reported during the year numbered 288 and 71, respectively, as against 292 and 87 in 1111.

Finger Print and Criminal Intelligence Bureaus.—Nine hundred and sixty-two slips were received for search at the Finger Print Bureau during the year, of which 74 were traced, as against 426 and 85, respectively, during the previous year. Four hundred and eighty-eight slips were received for record during the year as against 369 in the previous year.

Twelve criminals were newly registered in the Criminal Intelligence Bureau during the year, thus bringing the total number of registrations to 132. The weekly crime and occurrence sheet continued to be printed, published and circulated as before. The sheets were given to the police of the neighbouring districts and their sheets were received in exchange.

Vigilance Committees.—The introduction of village vigilance committees has produced good results. Besides creating a better understanding between the police and the public, which is so essential for successful work, the police have been getting substantial help from the members. There were 264 village vigilance committees at the end of the year, including the 208 organised in the previous year.

Motor Vehicles.—One hundred and forty-six motor vehicles were registered during the year, thus bringing the total

of registrations at the end of the year to 1,637. Of these, 97 were cases of re-registration. Three hundred and eight motor vehicles were licensed to run for hire during the year; 942 licences were issued to drivers, out of which 78 were fresh licences and the rest renewals. Fifty-eight conductors' pass books were issued till the end of Edavam when the system of issuing licences, instead of pass books, was introduced, and consequently the conductors had to take out licences. Two hundred and seventy-four conductors' licences were accordingly issued during the latter part of the year. The total fees realised under the various heads, viz., registration, licences, G. permits, brake certificates, conductors' pass books, etc., came to Rs. 16,437, as against Rs. 15,598 in the previous year. Five hundred and ninety-eight cases of violation of motor vehicles rules were departmentally dealt with during the year as against 404 in 1111.

Motor accidents reported during the year numbered 71, involving loss of life to eight persons and injuries to 63. Compared with the previous year, the number of accidents increased by 12, and the majority of the accidents were from private cars. Steps were taken during the year to enforce greater control so as to check rash and reckless driving of cars and buses; besides, in order to infuse a proper road sense in the minds of the public as well as of the drivers, more than a thousand copies of the Malayalam translation of the *Indian Highway Code*, published by the Safety First Association of India, were got printed and distributed.

Expenditure.—The total expenditure on the department, including Cranganur, amounted to Rs. 2,31,051 during the year as against Rs. 2,39,668 in 1111. The average cost of a policeman and the net cost per head of population on this account came to Rs. 328 and 3·07 annas as against Rs. 349 and 3·2 annas, respectively, in 1111.

2. MILITARY

The State military force is composed of two sections—(1) Military proper consisting of (a) the Nayar Brigade, Infantry and Artillery, and (b) His Highness's Bodyguard, and (2) the State Band.

Including the infantry and the artillery, the actual strength of the Nayar Brigade at the end of the year was 31 officers and

371 men (excluding non-combatants). The services of the Brigade were utilised mainly as guards for treasuries, palaces, temples and other important Government public buildings and also for escort purposes.

During the year, Lieut. C. R. Mannadiar, Aide-de-Camp to His Highness the Maharaja, was appointed as Honorary Staff Officer of the Nayar Brigade.

His Highness's Bodyguard consisted of one jamadar, one havildar major, one havildar, one naick, one lance naick, 12 troopers, 10 syces and a store-keeper. One of the seven remounts purchased and got trained in 1111 died during the year.

In pursuance of the rearmament scheme, new .410 bore muskets were issued in place of the old .476 bore carbines and the muzzle loading weapons to all the men during the year.

There was no change in the organisation of the State Band. The sanctioned strength of one bandmaster, one sergeant, one corporal, 22 musicians, and two lascars was maintained. The band, besides playing on the foreshore at Ernakulam on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays when the weather permitted, attended all the State ceremonial and private functions ordered by Government.

The total expenditure of the department was Rs. 1,16,344 as against Rs. 1,29,113 in 1111.

Strict discipline was enforced throughout the year, and the conduct of the force was generally satisfactory.

3. JAILS

There were eight jails in the State as in the previous year—the Central Jail at Viyyur and the sub-jails at Mattancherri, Ernakulam, Cranganur, Irinjalakuda, Trichur, Vadakkancheri and Chittur. While the Central Jail was in charge of a Superintendent, the sub-jails were in charge of the local Sub-Magistrates who were their ex-officio Superintendents.

While all under-trial prisoners, prisoners sentenced to imprisonment for one month and under, and civil debtors detained under orders of Panchayat Courts are usually confined in the sub-jails, prisoners sentenced to imprisonment by the criminal courts of Trichur irrespective of the duration of the term,

prisoners sentenced to imprisonment for periods exceeding one month by all the other criminal courts in the State, and all the civil prisoners committed to prison under orders of the civil courts are confined in the Central Jail at Viyyur.

Central Jail.—The permanent staff of the Central Jail consists of a superintendent, a jailor, an assistant jailor, an industrial inspector, two clerks, seven head warders in three grades, 25 warders in two grades, and one female warder. There are also a sub-assistant surgeon and a compounder attached to the Central Jail. The four temporary warders entertained in the previous year continued in service till 21st Meenam, from which date they were disbanded.

At the beginning of the year the population of the Central Jail consisted of 234 convicts, three undertrial prisoners and 14 civil debtors. New admissions during the year were 528 convicts, 39 undertrials, and 113 civil debtors. In the course of the year, 543 convicts, 41 undertrials and 119 civil debtors were discharged, leaving a balance of 219 convicts, one undertrial prisoner and eight civil debtors at the end of the year. The total number of prisoners dealt with during the year was 931 as against 869 in 1111. The daily averages of convicts, undertrials and civil debtors in the year were 221·47, 3·41 and 6·13 as against 181·96, 6·07 and 5·23, respectively, in the previous year. Of the 762 convicts (including 26 females) in the jail during the year, 58 were undergoing rigorous imprisonment for life; three, rigorous imprisonment exceeding 10 years; 12, rigorous imprisonment exceeding seven years; 102, rigorous imprisonment exceeding one year; 239, rigorous imprisonment exceeding six months; 297, rigorous imprisonment for six months and less; and 51, simple imprisonment.

The number of juveniles dealt with during the year was 21 as against 11 in the previous year. Of these, 16 were convicted for the first time, four for the second time, and one for the third time. The percentage of juveniles to the total number dealt with during the year was 2·75 as against 1·5 in the previous year. The juveniles were segregated from the adults as far as conditions in the jail permitted, and they were given instruction by one of the head warders in reading, writing and simple arithmetic and in drill.

Classified according to caste, 466 of the convicts (61·16 per cent) were Hindus, 196 (25·72 per cent) Christians, and 100 (13·12 per cent) Mohammedans; and according to occupation prior to conviction, 109 of them were agriculturists, 61 tradesmen, eight Government servants, 20 domestic servants, 109 professionals, and 455 coolies, etc. Forty-five of the convicts were imprisoned for offences against the State, public tranquillity, safety and justice; 140 for grave offences against person; 37 for minor offences against person; 279 for grave offences against person and property or property alone; 163 for minor offences against property; and 98 for offences relating to Special and Local Laws. The number of convicted persons who were classified as habituals was 177 (including 87 admitted during the year) as against 127 in the previous year.

There was an increase in the number of punishments inflicted on prisoners during the year under report as compared with the previous year, the respective figures being 66 and 43. This was due to the fact that a larger number of old offenders had to be dealt with. There was a fall, however, in the number of corporal punishments from five to three. Of the three corporal punishments awarded, one was for repeated and defiant refusal to obey orders, another for unruly and indecent behaviour, and the third for insolence and use of abusive language to prison officers and fellow prisoners.

The scale of rations and dietary articles were on the lines of those existing in British Indian jails, but the special class prisoners were provided with separate cooking arrangements. All the prisoners were supplied, as usual, with clothing and blankets made in the jail.

Forty-nine books were added to the Jail Library during the year under report, including those purchased with the donation of Rs. 15 received from the Trichur Municipality. In all, there were 763 books in the library at the end of the year. The prisoners made good use of the books.

The number of prisoners treated in the Jail Hospital was 2,687 as against 1,740 in 1935. Of these, 29 were in-patients and 2,558 out-patients as against 54 and 1,686, respectively, in the previous year. The increase in the number of out-patients was due to the outbreak of a virulent type of influenza in the second

half of the year. There was no case of death in the jail during the year under report. The average weight of prisoners on admission and discharge was 103·68 lbs. and 109·41 lbs. as against 104·14 lbs. and 108·43 lbs., respectively, in 1111.

The daily average number of convicts detailed for work was 206·33 as against 165·32 in 1111. The chief industries carried on in the jail were weaving, making coir yarn, coir rugs, blankets, net bags, etc., besides agricultural operations. No fresh plantation work was attended to during the year. The amount expended under "Manufacture" towards the purchase of raw materials, seeds, etc., came to Rs. 2,899 as against Rs. 2,875 in 1111. In addition, a sum of Rs. 1,500 was drawn under "Advances Repayable" for this purpose. Thus the total amount expended on this account came to Rs. 4,399. Deducting the value of raw materials on hand at the end of the year, i. e., Rs. 1,198, the actual expenditure incurred during the year amounted to Rs. 3,201.

The receipts for the year on account of manufacture and agricultural operations, including miscellaneous receipts, came to Rs. 8,610 as against Rs. 6,271 in 1111. Besides this amount, a sum of Rs. 1,634 remained as outstandings due to the jail at the end of the year, and hence the total receipts for the year including outstandings came to Rs. 10,244 as against Rs. 8,043 in the previous year, the average gross earning per head of convict detailed for work amounting to Rs. 49 as against Rs. 48 in 1111. The actual net profit from the manufacturing section including agricultural operations amounted to Rs. 4,223 inclusive of the value of plants, etc., purchased during the course of the year. If the cost of the latter amounting to Rs. 318 were deducted, however, the actual net profit would be found to amount to Rs. 3,904. The corresponding figure for the previous year was Rs. 3,366. The increased net profit was due to increase in the number of prisoners detailed for work.

Forty-eight convicts were released during the year under the remission rules, and the total amount of gratuity paid was Rs. 58—11—0 as against Rs. 50—1—0 in 1111. The maximum amount of gratuity earned by a convict during the year was Rs. 19—0—6 as against Rs. 18—6—0 in 1111, and the minimum was one anna as against six pies in the previous year. The average period of remission earned by a convict under this system

was three months and twelve days as against four months and twenty days in the previous year.

The personnel of the Jail Release Committee continued to be the same as in 1111. There were three sittings of the committee in the year to consider deserving cases for conditional release, and two convicts were released on the committee's recommendation. The official visitors to the Central Jail were the Sessions Judge of Trichur, the Chief Medical Officer and the Commissioner of Police; and the non-official visitors were the Rt. Rev. Mgr. Mathew Edakolathur, Mr. T. S. Balarama Ayyar, M. L. C., and Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty, M. L. C.

The total expenditure on account of the Central Jail was Rs. 33,441 as against Rs. 31,625 in the previous year, and the average gross expenditure per head was Rs. 151 as against Rs. 163 in 1111. Deducting the average gross earning of Rs. 41 per head of prisoners detailed for work, the net expenditure per head amounted to Rs. 110 as against Rs. 125 in 1111.

Sub-Jails.—In all the sub-jails of the State together, excepting that at Cranganur, the number of prisoners dealt with during the year was 967 as against 1,027 in the previous year. The total expenditure on these sub-jails came to Rs. 4,338 as against Rs. 4,337 in the previous year. There was no case of death or escape in any of the sub-jails. All the prisoners were well cared for, and there was no complaint whatever from any of them.

In the Cranganur sub-jail there were 67 prisoners for disposal as against 81 in the previous year. There was no case of death during the year, but there was one case of escape, although the offender was immediately arrested, charge-sheeted and convicted for the offence. The expenditure came to Rs. 307 as against Rs. 290 in 1111.

4. REGISTRATION

The system of registration of documents was first introduced in the State in 1050 M. E. (1875 A. D.). Six registry offices were opened in that year, one in each taluk. The introduction of this system was greatly appreciated by the people, and

as a result the number had to be increased year after year. All instruments relating to properties can be registered, however petty their nature may be, although a classification exists as to those that are made compulsorily registrable and those that are only optionally so. The department is also in charge of the working of the Company Law in the State. During the year under report, the department was amalgamated with the Anchal Department with a common Superintendent in charge.

Including the temporary office at Narakkal, there were 26 registry offices during the year—the same as in the previous year; the average served by each office being 54·5 square miles. Documents registered in the year numbered in all 54,356 as against 51,700 in 1111. Of the total registrations, 29,161 documents came under compulsory registration and 25,195 documents under optional registration as against 27,622 and 24,078, respectively, in 1111. Wills registered during the year numbered 338 as against 311 in 1111. Of these, 34 were executed by Brahmins, 98 by Sudras, 78 by other Hindus, 125 by Christians and three by Muslims. Of the total number of documents registered, 53,503 or 98·43 per cent were registered on the day of presentation as against 51,228 or 99·09 per cent in the previous year.

Though there was an appreciable increase in the number of documents registered as compared with that of the previous year, the value of such documents fell from Rs. 2,11,77,548 to Rs. 2,08,40,073, showing a decrease of Rs. 3,37,475. The maximum value of documents registered during the year was Rs. 5,50,016 as against Rs. 3,00,000 and the minimum value Re. 0—1—0 as against Re. 0—0—3. The average value of a document was Rs. 383—6—5 as against Rs. 409—9—1.

The number of documents which were refused registration was 50 as against 44 in the previous year. Twenty-three appeals were filed during the year, of which 20 were disposed of. In three appeals disposed of, the documents concerned were refused registration, while those in the remaining 17 appeals were ordered to be registered. Three appeals were pending disposal at the close of the year.

On behalf of co-operative societies, 499 documents were registered as against 257 in 1111. Seven hundred and sixty applications for search and eight for copies were also attended to, as against 197 and four, respectively, in 1111. The increase was mainly due to the large amount of work done for the Co-operative Land Mortgage Bank.

The one case of false personation pending before the District Registrar of Vadakkancheri at the close of 1111 was disposed of during the year. All the four persons involved in it were committed to the sessions, and the Sessions Judge of Trichur found the first three of the accused guilty and convicted them, the fourth accused being acquitted.

The receipts and expenditure of the department were Rs. 1,08,507 and Rs. 99,576, respectively, as against Rs. 1,01,631 and Rs. 1,03,143 in 1111. In other words, there was a net saving from the working of the department during the year of Rs. 8,931 as against a deficit of Rs. 1,513 in 1111.

Negotiable Instruments.—In the year under report there were four instruments to be dealt with under the Negotiable Instruments Act as against 14 in 1111, the aggregate value of transactions covered by them being Rs. 1,642 as against Rs. 3,331 in the previous year. All the four instruments dealt with were bills of exchange and were for protests of non-payment.

Kuries.—In the beginning of the year the number of kuries on the roll requiring returns to be filed with the Registrars was 1,208. Fifty-nine new kuries were registered in the year as against 44 in the previous year. Including eight kuries started after the coming into force of the Kuries Act, 210 kuries terminated in the course of the year as against 267 in 1111. Twenty cases of offences under the Kuries Act were compounded as against 28 in 1111. Five cases were reported to the Magistrate, but in two cases the offences were compounded, while the accused were convicted in the remaining three cases.

JOINT STOCK COMPANIES

The Indian Companies (Amendment) Act of 1936 was introduced in the State with effect from 1st April, 1937. At the

close of 1111 there were 208 companies limited by shares and 12 limited by guarantee. Fifteen new companies limited by shares were registered during the year as against 16 limited by shares and one limited by guarantee in the previous year. Two of the new companies were formed with the object of carrying on the business of banking, six of trading and industries, two of printing and publishing, two of plantations, one of life insurance, one for the manufacture of cigars, etc., and one of managing agencies. The highest nominal capital among the new companies was Rs. 2,00,000 as against Rs. 10,00,000 in 1111. Sixteen companies ceased to work during the year as against 13 in the previous year. On the last day of the year there were at work 208 companies limited by shares and 11 limited by guarantee. The companies limited by shares consisted of 155 banking, 23 trading, 12 mills and presses, three plantations, four insurance and 11 others. The nominal and paid-up capitals of the 208 companies limited by shares were Rs. 1,75,63,500 and Rs. 55,95,653, respectively.

Four new associations not for profit were registered during the year, and two became defunct. There were in all 136 such associations working at the end of the year.

Thirty-four companies incorporated outside Cochin had established places of business in the State at the end of the previous year. Thirteen new companies were enrolled on the register and one ceased to have a place of business during the year under report. The number on the roll at the close of the year was, therefore, 46.

The new auditors' certificate rules issued under Section 144 of the Companies Act as amended by Act XII of 1108 were brought into force during the year, and candidates desiring to practise as auditors in the State had to enroll themselves in the register of accountants maintained under the rules. Nineteen accountants were enrolled on the register, and of these all but two applied and obtained the required auditors' certificates. There were thus 17 accountants eligible to practise as auditors at the close of the year.

Thirteen cases of prosecution for infringing the provisions of the Companies Act were reported to the District

Magistrate during the year. Including the two cases pending at the close of 1111, the total for disposal came to 15. Of these, twelve were disposed of, leaving three pending at the close of the year. The prosecution in four cases ended in conviction, while others were withdrawn under the orders of Government.

The total receipt, during the year on account of joint stock companies came to Rs. 10,081 as against Rs. 6,022 in 1111, and the expenditure amounted to Rs. 121 as against Rs. 128 in the previous year.

During the year under report the Cochin Partnership Act, XXIV of 1112, was brought into force, but no firm applied for registration under it.

CHAPTER VIII

PRODUCTION AND INDUSTRIES

1. AGRICULTURE

Agricultural conditions were fairly satisfactory during the year. The north-east monsoon rains were quite normal, and the south-west monsoon rains commenced very early and were vigorous throughout. The rainfall recorded was, on the whole, slightly in excess of the normal, with a proportionate increase in the number of rainy days. There was some slight increase in the prices of paddy, cocoanut and cocoanut products, and rubber in the first half of the year, but the prices began to decline in the case of cocoanuts and rubber towards the close of the year. There was a slight improvement in the price of arecanuts in the middle of the year.

There were no epidemics of a virulent nature among the livestock, although foot-and-mouth disease was reported from all the taluks. Prompt measures were taken to treat the affected cases, and casualties were very few. On the whole, the health of the livestock was good.

In the year a new system of lending stud bulls free from the Central Farm at Ollukara to panchayats, co-operative societies and other corporate bodies, and also to private individuals, for maintenance for a period of three years under certain conditions was introduced. According to this new system, bulls were given in the latter half of the year to the Ernakulam Municipality (two bulls), the Leper Asylum, Adoor (one bull), and Mr. R. Viswanathan Chettiar, Nemmara (one bull).

Although the department conducted no exhibitions of its own, it took part in the Rural Cattle Fair and Agricultural Exhibition at Kattakampal, the Swadeshi Exhibition at Kolinjampara and the Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition at Mulanthuruthi. A representative collection of agricultural implements, tools, manures, seeds, and different kinds of farm produce and charts illustrating the control of pests and diseases was exhibited. A bulletin on "Bee-keeping" in the

State was published and distributed during the year, as also leaflets on Rice Grasshopper, Pests on Garden Plants, Poisonous Matter present in Wild Rubber Leaves, Growing Trees for Timber, Fuel and Green Manure, New Furnace for preparing Arecanuts, Green Manuring, Nasal Granuloma and Anthrax. Besides, 26 formal lectures with magic lantern illustrations, wherever possible, on useful agricultural topics, informal conversations and talks to small groups of ryots were held during the year.

There was steady progress in the work done in the Central Farm at Ollukara as well as in the Cocoanut Station at Vytila. Analysis of different kinds of soils, breeding, collection and preservation of important crop pests, and the observation and combating of different kinds of plant diseases were attended to in the chemical, mycological and entomological sections of the laboratory attached to the Central Farm. Paddy, various kinds of fruits and vegetables, cotton, sugarcane, pulses, varieties of cereals, root crops, sugarcane and fodder crops were raised in the Farm as usual. Manurial experiments in connection with paddy cultivation were also conducted. Economic transplantation, varietal experiments and rotation experiments on dried lands were conducted with advantage. Trials with different varieties of cocoanuts were conducted in the Cocoanut Station.

Demonstrations on ryots' lands on paddy, sugarcane and cocoanuts were conducted. Casual demonstrations were also conducted by the agricultural inspectors wherever possible, the main items of demonstration being picking of palm beetles from cocoanut gardens, manuring and spraying grafts, manuring paddy lands and cocoanut trees, manuring and spraying for attack of leaf disease in cocoanuts, bagging and top dressing with ammonium sulphate against the attack of rice case worm, winnowing experiments against the attack of Rice Hispa, ploughing with iron plough, and growing of sanhemp and tephrosia as green manure crops. Besides attending to the demonstrations, the agricultural inspectors visited lands and gardens of a good number of ryots in their respective taluks and gave them advice on various matters concerning improved

methods of agriculture. A good number of plants, green manure seeds, and vegetable seeds were also supplied to ryots on requisition. In addition, help was given in the planting of fruit trees and in the growing of vegetables, etc.

The various pests and diseases of crops and palm trees, especially *Nephantis serinopa* on cocoanut trees along the coast, rice bug in paddy lands, budrot on palmyras and *mahali* on arecanuts were kept under control.

Gardens and Avenues.—All gardens continued to be under the management of the department, except those attached to the Spring Field and Elk Hill Palaces at Coonoor which were under the supervision of the Curator, Government Botanical Gardens and Parks, Ootacamund, and those in New Delhi and Madras, which were under the supervision of the Superintendent, Cochin House, New Delhi, and the Superintendent, Tullocks Gardens, Madras, respectively. The Hannington Park at Trichur was temporarily handed over during the year to the Public Works Department in connection with the construction of a Town Hall.

Several avenue trees had to be removed in the year for the purpose of widening roads. The trees so removed were sold in auction to the best possible advantage. The fruiting of avenue trees was not quite satisfactory, and there was also a decrease in the number of trees on account of removals for road widening, so that the receipts under this head fell from Rs. 10,235 in 1111 to Rs. 9,840 during the year.

Marketing Survey.—The marketing survey was continued during the year, and the subjects under investigation were rice, cocoanuts, bananas, mangoes, citrus fruits, apples and pears, potatoes, gram, coffee, co-operative marketing and markets and fairs. Reports on rice, bananas, coffee, potatoes and co-operative marketing were furnished to the Agricultural Marketing Adviser to the Government of India during the year. A report on the marketing of hides and skins was also submitted by the marketing officer for dairying and livestock. Besides, supplementary notes on the marketing of commodities like eggs, milk, cattle, tobacco

and coffee were submitted to the Agricultural Marketing Adviser and also preliminary notes on ghee and butter and sheep and goats.

Although surveys formed the main item of work, some amount of development work was also attempted by the marketing staff during the period under report. The South Indian Railway Company which was approached on behalf of the banana merchants gave a reduction in railway freight (from half parcel to quarter parcel rate) on the export of bananas from Trichur to Madras, with the additional facility of booking up to two tons of bananas per day by the Malabar Express. Similarly, the steamer companies of Cochin were approached, and they also agreed to book bananas from Cochin to Bombay at a reduced rate, viz., the general cargo rate. In view of the growing export of eggs from Ernakulam to Bombay, the Railway Company was addressed for a reduction in freight on the export of eggs to Bombay, but the request had not been complied with till the end of the year.

Towards the close of the year the work done by the marketing staff in the State was reviewed by Government. Since it was found that a large number of commodities were being dealt with by the staff which were not of importance to the State as a producer, Government decided to restrict the scope of the marketing work in the State to such commodities of importance to the State from a producer's point of view, such as cocoanuts, arecanuts, bananas, cashew nuts, eggs and fish. Accordingly, orders were issued to disband the marketing staff from the beginning of 1113.

Receipts and Expenditure.—The receipts under Agriculture proper amounted to Rs. 22,820 as against Rs. 21,692 in 1111, and the expenditure to Rs. 1,23,255 as against Rs. 1,22,282 in the previous year.

VETERINARY

Including the camp hospital at Mattancherri, there were nine veterinary hospitals in the State at the end of the year. The total number of animals treated in all the hospitals together was 40,371 as against 30,303 in the previous year. Of these, 381

were in-patients and the rest out-patients. Besides the cases treated in the hospitals, the touring veterinary inspectors attended to 2,520 cases as against 1,429 in 1111. Operations performed in the hospitals numbered 2,779 including 1,047 castrations, as against 2,564 of the previous year. The touring veterinary inspectors performed 831 operations, including 554 castrations, as against 347 in the previous year.

The system of exchanging information then and there about the prevalence of contagious diseases between the British and the State veterinary officers worked satisfactorily. Prompt and timely action was taken in regard to the treatment of animals infected with diseases, as also to prevent the spread of diseases, so that the mortality figures were very low during the year. There was a widespread outbreak of *variola*, especially among the buffaloes—a disease practically new to the State; but it did not cause any deaths because the ordinary antiseptic treatment ensured cent per cent successful results.

The total cost of maintaining the department came to Rs. 31,145 as against Rs. 31,366 in the previous year.

2. CO-OPERATION

The Co-operative Department came into existence with the passing of the Co-operative Societies Act in 1913. For a few months in the beginning, the working of the department was entrusted to an honorary officer, but soon after a special officer was appointed to be in charge of it. The movement has spread rapidly of late, so much so that there were 267 societies at the end of the year under report.

An important feature of the working of the department during the year was the appointment of an inspector temporarily to organise poultry farming in the State on scientific and up-to-date lines. A subsidy of Rs. 500 each to three non-credit societies, and a paid secretary on Rs. 15—20 to each of them, was also sanctioned during the year. Three societies were accordingly subsidised—one for promoting weaving, one for coir industry and the other for marketing agricultural produce, especially arecanut.

Number and Membership of Societies.—The department was more concerned with the work of consolidation and rectification of existing societies than of expanding their number, and so only 17 new societies were registered during the year. Five of the 255 societies at the beginning of the year were also cancelled. The total number of societies at the end of the year was thus 267. These comprised one Central Bank, one Central Institute, one Land Mortgage Bank, one Central Poultry Association, eight Supervising Unions, 127 Agricultural Credit Societies, one Agricultural Non-credit Society, one Agricultural Marketing Society, 49 Non-agricultural Credit Societies, 46 Societies for Depressed Classes, 11 Consumers' Societies for purchase and sale, five Weavers' and Carpenters' Societies for production and sale, nine Industrial Societies, four Students' Stationery Societies, and two primary Poultry Societies. Of the 267 societies, four could not be started formally and two could not transact any business during the year. One hundred and ninety-one out of the 275 villages in the State were served by the movement.

Leaving out of account the 1,566 members in the central institutions, the total number of members in the different societies stood at 23,957 (including 1,879 women), giving an average of 97.39 members per society as against 23,655 and 96.55 in the previous year.

Working Capital.—The total working capital of all the societies including the central societies amounted to Rs. 32,95,092 as against Rs. 25,48,135 in 1111. The share capital and the reserve fund of all the societies together amounted to Rs. 8,99,399, so that the percentage of the total owned capital to the working capital was 27.29 as against 31.16 in the previous year. The average working capital was Rs. 129.1 per member and Rs. 12,771.67 per society as against Rs. 107.05 per member and Rs. 10,400.5 per society in 1111.

The transactions of all the societies together amounted to Rs. 1,15,46,454 as against Rs. 67,56,857 in the previous year, the turnover being 3.5 times the working capital as against 2.65 times in 1111. The net profit earned out of the total transactions was Rs. 48,957 as against Rs. 62,702 in 1111, the fall being due to an all-round reduction in the lending rates of societies.

Loans.—Loans amounting to Rs. 9,04,426 were disbursed by the agricultural and non-agricultural societies together as against Rs. 8,58,150 in 1111. Of these, loans for productive purposes amounted to Rs. 3,24,820, the agricultural societies alone lending out a sum of Rs. 2,21,423, of which Rs. 78,263 was for productive purposes.

The amount of loans outstanding against the members of the agricultural and non-agricultural societies together at the beginning of the year was Rs. 11,67,181. With the loan of Rs. 9,04,426 issued during the year, the total demand stood at Rs. 20,71,607, of which Rs. 8,66,413 was repaid, leaving a balance of Rs. 12,05,194 at the end of the year. Overdue loans amounted to Rs. 3,80,850. In the case of agricultural and non-agricultural societies the percentage of overdue loans was 42·7 and 24·2, respectively, as against 44·5 and 25·8, respectively, in 1111.

Reserve Fund.—The total reserve fund of all the societies together rose from Rs. 4,37,050 to Rs. 4,65,366 during the year. Of these, agricultural societies had Rs. 2,40,253 to their credit, non-agricultural societies Rs. 1,55,859 and the Central Bank Rs. 69,254. The reserve fund formed 14·1 per cent of the working capital of the movement.

Liquidation.—Liquidation proceedings in the case of 43 societies were pending at the beginning of the year and the registration of five societies was cancelled. Proceedings relating to two societies only could, however be finally wound up during the year.

The Central Institute.—The Central Co-operative Institute engaged itself in education and propaganda, as in previous years. The publication of a quarterly magazine—*Sahakarana Prabodhini*—the maintenance of a library and reading room, the delivering of lectures and the holding of a co-operative training class were among the principal activities of the Institute.

The Act governing the working of co-operative societies in the State—Act IV of 1088—was thoroughly revised and the revised bill passed by the Legislative Council. The bill had not, however, been brought into force, since its enactment into law was pending when the year closed. The report on the inquiry

conducted by Mr. Devadhar was published during the year, but final orders on the recommendations had not been passed by Government till the close of the year.

Expenditure.—The total cost of the working of the department in the year came to Rs. 21,997 as against Rs. 21,577 in the previous year, the average cost per society amounting to Rs. 79·7 as against Rs. 84·6 in 1935.

LAND MORTGAGE BANK

It was with a view to relieve agricultural indebtedness in the State that the Land Mortgage Bank was organised on a co-operative basis in 1935. The formal inauguration of the Bank was performed by His Highness the Maharaja on 1st Makaram, 1935. Besides subscribing for Rs. 5,000 shares of Rs. 10 each, Government made a contribution of Rs. 10,000 towards the working expenses of the bank. The bank made considerable progress during the year.

Two outstanding events relating to the bank in the year were the passing of the amending Act, XLVIII of 1936, and the floating of debentures. The amending Act made improvements effected by lessees of mortgaged property available to the bank for realisation of the mortgage amount. On the strength of a guarantee to the extent of Rs. 20,00,000 both in respect of interest and principal, furnished by Government on the recommendation of the Legislative Council, the bank, with the approval of Government, issued 4 per cent debentures to the value of Rs. 5,00,000 redeemable in 1947-57. The issue was so well received that on the day of the opening of applications it was found that 142 applications for a total of Rs. 19,47,850 had been received. Of the amount realised by the sale of debentures, Rs. 2,50,000 was utilised to pay off the overdraft accommodation from Government.

Inclusive of ten institutions, there were 1,187 members at the end of the year. The number of shares allotted came to 6,920, and the paid-up share capital amounted to Rs. 69,200.

Loan Applications.—Loan applications to the value of Rs. 5,11,018 were pending disposal from the previous year, and applications for Rs. 4,57,878 were received during the year. Of these, applications for Rs. 4,14,299 were disposed of, loans being

granted to the extent of Rs. 2,83,140 (out of Rs. 3,40,629 applied for), and applications amounting to Rs. 73,670 were disallowed. The rest of the applications amounting in all to Rs. 5,54,596 were pending investigation. With the amount sanctioned earlier, the total loan allowed by the bank till the end of the year was Rs. 4,10,725.

In regard to the loans sanctioned, mortgage deeds to the value of Rs. 3,36,595 were executed and registered till the end of the year, and the whole of the amount was disbursed, excepting a sum of Rs. 31,864 which the creditors had not drawn. The delay in some cases in the execution of mortgages and the disbursement of the amount was mainly due to the parties concerned taking time in negotiating with the creditors for settling their claims and securing to the bank first charge on the properties mortgaged. In certain cases, delay was also due to attempts on the part of the parties concerned to resort to debt conciliation.

Since the bank had commenced its working only in the previous year, there was not much of instalment collections to make, and what was due was promptly paid by the parties concerned.

Economic Depression Loans.—Of the special Economic Depression Loans amounting to Rs. 2,29,175 transferred to the bank by Government, instalment dues making up a total of Rs. 24,380 (Rs. 15,646 interest and Rs. 8,734 principal) had to be collected. Of this, Rs. 21,219 (Rs. 13,925 interest and Rs. 7,294 principal) was collected, the arrears at the end of the year being Rs. 3,161 (Rs. 1,722 interest and Rs. 1,439 principal). Twenty-one cases were involved in default in respect of the payment of the first instalment dues and nine in respect of the second instalment dues. All the defaulters in the first instalment dues were reported to the Registrar of Co-operative Societies so that necessary action might be taken against them.

The total working capital of the bank amounted to Rs. 5,55,664 and the total transactions to Rs. 35,56,480. Out of the Government contribution of Rs. 15,000, a sum of Rs. 1,842 had to be appropriated during the year towards the working charges of the bank. Of the Government contribution, there was at the end of the year a balance of Rs. 10,380 to the credit of the bank.

Meetings of Directors.—Four meetings of the Board of Directors, 17 meetings of the Executive Committee and one General Meeting were held during the year. Attendance at these meetings was quite satisfactory.

3. INDUSTRIES

A separate Department of Industries and Commerce was constituted during the year under report. This was done in accordance with a recommendation of the Advisory Committee on Industries and Commerce and with a view to increase the efficiency of the working of the department.

An extensive survey of cottage industries like bell-metal, coir, jaggery, chevoor furniture, wood and ivory carving, and handloom weaving was conducted during the year, as also a general survey of the probable market for paper in the State as well as in the neighbouring districts. Investigations regarding possibilities for the manufacture of edge tools and implements were also taken on hand. Besides, merchants, industrialists and others in important industrial and commercial centres in the State were interviewed by the Director with a view to collect information on questions like the increase in the duty on coco-mats and mattings imported into Canada and the trade agreement between India and separated Burma and Cochin's entry into it.

A uniform practice in the matter of working hours in the industrial schools was brought into force during the year. Previously some of these schools were working for $7\frac{1}{2}$ hours from 8 a. m. to 5 p. m. with an interval of an hour and a half from 11-30 a. m. to 1 p. m. Certain other schools, particularly girls' schools, were working for five hours from 10 a. m. to 4 p. m., and in still other schools the working hours were from 8-30 a. m. to 4 p. m. Since all the schools were coaching up students for the same public examination and since morning hours were inconvenient especially to poor students coming from distant parts, the working hours of all the industrial schools except certain sections of the Government Trades School, Trichur, and the Coir School, Narakkal, were changed during the year from 10 a. m. to 4 p. m. with an hour's interval between 12-30 p. m. and 1-30 p. m.

Consequent upon the creation of a new Department of Industries, Government sanctioned during the year the creation of a new body to conduct examinations of students of industrial schools. Previously the Board of Examiners in the Education Department were in charge of this work, but the new board would be composed of technical men who would also conduct the final examination in motor driving and mechanism and electrical workman's course.

The full-time Bee Expert working under the control of the Director of Public Instruction was transferred to the charge of the Director of Industries when the new department was created. The expert did useful propaganda work among the villagers in order to induce them to take to bee-keeping as a subsidiary cottage industry. After the formation of the new department, the Director was also asked by Government to complete the preparation of a draft calendar in Malayalam, the publication of which had been recommended by the Rural Reconstruction Committee in 1105 for the purpose of suggesting ways and means for the provision of further amenities to people in the villages.

Industrial Education.—Provision of a high standard of industrial education in the interests of the development of industries of the State has long been an accepted policy of the Government, and year after year has witnessed an increase in the number of industrial schools for boys and girls in the State. When the year under report closed, there were 46 schools, including the Government Trades Schools at Trichur and Ernakulam, the Government Industrial School for Girls at Trichur, the Coir School at Narakkal and the Art School at Ernakulam. Of these, 25 were Government and 21 aided institutions. The total strength of all the schools together was 3,282 (1,697 boys and 1,585 girls) as against 3,508 (1,870 boys and 1,638 girls) in 1111.

Various industries are taught in these schools. Generally they are handloom weaving, rattan work, mat-weaving, carpentry, smithy and metal work in boys' schools, and needle-work, crochet lace, embroidery, pillow lace and knitting in girls' schools.

With a view to encourage industrial education, stipends and scholarships were liberally granted as usual, the total expenditure incurred during the year amounting to Rs. 14,582 as against Rs. 12,907 in 1111. The expenditure on this account in the Cranganur principality during the year was Rs. 509 as against Rs. 463 in 1111.

The Government Trades School, Trichur, which worked, as usual, in three separate sections—the industrial, the commercial and the art—had a total strength of 308 (291 boys and 17 girls) as against 306 (286 boys and 20 girls) in 1111, while the Government Trades School, Ernakulam, which coached up pupils in weaving, carpentry, smithy, rattan and bell-metal, had a strength of 162 (142 boys and 20 girls) as against 156 (132 boys and 24 girls) in 1111. The Government Industrial School for Girls, Trichur, worked as usual under two separate sections—needlework and industrial. It had on its rolls 222 pupils (including 26 depressed class girls) as against 263 in the previous year. Drawing was a compulsory subject for all the pupils of this school, while laundrying was taught to the third and fourth year pupils of the needlework section.

The Coir School at Narakkal provided training in processing finer varieties of coir yarn. The first batch of students was disbanded in Meenom, and the second batch of twenty students was undergoing training at the end of the year. Certain experiments in the manufacture of covers for oxygen cylinders were conducted, but they were not completed when the year closed.

There were 21 industrial institutions under private management as against 20 in 1111. Of these, one was the Art School at Ernakulam and two were orphanages, the others being industrial schools—girls', boys', and mixed. The total number of pupils attending these schools was 1,215 as against 1,196 in 1111. The grant paid to all these schools together amounted to Rs. 9,622 as against Rs. 9,796 in the previous year.

Exhibitions.—The department participated in two exhibitions outside the State during the year—the Lucknow Industrial and Agricultural Exhibition conducted by the Government

of the United Provinces, and the All-India Khadi and Swadesi Exhibition, Madras, organised by the Tamil Nad Congress Committee. In both the exhibitions selected models and specimens representing the various handicraft products were exhibited, besides articles sent from the State Museum. In addition to these outside exhibitions, the department also participated in two exhibitions within the State—one at Kolinjampara and the other at Mulanthuruthi. A representative collection of products of various industries in the State was exhibited at both these exhibitions, and they were very much appreciated by the visitors.

State Aid to Industries.—Rules framed for the purpose of working the State Aid to Industries Bill placed on the statute book as Act X of 1111 were framed and published early in the year, and they were brought into force on 1st Vrischigam. The object of the Act, as is well known, is to aid industries carried on in industrial establishments or factories run by individual entrepreneurs, partnerships and joint stock companies, and also cottage industries, by granting them loans, by guaranteeing a cash credit, overdraft or fixed advance with banks, by paying a subsidy for the conduct of research or the purchase of machinery, by subscribing for shares or debentures, by guaranteeing a minimum return on part of the capital of a joint stock company and by making a grant on favourable terms of land, raw materials, firewood or water. Taluk committees under the Act and the rules, representing various interests such as commerce (including banking), industries, engineering, revenue and the Legislative Council, for purposes of advising Government on applications for aid could, however, be constituted for the six taluks of the State only by the end of the year.

Stoneware Works.—Early in the year, with the constitution of a separate Department of Industries and Commerce, the Government Stoneware Works, Chalakudi, which was till then under the control of the Chief Engineer, was placed under the charge of the Director of Industries. Manufacture in the factory continued in full swing, about 120 labourers working daily in it. The main items of manufacture were pickle jars, bung jars, stew pots, screw jars and round-bellied pots. Other

miscellaneous articles such as hash pots, snuff jars, ash trays, teapots, flower vases, etc., were also being manufactured, besides such items as firebricks, pipes, etc.

The total output of the main items of manufacture in the factory, expressed in nominal pounds, was 898,691 (first class) and 106,375 (second class) as against 610,861 (first class) and 71,803 (second class) in 1111. The sales during the year was appreciably large, almost the whole of the output being sold away. Fresh markets, such as Bangalore, Shimoga, Mysore, etc., were tapped and agents were appointed in them. A depot was opened at Trichur in the course of the year, and the results achieved were satisfactory.

The factory participated in various exhibitions such as the Sri Chitra Exhibition, Trivandrum, the Dasara Exhibition, Mysore, and the All-India Khadi and Swadesi Exhibition, Madras, besides other exhibitions in the State. The factory products were also advertised in several newspapers.

Patents and Designs.—A new bill relating to patents and designs, drawn up on the lines of the Government of India Act II of 1911 as modified up to 1st July, 1930, became law early during the year as Act XI of 1112. It was brought into force on 1st Vrischigam, and the rules thereunder were also brought into effect in the course of the year. Six applications for patents were pending at the commencement of the year, and seven applications were received during the year. Of the former, patents were sealed in four cases, and the remaining two were accepted. Of the fresh applications, patents were sealed in three cases, three were accepted and one was under scrutiny when the year closed. Four applications for granting renewal certificates were received in the course of the year, and the certificates were granted in all the four cases.

Labour Legislation.—To protect the legitimate interests of labour and also to encourage the growth of healthy trade unions, a Trade Union Act (III of 1112) was placed on the statute book during the year. The rules thereunder were also framed and published for criticism, although they had not come into force when the year closed. Along with the Trade Union

Act was placed on the statute book a Trade Disputes Act (LXVI of 1112). The machinery provided by the Act takes the form of either a court of enquiry or of a board of conciliation.

Expenditure and Receipts.—The expenditure incurred by the department was Rs. 1,10,774 as against Rs. 1,08,469 in 1111, and the total receipts amounted to Rs. 5,478 as against Rs. 5,378 in the previous year.

CHAPTER IX

PUBLIC WORKS

The Public Works Department in the State was organised in 1870. Till then all works used to be executed by the officers of the Revenue Department, who had no professional knowledge of the work. Even after the organisation of the professional department, temple and palace works, together with several other petty works, continued to be carried out by the Revenue officers till 1890, when a Maramath Department, which was also manned by non-professional men, was created for the execution of such works. This dual system was, however, found to work unsatisfactorily, and the Maramath Department was, therefore, abolished in 1897. The department at that time was working under a Chief Engineer who had under him an Assistant Engineer and two Supervisors. This continued till 1907, when some important changes in the constitution of the department were made. Since then, the activities of the department have been expanding year after year, and nearly one-eighth of the total revenue of the State is being spent on the department at the present time.

For administrative purposes the department is divided into five sections—Southern, Central, Eastern, Irrigation and Mechanical—each working under an Assistant Engineer. The distribution of jurisdiction of the Assistant Engineers during the year under report remained the same as in the previous year. The Department of Factories and Boilers continued to work under the supervision of the Mechanical Assistant Engineer subject to the control of the Chief Engineer.

The designation of "Surveyors" in the Irrigation division was changed to "Overseers" during the year. As a result of the electrification of the towns of Ernakulam and Trichur, the temporary staff attached to the Maharaja's College and Pudiakovilagam electric installations and that of the telephone installations was disbanded from 1st Meenam.

CIVIL ENGINEERING

The department had to execute, as in previous years, both State and contribution works. The expenditure under "Civil," including establishment charges, amounted to Rs. 12,49,238 as against Rs. 11,14,448 in the previous year. An expenditure of Rs. 1,23,564 was also incurred on contribution works as against Rs. 1,31,753 in 1111. The total expenditure the department had to control during the year thus came to Rs. 13,72,802.

Communications.—The expenditure on communications including repairs and maintenance was Rs. 2,96,820 as against Rs. 3,19,975 in the previous year. Of this, Rs. 1,35,234 was spent on original works alone. These included the opening of new roads and widening and special renewals to the existing ones and outright repairs and construction of bridges and culverts. The total length of roads maintained during the year was about 550 miles, including those of Cranganur, and all of them were kept in good order. The newly purchased Caterpillar machine was used for the maintenance of gravel and laterite roads in the Mukundapuram, Trichur and Talappalli taluks, and its use for the maintenance of these roads resulted in a saving of about Rs. 20,000. The work of the machine was found to be satisfactory, and the roads maintained by it were in a fairly good condition.

Every effort was made to follow up the five year programme recommended by the Road Board for adoption from the beginning of the year. Among the important works taken up in consequence were the construction of the Parur-Chendamangalam bridge, the construction of a bridge across the Malayattur boundary canal, improvements to Thevara road, the construction of a bridge at Karanchira, the opening of a road to Chemmappilli ferry, the construction of a bridge at Trikkur over the Manali river, the construction of an embankment at Perimpillisseri, the opening of a road from Parayanpadom to Pazhanji, the construction of a road dam across the Chittur river and the reconstruction of the Pazhuvam bridge.

Buildings.—The total expenditure on buildings including repairs amounted to Rs. 5,50,520 as against Rs. 3,35,967 in

IIII. Besides, an expenditure of Rs. 60,902 was incurred under P. C. R. Some of the important works taken on hand during the year were the construction of buildings for a Guest House, etc., at Ernakulam, the purchase of a house and site in New Delhi, the construction of a Town Hall at Trichur, the construction of an additional building for Central Records at Ernakulam, the construction of a building for the lower secondary school at Cheruthuruthi, the construction of a building for the District Magistrate's Court at Trichur, the construction of a building for burnt-out lepers in the Adoor Leper Asylum, the provision of playgrounds and hostel for the Maharaja's College, Ernakulam, improvements to the Thiruvilluamala palace, the construction of an additional building in the Residential Palace at Ernakulam, and improvements to the Women and Children's Hospital at Mattancheri.

Irrigation.—The total expenditure on irrigation works including repairs and maintenance came to Rs. 50,187 as against Rs. 79,328 in the previous year. Due to heavy rains in Thulam (November 1936), there were floods, and consequently some damages were caused to Moolathara, Nurnee, Alangadavu systems and Akampadam channels in the Chittur taluk, and the Inchamudi cannal in Karuvannur, and in the Moorkanad bazaar Karuvannur south bund. Prompt steps were taken to repair the damages.

Several major schemes were investigated by the Irrigation division during the year, and reports, plans and estimates were prepared for the Chalakudi-Anamallais road (Kanjirapilli-Poringalkuthu section), the Thottara Puncha drainage scheme in Cochin-Kanayannur Taluk and for improvements to Paranore chira in Talappalli taluk. Among the important works executed during the year were raising the Manapat chira, construction of a chira and bridge in Tholur village, improvements to Mulla-sseri canal leading to Padiyath basin and repairs to flood damages to the Moolathara Anicut.

Miscellaneous.—The amount spent on miscellaneous public improvements was Rs. 80,513 as against Rs. 37,357 in IIII. Improvements to the Ernakulam foreshore from the Irwin Park to the Diwan's House, supply of furniture to the Maharaja's College, Ernakulam, and the Cochin House, New

Delhi, protecting the sides of the Padiyath basin, Ernakulam, reconstructing the damaged bathing ghat of the tank attached to the Kannamkulangara temple—these were the important works executed under this head.

MECHANICAL AND ELECTRICAL

The electric installation attached to the Hill Palace worked satisfactorily during the year. The Cochin State Power and Light Corporation extended their mains as far as the Hill Palace in the year, and the D. C. plant was arranged to be driven by A. C. motors both at the Hill Palace and at Karingochira. The College Power House worked for nearly four or five months of the year until almost all the buildings which it was supplying were changed over to A. C. from the Company's mains. The installations at the Bolghatty Residency, the Pudiakovilagam and the Chowwara Palace worked satisfactorily during the year.

In view of the ease and availability of electric supply from the Cochin State Power and Light Corporation, His Highness the Maharaja's Palace and outhouses, the Special Palace Office, the V. T. K. Estate, the Palace Controller's and the Sarvadhikariakar's quarters, the Trippunittura Temple and Oottupura, the Kalancham Office, the Devaswam Cutcheri, the Senior Rani's Palace, and Elaya Raja's Palace at Trippunittura were wired and supplied with current by the Company. Besides, all the Government buildings at Ernakulam, which were formerly being supplied from the College Power House, were changed over from D. C. to A. C. During the year the village of Nemmara was ordered to be electrified and the work was started. Good progress was made in regard to the laying of transmission lines, foundations, etc. The work has since been completed and the machinery has been tried and found to work well.

The State telephone system was stopped and changed over to the exchange system of the Telegraph Department.

Water Works.—The Ernakulam Waterworks supplied water to Ernakulam, Mattancherri, the Harbour area and the littoral tracts lying between Palluruthi and Chellanam. The total quantity of water pumped from the headworks at Chowwara

during the year amounted to 231,687,000 gallons as against 210,000,000 in 1111, while the total number of hours worked was 7,408 as against 7,316 in the previous year. The 150 H. P. Mirrlees Diesel engine was put into commission during the year, and this enabled the works to pump nearly 11 per cent more water than in the previous year. The cost of maintenance was about Rs. 21,258, and the average cost of pumping 1,000 gallons of water worked out to about one anna and six pies, exclusive of depreciation, interest on capital and establishment charges. The 16 mile long main pipe line was in good condition throughout the year. New service connections laid at Ernakulam in the year numbered 203, and extensions and alterations were effected in the case of 67 connections. The total number of house connections in Ernakulam was 1,410 at the end of the year. The supply of water to the town was regular and satisfactory.

The total quantity of water supplied to Mattancherri during the year was 44,687,227 gallons as against 43,472,448 gallons, or nearly $1\frac{1}{4}$ million gallons over and above the previous year's supply, the daily average being 122,430 gallons. The supply was regular and satisfactory. The barges and tugs did very good service. Three hundred and seventy-nine steamers were supplied with water during the year, and it might specially be mentioned that three or four passenger steamers also availed themselves of the supply.

The water supply at Chellanam was improved during the year by increasing the pressure at the pumps as well as by regulating the taps en route. More water was also arranged to be pumped into the Mattancherri tank, so that there might be sufficient water for drawing off at the Palluruthi tank. Many of the temporary supports for the pipe line were renewed and reinforced concrete supports given instead.

The water supply at Nemmara was satisfactory, and the bore hole continued to yield an abundant quantity of water. The supply amounted to about 20 million gallons and the number of pumping hours came to 4,865. House service connections were started and 17 private houses were supplied with water. Two more public taps were laid to Oorakulambu, thus increasing the total number of public taps in service to 108.

A continuous and satisfactory supply of water was provided to Ayilur in the year, the total quantity pumped being nearly 1,000,000 gallons and the number of pumping hours 4,698. One more public tap was laid during the year. Owing to the low level to which the pump was lowered there were frequent accidents due to the breakage of sucker rods and guides. But these were repaired in time.

The water supply at Trichur was very satisfactory and continuous. The supply was given for all the twenty-four hours of the day throughout the year, in spite of the fact that 35 more taps were in service. To cope with the increasing demand an additional tank was also put into service. The total quantity supplied was nearly 34,800,000 as against 26,000,000 gallons in the previous year. An electric motor was fitted up during the year and current from the town supply main utilised for pumping.

The pumping installation at Ramavarmapuram worked satisfactorily, supplying water to the Central Jail, public offices and quarters. The total quantity pumped was 13.75 million gallons as against 10 million gallons in the previous year.

About five million gallons of water was pumped from the station at Thiruvilluamala situated on the Bharata river. An infiltration pipe was laid to conduct filtered water from the river into an R. C. well, so that it might be possible to pump filtered water to the village.

The small pumping station installed in Kunnampakulam for supplying water for bathing purposes worked for approximately 720 hours during the year and did useful work. Equally satisfactory was the supply of water to the bathing sheds in the Nadamel market.

Cars and Boats.—The number of cars that were in service during the year was 22. Three Chevrolet saloon cars were purchased at the beginning of the year. The total mileage made by all the cars together was 194,881 as against 157,457 in 1111. All the four motor boats were in good condition and did satisfactory service, the total mileage made by them being 17,192½ as against 20,722 in the previous year. The maintenance cost of motor cars and boats during the year amounted to Rs. 25,925 as against Rs. 26,637 in 1111.

The canal section, composed of the Ernakulam, Mattancherri and Cranganur sub-sections, worked satisfactorily. Five thousand nine hundred and fifty-four licences were issued in all as against 5,685 in 1111. The total canal receipts for the year amounted to Rs. 34,132 as against Rs. 32,348 in the previous year.

The receipts of the Mechanical Department, including canal and backwater navigation, amounted to Rs. 1,27,867 as against Rs. 1,23,938 in 1111 and the expenditure came to Rs. 1,79,229 as against Rs. 1,88,139 in 1111.

FACTORIES AND BOILERS

There were 105 registered factories at the commencement of the year and three more were registered during the year, thus making a total of 108 factories. Of these, 41 were not worked throughout the year on account of trade depression. Of the remaining 94 factories, 21 were rice mills, nine oil mills, six both rice and oil mills, 31 tile factories, two workshops, one spinning and weaving mill, seven rubber factories, five match factories, two saw mills, five coir factories, three kerosine oil factories, one manure works and one tin factory.

There were in all 173 boilers on the register at the commencement of the year, and 17 more were registered during the year, thus making a total of 190. Of these, 87 boilers were already written off as having been condemned, transported, dismantled or rendered otherwise unfit for use, leaving a balance of 103 in workable condition. Only 71 were worked in the year, the rest being idle.

In the year under reference 53 accidents were reported as against the same number in the previous year, of which one proved fatal. The accidents reported were all inquired into and the managers given necessary instructions regarding precautionary steps to be taken to minimise them as far as possible.

There was only one prosecution during the year, and that was for non-compliance of instructions issued.

During the year the office of the Inspector of Factories and Boilers was shifted from Ernakulam to Trichur.

CHAPTER X MEDICAL RELIEF AND PUBLIC HEALTH

1. MEDICAL INSTITUTIONS

The first attempt to introduce European medical treatment into Cochin was made by a missionary, who opened a dispensary in Mattancherri in 1818. Though it received a monthly grant from the Government, it did not prove a success and was closed after a short existence of two or three years. In 1823, the Civil Surgeon of British Cochin was made ex-officio Durbar Physician, and a dresser was attached to the jail at Ernakulam, while the Trichur jail was placed in the charge of the dresser attached to the British military detachment stationed there. It was these three officers that first began to show to the people the advantages of European medicine and surgery.

In 1848, the first Government hospital, the Charity Hospital of Ernakulam, was opened, and it was this hospital which by successive stages has developed into the present General Hospital. For over a quarter of a century after this, no attempt was made to extend the operations of the department, but in 1875 a hospital was opened at Trichur. In the subsequent years, hospitals and dispensaries were opened in several stations, so that the State is now liberally supplied with medical institutions.

There were 57 medical institutions in the State during the year. Of these, 13 were hospitals, 18 dispensaries, 18 grant-in-aid dispensaries, seven itinerating dispensaries and one leper hospital. The total number of beds available in all the institutions together was 744 (308 for men and 436 for women and children) as against 724 in the previous year.

Patients under Treatment.—There was an increase of 30,637 in the total number of patients treated during the year as compared with the previous year, the respective figures being 989,093 and 958,456. Of the total number of patients, the inpatients numbered 22,198 and the outpatients 966,895, the corresponding figures for the previous year being 20,789 and 937,667, respectively. The daily average attendance of both inpatients and outpatients was 7,311.34 as against 7,134.03 in

IIII. Of the total number of inpatients treated during the year 19,984 were discharged cured, 90 absented, 1,056 died and 1,068 remained under treatment at the close of the year. The percentage of deaths to total admissions worked out at 4.76 as against 4.57 in the previous year.

Principal Diseases.—The principal diseases treated in the medical institutions in the order of greatest prevalence were diseases of the digestive system, 135,828; diseases of the respiratory system, 82,079; round worms, 73,444; malaria, 59,564; other diseases of the skin, 51,413; diseases of the eye, 47,504; pyrexia of uncertain origin, 45,712; diseases of the intestines, 43,529; influenza, 41,268; anaemia, 36,164; dysentery, 35,155; rheumatic fever, 29,052; and inflammation ulcerative, 28,267. Compared with the figures of the previous year, there was a noticeable decrease in the number of patients treated for diseases of the respiratory system and the eye and for malaria and influenza, and an increase in the number treated for diseases of the digestive system, round worms, dysentery and rheumatic fever.

Surgical Operations.—The total number of patients on whom surgical operations were performed during the year was 31,437 as against 28,919 in the previous year, the percentage of death rate being .37 as against .28 in IIII. One hundred and eighty-six postmortem examinations were held during the year, of which 184 were for medico-legal and two for pathological purposes.

The number of midwives working during the year was 53, and the number of cases attended to by them was 4,252, the corresponding figure for the previous year being 3,885. One thousand seven hundred and seventy midwifery operations were performed during the year as against 865 in the previous year, the average number of cases per midwife being 80.2.

Honorary Medical Officers.—There were in all 31 honorary medical officers—15 assistant surgeons and 16 sub-assistant surgeons—working in the several institutions during the year. The hospitals of Cranganur and Nemmara and the dispensary at Narakkal were exclusively under the charge of honorary assistant surgeons. The work of these officers was, on the whole, satisfactory.

Ophthalmic Hospital.—In the Ophthalmic Hospital, Ernakulam, 10,724 patients (10,093 outpatients and 631 inpatients) were in all treated, as against 11,079 in 1111. Operations performed during the year numbered 8,050 as against 6,888 in the previous year. The daily average attendance of patients in the institution was 161·5 as against 171·79 in 1111.

X-Ray Department.—The X-ray institution attached to the General Hospital rendered aid to 2,362 patients (1,297 men, 785 women and 280 children) as against 2,478 in 1111, the daily average attendance being 6·47 as against 6·8 in the previous year. The cases were grouped as follows for treatment: radiography, 446; X-ray treatment, 81; ultra-violet, 1,518; electrical treatment, 23; infra-red, 153; kromeyer, 19; diathermy, 118; and CO₂ snow, 4.

In the General Hospital Laboratory 7,128 specimens were examined during the year as against 5,784 in the previous year.

Mental Hospital.—Two hundred and eighteen lunatics were treated during the year in the Mental Hospital, Trichur, of which 47 were discharged cured, nine discharged on kychit, nine died and the rest were under treatment. The daily average of patients treated was 138·24 as against 120·46 in 1111.

Leper Hospital.—The Leper Hospital at Adoor continued to be under the management of the Salvation Army. At the beginning of the year there were 323 patients, and the admissions during the year came up to 89, thus making a total of 412. Of these, 81 were discharged, 13 died, and 318 remained under treatment at the close of the year. The daily average attendance was 298·9. There were nine leper clinics in the State at the close of the year. The total cost of leprosy relief was Rs. 48,439 as against Rs. 48,211 in 1111.

Pay-wards.—Including the 13 patients remaining at the end of the previous year, the total number of patients admitted in the pay wards of the General Hospital during the year was 285 as against 264 in 1111. The original rate of charges viz., Rs. 2 upstairs and Re. 1 8—0 downstairs, was revived during the year.

Anti-rabic Treatment. A course of anti-rabic treatment of injections was, as usual, given at the General Hospital,

Ernakulam, and the Civil Hospital, Trichur. There were 1,185 new patients undergoing the treatment during the year, besides the 35 patients remaining from the previous year. Of these, 1,190 cases were discharged and 30 were under treatment at the end of the year.

Medical Inspection of Schools.—The medical inspection of school children was, as usual, conducted by two Medical Inspectors and one Inspectress. All the high schools and elementary schools were inspected by them. The total number of students examined by the two Medical Inspectors during the year was 7,860 boys, and the number of girls examined by the Inspectress was 2,872, together making a total of 10,732 pupils, as against 10,328 pupils (consisting of 7,511 boys and 2,817 girls) in the previous year. Of the total number examined, 3,684 or 46·8 per cent of the boys and 1,145 or 39·86 per cent of the girls were found defective. The chief defects noted were enlarged tonsils and adenoids, malnutrition, eye diseases, defective vision, defective teeth, diseases of the skin and anaemia.

Advisory Committee.—There was a meeting of the Advisory Committee attached to the Medical and Public Health Departments on 5th October, 1936. At this meeting the committee resolved that, "in view of the fact that both the Civil Hospital and the Maternity Hospital (Trichur) require expansion, Government should come to some definite conclusion with regard to the shifting of the hospitals without any further delay." By another resolution the committee recommended that, if the Government found it impossible to shift these hospitals immediately, the allotment set apart for the expansion of the Civil Hospital might be utilised for the improvement of the other hospitals in the State and the position reviewed afterwards. These recommendations were placed before Government, but it was eventually decided that they might be held over for further consideration later.

Expenditure.—The total expenditure on the department for the year amounted to Rs. 4,83,077 as against Rs. 4,71,840 in 1935.

2. PUBLIC HEALTH

Public health was under the charge of the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer till 1932, when a new Department of Public Health was instituted, with a Director at its head, and the control over sanitation taken away from the Medical Department. Sanitation in rural areas is attended to by the Director of Public Health, and in the towns of Ernakulam, Mattancherri, Trichur, Chittur-Tattamangalam and Irinjalakuda by the respective Municipal Councils.

Changes in the Year.—The two Departments of Public Health and Panchayats were permanently amalgamated with effect from 20th Chingam, 1112, and the status of the Director was raised to that of a first grade head of a department. During the latter part of the year, the Rama Varma Central Ayurvedic Hospital was removed from the charge of the Diwan Peishkar and placed under the control of the Director of Public Health and Panchayats. Irinjalakuda was constituted into a municipality during the year under report and the jurisdiction of the Public Health Department withdrawn from it. To enable the Assistant Engineer, Panchayats, to supervise sanitary works as well, he was given training in sanitary engineering in Bangalore, and his designation was at the same time changed to "Assistant Engineer, Public Health and Panchayats." The employment of a Revenue Surveyor for the department to assist the overseers in the preparation of plans and estimates for the acquisition of lands required for the execution of works was another of the innovations sanctioned by Government.

Vital Statistics.—The village officers continued to be in charge of the registration of vital statistics, the respective panchayats devoting their attention to the check and correction of the statements before forwarding them to the respective Tahsildars. The total number of births registered during the year was 14,190 as against 13,602 in the previous year, and the number of deaths registered was 8,973 as against 8,048 in 1111. Of the deaths, 64 were cases of suicide, 312 due to accidents, and 42 were cases of snakebite. The death rate for the whole State was 7.5 per mille as against 6.89 in the previous year. The death rate among

infants was 75.5 per thousand as against 70.43 in the previous year and 80.23 in 1110. There were 65 still births as against 39 in 1111.

Epidemics.—Sporadic attacks of cholera occurred in several parts of the Chittur taluk during the months of Chingam, Kanni, Makaram and Edavam. Cholera was also reported from Ollur (Trichur taluk), Arangottukara and Pambady (Talappalli taluk) during the months of Medam, Mithunam and Karkadagam. Again, there were two outbreaks of cholera in the Chittur-Tattamangalam Municipality during the year. Due, however, to the adoption of timely preventive measures, the situation did not assume alarming proportions in any of these places. The total number of deaths due to cholera was 46 as against 36 in the previous year.

Besides sporadic cases of small-pox in some parts of the State, namely, Cherpu, Kunnamkulam, Virupakka, Palanji, etc., the disease broke out in an epidemic form in Kottol and Nemmara during the first and second halves, respectively, of the year. To cope with the epidemic, intensive campaigns of vaccination and propaganda were undertaken, with the result that it was soon brought under control. There were 80 deaths from smallpox during the year as against 87 in 1111.

• No case of plague was recorded during the year.

Malaria in an epidemic form prevailed in certain parts of the Chittur taluk. Anti-malarial measures such as distribution of quinine, paris-greening of breeding places of anophelines, house-to-house visits by the medical officer and treatment of infected patients, etc., were taken, as usual, during the malarial season. In regard to paris-greening, a departure was made for the first time during the year in the selection of the diluent, in that wood-ash was made use of instead of the customary lime. This resulted in greater economy and efficiency. An attempt was also made to grow Gambusia, a larvicidal fish, by getting a consignment from Bangalore and distributing them among selected wells and ponds; but, as they could not get acclimatised in Chittur waters, the attempt proved a failure. A malarial survey of the Chittur town, Pattancheri and Mungalmada was conducted during the year with a view to gauge the effects of the anti-malarial

measures carried out by the department since 1107 when a survey was conducted in these places by the Malaria Officer of the Government of Madras. A comparative study of the splenic indices obtained in the two surveys showed that the anti-malarial operations in the interval had yielded beneficial results.

Sanitation and Conservancy.—The rural areas and the non-municipal towns were, as usual, served by the department in the matter of sanitation and conservancy, while sanitation in the towns of Ernakulam, Mattancherri, Trichur and Chittur was attended to by the municipalities concerned. During the year, the Fowler's process of converting nightsoil and rubbish into manure was tried at Kunnamkulam and proved a success. The manure produced by the process was reported to be extremely good, and the yields under it better both in quality and quantity. The department was able to sell 33,475 pounds of manure at the rate of four annas per 100 pounds. The experiment was also being tried at Irinjalakuda during the year.

Lighting.—The lighting of towns other than municipal areas, markets and cartstands was, as usual, conducted by the department itself. There were in all 396 lights (362 ordinary and 34 petromax) in use during the year. The major part of Trippunittura was lit with electricity during the year, the line having been extended from Ernakulam, and in places where the lights could not be taken ordinary kerosine and petromax lights were maintained. Lighting in rural areas within the jurisdiction of the panchayats was done by the panchayats themselves, and at the end of the year there were 413 ordinary and nine petromax lights in all maintained by the panchayats, in addition to those put up for short periods on special occasions.

Vaccination.—There were 24 vaccination circles as in the previous year, each circle being in charge of a vaccinator. Besides, there were four female vaccinators attached to the four divisions. The total number of cases vaccinated was 106,536, of which 59,888 were successful as against 94,157 and 51,607 respectively, in the previous year.

Health Centres.—The three health centres at Irinjalakuda, Kunnamkulam and Nemmara continued to do useful work. The

work of the medical officers attached to these centres and of the health visitors consisted of house-to-house visits and advice to pregnant women regarding personal hygiene, ante-natal care, nursing of infants, etc.; attending normal labour cases, and re-visiting them daily for at least ten days after delivery; holding of clinics in the centres and selected localities outside; admission and treatment of poor cases of confinement in the centres; and distribution of milk, nourishment, etc., to poor and helpless children.

The health visitors were also posted outside the centres in selected areas or circles. There were six circles at the beginning of the year—at Vadakkancheri, Erumapetty, Nalleppalli, Ollur, Oorakam and Kodakara. Towards the end of the year, four more circles were opened at Elamkulam, Trippunittura, Mula-kunnathukavu and Mundur. The activities of these health visitors extended to the rural areas as well outside the circles. In all the centres and circles together, 981 labour cases were conducted.

Propaganda.—With a view to educate the masses in matters relating to public health, sanitation, epidemics, maternity and child welfare, etc., cinema shows were given in several places during the year. The Medical Officer for Epidemics also made use of the Irwin Park Radio Station at Ernakulam for broadcasting monthly talks on health subjects. Besides, wide publicity was given to topics of sanitary and public health interest through newspapers and pamphlets.

For the carrying on of all dangerous and offensive trades licences were required to be taken out, and these were inspected from time to time by the subordinate executive. Temporary licences were also granted for such trades in connection with fairs and festivals. Licences were granted free in certain deserving cases.

Markets and Cartstands.—There were in all 32 Government markets and cartstands and 127 private markets under the control of the department as against 29 and 103, respectively, in the previous year. Several improvements were made to the markets and cartstands under the department's management, and in the case of private markets the owners were induced to

carry out the necessary repairs and improvements before fresh licences were issued. Petty arecanut markets were exempted from payment of licence fee during the year, and the number of big markets for arecanuts was increased to suit the convenience of the public. The most important of these new markets was the one at Cheruthuruthi on the northern boundary of the State.

The contribution paid for improvement works and maintenance of roads in the towns served by municipalities amounted to Rs. 26,839 as against Rs. 29,870 in 1111. Under town improvement works directly under the charge of the department, a sum of Rs. 5,460 was in all spent.

PANCHAYATS

Irinjalakuda having been constituted into a municipality, the total number of panchayats fell from 87 to 86. These panchayats served about 267 villages in all, excluding the portions of villages served by the municipalities and falling within the smaller towns of Kunnankulam, Chalakudi, Trippunittura, Cranganur, Nemmara, Ollur, Palanji and Chelakkara. The total number of panchayatdars was 542 as against 547 in 1111, and the number actually in office at the end of the year was 537. The attendance of members at the meetings of panchayats was fairly satisfactory. Almost all the panchayats whose term was terminated during the year under the Village Panchayat Amendment Act, XXXIII of 1111, were reconstituted in time.

Sixteen group and three single panchayat courts were newly started from 1st Makaram, making up a total of 23 group and 12 single courts at the end of the year. Almost all the newly constituted courts were working in full swing by the close of the year. The courts had for disposal 7,060 cases as against 7,214 cases in 1111. Of these, 5,189 to the value of Rs. 84,003 were disposed of during the year. The courts were regularly inspected by the Director and the Panchayat Inspectors, while the suit records and registers were also inspected by District Munsiffs.

All chiras or irrigation works, both permanent and temporary, were properly maintained during the year. Several chiras were repaired, reconstructed or taken up in the year, the

construction of a R. C. sluice for Chakkarachal bund and the reconstruction of the Poratti chira being among the more important of the works executed.

The department paid careful attention to the question of water supply both for drinking and bathing purposes. Several important works were executed in this connection. Two bath-houses with R. C. elevated tanks and the necessary sets of hand power suction and force pumps and pipe connections were constructed at Mala, and they worked satisfactorily and economically. A number of wells and tanks were also newly constructed.

With a view to improve permanently the existing panchayat roads in formation, alignment, and gradient, a three-year scheme was drawn up during the year after a careful study of the existing conditions. A marked improvement in the conditions of roads was visible as a result of the adoption of this scheme. There were about 825 miles of roads in all under panchayat maintenance during the year.

AYURVEDA

The Rama Varma Central Ayurvedic Hospital, Trichur, continued to render useful service to the people who resorted to it for treatment. In order to cope with the increased activities of the institution, H. H. Ravi Varma Tampuran, who had his training in the Indian Medical School at Madras, was appointed Additional Honorary Chief Physician on 9th Meenam to exercise better and more constant supervision on the technical side. He was also required to be in charge of the hospital while the Superintendent was absent from headquarters. Two honorary physicians in the Eye section and Poison section were appointed in the course of the year.

The total number of patients treated in the hospital was 146,472 as against 129,820 in the previous year and 87,033 in 1110.

The Medical Advisory Board of the hospital met twice during the year and important subjects appertaining to the advancement of the institution were discussed.

Government sanctioned the opening of a sales department in the hospital during the year, and also the construction of a pucca shed for the manufacture of medicines.

There were 17 Ayurvedic Vaidyasalas or dispensaries under the panchayats at the beginning of the year. A new one was opened at Muriyad during the year. In all the 18 dispensaries together, 80,500 patients were treated.

Visha Vaidyasalas.— There were six Visha Vaidyasalas in the State at the beginning of the year. Of these, the Sri Rama Varma Visha Vaidya Sthapanam at Perunninakulam (near Trippunittura) served as an institution both for the treatment of patients and for the preparation of medicines for use in all the Visha Vaidyasalas and for their distribution among the several trained Visha Vaidyans throughout the State. In view of the large increase in the number of specially trained men practising in different parts of the State and also of the advantages that could be derived out of direct supervision by the Superintendent of the Rama Varma Central Ayurvedic Hospital, it was considered desirable to shift to Trichur that section of the institution which engaged itself in the preparation of medicines, leaving the hospital section at Trippunittura. A new Visha Vaidyasala was also opened at Anthikkad during the year. In all these Visha Vaidyasalas together, 5,493 patients were treated during the year, of whom 5,453 were cured, 21 died, one went away, and 18 were still under treatment. In view of the increasing demand for trained men, 27 students were trained during the year, making a total of 102 trained men in the State up to the end of the year.

Conferences.—A conference of Visha Vaidyans was held on 10th Chingam, at which subjects relating to poison treatment were discussed and a list of medicines required for use in the several Visha Vaidyasalas and for distribution to trained Vaidyans was also drawn up. For the first time, an Ayurvedic Conference was also held, attended by a large number of eminent Ayurvedic physicians from all parts of Kerala.

An all-State Panchayat Conference was held in the year at Vadakkancheri. Delegates from 73 Panchayats attended the

conference, besides several distinguished visitors. The conference was presided over by Mr. K. Achyuta Menon, Diwan Peishkar. All the resolutions passed at the conference were submitted to Government for orders.

Receipts and Expenditure.—The receipts and expenditure of the Public Health Department during the year were Rs. 45,334 and Rs. 1,51,142, respectively, as against Rs. 43,366 and Rs. 1,75,604 in 1111. The receipts and expenditure of the Panchayat Department during the year were Rs. 6,892 and Rs. 2,14,373, respectively, as against Rs. 4,065 and Rs. 2,18,918 in 1111.

CHAPTER XI

PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

Prior to the administration of Col. Munro (1810—1819), the Government of Cochin did not at any time directly interest itself in the education of the people. The State did not maintain or aid any schools, but left the people to make their own arrangements for the education of their children. But, in accordance with a Proclamation issued in 1818, 33 vernacular schools were established by Government in that year with the avowed object of training up young men for State service as writers and accountants. These schools did not realise the expectations of their founders, however, and they were consequently abolished in 1832. Three years later, six vernacular schools, one in each taluk, were established, but these, too, did not prove much of an improvement upon private indigenous schools. And when English schools were established in all the taluks some years later, they became practically useless, although they were actually abolished only in 1890.

English Education.—It was in 1837 that an English school was opened for the first time at Trichur. This was followed, eight years later, by the opening of two institutions—one at Trippunittura and the other at Ernakulam. When the school at Trichur, after flourishing for several years, showed signs of decline, Government took up its management. The standard of the institution was gradually raised thereafter, and in 1888 it sent up its first batch of candidates for the Matriculation Examination. In 1865, the school at Ernakulam was placed under the charge of a European head-master, and students of this institution were for the first time presented for the Matriculation Examination of the Madras University in 1868. In 1874, the school was raised to a second grade college.

In 1873, English schools were started in all the important centres of the State, and in 1887 the first Government school for the education of caste girls was opened at Trichur in commemoration of the Jubilee of Her Majesty the late Queen Victoria. A few years later, a similar institution was started

by Government at Ernakulam, where, subsequently, another girls' school was opened by the authorities of St. Teresa's Convent. In 1903, girls of all castes were allowed admission into the lower secondary department of the school at Trichur, and in 1911 the restriction as regards admission to the primary department was also removed. The first batch of girls from this school appeared for the School Final Examination in the year 1911.

As a result of the passing of liberal grant-in-aid rules in 1889, several new primary and secondary schools under private management came into existence. In fact, the policy of the Government has always been to offer maximum encouragement to private agencies in the opening and maintaining of schools, especially of those intended for the spread of elementary education among the masses.

Education Code.—The general policy of the Government in respect of education was laid down in the Education Code that was drawn up in the year 1911. This code was revised in 1921 on the recommendations of a committee of leading educationalists and public men of the State, constituted by Government to examine the provisions of the 1911 code in detail and to suggest modifications in the light of the experience gained. One of the important changes introduced by the new code was that children of the depressed classes should be exempted from payment of all fees and that those belonging to Muslim, Ezhuva and other backward classes should be allowed half fee concessions in English schools. Another change was in favour of the adoption of the vernacular as the medium of instruction even in English schools up to Form III. Besides, increased facilities were provided for vocational and industrial education. The scholarship rules were also recast, and several special scholarships for girls and for members of the Muslim and other backward and depressed communities were instituted.

Important Features of the Year.—In accordance with a resolution passed by the Advisory Committee on Industries and Commerce held on 15th February, 1936, the Department of Industries

was separated from the Department of Education and reorganised into a separate Department of Commerce and Industries on 16th Kanni. During the year orders were passed by Government to reserve two seats in each of the classes of the Maharaja's College, Ernakulam, from the current academic year, for the admission of free scholars of approved merits and who secured high marks from the poor backward classes. It was also decided to make permanent the Malayalam School at Parambikulam, started as a temporary institution in 1105, since it had worked satisfactorily during the interval and was found to satisfy a real need. Another interesting feature of the working of the department during the year was the opening of a Veena section in the Sri Rama Varma Music School, Trichur, as an experimental measure.

Requests for new schools and classes came in as usual, but sanction was accorded for their opening only where it was felt there was absolute necessity. A lower secondary school was opened at Veliyanad under private management, and another, a lower secondary girls' school, at Trippunittura with special classes for teaching music and needlework. The H. E. H. M. School, Mattancherri, was raised to a lower secondary school, and the Sri Ramakrishna Gurukula Vidya-Mandir at Vilangans became a high school. Two new lower primary schools—one a girls' school at Koratti and the other a boys' school at Mannampetta—were also opened. Government assumed management during the year of the Mangayil High School, Maradu, the D. V. High School, Velur (now known as the Raja Sir Sri Rama Varma High School), the Co-operative Lower Secondary School, Kadungamangalam (renamed as Lower Secondary School, Thiruvankulam), and the depressed class school, Kuttichira. Recognition was granted to a special school started at Thayanikulangara for the teaching of music, to the Kalamandalam which teaches the art of *kathakali*, and to the indigenous school at Pottore which imparts education in the old Kerala style. There were a few requests for the opening of new Sanskrit schools, but they were rejected pending orders on the scheme of re-organisation of Sanskrit education submitted to Government. The Sanskrit School at Chottanikkara was taken over to Government management.

Educational Institutions and Enrolment.—Against 181 Government institutions in 1111, there were 186 at the end of the year. Of these, 27 were high schools, 14 lower secondary schools, nine English primary schools, 126 Malayalam schools, and five fishery schools, the remaining five institutions being the Maharaja's College, Ernakulam, the Government Training Institution, Trichur, the Sanskrit College, Trippunittura, the Sri Rama Varma Music School, Trichur, and the Sanskrit School, Chot-tanikara. The number of institutions under private management stood at 458, there being two colleges, 21 high schools, 46 lower secondary schools, 10 English primary schools, 362 Malayalam schools, three night schools, nine Sanskrit schools, one school for the blind, one school for the uncontaminated children of lepers, the music school at Thayankulangara, the Kalamandalam and the indigenous school at Pottore.

The total enrolment in all the educational institutions together was 169,501 (98,606 boys and 70,895 girls) as against 165,972 (97,018 boys and 68,954 girls) in 1111. Since no fresh census was taken of unaided and indigenous schools, their number and strength were taken as 286 and 6,827, respectively, as in 1105. Including the pupils of the unaided and unrecognised indigenous schools and excluding the pupil teachers of the Government Training Institution, the strength of the several educational institutions at the end of the year was 176,214 (105,455 boys and 72,759 girls) as against 172,787 (101,943 boys and 70,844 girls) in 1111. Of the total enrolment in the Government and recognised institutions, 102,015 were Hindus, 59,880 were Christians, 7,263 Muslims and 343 Jews.

Of the several agencies managing education, the percentage of educational work done by Government was 32.7 as against 31.7 in 1111, the figures for the aided and recognised, and the indigenous agencies being 63.4 and 3.9, respectively, as against 64.3 and 4, respectively, in the previous year.

COLLEGIATE EDUCATION

There were three first grade colleges—the Maharaja's College and the St. Teresa's College at Ernakulam, and the

St. Thomas College at Trichur. All these together had a total enrolment of 1,359 (1,100 males and 259 females) at the end of the year as against 1,315 (1,031 males and 284 females) at the end of 1111.

Due to the great rush for admission and considering the good equipment and accommodation, the Syndicate had fixed the maximum strength of the Maharaja's College at 750 during the year. The college had a total enrolment of 710 at the end of the year as against 691 in 1111. The average strength and attendance for the year were 686.33 and 611.69 as against 643.67 and 600.97 in 1111, the percentage of attendance being 89.12. One hundred and sixty-three students were sent up for the intermediate examination, of whom 57 passed completely, the percentage of full passes being 35. For the B. A. examination, 72 appeared, of whom 27 were successful, the percentage of full passes being 37.5. For the B. Sc. Part I examination 44 candidates appeared, of whom 26 or 59 per cent passed, and for the B. Sc. Part II, 32 or 74 per cent passed out of 43 candidates who appeared for it.

There were two Government hostels attached to the college—the Rama Varma Hostel and the Shanmukham Hostel; the Women's Hostel, though separately housed, formed part of the Rama Varma Hostel under a separate Superintendent. The total strength of these hostels was 113. Besides, there were four approved lodges available for students of the college—the Muslim Hostel, the Harijan Hostel, the Sadanam and the Y.W. C.A. Hostel.

With a view to give practical training in social service to the students of the college, a "Social Service League," comprising about a score of volunteers from among the students of all castes and creeds, was formed during the year, and they attended regularly the out-patient department of the General Hospital assisting under proper medical supervision at the dressing and washing of wounds, bandaging, first-aid and other humanitarian work to relieve suffering.

Physical culture received proper attention, and there was also special provision for the women students of the college

for games like badminton, tennikoit, volley ball, tennis, etc. Towards the end of the year, sea scouting was introduced, and there were about a dozen students undergoing training in it when the year closed.

The receipts and expenditure for the year were Rs. 63,120 and Rs. 1,56,335, respectively, as against Rs. 61,489 and Rs. 1,64,421 in 1111.

UPPER SECONDARY

There were 48 high schools in all, of which 27 were Sirkar institutions (20 for boys and seven for girls) and 21 under private management (15 for boys and six for girls). The total strength of these schools in the upper secondary department was 6,594 (4,670 boys and 1,924 girls) as against 6,488 (4,663 boys and 1,825 girls) in 1111. The strength of the upper secondary department of the Government institutions alone was 3,759 (2,697 boys and 1,062 girls), and that of schools under private management 2,835 (1,973 boys and 862 girls) as against 3,549 (2,599 boys and 950 girls) and 2,939 (2,064 boys and 875 girls), respectively, in the previous year.

The secondary school leaving certificate examination was conducted in 34 centres as against 33 in the previous year, and there were in all 2,491 applications for the examination as against 2,354 in 1111. Of the candidates who appeared 49·6 per cent came out successful.

The hostels attached to the Sirkar high schools at Chittur, Vadakkancheri, and Kunnankulam worked satisfactorily during the year, and equally satisfactory was the working of the boarding houses attached to certain of the high schools in the State.

All the 21 teachers who were under training during 1936—37 rejoined duty after the course. For training during 1937—38 only 13 teachers could be deputed, as the Travancore Government expressed their inability to take in any candidates from the State in the Training College, Trivandrum, from the current academic year onwards.

LOWER SECONDARY

The lower secondary schools, including the lower secondary departments of high schools and of the Government Training Institution, numbered 109 as against 106 in the previous year. Of these, 42 were Government institutions (32 for boys and 10 for girls), and the remaining 67 (48 for boys and 19 for girls) were under private management. Of these, again, 27 were the lower secondary departments attached to the Sirkar high schools, one to the Government Training Institution and 21 to the high schools under private management, the remaining alone being lower secondary schools proper.

The enrolment of the lower secondary departments of all the schools together was 14,614 (9,172 boys and 5,442 girls) as against 13,507 (8,639 boys and 4,868 girls) in 1111. Of these, 6,825 (4,535 boys and 2,290 girls) were in Sirkar schools, and 7,789 (4,637 boys and 3,152 girls) in those under private management, the strength in the respective institutions in the previous year being 6,085 (4,005 boys and 2,080 girls) and 7,422 (4,634 boys and 2,788 girls).

For the Form III public examination there were 3,873 candidates as against 3,440 in 1111. The percentage of passes in the examination worked out at 59.9 as against 58.1 in the previous year.

There were no hostels or boarding houses attached to Sirkar lower secondary schools, but some of the convent lower secondary schools maintained boarding houses, and they were working under proper supervision. The Nambudiri Vidyalyam, Trichur, had a hostel attached to it for its girl pupils.

The secondary departments of Government institutions had an income of Rs. 2,21,883 and incurred an expenditure of Rs. 4,16,847 as against Rs. 2,06,102 and Rs. 4,06,472 in the previous year. The grant paid to the secondary departments of aided schools amounted to Rs. 87,323 as against Rs. 1,02,080 in 1111.

PRIMARY

Primary schools at the end of the year numbered 510 as against 509 in 1111. Of these, 135 were Sirkar schools and

375 under private management as against 134 and 375, respectively, in the previous year. Of the 135 Sirkar schools, 105 were schools for boys and 30 for girls. Among those under private management, three were night schools, 329 were schools for boys and 43 for girls. Of the Sirkar schools, nine were English schools (four for boys and five for girls), and of the schools under private management ten were English schools (eight for boys and two for girls). Including the primary departments of high and lower secondary schools and of the Government Training Institution, the total number of primary schools at the end of the year was 596 (175 Sirkar and 421 under private management) as against 593 (171 Sirkar and 422 aided) in 1111.

The total enrolment in primary schools including primary departments of secondary schools and of the Government Training Institution was 144,912 (82,082 boys and 62,830 girls) as against 143,735 (82,024 boys and 61,711 girls) in the previous year. The strength in the primary departments of Sirkar schools alone was 45,148 (26,103 boys and 19,045 girls) as against 44,767 (27,567 boys and 17,200 girls) in 1111, the enrolment in institutions under private management being 99,764 (55,979 boys and 43,785 girls) as against 98,969 (54,457 boys and 44,511 girls) in the previous year. In the three night schools together, the total enrolment was 101 as against 96 in 1111.

The receipts of the primary departments of Sirkar schools were Rs. 43,327 and the expenditure on them was Rs. 4,28,145 as against Rs. 40,729 and Rs. 4,15,973 in 1111. The amount of grant paid to primary schools in the State, including provident fund contribution and interest, was Rs. 5,23,388 as against Rs. 5,18,646 in 1111.

DEPRESSED CLASS EDUCATION

The policy of spreading education among the backward and depressed classes was steadily pursued during the year by giving half fee concessions to pupils belonging to the backward classes and by exempting the depressed class pupils from payment of fees and by giving them stipends, feeding charges, supply of school requisites and clothing as an additional encouragement.

As a further incentive, some communities which had been classed as backward, but had not taken to education in large numbers, were temporarily classed as depressed, and all the concessions admissible to the depressed class pupils were extended to them. As a result, the total number of pupils belonging to the backward and depressed classes attending schools at the end of the year increased to 66,370 from 58,917 in 1111.

Of the total number of the backward and depressed class students, 16,463 belonged to the depressed classes, including the communities to which depressed class concessions were temporarily extended, as against 14,470 in the previous year. Of the total number of depressed class students, 11 (including two girls) were in the college department, nine (including one girl) in the Sanskrit college, Trippunittura, 200 (including 24 girls) in the upper secondary department, 1,094 (including 241 girls) in the lower secondary department, 15,076 (including 5,583 girls) in the primary department, and 73 (including 32 girls) in the fishery schools.

MUSLIM EDUCATION

The Muslim pupils attending schools and colleges numbered 7,262 (including 2,260 girls) as against 6,685 (including 2,037 girls) at the end of 1111. Of these, 40 (including two girls) were in the college department, one (a boy) in the Sanskrit college, Trippunittura, 180 (including 15 girls) in the upper secondary department, 421 (including 75 girls) in the lower secondary department, 6,601 (including 2,163 girls) in the primary department and 19 (including five girls) in the fishery schools.

FEMALE EDUCATION

Educational institutions specially intended for girls numbered 105 as against 102 in the previous year. Of these, 41 were Sirkar institutions and 64 under private management. Of the total number, one was a college, 13 high schools, 16 lower secondary schools, 73 primary schools and two special institutions.

The total enrolment of all the schools together was 70,895 as against 68,954 in the previous year. Of these, 259 were in the college department, 167 and 92 being in the

Maharaja's College and St. Teresa's College, respectively. One hundred and sixty-three of these were in the intermediate, 69 in the B. A. and 27 in the B. Sc. classes.

Of the 13 high schools for girls, seven were Sirkar and six aided. The strength of Sirkar girls' high schools was 3,449 (including 179 boys) and that of schools under private management 3,425 (including 380 boys) as against 3,284 (including 174 boys) and 3,199 (including 354 boys), respectively, in 1935. The enrolment of girls in the upper secondary and lower secondary departments of all the secondary schools for girls together was 1,301 and 3,242, the respective figures for the previous year being 1,229 and 2,944. The total number of pupils attending the upper and lower secondary classes of all the schools together including those for boys and the Government Training Institution was 1,924 and 5,422 as against 1,825 and 4,868, respectively, in 1935.

For the School Final Examination of March 1937, 298 girls appeared and 137 came out successful.

The Palace Girls' High School continued to be conducted out of Palace funds exclusively for the education of the princesses of the Ruling Family, although young princes also were admitted in the lower classes. Pupils were, as usual, coached up for the State S. S. L. C. examination, and special classes were conducted for those who wanted to pursue higher studies in Sanskrit literature, Indian logic and Ayurveda and for those who wanted to appear for the intermediate examination. Hindi was introduced as an optional subject of study during the year. The strength of the regular classes was 80, and that of the special Sanskrit classes nine, as against 61 and nine, respectively, in 1935.

Of the 73 primary schools for girls, seven were English and the remaining Vernacular schools. Of the English schools, five were Sirkar and two aided, and of the 66 Malayalam schools 25 were Sirkar and 41 under private management. The total number of girls in the primary department including that in boys' schools and the Government Training Institution was 62,830 as against 61,711 in the previous year. There were,

besides, 219 girls attending fishery schools and 83 attending Sanskrit schools as against 221 and 102, respectively, in 1111. Also ten pupils attended the music school at Thayamkulangara.

Heads of schools, especially those managed by convents, continued to pay special attention to teaching handicrafts, bead-work, fancy garland making and other paper work, etc., being some of the handicrafts taught. The cookery classes attached to some of the high schools also functioned satisfactorily. A number of teachers and pupils attended the special class in fine arts organised during the year by the Arts Association attached to the V. G. School, Trichur. The Thyagaraya day was also observed by the Association.

SPECIAL INSTITUTIONS

Special educational institutions numbered 23 during the year as against 20 in 1111. Of these, nine were Sirkar and 14 under private management. The Sirkar institutions were the Government Training Institution, Trichur, the Sanskrit College, Trippunittura, the Sri Rama Varma Music School, Trichur, the Sanskrit school, Chottanikkara, and the five fishery schools. Of the 14 schools under private management, seven were Sanskrit schools, two Vedasastra Patasalas, one school for the blind and one for the uncontaminated children of the lepers, the remaining three being the Kalamandalam at Cheruthuruthi, the indigenous school at Pottore and the music school at Thayamkulangara.

The Government Training Institution had a total enrolment of 721 as against 706 in 1111, of which 114 were in the training section and 607 in the model section as against 106 and 600, respectively, in the previous year. Two trained teachers' examinations, namely, the theoretical and the practical, were held as usual. Of the 156 candidates who appeared for the theoretical examination, 98 came out successful, while, of the 101 candidates who appeared for the practical examination, 97 passed. Special classes were held during the year for the benefit of pupil teachers who had taste in drawing, music and needle-work, and they were also given training in spinning with taklis and charkas to create a vocational bias in them. Practical work

was given in domestic science also. The total receipts and disbursements of the institution were Rs. 5,887 and Rs. 35,557 as against Rs. 5,504 and Rs. 37,475, respectively, in 1111.

The Sri Rama Varma Sanskrit College, Trippunittura, worked in two sections as usual, namely, the Government section and the Endowment section. Both sections together had an enrolment of 352 (including 36 girls) as against 265 (including 24 girls) in 1111.

Twelve students were sent up for the State Bhushana examination, of whom nine got through; and of the 17 students who appeared for the Kavya examination, seven were successful. There were also nine partial passes in the Kavya examination.

A Sastra Sadas was conducted in the College during the Christmas holidays in an eight-days' session, and many of the Sanskrit Pandits of the State participated in it.

On the recommendation of the Education Advisory Committee, Government sanctioned the opening of the Nyaya Bhushana class in the Government section of the college from the beginning of the current educational year.

In the Maharaja's Grandha Library attached to the College there were 1,992 volumes at the close of the year, of which 1,298 were manuscripts, 375 transcripts and 319 printed books. The work of collecting and copying ancient cadjan grandhas was entrusted by Government during the year with the curator of the library.

The receipts of the endowment section of the college including the closing balance of the previous year were Rs. 10,059 and the expenditure Rs. 6,585. The expenditure on account of the Government section was Rs. 6,773.

Of the ten other Sanskrit schools, two were purely Vedic schools and the remaining eight continued to coach up pupils for the State Kavya examination. The total strength of these schools was 879 (including 83 girls) as against 912 (including 102 girls) in 1111.

The Sri Rama Varma Music School, Trichur, continued to be popular, although the raising of the standard of literacy

qualification to Form III for admission slightly affected its strength which fell from 41 to 32 in the year under report. A veena class was opened from the reopening of schools in Edavam, and it had five students when the year closed. Arrangements were also being made for the pupils of the V. G. School to study veena after their regular school work.

The number of fishery schools remained the same as in the previous year, namely, five, and all of them together had a strength of 571 (including 219 girls) as against 556 (including 221 girls) in 1111. The inspection of these schools was done by the Fishery Inspector attached to the Revenue Department.

Committees.—The Text Book Committee met twice during the year, and altogether considered 520 books, of which 231 belonged to the English, 190 to the Vernacular, 48 to the History and Geography and 51 to the Science sections. The Board of Studies also met, as usual, to make recommendations for change of text books.

The Malayalam Improvement Committee attended to the publication of old unpublished works. In furtherance of this policy, two *champus* were published in the course of the year with short comments and detailed prefaces. The work of collecting and compiling technical and scientific terms for an English-to-Malayalam glossary also received attention during the year.

Libraries.—Public libraries, excluding the Princes' Library, Trippunittura, and the Grandha Library attached to the Sanskrit College, numbered 12—the same as in the previous year. Six new village libraries were opened, and thus the total number of village libraries at the end of the year was 18. There was also one travelling library. All these were working satisfactorily. The total amount spent on all the libraries together was Rs. 3,579.

Scouting and Guiding.—The popularity of scouting increased during the year. According to a census conducted by the Boy Scouts Association, there were 519 cubs, 1,160 scouts, 181 rovers, 156 scouters and 95 headquarters council members, commissioners, etc. Sea scouting also showed a steady and marked improvement. There were three ranger companies of girl guides, four guide companies and four flocks in Ernakulam

and three guide companies and two flocks in Trichur, at the beginning of the year. A new guide company and a flock were started at Ernakulam in the course of the year. On the whole, there were 444 guides and guiders in the State at the end of the year. Twelve guiders were sent to Ootacamund for the summer school training, and they trained the guides in habits of observation and service to others, besides giving them lessons in physical culture.

Receipts and Expenditure.—The total departmental receipts and expenditure were Rs. 3,77,671 and Rs. 18,23,191 as against Rs. 3,52,720 and Rs. 18,33,576, respectively, in 1111, the net expenditure being Rs. 14,45,520 as against Rs. 14,80,856 in the previous year. Of the net expenditure, 5.4 per cent was on direction and inspection, 6.7 per cent on collegiate education, 19.5 per cent on secondary education, 62.3 per cent on primary education and 6.1 per cent on miscellaneous including the Government Training Institution, as against 5.4, 7.0, 20.4, 60.1 and 7.1 per cent, respectively, in 1111.

CHAPTER XII

UPLIFT OF THE DEPRESSED CLASSES

The uplift of the depressed classes—a department which is under the charge of an officer designated Protector of the Depressed Classes—has been systematically carried on in the State during the last one decade. The department aims at instilling into the minds of the depressed classes a love of learning, a longing for freedom and a belief in God, and attempts to train them up to lead a clean and simple life, as well as to habits of industry and thrift. Several special facilities and concessions are extended to them with a view to help forward their educational and economic progress, and nearly a lakh of rupees is spent year after year in their cause.

Five backward communities—Vathis (barbers of all backward classes), Perumannans and Velans, Naickens, Odas and Panans—were classed as depressed classes for purposes of educational concessions during the year under report. The ameliorative activities of the department were carried on in all the taluks of the State with great zeal, although there was no change in the general policy or practical working of the department itself. These activities included the organisation and running of schools for the special benefit of the depressed classes; award of scholarships and stipends, both literary and industrial; grant of special facilities for collegiate education; provision of feeding and supply of school requisites and clothes; running of hostels for students; provision of house sites; building up of colonies or settlements; sinking and repair of wells and tanks; provision of pathways, burial grounds and other sanitary requirements; organisation and running of co-operative societies; and safeguarding the interests of depressed class labour

Literary Education.—As a result of special encouragement given in the shape of liberal grants, stipends, scholarships and other inducements, the depressed classes in recent years have been taking to education in large numbers. During the year 16,707 depressed class pupils (10,761 boys and 5,946 girls) received education in all the schools together as against 14,470

(9,470 boys and 5,000 girls) in the previous year. There was thus a perceptible increase in literacy among them, over 70 per cent of the children of school-going age being at school during the year. Of these pupils, 10 were in the college classes, nine in the Sanskrit College, 1,294 in the upper and lower secondary classes together, 15,076 in the primary classes, 245 in the industrial schools and 73 in the fishery schools, as against 2, 2, 988, 13, 140, 277 and 61, respectively, in the previous year.

In the case of the depressed class pupils studying in the lower secondary and upper secondary classes, they are not only exempted from payment of fees, but they are also given special stipends as an additional inducement. These stipends are of Rs. 2 each per month in the lower secondary, and Rs. 3 each per month in the upper secondary, classes. Although it has long been the policy of the Government to grant this concession to all the depressed class pupils attending secondary schools, so rapid has been the increase in the number of these pupils that Government have recently fixed the number of depressed class stipendiaries at 200 in the lower secondary department and at 100 in the upper secondary department.

The total expenditure on account of feeding, clothing and supply of school requisites to depressed class children studying in the secondary and primary classes together came to Rs. 38,576 as against Rs. 41,540 in the previous year.

Special encouragement is also given to enable the depressed class pupils to qualify themselves for University degrees. A depressed class student, on his admission to college, is given a stipend of Rs. 10 per mensem tenable for two years, besides an annual lump sum grant of Rs. 30 for the purchase of books and other requisites. He is also exempted from every kind of fees, including caution money and laboratory fees. While Government had in previous years sanctioned only four collegiate scholarships for the depressed class pupils, they raised the number of collegiate stipends from four to ten during the year.

Qualified candidates from the depressed classes are given all possible facilities to enter Government service. A fixed percentage of appointments is reserved to them, and several

school finals have been entertained in the various departments of the State on the recommendation of the Staff Selection Board. Miss K. K. Dakshayani, B. A., the first Pulaya lady graduate, was confirmed in a preferential grade during the year and sent up for teachers' training at Madras.

Industrial Education.—Special attention continued to be paid towards encouraging industrial education among the depressed classes. During the year seven girls of the Government Industrial School for Girls and five girls of the Government Trades School were awarded special stipends at Rs. 7 each per mensem. Besides, special feeding charges at the rate of Rs. 3 each to ten depressed class boys of the Government Trades School, and stipends at Rs. 5 to seven depressed class girls in the Government Industrial School for Girls, were also given. In all, there were 29 depressed class pupils undergoing technical studies in the Trades School at Trichur, receiving training in such subjects as weaving, mat-making, carpentry, rattan work, electroplating, metal work, electrical section, drawing and motor section. The subjects for girls included weaving, needle-work, embroidery, mat-making, music and laundry work. In all the various industrial schools of the State together, there were 245 depressed class pupils, of whom 122 were awarded special feeding charges at Rs. 3 per mensem. With a view to give training in mechanical works, Government have also sanctioned a monthly grant of Rs. 7 each for six depressed class students to be trained as fitters in the Tramway Workshop at Chalakudi for three years.

Provision of House-sites.—Special attention was bestowed as in previous years on the provision of house-sites to the depressed classes by assignment free of cost of lands at the disposal of Government or by acquisition of private lands at Government cost and allotting them in convenient plots according to requirements. With the sanction of Government, the Conservator of Forests handed over to the department about 230 acres of forest exclusions suited for habitation in different parts of the reserve forest to be leased out to the depressed classes for house-sites on a nominal rent of eight annas per acre. Besides, private lands costing Rs. 1,330 were acquired for the purpose of the department during the year, of which Rs. 692 was spent for

purchasing 9.07 acres of land for the provision of house-sites, so that the total number of house-sites provided by acquisition of lands since the commencement of the operation of the department came to 457. Since the inception of the department, 1,415 house-sites had also been provided by free assignment of poramboke lands. In all 362 houses had been built by Government for the use of the depressed classes till the end of the year.

Colonies.—There was an increase in the number of the depressed class colonies as well. There were 89 of them at the end of the year as against 82 in the previous year. The total expenditure on colonies was Rs. 15,420 as against Rs. 14,300 in 1935. In the laying out of colonies particular care was taken to provide pathways, a plentiful supply of good water and sufficient open space for a school, a place of worship and other common purposes. All agricultural implements, seeds, seedlings and manure were supplied free of cost whenever a new colony was established. Forty-nine new houses in the colonies were constructed during the year, and an expenditure of Rs. 3,725 was incurred on that behalf.

Although it had been the policy of the department to construct Bhajana Mutts in the colonies to foster and develop religious sentiments among the depressed classes, Government ordered its discontinuance and all the expenses connected therewith in the latter half of the year in response to a resolution moved in the Legislative Council by the representative of the depressed classes.

Water Supply.—The provision of an adequate supply of water for bathing and drinking purposes was, as in previous years, one of the major items of ameliorative work attended to by the department. Eleven new wells were constructed during the year and five wells and two tanks were repaired at a total cost of Rs. 1,967.

Co-operative Societies.—The organisation of co-operative societies continued to be one of the beneficent activities of the department. There were in all 46 depressed class societies with a total membership of 2,070 and a working capital of Rs. 13,951

during the year. The total number of co-operative societies in 1111 was 45 with a total membership of 1,839.

The depressed classes form a fairly large proportion of the labouring population of the State, and the department paid particular attention to safeguarding their interests.

Expenditure.—The total expenditure of the department during the year was Rs 77,168 as against Rs. 80,712 in the previous year.

CHAPTER XIII

LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT

Local self-government in Cochin is represented by five municipalities—Mattancherri, Ernakulam, Trichur, Chittur-Tattamangalam and Irinjalakuda. Of these, the Irinjalakuda Municipal Council was inaugurated only on 14th Vrischigam, 1112. All these municipalities have been created under the provisions of the Cochin Municipalities Act, XI of 1096. A new Municipal Bill modelled on the lines of the Madras District Municipalities Act was before the Legislative Council, and hence the term of the Councils, which should have expired on 1st Vrischigam in the normal course, was extended by one year by a Royal Proclamation.

The area and population (according to the Census of 1931) of these Municipalities are as follows: Mattancherri—area about 3 square miles, population 39,652; Ernakulam—area about six square miles, population 36,639; Trichur—area 4.87 square miles, population 45,670; Chittur-Tattamangalam—area 3.7 square miles, population 18,965; and Irinjalakuda—area about five square miles, population 16,160.

Mattancherri Municipal Council.—There were 15 meetings (14 ordinary and one special) of the Mattancherri Municipal Council during the year as against 18 in the previous year. Four meetings had to be adjourned for want of a quorum. The percentage of attendance in the meetings was 58.17.

The total receipts of the Council in the year amounted to Rs. 1,38,490 and the expenditure to Rs. 1,33,084. With the opening balance of Rs. 19,949, the Council had to its credit Rs. 25,355 at the end of the year.

For offences against the provisions of the Municipal Act and the rules thereunder, 992 cases were charge-sheeted during the year. Of these, 123 were convicted, the rest being either compounded or withdrawn.

Births and deaths registered in the year numbered 1,961 and 734, respectively, as against 1,828 and 702 in the previous year.

A large number of new roads were opened during the year, and many blind canals and low-lying areas were reclaimed and metalled, providing easy means of communication.

Ernakulam Municipal Council.—Eighteen meetings of the Ernakulam Municipal Council were convened during the year as against 16 in 1936. Of these, one meeting had to be adjourned for want of quorum as against two in the previous year. The percentage of attendance in the meetings was 44.76 as against 44.09 in 1936.

The total receipts of the Council, including receipts under debt heads, amounted to Rs. 1,86,419 and the total disbursements to Rs. 1,68,504. Of the disbursements, Rs. 16,000 was spent for the improvement of the Padiyath basin out of a loan received from Government. With the opening balance of Rs. 70,524 the year closed, therefore, with Rs. 88,438 to the credit of the Council.

There were 486 cases of infringement of the Municipal Act and the rules issued thereunder as against 805 in 1936. A large number of these cases were for carrying on unlicensed dangerous and offensive trades.

Births and deaths registered during the year numbered 1,306 and 684, respectively, as against 1,379 and 635 in the previous year, the birth-rate working out at 31.91 per mille and the death-rate at 16.71 per mille as against 37.64 and 17.33 in 1936. Infantile mortality was 115.62 per thousand.

The town was lit by electricity from the beginning of the year, and there were 371 electric lights at the end of the year. The cost of lighting with electricity from October 1936 to the end of July 1937 amounted to Rs. 5,676.

A notable achievement of the Council in the year was the improvement of the Padiyath Canal and basin by the construction of revetment walls. Improvements to the market canal and

oasin were also in good progress towards the close of the year.

Trichur Municipal Council.—The number of meetings called by the Trichur Municipal Council in the year was 33 (12 ordinary and 21 special) as against 35 in 1935. Nine of these meetings (two ordinary and seven special) were adjourned for want of quorum. The average percentage of attendance of members at the meetings was 41·41 as against 50·48 in the previous year.

The total receipts of the Council, including those under debt heads, amounted to Rs. 1,99,085 and the expenditure to Rs. 1,94,492. The opening balance of the year being Rs. 97,423, the Council had to its credit Rs. 1,02,016 at the end of the year.

The number of births registered during the year was 1,267 as against 931 in 1935 and the number of deaths was 523 as against 446 in the previous year, the birth-rate working out to 27·7 and the death-rate to 11·4 as against 20·3 and 9·7, respectively, in 1935.

No work of public importance was taken up in the year except the construction of a foot-path round the Thekkinkad Maidan which was being carried out by the Public Works Department on behalf of the Municipality.

The question of tapping a perennial source of water supply for the town remained unsettled, but the Chief Engineer proposed the Naduthodu Scheme, and it was pending consideration of the Council at the close of the year.

By the end of Dhanu electric lights were introduced in some of the most important parts of the town by entering into a contract with the Cochin State Power and Light Corporation, Limited, and the lighting was satisfactory. Later, the rights of the Cochin State Power and Light Corporation, Limited, in the Trichur electric license were purchased by the Municipality at a cost of Rs. 5,80,000 including the 25 per cent compensation paid to the company. The whole of the amount was taken as a loan from Government.

Chittur Municipal Council.—The Chittur-Tattamangalam Municipal Council held 28 meetings (20 ordinary and 8 special) in the year as against 46 (23 ordinary and 23 special) in 1111. Seven meetings had to be adjourned for want of quorum. The average attendance of members was 47·6 per cent as against 54·6 per cent in the previous year.

The receipts of the Council under all the heads together amounted to Rs. 53,378 and the expenditure to Rs. 46,145. Since the Council had an opening balance of Rs. 34,845, the year closed with a balance of Rs. 42,078 in its favour.

The number of births registered during the year was 660 as against 699 in 1111 and the number of deaths was 440 as against 380 in the previous year. There were outbreaks of cholera and small-pox during the year, but immediate steps were taken and the situation was not allowed to go beyond control.

Irinjalakuda Municipal Council.—Nineteen meetings were held by the Irinjalakuda Municipal Council during the year, and the average attendance of members was 71 per cent.

The total receipts of the Council in the year, including Government contributions and receipts under debt heads, was Rs. 9,025 and the expenditure Rs. 5,741. There was, therefore, a closing balance of Rs. 3,284 in favour of the Council.

No criminal prosecution was launched during the year.

Regular registration of births and deaths was commenced only with effect from 1st Meenam. But taking the average figures of the last five months of the year for the first seven months also, the birth-rate and the death-rate worked out at 21·1 and 11·51 per thousand, respectively.

REPORT ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF COCHIN

CHAPTER XIV

HINDU RELIGIOUS AND CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS

The first time that the State assumed the direct management of Devaswams to any considerable extent was after the last invasion and partial conquest of Cochin by the Zamorin of Calicut in the middle of the 18th century when many of the chiefs of Cochin transferred their allegiance to the Zamorin. After the final expulsion of the Zamorin in 1762, the chiefs were divested of their administrative powers, and the properties of those who had turned hostile were, in some cases partially and in others wholly, confiscated by the Government. As almost all the chiefs were *urallers*, or managers, of a number of Devaswams, these latter came under the direct management of the State. The corporations of the major Devaswams were also, like the chiefs, deprived of their sovereign powers, and the management of most of them was assumed by the State. Several minor Devaswams were subsequently taken over by the State owing to their mismanagement by incompetent or dishonest *urallers*.

Incorporated and Unincorporated Devaswams.—The several Devaswams that thus came under the Government were treated as isolated units and placed under the management of petty officers. Since these officers mismanaged the affairs of the institutions in their charge, and often enriched themselves at their expense, there was widespread dissatisfaction among the people; consequently, at the time of Col. Munro it was decided to treat all Devaswam property as Government property, merging all Devaswam receipts in the general revenues of the State and paying from the public treasury all Devaswam expenses [according to a fixed scale.

About twenty-five years after the incorporation of these Devaswams, two well-endowed temples were surrendered to the Government by the *urallers* owing to their incapacity to manage their affairs properly. The properties and receipts of these temples were not, however, amalgamated with those of the State, but were kept separate and their expenditure met from those

receipts. Subsequent to this, several other Devaswams of this kind came under the management of the Government from time to time for similar reasons and were treated in the same manner. As these institutions are independent of each other as well as of State Devaswams, they are known as "Unincorporated Devaswams." The number of Devaswams of this kind has been increasing year after year because of the operation of the Hindu Religious Institutions Act which was passed in 1905 and by which the Government have taken power to assume the management of Devaswams for proved mismanagement by their *urallers*.

H. H. the Maharaja's Visit.—The most important event of the year in the department was the first visit of His Highness the Maharaja, after the ascension to the *musnad*, to the Oorakam, Perumanom and Thiruvilluamala temples. His Highness worshipped in the temples and performed the usual dedication of tuskers to the deities. His Highness also worshipped in the Kanjirappilli and Edathrakavu temples. All the arrangements in connection with His Highness' visit and dedication of elephants were made through the department, and everything went off satisfactorily.

Repercussions of Temple Entry Proclamation.—The Temple Entry Proclamation of Travancore, issued in 1112, permitting the entry of Avarnas into Hindu temples under the control of the Travancore Government, had its repercussions in the State. The Proclamation created some amount of confusion and trouble among the orthodox section of the Hindu community. Consequently, the arrangements made by Government for the usual Sandhyavela in the Vaikom temple had to be stopped and the agelong conduct of the ceremony abandoned. In the Cochin temple at Poothotta, the daily poojas had to be suspended, as the Avarnas entered the adjoining Travancore temple situated so close to the Cochin temple that pollution in the one automatically meant pollution in the other.

The para and arattu processions that used to be taken out through Travancore territory in connection with utsavams, etc., in Cochin temples, such as at Trippunittura, Chottanikkara, etc.,

had to be abandoned due to the altered conditions resulting from the issue of the Proclamation. Similarly, the usual para procession relating to the Perumthrikovil temple of Travancore and arattu in the Trippunittura Valiakulam had to be discontinued.

Troubles also arose in the proper conduct of poojas and other ceremonies in the Kudalmanikkam temple at Irinjalakuda. Nedumpilli Tharananellur Nambudiripad, one of the six tantris of the temple, who had officiated in the Sri Padmanabhaswami temple at Trivandrum after the entry of Avarnas into that temple, and one Kunjan Chakyar, who had performed Koothu in some of the temples thrown open to the Avarnas, entered the Kudalmanikkam temple; and in pursuance of the opinion expressed by the Vaideekans and others competent to speak on the subject, the Kudalmanikkam temple was declared to have been polluted by the entry of the above-mentioned persons into that temple. The Vazhivadus that used to be conducted in the temple on behalf of the Royal Family and Government were also stopped. The temple was subsequently got purified, however, and the poojas, vazhivadus, etc., resumed.

The Perumanom temple was also affected to some extent by the Temple Entry Proclamation. In this temple Koothu and Koodiyattam used to be performed annually by the Uchapooja Cherikalam officers. As one of the three Chakyars, viz., the Ambalapuzha Chakyar, who generally conducts the function, had performed Koothu in some temples thrown open to the Avarnas and thereby become ineligible to enter the temple, the Cherikalam officers failed to conduct the usual ceremony, and hence the department conducted it under orders of Government.

The vazhivadus that were being conducted in some of the Cochin temples on behalf of the Travancore Government have since been discontinued by that Government.

There was no material change in the constitution of the department during the year, but the designation of the Devaswam Inspectors was changed to "Assistant Commissioner" and some additional powers were delegated to them. Certain minor changes in the personnel of those responsible for the day-to-day

administration of certain temples were also made. Besides, the department took charge during the year of the management of the Chittur Vedasastra Patasala at the request of its trustee.

Under the disciplinary powers conferred by the Hindu Religious Institutions Act, inquiries were conducted in the case of nine institutions. As a result of proved mismanagement, assumption of management by the Sirkar of the Cherusseri and Chengal Devaswams was ordered by Government, although their actual management was taken over only during the current year.

Sirkar Devaswams.—The department had under its control 164 major Sirkar Devaswams and 147 Kizhedoms in 1111. During the year under report the Swarnakavu Devaswam, the management of which had been assumed by Government by escheat, was incorporated in the Group Devaswams. Thus the number of Sirkar Devaswams rose to 165 major Devaswams and 146 Kizhedoms during the year. It had also to look after the management of the Sri Kurumba Bhagavathy and Kannanamkulam Devaswams with their 12 Kizhedoms and the Methala Devaswam. Of individual Devaswams and other religious institutions, the management of which had been assumed by Government under the provisions of the Hindu Religious Institutions Act (I of 1081), there were 11 in 1111. Of these, the Swarnakavu Devaswam was incorporated in the Group Devaswams, and the remaining 10—namely, Elamgunnapula, Perumpilly, Pazhuvam, Nettissery, Athoor, Arikaniyur, Thayankavu, Mayannur, and Cochin Thirumala Devaswams and the Vadakke Madhom Brahaswom, continued to be managed by the Department. There were also at the end of the year seven Oottupuras and two Sirkar Satrams, one Endowment Satram and one Patasala under the control of the department.

The total amount for collection on behalf of the State Devaswams was 541,107 paras of paddy and Rs. 1,79,080, of which 370,012 paras of paddy and Rs. 95,552 were collected including an excess collection of 319 paras of paddy and Rs. 114, and 8,449 paras of paddy and Rs. 2,523 were written off. The balance of 162,965 paras of paddy and Rs. 81,119 was pending collection at

the close of the year. The percentage of collection was 69·88 under paddy and 54·71 under money as against 65·58 and 51·20, respectively, in 1111. Special concessions were allowed in the year in the case of accumulated arrears in the Vannery Range as an inducement to the tenants to pay up the dues. This had the desired effect, and equally helpful in facilitating collections was the reduced commutation rate sanctioned for the British ranges in the latter part of the year.

Coercive measures were taken in 2,037 cases. There were three cases of Nadupattam, and the tenants' rights on lands were sold in ten cases for the recovery of arrears. In one case, the tenant's right had to be purchased by the Devaswam itself.

The total receipts of the Group Devaswams under service heads amounted to Rs. 5,57,858 as against Rs. 4,47,388 in 1111 and the expenditure to Rs. 4,77,978 as against Rs. 4,71,445 in the previous year. The transactions of the year under service heads resulted, therefore, in a surplus of Rs. 79,880. The Swarnakavu Devaswam, which had a surplus fund of Rs. 3,663 to its credit at the end of 1111, was amalgamated with the Group Devaswams in the year. These surplus amounts, together with the opening balance of Rs. 6,89,984, raised the Group Devaswam surplus at the end of the year to Rs. 7,73,528. Of this, Rs. 5,71,974 stood invested and the balance was in the State Treasuries. The large surplus arrived at in the year, as against a deficit in the previous year, was mainly due to the success of the attempts made to collect all dues which were not of a recurring nature and to reduce the expenditure to the barest minimum.

Vadakke Madhom Brahmaswom.—The receipts of the Vadakke Madhom Brahmaswom under service heads for the year amounted to Rs. 34,139 as against Rs. 27,376 in 1111 and the expenditure to Rs. 24,258 as against Rs. 27,058 in the previous year, the surplus being Rs. 9,881. Including the surplus of Rs. 1,18,206 at the end of the previous year, the net surplus at the end of the year was Rs. 1,28,086. The surplus achieved during the year was the result of the collection of the whole demand under land rent, the recovery of arrears under interest on

investments, the prompt disposal of surplus paddy and the reduction in expenditure under padivu.

The Trichur Yogam students of the Nambudiri Vidyalaya and other schools were continued to be fed at the Madhom. There was the usual "Anyonyam" at Kadavellur, and the Trichur Yogam students of the Madhom fared well at the Vedic competition. The opening of a library in the Madhom containing authoritative books relating to religion and social matters was sanctioned by Government in the year, and arrangements for the purchase of books were in progress when the year closed.

Individual Devaswams.—As a result of the year's transactions, the total amount to the credit of Individual Devaswams amounted to Rs. 9,39,758, of which Rs. 9,38,334 was invested and the balance remained in the treasuries.

The total investments including Group and Individual Devaswam surplus funds at the end of the year was Rs. 15,10,307 as against Rs. 15,47,733.

Cranganur Devaswam.—The receipts under service heads of the Cranganur Devaswam, comprising the two major institutions of the Sri Kurumba Bhagavathy Devaswam and the Kannanamkulam Devaswam with their respective Kizhedoms, amounted to Rs. 22,260 as against Rs. 21,693 in 1111 and the expenditure to Rs. 20,157 as against Rs. 21,119 in the previous year. The transactions of the year resulted thus in a surplus of Rs. 1,103. Including the surplus of the previous years, the net surplus at the close of the year amounted to Rs. 68,323.

Out of a total demand of 2,888 paras of paddy and Rs. 12,267, the collection amounted to 1,182 paras of paddy and Rs. 10,490, leaving a balance of 1,706 paras of paddy and Rs. 1,777. The whole balance was due from lands in British Malabar, and steps were being taken to recover the same. There was no necessity to adopt coercive measures for collection within the State.

As regards the Methala Devaswam, the year opened with a balance of Rs. 167 in the treasury. The receipts and expenditure of the year were Rs. 241 and Rs. 163, respectively the closing balance in the treasury at the end of the year being

Rs. 245. Out of the demand of Rs. 990, a sum of Rs. 210 was collected and Rs. 776 written off as irrecoverable, leaving a balance of Rs. 4 pending collection at the end of the year.

Oottupuras, etc.—There was nothing special about the working of the Oottupuras and charitable institutions during the year, except that the Cochin Government Satrams at Benares and Rameswaram were placed under the direct management of the department from the beginning of the year. The total expenditure on account of feeding, subscriptions, Aduthoon, scholarships, establishment, vessels, etc., was Rs. 54,360 as against Rs. 49,994 in 1111.

Maramath Works.—During the year special repair works were executed in the Urakam, Perumanam, Thiruvilluamala and Velapaya temples in connection with His Highness' first visit to those temples. Besides, several other works such as temple renovation, cleaning of temple tanks, etc., were also attended to with due regard to urgency and necessity. The total expenditure in regard to Maramath works in the Group Devaswams in the year amounted to Rs. 43,360, including a sum of Rs. 22,292 adjusted towards contribution works executed through the Public Works Department. The most important work taken up during the year, however, was the reconstruction of the granite bathing ghats in the river in front of the Triprayar temple.

CHAPTER XV MISCELLANEOUS

1. ARCHAEOLOGY

All the ancient monuments under the control of the department were under proper preservation during the year. About half a dozen vatteluthu inscriptions in granite that were lying neglected in the compound of the Roman Catholic Church at Chendamangalam were conserved by fixing them on a masonry platform put up in front of the church itself. Another granite stone with inscriptions in Hebrew script was preserved by fixing it on a masonry pillar erected in front of the Black Jews' Synagogue at Chendamangalam.

Two pre-historic sites in the Trichur and Talappalli taluks, respectively, were acquired by Government during the year, and two ancient monuments under private management were brought under the Ancient Monuments Preservation Act. The mural paintings on the walls of the Srikoil of the Pallimanna temple near Vadakkancheri, covering about 75 square feet, and the Kizhtali temple near Thiruvilluamala and its compound, covering about two acres, were brought within the purview of the Act.

Mural Paintings.—The work of copying some of the selected specimens of the old mural paintings in the Vadakkunnathan Temple, Trichur, and of the Mattancherri Palace, Cochin, preliminary to the starting of an Art Gallery, was commenced early in the year, according to a scheme submitted by Mr. V. R. Chitra of the School of Arts and Crafts, Madras. The work was undertaken by a band of local artists, headed by Mr. Jayantil Parekh of Bombay. From the Vadakkunnathan temple alone, about 61 selected panels of drawings were copied, about half in colours and the rest in lines. Copying work was started in the Mattancherri Palace early in April 1937, and it was being continued at the end of the year.

The total expenditure of the department amounted to Rs. 7,385 as against Rs. 3,408 in the previous year. The increase in expenditure was due to the fact that nearly Rs. 4,000 was spent for copying mural paintings.

Rama Varma Research Institute.—Very useful work was turned out during the year by the Rama Varma Research Institute. The Bulletin of the Institute was published twice during the year under the supervision of an editorial board of three members. One hundred and fifty-four new additions were made to the research library during the year, making a total of 1,124 books in all. The committee attached to the institute met five times in the year. The total expenditure of the institute amounted to Rs. 1,003 as against Rs. 1,203 in 1111.

2. MUSEUM AND ZOO

From 3rd Vrischigam, 1112, the administration of the State Museum and Zoo was entrusted to the Diwan Peishkar. A full-time Superintendent was appointed on 1st Makaram to look after the collections and to attend to the routine administration.

The number of holidays for the museum and the zoo was considerably reduced, and the premises were kept open to the public on all days of the year except Fridays, His Highness' birthday, the King Emperor's birthday and the Thiruonam day. Large crowds were attracted on public holidays and festival days. The average attendance on ordinary days was about 200.

Accommodation.—There were no substantial alterations or additions to the buildings and grounds during the year. But some additional accommodation was provided in the museum by effecting rearrangements of exhibits and by fitting up one of the store rooms for the purpose of exhibiting works of art, ornaments and musical instruments. In the zoo the large King Cobra cage was extended to provide space for two specimens, and a small pigeon cage was constructed to give better accommodation for these birds. The garden was also extended to the eastern side of the compound, and a new lawn was opened on the southern side surrounding the tank.

Additions to the Museum.—Five of the *kathakali* characters proposed for exhibition in the museum were completed towards the end of the year, and arrangements were in progress for exhibiting them in a suitable manner. Another addition to the museum was representative specimens of the articles made in the Government Stoneware Factory, Chalakudi.

The books in the museum library were re-arranged and classified as standard publications and periodicals. Twenty-one reference books were purchased in addition to thirteen books received gratis.

Industrial Section.—The industrial section of the museum participated in four exhibitions—the Sri Chitra Exhibition, Trivandrum, the All India Khadi and Swadeshi Exhibition, Madras, the All India Exhibition, Lucknow, and the All India Swadeshi Exhibition, Kolinjampara. Gold medal certificates were won in all the exhibitions except the one at Lucknow. Perhaps, the most outstanding event in the working of this section during the year was the disposal of the majority of the articles “Purchased for Exhibition and Sale” by public auction. The auction was conducted during the pooram festival and succeeding days, and all the serviceable articles were disposed of. The total collection during the year amounted to Rs. 4,775 as against Rs. 3,745 in the previous year.

Additions to the Zoo.—Eight lion cubs, three tiger cubs, five samburs, and five spotted deer were born in the zoo during the year. Of the lion cubs, six were sold and a pair was given in exchange for a pair of Himalayan bears. A pair of white peacocks was obtained by a similar exchange of the three other lion cubs. Among the additions by presentation were a pair of Arabian baboons, a pair of spotted deer, a mouse deer and a peacock. Three King Cobras, a lion-tailed macaque and a civet cat were added to by purchase. There were a few deaths among the inmates of the zoo, including those of an old lioness and two specimens of King Cobra, but the general health of the animals was, on the whole, satisfactory.

The total expenditure on the museum and the zoo including gardens was Rs. 14,431 as against Rs. 20,544 in 1111.

3. GOVERNMENT PRESS

In the Government Press the temporary establishment of six compositors, two pressmen, one proof examiner and one proof reader that existed at the close of 1111 continued throughout the year.

The receipts and expenditure of the Press amounted to Rs. 60,048 and Rs. 88,352, respectively, as against Rs. 71,169 and Rs. 88,941 in the previous year. The decrease under receipts was due to non-realisation of the cost of printed forms supplied during the year.

4. STATIONERY

The receipts under Stationery consisted of the value of stationery articles supplied to Government Offices, Cranganur, Devaswams, Municipalities, Panchayats, etc. The total receipts in the year amounted to Rs. 50,240 as against Rs. 50,230 in 1935. The expenditure was Rs. 54,688 as against Rs. 52,634 in the previous year.

Particulars	1935-36	1936-37
Receipts	50,230	50,240
Expenditure	52,634	54,688
Total	102,864	104,928

CHAPTER XVI

CRANGANUR

Cranganur is a small principality with an area of 18½ square miles and a population of 42,531 according to the Census of 1931. It is financially autonomous, but for all administrative purposes forms an integral part of the State. The Chief pays an annual tribute of Rs. 6,857.

The subjoined statement shows the financial condition of the principality at the end of the year.

		Rs.			Rs.	
Opening balance	{	Cash in the Cranganur treasury	45,371	Disbursements under service heads	2,18,631	
		Investments	1,27,364		Do under debt heads	7,70,640
	Total		1,72,735	Total		9,89,271
Receipts under service heads		2,06,819	Closing balance	{	Cash in the Cranga- nur treasury	82,805
Do under debt heads	8,19,936	Investments			1,27,364	
Total		10,26,755		Total		2,10,219
Grand total		11,99,490	Grand total		11,99,490	

APPENDIX.

APPENDIX

APPENDIX I

List of High Officials in the Cochin State and Agency Officials showing changes in the personnel during the year 1112 M. E.

Serial No.	Name of Officer	Appointment	Period		Remarks
			From	To	
1	2	3	4		5
Madras States Agency.					
1	Lieut. Col. W. A. M. Garstin, C. B. E.	Agent to the Governor-General, Madras States	16-8-36	19-11-36	
	C. P. Skrine, O. B. E., I. C. S.	do	20-11-36	16-8-37	
2	Rao Bahadur M. Viswanatha Menon, B. A.	Indian Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General	16-8-36	16-8-37	
3	V. Govinda Menon, B. A.	Manager and Treasury Officer, Madras States Agency			
Palace.					
1	T. K. Sankara Menon, M. A. (Hons.)	Sarvadāhikariakar	1-1-12	14-4-12	
	T. P. Narayana Ayyar	do	15-4-12	25-5-12	
	T. K. Sankara Menon, M. A. (Hons.)	do	26-5-12	13-12-12	
2	P. S. Venkiteswara Ayyar, B. A.	Special Palace Officer	1-1-12	32-12-12	
General Administration.					
3	Sir R. K. Shanmukham Chetty, K. C. I. E.	Diwan	1-1-12	32-12-12	
4	T. S. Narayana Ayyar, M. A., B. L.	Secretary to Government	1-1-12	15-11-12	
	K. P. Kannan Nayar, B. A., B. L.	do	16-11-12	32-12-12	
5	M. P. Cherian, B. A., B. L.	Joint Secretary to Government	1-1-12	26-4-12	
	K. P. Kannan Nayar, B. A., B. L.	do	27-4-12	15-11-12	
	P. J. George, B. A., B. L.	do	16-11-12	32-12-12	
Legislative Council.					
6	A. Sankara Menon, B. A., B. L.	Deputy President	1-1-12	32-12-12	

List of High Officials in the Cochin State and Agency Officials showing changes in the personnel during the year 1112 M. E.—(cont.)

Serial No.	Name of Officer	Appointment	Period		Remarks
			From	To	
1	2	3	4	5	
Accounts and Finance Department.					
7	P. V. Subramania Ayyar, B. A.	Comptroller of Accounts	1-1-12	32-12-12	
8	S. Subbuswamy Ayyar	Special Accounts Officer	13-6-12	4-12-12	Temporary
Revenue Department.					
9	K. Achyuta Menon, B. A., B. L.	Diwan Peishkar	1-1-12	32-12-12	
10	T. Narayana Menon, B. A., Diploma in Forestry (Oxford)	Conservator of Forests	1-1-12	1-11-12	
	J. H. Williams	do	2-11-12	1-12-12	
	T. Narayana Menon, B. A., Diploma in Forestry (Oxford)	do	2-12-12	32-12-12	
11	E. C. King	Tramway Engineer	1-1-12	15-3-12	
	C. V. Mannadiar	do	16-3-12	17-7-12	
	E. C. King	do	18-7-12	32-12-12	
12	Rama Varmha Tampuran, M. A. (Hons.), B. Sc. (London), Bar-at-Law.	Excise Commissioner	1-1-12	26-7-12	
	P. J. George, B. A., B. L.	do	27-7-12	15-11-12	
	Rama Varmha Tampuran, M. A. (Hons.), B. Sc. (London), Bar-at-Law.	do	16-11-12	32-12-12	
Judicial Department.					
13	N. R. Sahasranama Ayyar, B. A., B. L.	Chief Judge, Chief Court	1-1-12	15-11-12	
	V. D. Ouseph, B. A., B. L.	do	16-11-12	32-12-12	
14	V. D. Ouseph, B. A., B. L.	Puisne Judge, Chief Court	1-1-12	15-11-12	

List of High Officials in the Cochin State and Agency Officials showing changes in the personnel during the year 1112 M. E.—(cont.)

Serial No.	Name of Officer	Appointment	Period		Remarks
			From	To	
1	2	3	4		5
	T. S. Narayana Ayyar, M. A., B. L.	Puisne Judge, Chief Court	16-11-12	32-12-12	
15	K. P. Kannan Nayar, B. A., B. L.	do	1-1-12	27-1-12	
	P. Nilacanta Menon, M. A. (Oxon.), Bar-at-Law	do	28-1-12	32-12-12	
16	P. V. Lonappan, B. A., B. L.	District and Sessions Judge	1-1-12	32-12-12	
17	U. Suppukutty Menon, B. A., B. L.	do Trichur	1-1-12	30-1-12	
	K. P. Kannan Nayar, B. A., B. L.	do	31-1-12	26-4-12	
	U. Suppukutty Menon, B. A., B. L.	do	27-4-12	21-5-12	
	K. M. Subramania Ayyar, B. A., B. L.	do	22-5-12	23-11-12	
	U. Suppukutty Menon, B. A., B. L.	do	24-11-12	7-12-12	
	K. M. Subramania Ayyar, B. A., B. L.	do	8-12-12	32-12-12	
18	M. Raman Menon, B. A., B. L.	District Magistrate	1-1-12	6-2-12	
	P. J. George, B. A., B. L.	do	7-2-12	26-4-12	
	M. Raman Menon, B. A., B. L.	do	27-4-12	26-5-12	
	P. J. George, B. A., B. L.	do	27-5-12	26-7-12	
	M. Raman Menon, B. A., B. L.	do	27-7-12	32-12-12	
19	P. J. George, B. A., B. L.	Additional District and Sessions Judge, Anjikaimal	1-1-12	2-2-12	
	U. Suppukutty Menon, B. A., B. L.	do	3-2-12	26-4-12	
	Vacant	do	27-4-12	28-4-12	
	P. J. George, B. A., B. L.	do	29-4-12	24-5-12	

List of High Officials in the Cochin State and Agency Officials showing changes in the personnel during the year 1112 M. E. --(cont.)

Serial No.	Name of Officer	Appointment	Period		Remarks
			From	To	
1	2	3	4	5	
	U. Suppukutty Menon, B. A., B. L.	Additional District and Sessions Judge, Anjikaimal	25-5-12	22-11-12	
	M. K. Raman, M. A. (Hons.), B. L.	do	23-11-12	10-12-12	
	U. Suppukutty Menon, B. A., B. L.	do	11-12-12	32-12-12	
20	K. M. Subramania Ayyar, B. A., B. L.	Law Commissioner	1-1-12	11-3-12	
	N. S. Radhakrishna Sarma, B. A., B. L.	In charge	12-3-12	7-5-12	Temporary
	K. M. Subramania Ayyar, B. A., B. L.	Law Commissioner	8-5-12	18-5-12	
21	Thomas Manjuran, B. A., B. L.	Government Advocate	1-1-12	32-12-12	
Police.					
22	A. L. Devassy, B. A., B. L.	Commissioner of Police	1-1-12	32-12-12	
Public Works.					
23	V. K. Aravindaksha Menon	Chief Engineer	1-1-12	16-7-12	
	M. D. Narayana Ayyar	do	17-7-12	1-8-12	
	V. K. Aravindaksha Menon	do	2-8-12	32-12-12	
Education.					
24	I. N. Menon, M. A. B. Litt. (Oxon)	Director of Public Instruction	1-1-12	32-12-12	
25	H. R. Mills, B. Sc. (London), etc.	Principal, Maharaja's College	1-1-12	32-12-12	
Medical.					
26	Dr. D. Kaghavendra Rao, L. R. C. P., M. R. C. S.	Chief Medical Officer	1-1-12	32-12-12	

List of High Officials in the Cochin State and Agency Officials showing changes in the personnel during the year 1112 M. E. —(cont.)

Serial No.	Name of Officer	Appointment	Period		Remarks
			From	To	
1	2	3	4	5	
	Public Health and Panchayats.				
27	Dr. E. S. R. Menon	Director of Public Health and Panchayats	1-1-12	20-9-12	
	Dr. A. R. Poduval	do	21-9-12	2-10-12	
	Dr. E. S. R. Menon	do	3-10-12	32-12-12	
	Devaswam.				
28	E. Krishna Menon, F. C. C. S.	Devaswam Commissioner	1-1-12	14-4-12	
	T. K. Sankara Menon, M. A. (Hons.)	do	15-4-12	22-5-12	
	E. Krishna Menon, F. C. C. S.	do	23-5-12	32-12-12	
	Registration.				
29	G. Harihara Ayyar, B. A., B. L.	Superintendent of Registration	1-1-12	9-8-12	
	Vacant	do	10-8-12	26-8-12	
	M. Balakrishna Menon, B. A., B. L.	do	27-6-12	32-12-12	
	Agriculture.				
30	. Krishna Warriar, B. A., B. Ag., Pusa trained	Director of Agriculture	1-1-12	32-12-12	
	Co-operation.				
31	K. Narayana Menon, M. A., C. H. D. (Manchester)	Registrar of Co-operative Societies	1-1-12	32-12-12	
	Anchal.				
32	N. Madhava Menon	Superintendent of Anchal	1-1-12	13-6-12	
	Vacant	do	19-6-12	22-6-12	
	Subramania Ayyar	Inspector in charge	23-6-12	29-6-12	

List of High Officials in the Cochin State and Agency Officials showing changes in the personnel during the year 1112 M. E.—(cont.)

Serial No.	Name of Officer	Appointment	Period		Remarks
			From	To	
1	2	3	4		5
	M. Balakrishna Menon B. A., B. L.	Superintendent of Anchal	1-7-12	26-8-12	
	Vacant do	Superintendent of Registration in charge	27-8-12	32-12-12	
	Uplift.				
33	V. R. M. Chohan, B. A., L. L. B.	Protector of the Depressed Classes	1-1-12	32-12-12	
	Miscellaneous.				
34	E. Krishna Menon, F. C. C. S.	Special Officer in charge of His Highness the Maharaja's visit to Madras	15-4-12	22-5-12	Temporary

APPENDIX II.

Main heads of receipts and expenditure under the Service heads for 1112 M. E.

RECEIPTS.

Heads of Receipts	Actuals of 1112 Rs.	Budget estimate of 1112 Rs.	Actuals of 1111 Rs.	Actuals of 1110 Rs.	Actuals of 1109 Rs.
Land Revenue ..	12,24,403	12,11,600	10,59,668	11,43,472	10,15,602
Forests ..	4,12,280	3,58,300	3,74,538	3,51,831	3,29,086
Excise ..	41,61,206	42,41,100	42,09,598	41,48,367	22,76,078
Stamps ..	5,96,383	5,53,900	5,82,499	6,14,586	6,44,217
Profits from Capital Outlay ..	17,35,859	19,01,000	18,35,263	17,39,321	15,65,775
Income-tax ..	3,72,058	3,10,000	3,29,192	2,71,006	2,23,458
Other receipts ..	15,99,315	15,64,500	15,57,050	14,72,697	14,78,293
Total ..	1,01,01,504	1,01,40,400	99,47,808	97,41,280	75,32,509

EXPENDITURE.

Heads of Expenditure	Actuals of 1112 Rs.	Budget estimate of 1112 Rs.	Actuals of 1111 Rs.	Actuals of 1110 Rs.	Actuals of 1109 Rs.
Land Revenue ..	3,10,908	3,11,300	3,12,425	3,01,938	2,93,323
Agriculture ..	1,61,906	1,69,900	1,62,635	1,58,264	1,45,772
Panchayats ..	2,13,864	2,38,700	2,18,306	2,11,361	2,03,622
Palace ..	6,95,200	6,95,200	6,95,200	6,00,000	4,58,000
Subsidy ..	2,00,089	2,00,100	2,00,089	2,00,089	2,00,089
Excise includ- ing customs, matches, etc. ..	4,03,176	3,32,800	2,95,996	1,16,593	1,19,519
Forests ..	2,52,023	2,68,600	2,58,504	2,54,746	2,24,178
Tramway ..	80,664	1,59,500	1,59,827	1,75,764	97,727
General Ad- ministration ..	2,08,074	2,00,500	2,53,228	1,85,569	1,81,211
Law and Justice..	3,00,663	2,97,700	3,07,339	2,92,466	2,80,235
Police ..	2,26,580	2,41,900	2,34,690	2,25,542	2,15,452
Education ..	18,27,761	18,02,600	18,33,564	16,93,928	16,21,199
Religious and charities ..	94,190	86,300	89,308	79,224	81,391
Medical ..	4,77,061	4,88,300	4,67,108	4,56,197	4,45,898
Public Health ..	1,45,712	1,56,900	1,70,963	1,72,354	1,17,753
Pension and gratuity ..	3,85,592	3,74,000	3,77,922	3,83,085	3,21,513
Military ..	1,16,344	1,19,400	1,29,113	1,21,731	1,27,390
Public Works ..	14,33,132	12,95,300	13,02,588	12,74,760	13,56,996
Scientific, etc., Departments ..	1,30,090	1,30,800	1,29,991	1,90,644	1,51,973
Railway ..	11,66,013	12,00,000	12,43,609	11,08,018	9,53,231
Uplift of the Depressed Classes ..	77,168	78,500	80,712	1,15,931	96,459
Other items of expenditure ..	13,11,217	12,46,000	11,20,752	13,65,307	13,50,006
Total ..	1,02,17,427	1,00,94,300	1,00,43,869	96,83,511	90,42,945

APPENDIX III.

*Acts and Proclamations passed during the year.**(a) Acts.*

- I of 1112:—An Act to amend the Cochin Municipal Act, XI of 1096
- II of 1112:—The Cochin Newspapers Act.
- III of 1112:—The Cochin Trade Unions Act.
- IV of 1112:—An Act to amend the Cochin Press and Registration of Books Act, VII of 1097.
- V of 1112:—An Act to amend the Cochin Negotiable Instruments Act, IX of 1097.
- VI of 1112:—The Cochin Bills of Lading Act.
- VII of 1112:—The Cochin Passport Act.
- VIII of 1112:—An Act to amend the Cochin Transfer of Property Act, XVII of 1111.
- IX of 1112:—An Act to amend the Cochin Sea Customs Act, XII of 1109
- X of 1112:—An Act to amend the Cochin Insolvency Act, VII of 1098.
- XI of 1112:—The Cochin Patents and Designs Act.
- XII of 1112:—The Cochin Limitation Act.
- XIII of 1112:—An Act to amend the Cochin Village Panchayat Act, V of 1089.
- XIV of 1112:—The Cochin Obstructions in Fairways Act.
- XV of 1112:—The Identification of Prisoners Act.
- XVI of 1112:—The Cochin Carriers Act.
- XVII of 1112:—The Cochin Dock Labourers Act.
- XVIII of 1112:—An Act to amend the Cochin Chief Court Act, II of 1076.
- XIX of 1112:—An Act to amend the Cochin Village Panchayat Act, V of 1089.
- XX of 1112:—An Act to amend the Cochin Municipal Act, XI of 1096.
- XXI of 1112:—An Act to amend the Cochin Village Panchayat Act, V of 1089
- XXII of 1112:—The Cochin Easements Act.
- XXIII of 1112:—The Cochin Contract Act.
- XXIV of 1112:—The Cochin Partnership Act.
- XXV of 1112:—The Cochin Sale of Goods Act.

- XXVI of 1112:—The Cochin Debt Conciliation Act.
- XXVII of 1112:—An Act to amend the Cochin Village Panchayat Act, V of 1089. (Passed under Section 15 of the Cochin Legislative Council Act.)
- XXVIII of 1112:—An Act to amend the Cochin Kuries Act, VII of 1107.
- XXIX of 1112:—An Act to amend the Cochin Children Act, XXXVI of 1111.
- XXX of 1112:—An Act to amend the Cochin Land Acquisition Act, II of 1070.
- XXXI of 1112:—The Cochin Oaths Act.
- XXXII of 1112:—An Act to amend the Cochin Hindu Religious Institutions Act, I of 1081.
- XXXIII of 1112:—An Act to amend the Cochin General Clauses Act, III of 1079.
- XXXIV of 1112:—An Act to amend the Cochin Arms Act, II of 1084.
- XXXV of 1112:—An Act to amend the Cochin Court of Wards Act, XIII of 1097.
- XXXVI of 1112:—The Cochin Petroleum Act.
- XXXVII of 1112:—The Cochin Majority Act.
- XXXVIII of 1112:—An Act to amend the Cochin Probate and Administration Act, X of 1096.
- XXXIX of 1112:—An Act to amend the Cochin Places of Public Resort Act, X of 1097.
- XL of 1112:—An Act to amend the Cochin Succession Certificate Act, VII of 1095.
- XLI of 1112:—The Cochin Merchandise Marks Act.
- XLII of 1112:—An Act to amend the Cochin Guardians and Wards Act, XVII of 1095.
- XLIII of 1112:—An Act to amend the Cochin Village Panchayat Act, V of 1089.
- XLIV of 1112:—An Act to amend the Cochin Village Panchayat Act, V of 1089.
- XLV of 1112:—An Act to amend the Cochin Village Panchayat Act, V of 1089.
- XLVI of 1112:—The Cochin Prisoners Act.
- XLVII of 1112:—An Act to amend the Cochin Prisons Act, VI of 1076.
- XLVIII of 1112:—An Act to amend the Cochin Co-operative Land Mortgage Bank Act, XXV of 1111.

- XLIX of 1112:—The Cochin Dangerous Drugs Act.
- L of 1112:—An Act to amend the Cochin Abkari Act, I of 1077.
- LI of 1112:—An Act to amend the Cochin Opium Act, VIII of 1076.
- LII of 1112:—An Act to amend the Cochin Public Gambling Act, IV of 1082.
- LIII of 1112:—An Act to amend the Cochin Registration of Births and Deaths Act, II of 1081.
- LIV of 1112:—An Act to amend the Cochin Police Act, I of 1058.
- LV of 1112:—An Act to amend the Cochin Lepers Act, VI of 1084.
- LVI of 1112:—An Act to amend the Cochin Hackney Carriage Act II of 1098.
- LVII of 1112:—An Act to amend the Cochin Nuisances Act, IV of 1098.
- LVIII of 1112:—An Act to amend the Cochin Plant Pests and Plant Diseases Act, XIV of 1095.
- LIX of 1112:—The Cochin Carriage of Goods by Sea Act.
- LX of 1112:—An Act to amend the Ancient Monuments Preservation Act, IX of 1110.
- LXI of 1112:—An Act to amend the Cochin Limitation Act, XII of 1112.
- LXII of 1112:—An Act to amend the Cochin Specific Relief Act, IV of 1097.
- LXIII of 1112:—The Cochin Weights and Measures Act.
- LXIV of 1112:—An Act to amend the Cochin Stamp Act, VI of 1083.
- LXV of 1112:—An Act to amend the Cochin Lunacy Act, VII of 1096.
- LXVI of 1112:—The Cochin Trade Disputes Act.
- LXVII of 1112:—An Act to amend the Cochin Electricity Act, III of 1102.
- LXVIII of 1112:—An Act to amend the Cochin Court Fees Act, II of 1080.
- LXIX of 1112:—An Act to amend the Cochin Public Canals and Backwaters Navigation Act, I of 1092.
- LXX of 1112:—An Act to amend the Cochin Registration Act, V of 1084.
- LXXI of 1112:—The Cochin Dramatic Performances Act.
- LXXII of 1112:—The Cochin Trusts Act.
- LXXIII of 1112:—The Cochin Copyright Act.

(b) *Proclamations.*

1. Proclamation dated the 9th day of Chingam, 1112, to give temporary relief to subscribers in Kuries in the State.
 2. Proclamation dated the 4th day of Kauni, 1112, amending the Proclamation dated the 7th day of Meenam, 1106, to enable the Administrative Officer and Harbour-Engineer-in-Chief to receive all dues, fees and other charges levied at the Port of Cochin.
 3. Proclamation dated the 1st day of Thulam, 1112, repealing the Proclamation dated the 15th day of Edavam, 1107, and placing Panayams of thirty years' duration and which have the main incidents of Kanam on the same footing as Kanam holdings.
 4. Proclamation dated the 13th day of Meenam, 1112, bringing into force the Indian Companies (Amendment) Act, XXI of 1936.
 5. Proclamation dated the 12th day of Mithunam 1112 changing the word 'Regulation' into 'Act' in all Regulations and Proclamations in force.
 6. Proclamation dated the 26th day of Mithunam, 1112, prohibiting the import into or circulation in Cochin of certain newspapers published in Travancore.
 7. Proclamation dated the 31st day of Mithunam, 1112, bringing into force the Indian Evidence (Amendment) Act, XXXI of 1926.
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APPENDIX IV

Particulars of newspapers and magazines in circulation at the end of the year 1112.

Serial No.	Names of newspapers and magazines	Language of publication	Place of publication	Daily, weekly or otherwise	Circulation: No. of copies	Remarks
1	Sathia Deepam ..	Malayalam and English	Ernakulam	Weekly	2,000	Religious, social and political
2	Ernakulam Missam	do	do	Monthly	500	Religious and social
3	Catholica Yuvalokam ..	Latin and Syriac Malayalam and English	do	do	1,500	Religious and social
4	Yuktivadi ..	Malayalam	Irinjalakuda	do	1,000	Cultural and social
5	The Gosri Scout ..	Malayalam and English	Cochin	do	500	Scouting, literary and educational
6	Saracen ..	do	do	Weekly	500	Social and educational—since stopped publication
7	Deepam ..	Anglo-Vernacular	Ernakulam	Daily	1,600	Moderate, social and political
8	Samastha Kerala Sahithya Parishad ..	Malayalam	do	Quarterly	300	Literary
9	Promptuarium ..	Latin and English	do	Monthly	600	Religious and moral
10	Ephemerides ..	Latin and Malayalam	do	Not fixed	100	Religious
11	Sathianadam ..	Anglo-Vernacular	do	Weekly	1,000	Political, social and literary
12	Lekshmi Bhai ..	Malayalam	Trichur	Monthly	600	Literary and social
13	Gomathi ..	Anglo-Vernacular	do	Daily	8,000	Social and political
14	Preshithan ..	Malayalam	do	Monthly	500	Religious
15	Sahodaran ..	English and Malayalam	Cochin	Weekly	700	Social, religious and political
16	Sthree ..	Malayalam	Ernakulam	Monthly	500	Non-political—since stopped publication
17	Rajarshi ..	do	Trichur	do	700	Social and religious
18	Veerakesari ..	Malayalam and English	Ernakulam	Weekly	5,000	Social and political—ceased publication by the end of 1112

Serial No.	Names of newspapers and magazines	Language of publication	Place of publication	Daily, weekly or otherwise	Circulation: No. of copies	Remarks
19	St. Thomas College Magazine ..	Malayalam and English	Trichur	Thrice a year	600	Literary, scientific and moral
20	Navajeevika ..	Malayalam	do	Monthly	700	Religious
21	M. N. Nayar Magazine ..	Anglo-Vernacular	Ernakulam	do	1,500	Social and cultural
22	Kairali ..	Malayalam	Trichur	do	260	Religious and literary
23	Kudumba Deepam	do	Ernakulam	do	400	Religious
24	Prabudha Bharatam	do	Trichur	do	500	Educational
25	Thozhilabhimani ...	Anglo-Vernacular	do	do	1,000	Agricultural and educational
26	Lokaprakasam ..	do	do	Weekly	1,000	Socia., political and industrial—publication stopped in 1112
27	The Little Flower..	English	Palluruthi	Monthly	1,200	Religious
28	Sadguru ..	Malayalam	Ernakulam	do	300	Literary and religious
29	Kadhakouthukam..	Anglo-Vernacular	Veloer	do	1,500	Literary—publication stopped in 1112
30	Madras States Directory ..	English	Cochin	Yearly	1,000	A pictorial reference book of statistical historical and commercial information regarding Madras States
31	The Cochin Law Journal ..	English	Ernakulam	Monthly	800	Pertaining to law
32	Maharaja's College Magazine ..	Anglo-Vernacular	do	Quarterly	800	Literary and scientific
33	Sahakarana Prabdhi ..	Malayalam	Trichur	do	500	Pertaining to co-operation
34	Insurance Agents' Companion ..	English	Mulakunathukavu	Monthly	300	Insurance business
35	Yuvacatholican ..	Anglo-Vernacular	Ernakulam	do	1,000	Political, religious, literary and social
36	Mythri	English and Malayalam	do	do	2,000	Literary and industrial

Serial No.	Names of newspapers and magazines	Language of publication	Place of publication	Daily, weekly or otherwise	Circulation No. of copies	Remarks
37	C. M. S. High School Magazine	English and Malayalam	Trichur	Quarterly	500	Educational
38	Mahathi	Anglo-Vernacular	do	Weekly	500	Social and political
39	The Malabar Mail	do	Ernakulam	Daily	2,000	Social, religious, political and financial
40	Prakasam	do	Cochin	Weekly	2,000	Social and political
41	Rajahamsam	Malayalam	Trichur	Monthly	1,000	Social and literary
42	Teachers' Magazine	Malayalam and English	Ernakulam	Quarterly	500	Social, professional and literary
43	The Cochin Chronicle	English	do	Weekly	1,000	Social and political
44	Rama Varma Research Institute Bulletin	do	Trichur	Yearly	200	Pertaining to research not published
45	Jayakesari	English and Malayalam	Ernakulam	Weekly	1,000	Social, literary and political
46	Yogakshemam	Malayalam	Trichur	do	500	Social and political
47	Yuvakesari	Anglo-Vernacular	Ernakulam	Weekly	400	Social and political

APPENDIX V

DIWAN'S SPEECH

*At the opening of the Budget Session of the Legislative Council
on Monday, 2nd August, 1937.*

Honourable Members—

In accordance with my usual practice I propose to give a brief account of the salient features of the administration of the State during the last twelve months and some indication of the programme of development which Government have in view. Speaking about the revised estimates of the year 1111, I observed on the last occasion that it is hoped that the actuals of the year will disclose that the anticipated deficit will not be as great as the revised estimate indicated. My expectation in this direction has been more than fulfilled. The revised estimate for the year 1111 anticipated a deficit of Rs. 5.54 lakhs. But the actuals of the year closed with a deficit of only Rs. 96,000. As against this encouraging feature the revised estimate for the current year 1112 is disappointing. We prepared the budget of the current year on the basis of a nominal surplus of Rs. 46,000; but the revised estimates indicate a deficit of nearly Rs. 3.50 lakhs. I can only repeat the hope expressed on the last occasion that the actuals of the year 1112 may disclose better results. For the coming year 1113, the budget has been prepared with a surplus of Rs. 1.83 lakhs. The Finance Member will give you in the course of his speech the details regarding the variations under Receipts and Disbursements.

RETRENCHMENT

2. Last year I gave a review of the financial position of the State and emphasised the fundamental fact of the situation that the resources of the State do not furnish flexible sources of revenue and that the expenditure is gradually mounting up. I concluded by saying that a rigid control has therefore to be kept over almost every department of the State. During the year under review every effort was made to control expenditure, and I had to devote special attention to the problem of the financial equilibrium of the State. My study of this problem has brought to light certain interesting features of the situation which it will be worth while for me explain to the House. Especially in the light of the various discussions that we had about retrenchment in public expenditure and the report of the Retrenchment Committee which is now in the hands of Honourable Members, it would be worth while to realise what exactly are the possibilities and limitations in the field of retrenchment. From a comparative study of the revenues of the State during the last three years, it may be fairly assumed that the total gross revenue of the State may be put down as Rs. 100 lakhs per year. To get a more accurate idea of the financial position, it would be better to deduct from this gross receipts under 'Railways' and take only the net yield that the railways give. Taking the income from the railways as approximately Rs. 5 lakhs net, the total net revenue of the State is Rs. 87 lakhs per year.

NEED FOR A SURPLUS

3. The common saying that every prudent man must live within his means applies with equal if not greater force to Governments also. The chief concern of the Government is therefore to adjust the expenditure in such a manner that it is well within our resources. All other considerations must necessarily have to be subordinated in the interests of a balanced budget. Within an income of Rs. 87 lakhs, the expenditure has to be so adjusted that there might be a reasonable surplus left at the end of every year. For a small State with limited resources, unless a fund is built up with the realised surplus of every year, it will be difficult to find the necessary funds for undertaking capital expenditure which cannot be financed from the current revenues of a year. Though it is the usual practice for modern Governments to finance capital expenditure with borrowed money, this policy has to be applied very cautiously in the case of a small State. We have already raised public loans to the extent of Rs. 105 lakhs and by the time the Fourth Stage Works of the Harbour are completed we would have borrowed another Rs. 30 lakhs from the Government of India. The public debt of the State would therefore be Rs. 135 lakhs within the next two years. No doubt all this amount has been invested in reproductive capital enterprise. In fact about Rs. 75 lakhs of this investment is in the nature of a loan to the Harbour Authority which will have to be repaid to us in course of time. Though our borrowing policy has been extremely sound and cautious, nevertheless we cannot depend upon borrowed capital for undertaking all the various capital enterprises which will have to be undertaken for developing the resources of the State. It would therefore be a wise policy to put by a certain amount every year for meeting our obligations under capital expenditure. It would be difficult to indicate an exact figure for this purpose; but I may say with confidence that at least Rs. 3 lakhs every year would have to be saved from the current revenues for this purpose. The budget of every year can be considered to be satisfactory only if it results in a realised surplus of not less than Rs. 3 lakhs.

ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURE

4. With this picture of our general financial position let us now examine the disbursement side of our budget. I observed that it would be safe to assume that the net income of the State will be about Rs. 87 lakhs for the present. Some additional revenue may no doubt be expected with the development of the harbour and with the payment of interest charges by the Harbour Authority on the remaining 150 acres of the Reclamation Ground. It would not be safe to expect additional income from these sources for the next two or three years. With an income therefore of Rs. 87 lakhs and making allowance for a realised surplus of Rs. 3 lakhs, we have Rs. 84 lakhs for meeting all our annual requirements. When you examine the various major heads of expenditure you will find that there are a good many items of expenditure which are beyond our control and which may be considered to be inevitable. Under this category come the major heads of Palace, Subsidy, Contribution to the Government of India on account of the match duty, Religious and Charitable Expenditure, Pension and Gratuity, Sinking Fund and Interest Charges. These items make a total of about Rs. 20.40 lakhs. It will thus be seen that the expenditure which can be said to be under control is Rs. 63.60 lakhs. When this expenditure is further analysed it will be found that unfortunately the greater part of it is again beyond our control for the present at any rate. Out of the possible expenditure of Rs. 63.60 lakhs the salary bill of the State alone comes to

Rs. 35·50 lakhs. The total amount therefore that may be said to be under real control is Rs. 28·10 lakhs. You will thus observe that though our income is taken as Rs. 87 lakhs the total amount of expenditure that can be said to be under effective control for the present reduces itself to very nearly less than one-third and stands at Rs. 28·10 lakhs.

5. The criticism has often been heard that the administration of the State is top-heavy and that considerable reduction should be effected in the salary bill of the State especially of the officers at the top. The conclusions of the Retrenchment Committee, on this aspect of public expenditure is rather significant. In the concluding paragraph of their report, they refer to "the impression which seems to be current in the public mind that the administration of the State is top-heavy on account of the high salary given to Heads of Departments." The Committee however do not say whether they endorse this view or not. They draw attention to the significant fact that while the salary of the Heads of Departments was 7·9 per cent of the total expenditure under 'Establishment' in 1927, it has been reduced to 7·7 per cent in 1936 in spite of the introduction of new Departments like Public Health, Ayurveda and Income-tax. The committee however expressed a decided opinion that it will not be fair to reduce the salary of the subordinate officers and the ministerial and menial staff and that they could not come to any definite or unanimous conclusion about the reduction of salary of Heads of Departments. An examination of the salary bill of the State in some greater detail will disclose the limitations of retrenchment even if the salary of the Heads of Departments is to be reduced. It was pointed out that the total salary bill of the State is Rs 35·50 lakhs. This includes the grants to aided schools which are really intended for the salaries of the teachers. I have attempted to classify the total salary bill into three categories:—(a) the total salary bill of those drawing a pay of Rs. 500 and above, (b) the total salary of all officers drawing a pay of Rs. 150 and above but less than Rs. 500, and (c) the total salary of all the staff drawing a pay up to Rs. 150. The salary bill of the first category, namely officers drawing Rs. 500 and above inclusive of the Diwan and Judges of the Chief Court, is Rs. 1·90 lakhs per year. The pay bill of the officers of the second category, i. e., officers drawing above Rs. 150 and below Rs. 500, is Rs. 3·40 lakhs. The total pay bill of the rest of the staff drawing below Rs. 150 (inclusive of grants) is Rs. 30·10 lakhs. These figures will give you an idea of the maximum possibility of retrenchment by way of reduction of salaries. The Retrenchment Committee expressed a decided opinion that it will not be fair to reduce the salary of the subordinate officers and the ministerial and menial staff. Though the committee have not defined these words in accurate terms it may, I think, be taken for granted that the third category, namely those drawing Rs. 150 and below, may be said to comprise the classification that the Committee had in view. If this interpretation of the Committee's observation is correct, there cannot be any reduction in the salary bill of the subordinate officers and other staff who draw altogether Rs. 30·10 lakhs per year. The field of retrenchment in salary therefore is narrowed down very considerably. Even assuming that there is a cut of 20 per cent in the salaries of the highest grade, namely of officers drawing Rs. 500 and above, there would only be a saving of Rs. 38,000 per year. It is a matter for consideration at the hands both of the Government and of this House whether it would be a wise policy to reduce the present level of the pay of your Heads of Departments to the extent of 20 per cent and whether in the light of the small savings that will result such a policy would be a wise one. Whatever might be the view taken regarding reduction in the general level of salaries, Government cannot agree to reduce the salaries of officers who are already holding permanent posts.

I am sure that this decision will be endorsed by every right-thinking public man in the State. When once the security of service is jeopardised you will cut at the root of efficiency and contentment which are the bases of the civil services all over the world. A cut in salary of a certain percentage is no doubt justifiable under conditions of emergency. But no one can contend that an emergency of such a nature exists as to warrant a cut. Any policy of reducing the scale of salaries can only be made applicable to future entrants and the economy that will result thereby cannot be realised for many years to come.

6. As I have indicated above Government have, by various devices, attempted to place the most rigid control on expenditure and I would welcome in the course of the budget discussion constructive criticisms for further reductions in expenditure. It will be observed that the budgetted expenditure for 1933 is 4.66 lakhs less than the revised estimate for the current year. I may add here that with a view to examine the system of accounts maintained in the office of the Comptroller and in the other offices of Government and with a view to report whether our methods of accounting are efficient in the direction of controlling expenditure, the services of Rao Bahadur S. Subbuswami Ayyar were entertained as Special Accounts Officer. Mr. Subbuswami Ayyar has completed his work and his report has just been presented to Government. A periodical examination of the accounting system of the State by an experienced person from outside is very necessary and desirable for maintaining our own system efficient and up-to-date. I am hoping that the report of the Special Accounts Officer would result in considerable improvements in our present system.

HARBOUR

7. It was exactly one year ago, on the 1st of August, 1936, that the Port of Cochin was declared a major port. The various works in connection with the Fourth Stage have been started and are making good progress. There is not much to be seen at present of these works round about the harbour area because most of the works are below water. The Fourth Stage dredging is nearly completed and many of the cylinders for the road and rail-bridge have been sunk to a level of about 80 feet below low water and satisfactorily tested. The railway embankment across Venduruthi is already made for several hundreds of yards, and a great quantity of railway materials, iron cylinders and steel girders have been received from the makers. The contract for the six large cranes required for the harbour has been given and the cranes will be of the new types at the Ports of Vizagapatam and Marmagoa. Much of the copper steel sheet piling required for the deep wharf has been delivered. The new pile driving plant has been erected and the work of driving the copper steel sheet piles will be started very soon. The Governments concerned have sanctioned the building of the Administration Block on the Willingdon Island, and the work has been started. It is hoped to finish this work early next year. In this connection I have to mention one matter which resulted in considerable saving in connection with the Fourth Stage Works. Though the declaration as a major port was made only in August last, the Harbour Authorities, in anticipation of a rise in prices, wisely invited tenders for steel and iron works and with the consent of the Governments concerned placed orders for the dredging plant and certain other materials as early as May 1936. It should be observed that on account of the re-armament programme of the Governments in Europe there has been a rapid rise in the price of all iron and steel materials, and in fact it has become difficult even to ensure prompt delivery at these high prices. The action of the Harbour Authorities in wisely placing the orders in May 1936

avoided what otherwise would have meant a large excess on the Fourth Stage estimates amounting to more than Rs. 12 lakhs. We are under obligation to the Administrative Officer Mr. Bristow for the wise step that he took in this direction. We have every reason to be satisfied with the way in which the sudden rise in prices at the very outset of the Fourth Stage Works was foreseen and averted. On the whole it may be expected that notwithstanding the rise in prices the total expenditure on the Fourth Stage Works will not be much in excess of what was anticipated at the time of the preparation of the estimates. As I explained in an earlier speech last year our total commitments for the Fourth Stage Works by way of advances to the Harbour Authorities is about Rs. 75 lakhs inclusive of the cost of the new dredging plant. Towards this commitment we have so far paid Rs. 33.80 lakhs.

8. In addition to the works undertaken by the Harbour Authorities the Fourth Stage Works of the Harbour involves the diversion and extension of the railway line to the Willingdon Island. The South Indian Railway Company have been entrusted with this construction and the work is already taken on hand. This work is estimated to cost approximately Rs. 12.50 lakhs. A special staff has been appointed for acquiring the necessary lands for the railway extension. According to the arrangements now made, the harbour terminal station at the Willingdon Island would become the terminus for all passenger trains and there would be two new passenger stations at Ernakulam, one at the north of the town and the other at the southern end. The existing railway station at Ernakulam is intended to be used purely as a goods station for local goods traffic. That portion of the railway which is within the port limits will be constructed at the expense of the Harbour Authorities. Arrangements have been made with the South Indian Railway Company for working the entire extension as part of the Shoranur—Ernakulam railway system.

COMMUNICATIONS

9. Though with the extension of the railway line to the harbour the fullest facilities will be available for the handling of traffic, a great deal remains yet to be done in completing the railway connections to open up the hinterland of the harbour. The opening up of communications with the hinterland by means of railways and roads is one of the necessary corollaries of building up a port. With the decision to construct the Cochin Port as a first class port, the Governments concerned are automatically committed to the policy of providing means of communication to the interior. The magnificent waterway that lies along the entire coastline provides a natural means of communication which is unrivalled from the point of view of economic transport. So far as the areas served by the backwater are concerned there is not very much more to be done. But a great deal still remains to be done by way of railway and road connections for other parts of the interior. It is expected that practically the whole of the Indian Peninsula to the south of Madras would have to use the Cochin Harbour for its trade. The absence of a few railway connections on the railway system in the Peninsula is keenly felt as a handicap against the natural flow of trade to and from the Cochin Harbour. The Trichur Kollengode connection is one such gap that will have to be filled up very soon. Another gap is the one between Chamarajanagar in the Mysore State and Mettupalayam. When this railway connection is made the trade of the entire Mysore territory will have to pass through the Cochin port. It is gratifying to note that the Mysore Government have taken up this railway extension with enthusiasm and earnestness. Vested interests have to some extent thrown obstacles in the way of these natural and inevitable developments. Rational schemes of railway extensions of this nature

are also held up on the plea that they would "short-circuit" an existing system. Every new facility in railway transport must necessarily short-circuit certain systems. The very object of providing facilities through railway communication is to narrow down the barriers of distance. If certain railway authorities had their own way, they would like to carry goods and passengers between two points through the longest possible route. Whether such a policy is good from the interest of railway revenues or not, it is certainly detrimental to the economic development of the country. I hope that the Government of India will realise that, as one of the partners in the construction of the Cochin Port, they are committed to a policy of increasing the railway facilities in the hinterland of the harbour and help the Mysore and the Cochin Governments in filling up these two gaps at the earliest possible moment.

10. On our part, we are doing all that lies in our power in the matter of providing easy communications. Though the Anamallai Hills are on the border of our State, the trade of the plantation area on these hills has now to take a long and circuitous route for want of a through and direct means of communication with the harbour. A road from Chalakudi to the Anamallai Hills would supply this lacuna. The distance will be about 50 miles. A special staff was appointed by us to make a preliminary survey and an estimate of the cost of constructing this road. The survey has now been completed and the preliminary estimates have been prepared. As this new road will have to depend for its maintenance on the trade of the plantation area on the Anamallais for some years to come, negotiations are proceeding with the Planters' Association with a view to come to a settlement which will make this road scheme feasible. If a satisfactory settlement is arrived at, it is proposed to start the construction of this road next year and finish it within three years.

TRADE OF THE PORT

11. In view of our great financial interest in the harbour, Honourable Members would be interested to know something about the progress of the trade of the port. The total number of steamships that have entered the port during the 3 years ending with 1936—37 is on an average about 770 ships per year. The total export from the port averages about 137,000 tons. The total imports during 1934—35 were 670,000 tons and in 1935—36 it rose up to 729,000 tons. In 1936—37, the imports fell down to 603,000 tons. The fall in the import tonnage during this year need not however cause serious alarm as it was almost entirely due to the drop in the import of grains due to the rice market having been in an over-stocked position in the previous year. The customs revenue collected in 1934—35 was over Rs. 54 lakhs, and in 1935—36, over Rs. 55,81,000. The receipts under the landing and shipping dues averages about Rs. 8 lakhs per year. It will thus be seen that the volume of trade in the port has remained fairly steady during the last 3 years notwithstanding certain adverse factors. It can be confidently expected that with the provision of greater facilities, the trade would expand considerably.

12. There is one other matter connected with the trade of the port which is now engaging my serious attention. It was recently brought to my notice that, notwithstanding the nearness of the Cochin Port, certain consignees book their goods to other ports even though this involves a longer railway lead. A cursory examination of this question has led me to conclude that this is in a large measure due to the exorbitant landing charges on cargo charged by the local shipping agents. When cargo has to be taken out of a ship it has to pay various charges. The sum total of these charges will, to a

very large extent, determine the attitude of the consignees in taking their goods to one port rather than to another. The charges can be divided into two categories:—(a) charges paid to the harbour and port authorities and (b) charges paid to private shipping agents. The landing and shipping dues, the port dues and the pilotage fees together make up the charges paid to the Port Authorities. Of these, the landing and shipping dues is the main item amounting to one rupee per landing and shipping ton. This is approximately half the similar charge made at other major ports of India. It is from these charges that the port has to pay for all the dredging and other maintenance works in the harbour, the cost of all staff, interest to the Cochin Government on the Reclamation ground and interest for all the capital loans. Though the port dues and the pilotage fees are a little high, these are charged not on goods but on shipping, at two and one-quarter anna per registered ton of ship as port dues, and 8 pies as pilotage fees. The actual incidence of these two charges on the goods is not therefore very high. In addition to these charges paid to the port authorities the consignee has to pay landing charges on cargo to local shipping agents who land and handle the cargo. I have been told that except in special cases they vary from about Rs. 1½ to Rs. 10 per ton plus an additional 50 per cent if the cargo is taken to or from the Ernakulam station. These charges are very much higher than the corresponding charges in other ports like Madras and on account of this it appears that a great deal of the cargo that would otherwise be consigned to the Cochin Harbour is now being consigned to other ports. This is a matter to which the two Chambers of Commerce should devote their attention. As the Government which has got the greatest financial stake in the harbour, we cannot allow this handicap on trade to continue.

13. One other matter connected with the customs revenue would be of interest to Honourable Members. Our share of the customs revenue has hitherto been paid to us by the Government of India only after the final accounts of the Government of India for a financial year are closed. Though the financial year of the Government of India ends on the 31st March we used to get our share of the customs revenue only in September and sometimes even later. We made a request to the Government of India that approximately 90 per cent of our share may be paid to us as soon as the preliminary figures are available to the Government and that the balance may be paid when the final accounts of the year are closed. The Government of India have very kindly agreed to this proposal. The net result of this transaction will be that we would gain about Rs. 15,000 to Rs. 20,000 per year by way of interest charges.

LAW COMMISSION

14. I shall now turn to certain matters relating to the internal administration of the State. It is partly as a result of our commitments under the Harbour Agreement and partly with a view to make our laws up-to-date that the Law Commission was appointed sometime back. I am now glad to inform you that the Commission has practically completed its work. The scrutiny of the Statute Laws of the State by the Law Commission showed that in spite of the brisk legislative activity a very large number of enactments of the State needed revision, and further that there were wide legislative gaps in certain fields of law. The activity of the Law Commission ranged over a very wide field but attention was concentrated particularly on maritime, mercantile, commercial, labour and criminal legislation in view of their application to the port area. Where the amendments to the existing enactments were found to be numerous and far-reaching, they are being revised by consolidating and amending enactments, while in other cases the existing

enactments are merely amended. The Law Commissioner submitted altogether 85 drafts. Of these the enactments of 60 drafts have been approved by Government. 22 of the drafts proposed by the Commissioner were found to be related to personal law and it was thought advisable to enact them as occasions arose through the usual procedure of being passed through the Legislative Council. Three drafts proposed by the Law Commissioner relating to the Merchant Shipping Act, Air Craft and Carriage by Air, involved an amount of technical and special knowledge, and are therefore pending the consideration of Government. All the enactments of the State have been consolidated by the incorporation of the amendments in their appropriate places and the addition of foot-notes explaining them. It is proposed to issue the entire Statute law of the State in five handy volumes which will be available to the public before long. In addition to the publication of the Statute law, the work of consolidating the rules and notifications issued under the various enactments is engaging the attention of the Law Commissioner, and it is proposed to issue these rules as companion volumes shortly. It will thus be seen that before long the entire Statute law of the State would have been brought up-to-date, the legislative lacuna would have been filled up and copies of all the enactments available to the public in a handy form.

LAND MORTGAGE BANK

15. I shall now turn my attention to certain schemes of amelioration and development. The two ameliorative measures intended for the relief of agricultural debtors are the Land Mortgage Bank and the Debt Conciliation Board. The Executive Committee of the Bank have so far sanctioned 227 loan applications amounting to Rs. 3,80,000. Of these, mortgage deeds have been executed in 177 cases amounting to a total loan of Rs. 2,95,000. The delay in the execution of the deeds by the applicants seems to be due to the fact that, the full amount required to satisfy the creditors not having been sanctioned by the bank, some time is taken in effecting a negotiation between the creditor and the debtor with a view to satisfy the creditor with the amounts sanctioned by the bank. This delay may therefore be considered as a sort of process of debt conciliation, and viewed from this point the arrangement seems to be satisfactory. The total number of loan applications received so far is 595 involving over Rs. 12 lakhs. Government transferred to the bank 132 mortgages of the Special Loan Department amounting to Rs. 2,29,000. The total number of Share-holders of the bank is 1,162 and the paid-up Share Capital Rs. 68,950.

16. The outstanding event in the transactions of the bank in the current year is the issue of debenture bonds guaranteed by Government. The bank obtained the approval of Government to float the first series of debentures for Rs. 5 lakhs at 4 per cent interest free of the State Income-tax. Though these debentures are free of income-tax so far as the investor is concerned, the bank has undertaken to pay to Government the income-tax involved in this transaction. The list for the debentures was opened on the 21st July and immediately applications to the extent of Rs. 20 lakhs were received. It is very gratifying to note that the first issue of debentures by the bank has met with such phenomenal success. As a result of the success of this issue one can entertain the hope that there is sufficient capital in the State which can be mobilised for the purpose of bringing relief to the agricultural debtors. The greater part of the debentures have been allotted to private parties and institutions within the State.

17. Though Government have lent their wholehearted support to the bank and have helped them in many ways the ultimate success of the bank will depend on the interest taken by the leading men in different parts of the

State and the integrity and honesty of the borrowers. The debtors are given facilities for repayment in the course of 20 years and unless this obligation is scrupulously fulfilled by the borrowers the affairs of the bank will get into difficulties. In the first year of the working of the bank there have been seven cases of complete default and 25 cases of partial default. Though the amounts involved in these cases are small it is important that the leading men in the State should take a voluntary interest in the operations of the bank and impress upon the borrowers the need for promptly meeting the annual obligations for repayment.

DEBT CONCILIATION

18. The Debt Conciliation Regulation has been brought into operation in the State. This is in a large measure a natural corollary to the establishment of the Land Mortgage Bank. Most of the agricultural debtors are indebted so heavily that it is not possible for any sound banking institution to advance on the security of the properties the entire amount covered by the debts. There has to be naturally therefore a process of conciliation, and it is hoped that the work of the Board will achieve this result. The fact that the Board will operate only in three taluks of the State need not cause any discouragement to the inhabitants of other taluks. The whole machinery of debt conciliation is new, and experience alone can show the difficulties and dangers involved in this process. It is with a view to gain the requisite experience that the operations of the Board have for the present been confined to a part of the State. Honourable Members may rest assured that if this experiment is found successful at the end of the year, boards will be established for the other parts of the State also.

UPLIFT WORK

19. The work done in the Department of the Protector of the Depressed Classes is one of the most outstanding ameliorative measures undertaken by Government. For well over a decade attention has been devoted to the question of the uplift of the depressed classes in the State. The provision of facilities for education to the children of these classes and the provision of house-sites and buildings for their habitation are the two main items of work in this direction. Conscious of the fact that it is by advancement in education alone that the status of these unfortunate communities can be raised and their disabilities removed, Government have been consistently following a policy of affording greater and greater facilities in this direction. The success of our policy can be demonstrated by the fact that to-day very nearly 70 per cent of the children of these communities of school-going age are receiving education. Special inducements in the shape of exemption from fees, free supply of books and other school requisites as well as clothing and provision for feeding in certain cases have been offered to attract the children from these communities to the schools. The concessions are not confined to primary schools alone. Even in the High School classes the depressed class pupils are exempted from payment of fees, and in many cases, additional encouragement is given by the grant of special stipends at the rate of Rs. 2 per pupil per mensem in the lower secondary classes and Rs. 3 in the upper secondary classes. As a result of this policy the number of boys and girls attending High School classes has been progressively increasing every year. While three years ago the total number of boys and girls of the depressed classes attending the High School classes was only 511, in the current year it is very nearly 1,000; in other words, there has been nearly 100 per cent increase in the course of three years. Similar concessions on a liberal scale are also given in order to enable pupils from these communities to qualify

themselves for University degrees. Special attention is being paid towards the promotion of industrial education of these children. Special stipends are being awarded to students undergoing studies in the Government Trade School and the Government Industrial School at Trichur. In addition to all these, special feeding charges are given to over 175 depressed class pupils studying in the various rural Government Industrial Schools of the State. Stipends are also given for pupils undergoing training in the Tramway Workshop at Chalakudi so that students undergoing this training may be equipped with adequate means of livelihood. Provision of house-sites and the establishment of colonies and settlements for the depressed classes is another important line along which Government attempt to ameliorate the condition of these people. Since the starting of the department, nearly 1,700 house-sites have been provided, a greater part of it by free assignment of poramboke lands. In addition to these provisions for house sites there are 82 colonies established throughout the State inhabited by the depressed classes. We complete the process of imparting of education to these pupils by offering them facilities in the matter of recruitment to public services through the Staff Selection Board about which I shall speak in greater detail later on.

SOME DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES

20. I shall now refer briefly to a few schemes of development already undertaken or in the process of investigation. The electrification of the two important towns of the State, Ernakulam and Trichur, has been completed and electricity is available in these places not merely for lighting purposes but also for industries. It is gratifying to note that the industrial load that has been secured even during the first year fills one with hope that the availability of power at a reasonable rate will encourage the growth of small industries in these areas. The Tata Oil Mills Company, Ltd., at Ernakulam are now being worked from the Ernakulam Power Station and the latest figure of load registered by this Company alone is approximately 750 horse power. Government do not propose to rest content with the supply of electricity only to urban areas. Every effort will be made to extend this amenity to the rural population also. A start has been already made in this direction by the scheme for the electrification of Nemmara, which is now nearing completion. The scheme will be worked as a part of the water works at Nemmara and it is expected that it will be remunerative from the outset. After the electrification of Nemmara is completed, Government propose to undertake the electrification of other important centres like Chittur, Irinjalakuda and Kunnankulam.

21. The Cochin Textiles Ltd., which have started a Cotton Spinning Mill at Pudukkad, have very nearly completed their work and it is expected that production will be started by the end of this year. The construction of the factory buildings at Pudukkad has supplied work for hundreds of labourers round about the area, and with the commencement of production, over 500 persons of both sexes will find a steady employment in the Mill. Government encouraged this enterprise by subscribing to preference shares to the extent of Rs. 1,50,000. Out of this Government have already sold shares of the value of Rs. 35,000 at a handsome premium.

22. Investigations are now proceeding on the possibilities of starting a paper mill, a factory for the manufacture of edged tools, and a concern for the packing of cashew nuts for export. Preliminary investigations regarding the possibilities of the paper industry are now nearing completion. The Government of India at our request very kindly gave us the benefit of the advice of their Paper Expert at Dehra Dun and it is expected that he would

be visiting the State by the end of August. In the meantime certain private investigations also have been completed with the help of experienced Engineers. If the scheme ultimately fructifies it would not merely establish a very important industry in the State, but offer an outlet for our forest produce. It is well known that there are in the State skilled workmen who turn out a high quality of edged tools and other implements. Advantage is proposed to be taken of the availability of skilled labour for starting a concern for this manufacture. Investigations are now proceeding.

23. Apart from devoting their attention to schemes of industrial development, Government are equally anxious to undertake schemes of rural welfare. The difficulty in undertaking schemes of rural reconstruction is the paucity of men trained in this kind of work. Enthusiasm has to be supplemented by knowledge and experience. With a view to supply this, Government propose to start a rural reconstruction centre in the State. The Rural Reconstruction Department of the Young Men's Christian Association have established such centres in other parts of India and from my own personal experience I am convinced that they have achieved remarkable results. I am in communication with the Association and I have requested them to lend us the services of one of their experienced men who might be put in charge of a similar centre in the State. The Coconut Farm at Vytilla which has been working at a loss and which the Retrenchment Committee have recommended to be leased out may probably prove to be an excellent place for the starting of such a reconstruction centre. A lump sum provision of Rs. 6,000 has been made in the budget for this work and I am hoping that the Rural Reconstruction Centre would be started in the course of the next Malayalam year.

TOWN PLANNING

24. The question of undertaking schemes of town planning on a comprehensive scale has been engaging the attention of Government for some time. It is natural that Government should devote its attention in this respect in the first instance to the Capital City itself. Honourable Members can already observe that considerable improvements have been made in certain parts of Ernakulam. The canals and the basins in the town have been in a very dilapidated condition and the work of repairing them has almost been completed. The improvements to the Padiath canal and basin and the Market basin and its canal to the east of the Broadway Bridge are estimated to cost about Rs. 33,000. Government have agreed to contribute Rs. 8,000 for these works and the balance is met entirely by the Municipality. To enable the Municipality to find the required amount for financing these works, Government have agreed to grant a loan of Rs. 25,000 at 4 per cent interest repayable in equated annual instalments in a period of 10 years. Government appreciate the readiness of the Ernakulam Municipal Council in undertaking such schemes of town improvement. The work of opening up a new road along the foreshore which will be the main entrance to the town has already been taken on hand. An estimate for Rs. 70,000 has been sanctioned for constructing this road and for a new bridge on the Market Canal. The cost of this work has not been debited to the revenue accounts. It is debited to a separate account under 'Advances Recoverable'. The opening up of this new road will make available for the purpose of building construction about 5 acres of poramboke land which is now lying waste and of no use. In view of the great demand for building sites it is expected that we would be in a position to realise a very handsome amount by the sale of this poramboke land. It is proposed to recover the cost of the scheme from the proceeds of this sale. Enquiries are already being received about these sites and I expect that there would be very great demand for building sites on this new road.

This road, when completed, will be a unique and picturesque foreshore. Running almost like a straight line along the shores of the backwater with no impediment to hide the panoramic view to the west, this foreshore will provide a picturesque and attractive setting for shops and commercial houses.

25. The work of constructing the foot-path round the Maidan at Trichur and the conversion of the Maidan into parks and play-grounds are progressing satisfactorily. The cost of these works are being borne by the Municipality and the Devaswam Department. When these works are completed they will not merely make Trichur an attractive place but provide in the heart of the town a magnificent open space which will serve as a park. The investigation relating to a satisfactory water-supply to Trichur has also been completed. The scheme involves the damming of the Naduthodu River and diverting its water through protected pipes to a reservoir placed at a convenient point in the town. The plans and estimates have been forwarded to the Trichur Municipal Council for their observations, and they have been invited to send proposals for the financing of this scheme.

26. The work of supplying adequate fresh water to Mattancherri has also been undertaken. Government have sanctioned a scheme for carrying a 9 inch submerged pipe line across the backwater from Ernakulam to Mattancherri at an estimated cost of Rs. 1,50,000. Other schemes for the improvement of Mattancherri have been held up on account of the difficulty of financing these schemes. It is this holding up of certain schemes that has given rise to some criticism, both inside the Legislative Council and outside, that Government are not responsive to the needs of Mattancherri. This is a convenient place for me to say something about the policy which Government intend to pursue in the matter of improving the amenities of municipal towns. Government are fully alive to the need for improving the sanitary and other conditions in congested areas especially in towns like Ernakulam and Mattancherri situated in the vicinity of the Port. In spite of this realisation on the part of Government it is to be remembered that with the limited funds at their disposal Government have to satisfy the evergrowing demands of the rural population as well. While Government are prepared to help the Municipalities to some extent it should be clearly understood that the major part of the burden should be borne by the Municipal Councils themselves. It does not help to solve a problem when the Municipal Council sends back schemes with the observation that the Municipality has no resources to finance them. I must frankly say that, when compared with the District Municipalities in the Madras Presidency, the level of taxation in the Municipalities of this State is extraordinarily low. The Municipal Councils will have to face the problem boldly. The level of taxation in the Municipal areas will have to be raised to enable the Municipalities to find adequate funds for financing these schemes. It is because that certain Municipal Councils have not shown any tendency to face the problem in this manner that the schemes intended for the improvement of these towns are being held up.

27. Apart from finding funds, the members of the Municipal Councils have a great task in securing the co-operation of the people in the matter of improving the sanitary conditions of our towns. A Town Planning Expert observed to me that the existence of too many canals entering the town is undesirable from the point of view of sanitation. If therefore the schemes of improving Ernakulam are to be effective some at least of the canals have to be closed. I find that this is being objected to in certain quarters. Every house-holder and every merchant expects that he should have facilities of a landing jetty within a stone's throw. At a time when almost primitive conditions prevailed, the use of the foreshore as a landing

ground was no doubt largely resorted to. When a scheme for beautifying the foreshore has been taken on hand it is not possible to permit ugly sights in the form of landing places. While Government would certainly provide ample facilities for landing grounds at convenient points on the backwaters, it is not possible to satisfy every one's demands in this respect and construct a number of landing places on the foreshore thus nullifying the whole scheme of beautifying the town. It is in matters like these that we want the co-operation of the Municipal Councillors and I hope that the very process of beautifying these towns will instil a new spirit in their citizens.

28. I find that if the schemes of town improvement are to be effectively carried out with minimum cost for public and municipal funds, legislation is necessary in this respect. Government have already appointed a Departmental Committee to draft the necessary legislation for town improvement. Powers will be taken for the creation of Town Improvement Trusts and for speedy acquisition of properties so that the schemes can be carried out with the maximum efficiency and minimum expenditure.

RECRUITMENT TO THE SERVICES

29. It was during my last budget speech that I announced the appointment of the Staff Selection Board and the acceptance by Government of the principle of communal representation for recruitment in the public services. During the Legislative Council sitting on the 11th February 1936, a Resolution was adopted recommending to Government that a Public Service Commission or a Staff Selection Board with definite rules of communal rotation should be constituted in the State for recruitment to the public services in order to give adequate representation to all the communities in the State. Soon after this motion was passed a Departmental Committee was appointed for examining the question and the final orders of Government were passed at the time of the commencement of the last budget session. Immediately after my announcement, the necessary rules were framed and the Board was set up consisting of three officers of Government, namely, the Secretary to Government, the Diwan Peishkar and the Government Advocate. The Board has now been working for nearly 9 months and I am able to say that during this period not a single appointment was made without reference to the Staff Selection Board and not a single recommendation of the Staff Selection Board was negatived by Government. During the last few months since the Board came into existence Government made 662 appointments on the recommendation of the Board. Of these, 134 appointments have gone to the Ezhavas, 93 to other backward and depressed classes, 166 to Christians of all denominations, 110 to Nayers, 71 to other Hindu communities, 31 to Tamil Brahmins, 42 to Muslims, 2 to Pulayars and 13 to Jews, Anglo-Indians and other small communities. It was only in the case of the Pulaya community that the Board was unable to get suitable applicants. In all other cases, the communities have obtained places assured to them under the Staff Selection Rules. No favouritism of any sort has been shown to either particular communities or individuals. I can boldly claim that our rules relating to communal representation and the working of the Staff Selection Board are as simple and straightforward as any that can be devised; and I am convinced that the most impartial justice has been meted out to all the communities by the Board. I have heard some complaints here and there of alleged injustice. When I asked for definite instances I have not been supplied with any. Let me assure the Honourable Members and the public at large that it is the intention of Government to carry out in the most effective manner possible the policy that has been laid down. If any cases of what may appear to be an injustice are brought to the notice of

Government they would be examined most carefully and any change that may be necessary in the rules or methods of recruitment will be made to obviate such cases of injustice. I must however sound a note of warning. The whole scheme is intended to protect the interests of all the communities in the State. It is not intended to show favouritism to any particular individuals. Disappointed individuals may try to make out that injustice has been done. But what the public will have to decide is whether the claims of the communities in question have been satisfied. So long as a member from a particular community has been recruited by the Board it is not for outsiders to say whether another member of the same community should have been selected rather than the one on whom the choice of the Board fell. The case for communal justice will be weakened if too much attention is bestowed on the claims of individuals. Apart from complaints which may be based upon legitimate grounds there has been an insidious attempt made in certain quarters to belittle the whole scheme and to persuade certain backward communities that not enough has been done for them. It is for the leaders of such communities to warn their brethren against this kind of insidious propaganda which is being carried on with ulterior motives. The figures that I have given are the most effective answer to any criticism about the scheme as a whole or its working in practice. Members of certain backward communities have only to compare the figures of recruitment during the last 9 months with what prevailed in the past to satisfy themselves whether justice is being meted out to them.

COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS AND GOVERNMENT

30. One other important matter in which the wishes of this House have been carried out is the appointment of the Franchise Committee. It was only in the last budget session that the Council urged upon Government the need for lowering the franchise. A very good committee, presided over by the ex-Chief Judge, Mr. Sahasranama Ayyar, is now engaged in examining the whole question of franchise and I am hoping that their report would be available in time to enable Government to carry on the normal election programme during next year.

31. In the two matters referred to above, namely the appointment of the Staff Selection Board and the institution of a Franchise Committee, Government have shown their readiness to respond to reasonable demands made by the Legislative Council. Within the last two years that I have been in charge of the Administration of the State, I have accepted a number of major recommendations of the Legislative Council and have given effect to them. The complaint relating to the licensing of arecanut markets, the appointment of the Retrenchment Committee, the appointment of the Franchise Committee, the institution of Debt Conciliation Board, publication of text-books under the auspices of Government, the establishment of the Land Mortgage Bank and the institution of the Staff Selection Board and the recognition of communal representation in the services, are but a few examples of the major recommendations of this House which have been given effect to by Government. In the light of this record, I would leave it to the public to judge the validity of the criticism that one often hears that Government is unresponsive to the demands of the people's representatives.

FEDERATION

32. I shall now conclude my address with a few words on the problem of Indian Federation. During the period under review the question of

accession of the State to the All-India Federation was closely scrutinised. A Special Officer was appointed to study the problem and tender advice to Government. I had also the benefit of attending the various meetings convened from time to time by the Chamber of Princes. I was invited to become a member of the informal Committee of Ministers presided over by the Rt. Hon'ble Sir Akbar Hydari and I had also the privilege of working as a member of the Constitution Committee presided over by His Highness the Maharajadhiraj of Patiala. My attendance at these meetings along with our Legal Adviser was of great benefit. The State got the benefit of legal opinions obtained from eminent counsel like Sir Walter Monkton, Mr. Morgan, K. C., and Judge Wadhams. Besides these, the collective opinion of experienced statesmen in charge of the administration of the Indian States on matters common to the States as a whole was also available to me in the study of this problem. After collecting all these materials Government decided to consult representative leaders of public opinion in the State before submitting the final memorandum to the Government of India. Accordingly a non-official committee of 9 members was constituted and all the relevant materials relating to the study of the problem of Federation were placed before this committee. On every material point on which the Government had to express their point of view the opinion of the non-official committee was taken and the final memorandum which we sent to the Government of India is based entirely on the advice tendered by the non-official committee. The point of view of the State on the question of Federation may therefore be said to represent not merely the point of view of the Government but the point of view of the representatives of the people as well. Honourable Members who served on that committee will bear me out when I say that there was no conflict between these two points of view. In fact, there cannot possibly be any conflict, because the question that we had to deal was related to safeguarding the interests of the State on which there cannot be much diversity of opinion. The answer of the Government of India on the reservations and safeguards that we have made is now awaited before a final decision is taken whether the State will join the All-India Federation.

33. A great deal of misconception prevailed at one time about the possible results of joining the Federation. Serious apprehensions were expressed that by joining the Federation the State will lose its share of the Customs Revenue and the proceeds of income-tax. These apprehensions are due to an inadequate study of the problem of Federation. We have made it plain that the State will not lose any of its present revenues by joining the Federation, and that, apart from this, the vital interests of the State are adequately safeguarded. In spite of these assurances oft repeated, the question is still asked in certain quarters what the State will gain by joining the Federation. Those who approach the problem from the point of view of profit and loss to individual States show a very inadequate appreciation of the implications of the problem of Federation. The question of an All-India Federation is to be looked at not from the point of view of profit or loss to an individual unit, but from the point of view of what it means to India at large. Co-ordination of efforts for a joint purpose necessarily involves sacrifices on the part of those who join together. As Indians, whether we are subjects of a State or of a Province in British India, the question that we have to ask ourselves in approaching this problem is whether India will stand to gain by bringing into existence an All-India Federation and whether the sacrifices that each one of us will necessarily have to make is commensurate with our own capacity and the requirements of the common cause. Even a few years ago the evolution of the Indian Constitution on a federal basis in

which the Indian States will form an integral part was considered as a dream not within the realm of practical politics. The declaration of the spokesmen of the Indian Princes at the First Round Table Conference that the States were prepared to join a federal scheme on certain conditions was a turning point in India's political history and made possible what was considered to be only an ideal. The subsequent stages of the protracted conferences and negotiations are well known to the public. It now remains for statesmen both in British India and in the Indian States to make up their mind whether they will join together for bringing about this great political consummation. It has been stated in public of late that many of the Indian Princes are hesitant and that many are laying down impossible conditions. From my own observation of the attitude of the leading Rulers of Indian States I can confidently assert that there is a genuine desire on the part of these great patriots to do everything that lies in their power to achieve the political unity of India in the form of an All-India Federation. It should not be forgotten that if there is a dissentient voice heard amidst the Princely Order, there is an equally jarring note sounded by some British Indian politicians. There are those who have proclaimed that the entry of the Indian States into the federal scheme will act as a drag on the political progress of India. While I do not question the sincerity of those who entertain these apprehensions, I make bold to say that there is no ground for such apprehension. It is in the establishment of a Federation alone that there is hope of realising the political unity of India in a real sense. The difference between British India and Indian India is an artificial one. Far from the Indian States being a drag on the political progress of India, the postponement of the establishment of Federation and the isolation of Indian States as a separate entity will be the greatest drag on the achievement of political unity in India. It is impossible even to conceive of a self-governing India in the real sense without the Indian States forming an integral part of the whole scheme. Every obstacle thrown in the way of the establishment of the Federal Constitution is an obstacle in the achievement of political unity in India. Fortunately for us the times are propitious. A few months back the political impasse that was created in six of the Indian Provinces cast a gloom over the whole political field and created grave doubts whether Federation would become an accomplished fact. Thanks to the statesmanship of those guiding the policy of the Indian National Congress, the assumption of responsibility by this great political party in the six Provinces has restored normality in the political conditions of India and has made possible the early inauguration of the Federal Constitution in the centre. Let us therefore realise that every contribution that we make, however little it might be, towards the building up of this great structure of the Indian Federation will be an offering at the altar of the Mother Country.



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