

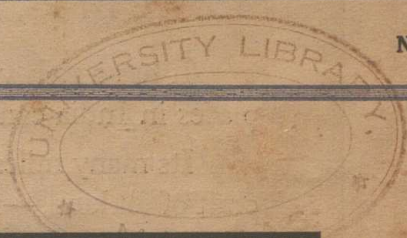
# COCHIN INFORMATION



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*"Goats—in search of pastures new"*

*Issued by the WAR PUBLICITY DEPARTMENT*

# “COCHIN CALLING”

## VISIT COCHIN

FOR

## A REAL HOLIDAY

### COCHIN IS, ADMITTEDLY, A LAND OF BEAUTY

It has a rich variety of splendid scenery, the like of which few places in India can boast of.

Its many miles of backwaters, alive at all times with picturesque craft of all kinds—from the primitive *vallam* laboriously pushed along by a long bamboo pole to the most modern launch driven by steam or motor—and fringed on both sides by ever-green groves of luxuriant coconut-palms, constitute a sight that is as rare as it is refreshing.

It has, besides, a first-rate harbour, with all the modern equipments, constructed after years of labour—a veritable romance of marine engineering.

Possessed of a historical background, replete with romance and adventure, and of a distinctive culture and civilisation, Cochin has several fascinating features that mark it out from the rest of India. There is, in fact, a good deal in its social, religious and economic institutions that will provide food for thought and reflection.

There are a number of ancient temples and churches in the State which, from the point of view of their structural beauty as well as their sanctity, stand in a class by themselves and are well worth visiting.

Among the other attractions are a number of well laid out gardens and parks, beautiful roads, pleasing land scapes, waterways, etc.

All the important towns have well-equipped travellers' bungalows and there are also good hotels to stay in.

*For additional information, please write to.—*

**THE INFORMATION OFFICER TO THE GOVERNMENT OF COCHIN,**

**ERNAKULAM**

# COCHIN BUDGET

(DIWAN'S SURVEY)

“FOR the moment, until the war comes to an end, our principal duty is to maintain our war activities at their highest pitch. . . . . Now that the war is going well there is perhaps the danger that people will slacken their efforts thinking that the need for exertion is over. That is the road, if not to defeat, certainly to the prolongation of the war. It is only by maintaining our war activities at the highest pitch that we can expect the war to be over soon”, said Sir George Boag, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., in the course of his budget speech in the Cochin Legislative Council on the 24th July. The full text of his speech is given below.—

I bid you welcome to this Budget Session of the Legislative Council. We have a busy fortnight before us in which the principal duty which we shall be called upon to discharge will be the consideration of the demands for financial supply put forward by the Government in the Reserved and Transferred Departments. Hon'ble Members will have the opportunity of showing, both in the general discussion on the Budget and in the discussions on individual demands, what they think of the activities of the various departments and of the manner in which those activities are being carried on. I can give an assurance that any criticisms which Hon'ble Members level either against the policy of the Government or against the manner in which that policy is being executed will receive the most careful attention. I do not propose in this address to discuss the details of the Budget Estimates. The Finance Member later in today's proceedings will deal with these estimates in detail. I propose in the remarks which I shall now



Sir George Boag, K.C.I.E., C.S.I.,  
Diwan of Cochin

make rather to confine myself to a consideration of the effect which the war is having upon the economy of the State, to indicate how this impact is illustrated by the Budget figures, to consider a few of the more important measures for which financial provision is made, and finally to touch upon some of the problems connected with post-war reconstruction of the State's economy.

#### WAR SITUATION

Before I proceed to these domestic concerns I shall, I think, do well to remind the House of the very great improvement in the war situation all over the world which has been brought about since I last addressed it seven months ago. The Russians, continuing their mighty blows at the German invaders during the winter, throughout the spring, and now into the summer, have practically thrown the Germans back over their frontiers and are within a measurable distance of the invasion of Germany itself. In Italy the last few weeks have seen the liberation of Rome and the steady advance along both coasts and through the mountains in the centre of Italy of American, British, Indian and Polish troops who are gradually driving the Germans northwards. In France we have seen a powerful British and American army landed in Normandy which has captured the important port of Cherbourg and is hammering at the strong German forces which are striving vainly to ward off the attack which grows ever stronger and stronger. So also in the war with Japan we have seen a determined attack on the north-east frontier of India, which at one time looked serious, thrown back with heavy losses. We have seen a force of American and Chinese troops in the north of Burma combine with that gallant force of Chindits to drive the Japanese from more than one of their strong positions. We have seen the Americans in the Pacific drawing tighter and closer the ring which encircles the

Japanese fleets and armies. Everywhere the enemy is on the defensive; and it has become obvious to all the world, not least to the enemy himself, that it is only a question of time before he is beaten to surrender.

#### RECRUITMENT

Meanwhile, it is well for us to review from time to time the results of the impact of war conditions upon this State. There has first been a great demand for man power. From this State have gone something like 17,000 young men to join the fighting services. Many of them have been back on leave—some with great stories of their adventures at sea, in the air and on land in many countries. I have talked to more than one of these young men myself; and as I have talked to them I have felt that it is they who more truly than any one else are at the present moment maintaining the good name and reputation of this State and of its people. Then we still have a large number of labour battalions working—some in Assam and some in Ceylon. The demand for technicians still grows, and though a number of the smaller training centres in the State have been closed, the reason for this is not that the need for technicians has come to an end but simply the greater economy of training them in a few comparatively large establishments than in a number of small ones. And since my predecessor spoke on the Budget a year ago, the State Forces have been reorganised on modern lines, and though the number of recruits has not yet been sufficient to complete the Battalion for which sanction has been given, the First Company has so far completed its training that His Highness has been able to offer it for service under the Crown outside the State. This Company is shortly to leave the State for duty elsewhere in India, and I am sure it will take with it the good wishes of all Hon'ble Members of this Council. Many men have joined the Indian Army or Navy or

Air Force, but this is the first unit which leaves the State as a State Force; and I am confident that wherever it may be called upon to serve it will maintain the good name and the high reputation of this State. Besides these various classes who have gone or are liable to go from the State to other parts of this country or abroad, we must also remember that a very large labour force is constantly employed on military works on and in the neighbourhood of Willingdon Island.

#### WAR SUPPLY

Not only has there been a great demand for man power, there has also been a great demand for material supplies. The most important, both in value and in quantity, has been timber. Throughout the year greater and greater demands have been made upon our forests, and the great increase in supply made for war purposes is reflected in the Budget figures, where Hon'ble Members will see that, as compared with the Budget Estimates for the year 1119, we now anticipate greater receipts from the Forest Department of no less than Rs. 9 $\frac{3}{4}$  lakhs, while there is likely to be an increased expenditure of Rs. 6.40 lakhs. We now expect the total receipts from the forests and tramway to amount to Rs. 22.66 lakhs while the expenditure is likely to be Rs. 14.82 lakhs, leaving a clear profit on the working of the forests of Rs. 7.84 lakhs for the year. I think the Conservator of Forests and his staff and establishment deserve a special word of congratulation on the manner in which they have responded to every demand that has been made upon them and for the very excellent results of the year's working. I should like to add that these greatly increased war supplies have not destroyed or denuded our forests. They have provided a remunerative market for timber and other materials which but for the war would never have had a market at all. The war has helped the Forest Department to eliminate a great deal of

inferior and undesirable growth and so to satisfy silvicultural needs while at the same time earning a record revenue. From this point of view it may be considered that post-war forest development has actually been started during the currency of the war. A variety of other goods have also been provided for the Supply Department—furniture, packing cases, plywood, coir and coir goods, tiles, textiles, and a number of other articles too numerous to enumerate.

#### COST OF LIVING AND FOOD SUPPLY

One effect of this great demand for man power and for goods has been to produce in the State large supplies of ready money. Men who have gone to the fighting services and men who have enlisted in labour units as a rule make considerable family allotments, so that their families receive regular monthly contributions. Those who are employed in producing the goods for which there is such a demand and the large force of labour employed on military works in the State are all receiving good wages; so that there is a larger amount of money in the hands of people than probably has ever been known before. At the same time, difficulties of transport, both by sea and by land, and the preoccupation of industry in all the allied countries with war orders, have reduced materially the supplies of goods available for purchase. More particularly is this the case with foodstuffs, of which this State with its teeming population used in times of peace to import such a very large proportion either from other parts of India or from overseas. Now the first result of the reaction between increased supplies of money and reduced supplies of goods has inevitably been a rise in prices—a rise in the cost of living—which has affected all classes of the population. As always happens in these conditions those who have goods to sell have prospered, while those with fixed incomes who have to buy the necessities of life have felt the pinch

severely. So far as Government servants are concerned we have tried to help them by granting a dearness allowance. This allowance has twice during the last six months been raised and the allowance now given in the State approximates closely to that which is given both in Travancore and in the province of Madras. The mere grant of dearness allowance, however, would not of itself have enabled the people to whom it is granted to live unless effective measures had also been taken to procure supplies of food stuffs and the other necessaries of life. I need not repeat the elaborate description given by my predecessor in his budget speech last year of the various measures adopted in tackling the food problem. The policy laid down in his time of buying up as much as possible of the local produce, and of procuring as much as possible from other parts of India—and indeed we have received consignments of wheat from Australia, of maize and maize-meal from South Africa and also milk from abroad—has been continued up to the present time; and although I cannot claim that the Government has been able to procure enough to satisfy people's demands I do claim that we have been able to distribute a ration which has prevented starvation. I was however advised soon after I came to the State that signs of malnutrition were apparent, and the Government has been making efforts to deal with these symptoms—first by distributing supplies of milk to women and young children, secondly by providing mid-day meals in schools, and thirdly by increasing the number of Cochin Restaurants in different parts of the State, where people can obtain food, possibly unfamiliar but not unpalatable, at moderate prices. I do not claim that these measures have reached as many people as we should wish to reach. I am hoping before long to receive increased supplies of milk, and I am also hoping before long to get mid-day feeding started in

more schools; but I think it is safe to say that the measures so far adopted have arrested the malnutrition which was becoming manifest. Another symptom of distress was a great increase in the number of beggars more particularly in the towns of Ernakulam, Mattancheri and Trichur. Hon'ble Members will remember that a committee has been studying this beggar relief question for some time; its report has recently been received, and a bill implementing the recommendations of the committee will be placed before the House in the course of this session. But the evil was becoming so intolerable that it seemed to me necessary to adopt emergency measures in anticipation of the consideration of the Beggar Relief Committee's report; and each of the three major Municipalities has now established beggars' homes where nearly 400 beggars of both sexes and all ages taken from the streets are housed, fed and looked after.

#### SAVINGS CAMPAIGN

The Budget figures testify in no uncertain measure to the conditions which I have just described. The considerable increase of revenue anticipated this year as compared with the Budget Estimates are due in the main: first, to the greater revenue from Forests to which I have already referred; secondly, to larger receipts from Excess Profits Tax which, of course, reflect the greater volume of business being done; and thirdly to greater receipts from Abkari which again reflect the greater purchasing power in the hands of the poorer classes who so largely contribute to this revenue. The Government have from time to time considered how best to draw off the surplus monies which are available in such large quantity and which if left in the hands of the public are liable to do so much harm by further inflating prices. A certain amount of increased taxation was imposed last year, but proposals to increase stamp duties and court fees were rejected by

the House during the course of this year, and the Government have decided to accept the decision of the House on this matter. We have started a savings drive which we hope will succeed in absorbing a considerable portion of the surplus funds of which people are in possession. The drive was started a few weeks ago and has already resulted in the investment of over Rs. 15 lakhs in one form or another of defence savings. I hope that this campaign will be continued and intensified so long as the need continues. I also hope that the measures to check Hoarding and Profiteering which have been introduced will be vigorously and ruthlessly enforced so that the greedy few may not be able to batten on the needs of the many. Whether it will be necessary to adopt other measures the Government have not yet decided, but they are watching the situation very closely. The rise in prices does for the moment seem to be checked and there is, if anything, a downward tendency. If this downward tendency continues, it may be unnecessary to adopt any further measures; but if an upward tendency again declares itself, the Government will not hesitate to adopt such measures as may seem to be necessary to control the situation.

#### BUDGET FIGURES

Let me now turn for a minute to the actual Budget figures. A year ago the Revised Estimate for the year 1118 anticipated a surplus of Rs. 13.66 lakhs. Actually the year closed with a surplus of Rs. 26.22 lakhs. The Government propose to place Rs. 20 lakhs from this surplus to the credit of the Revenue Reserve Fund which will thus be brought up to a total of over Rs. 50 lakhs. This sum and more will be required to finance various schemes which the Government are contemplating in connection with plans for post-war developments; and Hon'ble Members will, I am sure, agree that it is a wise policy to draw off surplus money which might otherwise be used to

intensify inflation and to put it on one side to be spent as soon as prices fall to something more like normal. For the current year 1119 the Revised Estimate provides for a revenue of Rs. 209.34 lakhs as compared with the Budget Estimate of Rs. 185.39 lakhs, while there is also a corresponding increase in the estimates for expenditure which have risen from Rs. 166.88 lakhs in the Budget Estimate to Rs. 190.83 lakhs in the Revised Estimate. I have already indicated that the increased revenue is mainly due to greater receipts expected from Forests (Rs. 9.75 lakhs), Income-tax and Excess Profits Tax (Rs. 7 lakhs), and Abkari (Rs. 4.50 lakhs). The increase of expenditure is mainly accounted for by the increased rates of dearness allowance which we are now paying, by the grant of dearness allowance to small pensioners, by the increase of rates of T.A. to compensate Government servants for the greater cost of travelling, by a larger expenditure on the Forests which has led to the increased revenue which we now anticipate, to increased expenditure on the State Forces and finally to greater expenditure on public works due to the higher rates which must everywhere be paid. For the year 1120 the Budget Estimates contemplate a revenue of Rs. 218.69 lakhs, an increase of Rs. 9.36 lakhs as compared with the Revised Estimate for this year, and an expenditure on the revenue account of Rs. 202.09 lakhs, an increase of Rs. 11.26 lakhs as compared with the present year's Revised Estimate. The increased revenue is almost entirely accounted for by the very large increase of Abkari revenue (Rs. 21.70 lakhs), but against this must be set lower estimates than in the current year under Customs (Rs. 4.1 lakhs), Forests (Rs. 3.90 lakhs) and Miscellaneous (Rs. 5.25 lakhs). The principal increase in expenditure is under the Education Department and is mostly due to a large provision for the mid-day feeding of children. Otherwise the

increased expenditure is mainly due to normal increase of the activities of various departments and to the increased rates of dearness allowance for which provision is made throughout the coming year. We expect a surplus balance of Rs. 16.60 lakhs at the end of the year in the revenue account.

#### FINANCIAL OPERATIONS

The large advances which it has been necessary to make for the purchase of foodstuffs and standard cloth as also for the equipment and despatch of the labour units to Assam and Ceylon have from time to time caused a certain amount of anxiety to the Government and have put a considerable strain on our financial resources. Hitherto these operations have been financed by working on an overdraft obtained from the Central Bank of India, and the Government are anxiously considering whether this is the best and most economical method of providing the finance required or whether they should adopt some other means.

I am not sure whether Hon'ble Members appreciate the magnitude of these financial operations. The provision made for advances for the purchase of foodgrains in the Revised Estimate for this year is Rs. 5 crores, of which we expect to recover Rs. 490 lakhs before the end of the year. For next year we anticipate advances of Rs. 520 lakhs which should all be recovered during the year. We are also providing Rs. 30 lakhs for advances for the purchase of standard cloth and more than Rs. 40 lakhs, all of which we expect to recover during the year, for advances in connection with the equipment of labour units. These advances, of course, are not all required at one time; but in order to meet all the demands made upon the Government, it has been necessary in the course of the current year to raise the limit of overdraft from Rs. 50 lakhs first to Rs. 75 lakhs and later to Rs. 100 lakhs.

#### FOOD DEPARTMENT

The House is naturally anxious for an assurance that these very large sums have been properly spent and I am extremely sorry that it is not yet possible to place before Hon'ble Members an audited statement of the Food Department's accounts for the year 1118. The delay in completing the audit of these accounts is partly due to the fact that some of the foreign purchase accounts have not yet been completed and partly to delay in adjusting the accounts as between one depot and another in the State. It must be remembered that when these operations were first undertaken the food situation was extremely grave and the one important thing was to move supplies as quickly as possible to the place at which they were most urgently needed. The importance of accurate book-keeping was perhaps not sufficiently appreciated at that time; and once accounts have been allowed to get into arrears it is one of the most difficult things in the world to bring them up-to-date. Good progress is however being made and I feel confident that it will not be long now before the audit of the accounts for the year 1118 can be completed and published. I am also hopeful that the accounts for the current year will be completed and audited and published at a much earlier date than has been possible in respect of the accounts for 1118. I may add that I have seen enough of the accounts for 1118 to assure the House that the transactions of that year did not result in any financial loss to the State. If the final accounts show any substantial profit we are arranging to pass such profit on to the consumer by reducing the prices at which commodities are sold in our Fair Price Shops.

#### HILL PADDY CULTIVATION

Another matter upon which I know that Hon'ble Members have felt considerable anxiety is the extensive commitment undertaken last year for the cultivation of paddy and other foodstuffs

in the hill areas. The area actually cultivated last year was 5,350 acres under paddy, 4,050 acres under tapioca, 1,215 acres under red gram, and about 600 acres under other crops, rather more than 11,000 acres in all. The amount spent in the two years has been Rs. 9.62 lakhs. We have actually recovered up-to-date Rs. 55,000 and another Rs. 76,000 is awaiting adjustment; we should also receive a substantial sum this year from the sale of tapioca. The failure to realise anticipations to the full was due to the weather last year which seriously injured the crops of paddy and other grains. This cultivation has been continued this year but on a smaller scale and the Government instead of undertaking the cultivation themselves have decided to lease out these hill areas to private parties for cultivation. The latest reports which I have seen show that out of 5,880 acres available for lease about 3,500 acres have actually been leased, of which about 2,000 acres have been sown with paddy and the rest with other food crops. The reasons why larger areas have not been made available this year are first the presence of tapioca on some thousands of acres which is only just ready for harvest and secondly the resumption of some areas by the Forest Department for the purpose of reafforestation.

#### IRRIGATION SCHEMES

The Government are doing what they can to encourage extension of cultivation in other areas as well as in these hill paddy areas. Hon'ble Members will find that the budget contains provision for considerable expenditure on a number of irrigation schemes, the most important of which are the Chalakkudi scheme and the Kambalathara Eri scheme in the Chittur Taluk. Both these schemes have been under discussion for years. Provision was made for them both in the budget a year ago. Work on both schemes has been delayed by protracted

discussions, in the one case with the Government of Travancore and in the other case with the Government of Madras. I am glad to say that in both cases the points in issue between this State and its neighbours have been very much narrowed down and I earnestly hope that it will be possible during the coming year to make a start with both schemes and to use to the full the provision which we have made in the Budget Estimates.

#### ANAMALLAI ROAD SCHEME

The opening of the first section of the Anamallai Road has not only opened up new areas for cultivation but has made possible the extraction of considerable quantities of timber from the forests through which the road runs. Considerable progress has been made on the road during the current year in spite of difficulties in securing adequate labour and in contending with malaria. The survey of the upper half of the road will shortly be started and work will, it is hoped, go on steadily throughout the coming year.

#### IMPROVEMENT OF WATER SUPPLY

Another important operation which will be of permanent benefit to the State, although its immediate execution has been made necessary by war demands, is the improvement of the water supply from the Periyar river to Ernakulam and other places adjacent to Cochin Harbour. Under present conditions the benefit of this increased supply must almost entirely go to Willingdon Island; but as soon as the military demand abates it will be possible to ensure better supplies both to Ernakulam and to Mattancheri. It has also been necessary in order to comply with military demands to increase the supply of electricity. This increased supply also will be a permanent asset to the State as soon as it can be diverted from military to civil purposes.

#### POST-WAR RECONSTRUCTION

I now turn to the subject of post-war reconstruction, upon which I know Hon'ble Members are anxious to hear

what the Government are planning and what they are doing to implement those plans. As Hon'ble Members are aware this Government have only very recently appointed an officer to work out these plans, but they have not been altogether idle even before the officer was appointed. Two conferences have been held at which various schemes were discussed and certain tentative conclusions reached. I think the proceedings of these conferences have been laid upon the table of the House and no doubt Hon'ble Members are aware of what these conferences achieved. The special officer is now engaged in preparing definite schemes on the lines laid down by these conferences, and I hope to be able from time to time to inform the House as to the progress of these schemes. Meanwhile, I should like to take this opportunity of letting Hon'ble Members know something of my own views regarding the possibilities for developments in this State. I understand the expression post-war reconstruction to mean the provision after the war of better conditions of life for all the subjects of the State than they have hitherto enjoyed. Our survey of the needs and the possibilities of development must cover the whole country and make provision for the rural as well as for the urban population; and, as the rural population is by far the most numerous, I consider that their claims should have the first call upon the Government's activities and resources. Holding as I do that a sound education must be the foundation of any real improvement in the standard of living, I have considered our educational system, and there is one respect in which I am convinced that great improvement is required. It seems to me that provision for the training of teachers has not kept pace with the expansion of primary and secondary education in this State; and where schools are manned by men and women who have not been taught how to teach I am afraid that there is great danger that our

system of education, extensive as it is, may be a delusion and a sham. It is to my mind essential that we should at once make full provision for the training in the State of the full number of teachers required for all the schools, both Government and aided, which are at present responsible for the education of the youth of the population.

Among the plans which are being considered is one for the establishment as soon as possible after the war of a technological institution which it is hoped may continue those educational facilities which have been so very extensively developed during the war by the numerous centres of technical training which have been set up all over the country. This is a matter in which His Highness is particularly interested and he has given proof of his interest by allotting no less than Rs. 70,000, out of a sum of one lakh of rupees which was recently presented to him, for the provision of technological classes in the Maharaja's College here.

#### IMPROVEMENT OF AGRICULTURE

I consider also, and here I hope I am not encroaching too far upon my Hon'ble colleague the Minister's departments, that there is immense scope for the improvement and development of the work of our Department of Agriculture. I should like to see in the Central Farm a well-equipped research institute providing opportunities for numbers of young men to concentrate on the study of the various crops, of the various soils and of different methods of improving the yield of the crops and the fertility of the soil. I should like to see a really model dairy showing the people of the State how such an institution should be run and run at a profit and supplying dairy produce in sufficient quantities to meet all demands. I should like to see in different parts of the State agricultural demonstrators at work on experimental plots showing the results to be obtained by the application of methods learned at the research institute in the Central Farm.

We have already made a start in demonstrating the possibilities of fruit and vegetable cultivation on the unoccupied land on the Nelliampathy Hills. I hope this experimental demonstration will be

so successful as to induce many others to follow the Government's example.

#### DEVELOPMENT OF INDUSTRIES

As regards industrial development I should welcome all offers from private



*"Peringalkuthu Falls—Seat of the proposed Hydro-electric scheme"*

enterprise to start new industries. I suggest that it may be desirable to conduct a complete survey of the possibilities of

such development so that information may be available for all interested parties regarding the raw materials available, their



*"Fishing operations in Cochin Backwaters with Chinese Nets"*

quality and their quantity. Water and power are essential for industrial development, and the availability of these should also be comprehended within the scope of the survey. Government, as Hon'ble Members are well aware, has its own scheme for hydro-electric development and is already in correspondence with the Electrical Commissioner with the Government of India regarding arrangements to procure the materials and plant necessary for its establishment at as early a date as possible after the war. Another direction in which I suggest that there is great scope for development is the fishing industry, and I hope that our post-war plans will include provision for its development. Meanwhile I see no reason why the possibilities of this development should not be investigated at once.

#### PUBLIC HEALTH

For the improvement of the standard of living of the people, improvement of public health is urgently called for. Large tracts of fertile land have been left unoccupied owing to the severe incidence of malaria. It is well known now that malaria is a scourge which can be removed and I am glad to say that this Government has already made a start by seeking advice from experts in tropical diseases who have successfully dealt with malaria in other parts of the country. I hope that by determined and maintained efforts it may be possible to free considerable tracts in the State from malaria and thereby enable them to be brought under cultivation. Soon after I came to the State it was brought to my notice that certain portions were very badly affected with hookworm. The Medical and Public Health Departments have been conducting a systematic campaign against this disease for the last few months. The need for this campaign will be manifest when I say that in some places as large a percentage as 90 of the population were found to be infected. To enable these departments

to complete their work the campaign is to be continued for another six months, when the matter will again be reviewed and measures to keep the area free from infection will be considered and if possible applied.

#### IMPROVEMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS

We have also been considering the improvement of communications by road, by rail and by canal. Generally speaking the State is well served with roads and the chief scope for development in this direction is by improving their surfaces. Plans are being laid to carry out this object. I have already mentioned the Anamallai Road which will open up great expanses of our richest forests and provide a quick means of communication between the Estates on the Anamallai Hills and the Port of Cochin. There are possibilities for the construction of more roads in these forest areas. As regards rail communication, it seems to me absolutely necessary that the harbour should be linked up with the metre gauge system which serves the southern part of the Madras Province. It is only about 40 miles from Kollengode to Trichur; a survey has already been made and I earnestly hope that it will be possible to complete this bit of railway as soon as materials become available after the war. A railway from Quilon to Ernakulam was also surveyed some years ago, and I propose to discuss with the Travancore Government the desirability of carrying out this work also. There are various suggestions for the improvement of canals which are calculated to facilitate transport of men and of goods, and these are being systematically examined and listed, and those which promise a reasonable prospect of success will be included in our programme.

#### DRAINAGE AND WATER SUPPLY SCHEMES

Finally we do not wish altogether to ignore the towns, and among our plans for immediate development after the war

are water supply and drainage schemes for the three major towns in the State, none of which is really properly served in this respect at present. I do not pretend that this is a complete catalogue of all possible plans of reconstruction; but I hope that I have said enough to convince Hon'ble Members that I am alive to the need for development in different directions. I am also alive to the need for associating members of this House with the Government's plans for reconstruction. Whether this can best be done by periodical reports to the House which will give opportunity for a full-dress debate on the subject, or whether it would be better to appoint a few representative members of the House to a Reconstruction Committee whose proceedings should be placed on the table of the House, or whether there are other better methods of establishing contact between the Government and members of this House regarding this matter—these questions are still under consideration. I believe that, in a matter of such grave importance as this planning for the whole future development of the State, all sections of the population should have the opportunity to inform themselves of what is being done and to make suggestions or criticisms.

But Hon'ble Members will realise that these are matters for the future. For the moment, until the war comes to an end, our principal duty is to maintain our war activities at their highest pitch. I am grateful for all that Hon'ble Members of this House are doing in this direction, and I would only ask them to maintain these activities until the war ends. We still have to meet calls for recruits from the fighting services, from the State Forces, from labour units and from technicians, and these demands must be met in full. There is still need to carry on propaganda regarding the course of the war, regarding the continued need for

war work, the need for men and the need for supplies. The National War Front has in the past played a great part in steadying and strengthening the morale of the population. That work is still as necessary as it has ever been. Now that the war is going well there is perhaps the danger that people will slacken their efforts thinking that the need for exertion is over. That is the road, if not to defeat, certainly to a prolongation of the war. It is only by maintaining our war activities at the highest pitch that we can expect the war to be over soon. The National War Front can do much to spread this spirit among the people. And I must say a word about the recently formed Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen's Board, the object of which is to look after the families of men away on active service and to look after the interests of the men themselves. This Board has a large part to play in fostering morale and encouraging recruitment, for by letting everybody see that the soldier or sailor or airman and his family are being looked after by an active and vigorous Board, more men will be induced to come forward as recruits. I appeal to everyone who is engaged in any form of war work to maintain his efforts and to increase them, for the nearer we come to victory the greater is the need for concentration of effort.

#### CONCLUSION

I should like to acknowledge on behalf of the State Government the great help which the Government has received in these difficult times from the Resident for the Madras States and through him from the Government of India. The Resident has been untiring in his attempts to secure for the State supplies of things of which we are short and to represent our difficulties to the Government of India. I also wish to express my satisfaction at the cordial relations which continue to exist between this State and its next-door neighbours, Madras and

Travancore. The relations have been maintained on a friendly footing throughout the past year and it is obviously for the benefit of all concerned that these good relations should continue. Certainly this Government will do everything in its power to maintain the existing friendly relations.

Now it only remains for me to express the confident hope that the deliberations

of this House in this coming session may be fraught with great possibilities for the benefit of the people of the State. I am sure that Hon'ble Members will take full advantage of these possibilities and so conduct the business of the House that it may redound to the credit and satisfaction of His Highness the Maharaja and of all his subjects.

### COCHIN BUDGET ESTIMATE FOR 1120 (1944-45)

#### ORDINARY RECEIPTS

Expenditure	Budget estimate 1120	Revised estimate 1119	Budget estimate 1119	Accounts 1118
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
I. Land Revenue .. .. .	12,20,100	12,25,000	12,19,700	12,29,321
II. Agriculture .. .. .	2,05,700	78,600	53,700	55,273
III. Village Panchayats .. .. .	3,500	5,000	4,100	4,627
IV. Village courts .. .. .	600	1,000	1,100	..
V. Salt .. .. .	6,14,800	5,57,100	5,34,300	5,97,611
VI. Stamps .. .. .	6,73,400	6,79,700	5,35,200	6,51,533
VII. Customs .. .. .	26,70,000	30,83,700	30,00,000	24,49,618
VIII. Abkari and Ganja .. .. .	42,81,900	21,12,000	16,61,900	12,41,877
IX. Matches .. .. .	1,43,900	1,46,800	1,03,700	1,19,815
X. Opium .. .. .	1,67,500	1,14,000	1,09,100	1,04,773
XI. Tobacco .. .. .	5,00,100	5,02,500	5,61,900	3,49,430
XII. Forests and Tramway .. .. .	18,75,500	22,65,700	12,90,500	12,11,014
XIII. Registration .. .. .	3,07,300	2,94,700	1,63,700	1,79,574
XIV. Tribute .. .. .	6,900	6,900	6,900	6,857
XV. Interest .. .. .	2,38,200	2,59,100	2,62,700	3,40,574
XVI. Anchal .. .. .	2,59,700	2,23,500	1,78,500	1,68,395
XVII. Law and Justice .. .. .	30,000	37,200	22,000	34,958
XVIII. Jails .. .. .	10,000	10,000	10,000	5,005
XIX. Police .. .. .	16,700	20,200	17,400	21,467
XX. Marine .. .. .	..	..	..	..
XXI. Education .. .. .	4,52,900	5,44,000	4,44,200	4,55,538
XXII. Medical .. .. .	25,600	26,300	10,000	13,434
XXIII. Ayurveda .. .. .	600	600	400	5,171
XXIV. Public Health .. .. .	39,500	44,500	38,500	58,090
XXV. Stationery and Printing .. .. .	1,98,900	1,96,900	1,57,400	1,59,110
XXVI. Public Works .. .. .	3,81,800	4,43,200	3,45,100	3,75,301
XXVII. Railway .. .. .	39,00,000	38,88,300	35,00,000	36,40,969
XXVIII. Profits from Capital Outlay other than Railway .. .. .	1,51,600	1,48,100	1,14,300	1,05,959
XXIX. Industries and Commerce .. .. .	13,400	14,600	12,900	17,877
XXX. Rural Development .. .. .	..	..	..	2,456
XXXI. Income-Tax .. .. .	32,00,000	32,00,000	25,00,000	31,36,600
XXXII. Miscellaneous .. .. .	2,79,400	8,04,400	16,80,000	3,18,236
XXXIII. Transfer from sinking Fund for the repayment of State Loan .. .. .	..	..	..	..
<b>Total, Ordinary Receipts .. .. .</b>	<b>218,69,500</b>	<b>209,33,600</b>	<b>185,39,200</b>	<b>170,60,463</b>

## ORDINARY EXPENDITURE

Expenditure	Budget estimate	Revised estimate	Budget estimate	Accounts
	1120	1119	1119	1118
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Land Revenue .. .. .	5,35,000	4,54,100	3,96,400	3,54,032
2. Agriculture .. .. .	3,46,300	2,33,900	2,16,500	1,70,205
3. Village Panchayats .. .. .	4,21,900	4,10,600	4,03,600	3,91,191
4. Village courts .. .. .	72,000	54,600	49,600	..
5. Co-operative Societies .. .. .	38,000	35,500	31,700	32,083
6. Palace .. .. .	7,50,000	7,50,000	7,50,000	8,59,600
7. Subsidy .. .. .	2,00,100	2,00,100	2,00,100	2,00,089
8. Excise .. .. .	2,41,100	2,81,200	2,94,400	1,73,154
9. Matches .. .. .	18,400	12,700	13,400	43,749
10. Stamps .. .. .	61,300	79,300	68,700	42,375
11. Customs (including Marine) .. .. .	200	200	200	80,369
12. Forests and Tramway .. .. .	12,57,500	14,81,900	8,42,200	5,36,851
13. Registration .. .. .	1,46,800	1,30,700	1,15,400	1,08,199
14. Anchal .. .. .	1,89,900	1,51,000	1,05,800	91,064
15. General Administration .. .. .	3,19,900	3,53,400	2,88,600	2,31,799
16. Finance and Accounts .. .. .	1,12,000	88,200	87,500	78,961
17. Law and Justice .. .. .	3,82,200	3,60,300	3,17,000	3,08,366
18. Jails * .. .. .	1,20,100	1,17,000	1,13,800	1,13,635
19. Police .. .. .	4,88,600	4,09,900	3,72,100	3,10,371
20. Education .. .. .	32,37,900	25,64,900	22,85,300	20,82,596
21. Religious .. .. .	40,100	40,100	40,100	41,404
22. Charities .. .. .	91,900	95,000	83,000	77,450
23. Medical .. .. .	9,09,300	8,00,000	7,25,800	6,84,346
24. Ayurveda .. .. .	1,47,200	96,900	96,000	53,641
25. Public Health .. .. .	2,62,300	1,90,800	1,61,300	1,88,633
26. Pension and Gratuity .. .. .	7,00,400	5,65,400	5,41,300	5,03,750
27. Stationery and Printing .. .. .	3,47,500	2,07,800	1,83,200	1,68,413
28. Military .. .. .	6,75,000	4,52,200	2,65,300	1,98,542
29. Public Works .. .. .	21,49,500	23,12,300	17,73,500	12,60,686
30. Interest .. .. .	5,11,800	5,95,100	5,44,900	5,72,877
31. Scientific, etc., Departments .. .. .	29,500	33,500	18,800	18,074
32. Industries—Reserved .. .. .	27,700	25,300	22,800	20,375
33. Industries—Transferred .. .. .	1,37,400	1,10,300	1,07,600	96,533
34. Rural Development .. .. .	..	..	..	7,958
35. Railway .. .. .	25,05,000	24,14,800	21,60,000	21,25,351
36. Uplift of the Depressed Classes .. .. .	1,02,700	93,700	88,500	75,064
37. State Conveances .. .. .	89,400	1,13,800	75,900	1,07,160
38. Income-Tax .. .. .	4,50,800	4,42,800	2,89,000	1,88,280
39. Miscellaneous .. .. .	17,93,800	20,24,100	22,58,900	37,66,324
40. Sinking Fund .. .. .	3,00,000	3,00,000	3,00,000	75,000
<b>Total Ordinary Expenditure .. .. .</b>	<b>202,10,500</b>	<b>190,83,400</b>	<b>166,88,200</b>	<b>164,38,550</b>

## WAR ACTIVITIES OF THE MONTH

*Propaganda meetings.*—War propaganda meetings are conducted in the State according to a quarterly programme drawn up by Tahsildars and Municipal Commissioners who are the Secretaries of the Taluk and Town War Sub-Committees. Meetings are held regularly in Municipal and rural areas. Six first class and six second class meetings were held in the month under report.

*National Savings Campaign.*—People have begun to realise and appreciate the benefits of investing in National Savings Certificates and Defence Bonds. Though the Savings Campaign was started vigorously only towards the close of May, investments received up to the end of July from citizens of the State exceed 18 lakhs.

*Recruitment.*—Recruitment to the Defence Services is progressing satisfactorily. To the non-technical side 142 candidates were recruited this month and to the technical side 94. These are not included in the number of Cochinites recruited by the various recruiting centres outside the State. A Recruitment Rally was conducted when Lt. H. A. Boas visited the State for recruiting candidates to the Navy. Out of 200 candidates who volunteered, only 70 were selected. Candidates were also selected to the W.A.C. (I). Regarding the success of the Rally Col. Nance wrote thus to the Diwan of Cochin:

"I wish to express my appreciation and thanks for your assistance in making the R.I.N. Recruiting Rally in Cochin State last month such a success. The response to the Rally was most gratifying".

*Military Benevolent Fund.*—The total collection to the Cochin State Military Benevolent Fund now amounts to Rs. 1,09,500.

*Greek Relief Fund.*—In response to the call of the King of Hellenes for

contribution to the Greek Relief Fund a sum of Rs. 6,581 was collected from the citizens of the State.

*War Fund Collections.*—The total collection to the Cochin State War Purposes Fund till the 1st of July is Rs. 14,33,346. Out of this, Rs. 14,22,192 has been disbursed for different purposes, such as, contribution to H.M.I.S. Cochin, King George's Fund for Sailors, etc. To the State War Purposes Fund, Sir George Boag, Diwan of Cochin, contributes Rs. 200 every month.

*Cochin Restaurants.*—Sixty restaurants are now catering to the needs of the people of the State. Unfamiliar, but not unpalatable dishes prepared of dry grains, are served in these restaurants at moderate prices. These restaurants have become very popular institutions in the State and wheat and dry grains are being consumed in large quantities. The out-turn as well as the off-take of the restaurants have increased considerably. The amount of subsidy paid to the restaurants last month came to Rs. 703.

*Musical Boat Campaign.*—A country craft loaded with dry grains and utensils necessary for the preparation of food out of these grains, and also fitted with a gramophone is now cruising in the backwaters of the State visiting villages in the coastal areas and carrying on propaganda for the popularisation of dry grains in these parts. When the boat reaches a village the propagandist in charge explains to the people the nature and quality of the different food grains and also the recipes for preparation of sweets, etc. Practical cooking demonstrations are also given by the experts in the propaganda party. The party is being enthusiastically received in all the centres.

*Red Cross Society.*—A branch of the Indian Red Cross Society has been recently started in the State. The objects of the State Branch of the Society are improvement of health, prevention of diseases and mitigation of suffering, irrespective of caste, creed or nationality. His Highness the Maharaja of Cochin is the President of the Cochin Branch, the Diwan is the Chairman of the Executive Committee, the Minister for Rural Development is the Vice-Chairman and the

Chief Medical Officer, the Honorary Secretary. There is one Vice Patron. On the rolls there are 20 life members, 13 annual members and one life associate. Gifts and donations received so far amount to Rs. 16,625 and membership subscriptions to Rs. 4,206. The State Branch has decided to contribute Rs. 5,000 towards Christmas gifts to the troops serving abroad. It is receiving the support and co-operation of the public in an abundant measure.

## AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRY

ON the opening day of the Budget Session of the Cochin Legislative Council Sri. T. K. Nayar, Minister for Rural Development, briefly reviewed the administration of the subjects entrusted to his care during the current financial year and explained the main features of the Budget for the coming year so far as they relate to these departments. He spoke as follows on the subject of

### FOOD PRODUCTION

“Food, more food and still more food” has been, in recent times, the inevitable watchword giving rise to anxious moments and painful perplexities to all Governments in deficit provinces and states in India, and Cochin in particular, which along with Travancore and Bengal, has engaged the attention of not only the Central Legislature and the rest of India but even of the British Parliament. I had occasion to mention in my last budget speech that I could think of no better way of discharging the solemn trust placed in me than by tuning my departments to the solution of the all-important problem of Food and augmenting the facilities for the production of more and more food stuffs in the State. I am glad to inform

the House that this policy has been continued with unabated vigour during the current year.

*Minor Irrigation.*—The minor irrigation scheme which was started in 1118 with an allotment of Rs. 1,70,000 was continued during the current year with a further allotment of Rs. 1,80,000. This has resulted in the completion of about 200 items of minor irrigation works which have facilitated the bringing into cultivation of new areas and converting of single-crop lands into double-crop ones. A further sum of Rs. 1,75,000 has been ear-marked for the furtherance of the same programme in 1120.

*Seeds.*—Scarcity of seeds, manure, implements and cattle, has been attempted to be solved for the efficient progress of the food production scheme. 1,500 paras of paddy seeds were issued to the ryots from the Government Central Farm for kole and virippu cultivation and a further quantity of 1,000 paras is set apart for mundakan crops. A sum of Rs. 5,345 has been distributed to the ryots as loan for the purchase of seeds and tapioca sets. Over 1,700 packets of available seeds and 20,000 seedlings of vegetable were issued



*Sri. T. K. Nayar, Minister for Rural Development*

from the Central Farm. The number of grafts made available for sale from the Central Farm has also been raised to 5,000 annually.

**Manure.**—Increased facilities to encourage intensive cultivation by the use of manure in larger quantities have been made during the year. With the 23 manure depots which have been opened in addition to those established last year, it can now be said that all Panchayats

excepting two—where too arrangements have been made to open depots without delay—have been provided with manure depots. Manure from these depots are given on credit and the ryots have to repay the cost only after harvesting the crops. Government have also offered a subsidy of 25 per cent in the value of these manures. Manure to the value of Rs. 1,49,000 has been already purchased and most of this has been distributed.

Arrangements are being made for the purchase of more.

*Implements.*—Great difficulty has been experienced by the ryots in securing implements. Iron and steel have become scarce and the prices of these articles have risen abnormally. To overcome this difficulty, arrangements have been made with the Government of India for the supply of iron and steel, and orders have been placed for the supply of 600 tons of iron and steel at controlled rates. It is the intention of Government to distribute this iron and steel among the ryots either as implements or as raw-material at controlled rates. Arrangements are also made to get down a number of spraying machines and a small number of oil engines and pumps.

*Cattle.*—The problem of cattle-farming has become more important compared to previous years, since the ban placed by the Madras Government on the export of cattle from Madras Presidency has deprived the State of nearly 20,000 heads of cattle per year. Although subsequent negotiations with the Madras Government have resulted in the granting of 600 cattle to the State, the cattle problem still continues to be difficult. Steps have been taken to conserve the existing cattle and increase cattle-farming by preventing indiscriminate slaughter of cattle, making liberal grants for the maintenance of stud bulls and the purchase of a number of young bulls by the Government Central Farm for distribution to the public. The idea is to have at least one stud bull in each Panchayat area. A scheme for the wholesale improvement of cattle within a period of 20 to 25 years is also under consideration of Government.

*Vegetable cultivation.*—In order to meet the shortage of vegetables in the State and to grow such varieties of vegetables which are now being imported from outside, like potatoes, cabbages, tomatoes, etc., Government have taken up a scheme for vegetable

cultivation in the Nelliampathis. An area of 500 acres of forest land has been set apart for cultivation and arrangements have been made to plant 100 acres with fruit trees like oranges, plums, pears, plantains, pine-apples and mango trees. The remaining 400 acres will be put under potatoes and vegetable cultivation early in 1120. The capital expenditure for the scheme for 1119 and 1120 is estimated at Rs. 1,39,500. The advance on this account is expected to be realised by the sale of vegetables. When the fruit trees begin to bear there will be a reasonable return of the capital.

*Hill Paddy Cultivation.*—It was decided to lease out the lands cleared for the purpose of Hill Paddy cultivation to the public for cultivation of food crops at nominal rates of rent. The Hill Paddy Cultivation scheme as a Government enterprise was, therefore, stopped. Large areas of lands were leased out to the public during the current year. Applications are being received for leasing out the remaining portions. This revised scheme whereby the difficult portion of the work of clearing the hills was done by Government and the land was leased out on easy terms, has already enhanced private initiative to take to Hill Paddy Cultivation, and it is hoped that ere long the whole area ear-marked for the purpose will be brought under private cultivation.

*Goat-farming.*—An experimental Goat Farm is arranged to be opened in the Central Farm at Ollukara. 50 she-goats of the best milking qualities from various places in this State will be selected. A few he and she goats of the Jamne Pari and Barbari breed are being got down and it is proposed to get a mixed breed by the crossing of the local varieties with the improved breeds imported.

*Dairy Farm.*—Steps have been taken to improve the Dairy of the Central Farm and enlarge its activities. The Dairy was strengthened in 1118 by a small addition



*A corner of the Government Central Farm*

of cows and although attempts for further strengthening it were made, difficulties of getting the required transport permit delayed action in this direction. It is hoped that sufficient number for the purposes of strengthening the Dairy Farm will soon be purchased.

*Demonstration and Publicity.*—Since publicity and demonstration on the methods of cultivation and the scientific use of manures form an important aspect of the grow-more-food campaign, as many as 73 demonstration centres were opened in the State, besides the special demonstration conducted at the Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition and Cattle-show held at Cherpu under the auspices of the National War Front. A Special Officer for Manure has also been appointed to facilitate the distribution and demonstration of manures and to educate the public on their proper use. Publicity is also being given regarding the scientific use of manures by the National War Front.

#### INDUSTRIES

*Industrial Centre—Cottage Industries.*—In the last budget it was proposed to organise various cottage industries in the Rural Industrial Centre at Cherpu. For this purpose, the office of the Assistant Director of Industries was shifted to this Centre, and he was put in charge of the work of organising and developing cottage industries through this Centre. During this year, the Centre, besides establishing and running cottage industries departmentally, has also organised artisans and rural workers in Co-operative Societies under the immediate supervision of Government. Manufacture of photo frames, lace garlands and caps, tooth powder, slate and slate pencils, dyeing, weaving and manufacture of shirting and clothing and other design works and oil pressing, are some of the industries pursued in this Centre.

*Organisation of artisans.*—The Centre is also organising co-operative societies

of artisans. They are given accommodation in the Centre and are made to work under departmental supervision. Financial assistance in the shape of loans and organisation assistance in the shape of paid secretaries are also extended to them. The carpenters' society, the leather workers' society and the weavers' society are now functioning in the Centre successfully. Experiments and research in cottage industries are also being carried out.

*Hand-made paper.*—A hand-made paper factory has been working for some time. Since difficulties were experienced in calendering, the Paper Expert was deputed to Bezwada and Mysore for further study and he has now returned and a scheme for the manufacture of half a ton of paper per day has been submitted. The difficulties in calendering will be met by the purchase of a calendering machine and certain other minor implements.

*Industrial Museum.*—Arrangements have been made to start an Industrial Museum at Trichur. The manufacture of show cases and the collection of certain items of local exhibits have been already

finished. Some of the outside Governments have also been addressed for details of their important products.

#### FISHERIES

On experiments conducted, it has been proved that several species of shark, yielding large quantities of oil of medicinal value, are available in our sea and backwaters. Government have made arrangements for extracting fish-oil and for marketing it.

Attempts are made to increase the catching of fish. Provision has been made in the budget for 1120 to bring 10 fishermen from British Malabar, who are experts in using bigger nets for deep sea fishing, in order to conduct the operations in our waters experimentally and to give training to our fishermen in this direction. A new fish curing yard is also proposed to be opened in the year 1120 at Kannamali in Kumbalangi Village."

(*Note.*—The following departments have been transferred to the charge of the Minister for Rural Development.—Agriculture, Ayurveda, Co-operation, Panchayats, Public Health, Uplift of the Depressed Classes, Development of Cottage Industries, Village Libraries, Fisheries and Industrial Schools).

## COCHIN GEOLOGICAL SERIES NO. V

### White Clay Deposits at Pulloot

T. SUDHAKARA MENON, M.Sc.

*State Geologist*

**Introduction.**—White clay, also known as China clay or kaolin, is found to occur in several places in Cochin State such as Mulanthuruthi—Amballur area, Kottayil Kovilakam Hill at Chennamangalam, Krishnankotta, Poyya, Pulloot, Shanmukham Canal area at Irinjalakkuda, Areepalam and Kizhupillikkara. It is the purest variety of clay, and in chemical composition it is the hydrated silicate of aluminium—Silica 46.5, Alumina 39.5,

water 14. The colour is white and the specific gravity 2.6. It often contains impurities like sand and iron oxide. The white clay of commerce usually consists of 90 per cent of hydrated aluminium silicate and 10 per cent of mica, silica and other impurities. The clay is perfectly white when sufficiently pure. White clay is not so plastic as the ball clays (see Cochin Geological series Nos. I and III.)

White clay is largely used in the

manufacture of porcelain. The chief function of white clay in the manufacture of pottery is to produce a white body which is not sensitive to sudden changes in temperature. White clay is used for a variety of purposes, for sizing in textile industry, in paper manufacture, in toilet powders, and in medicine.

On the Malabar coast, white clay deposits are worked on a large scale at Kundara in Travancore and Pappinisseri in North Malabar. The white clay deposits of Cochin State have not yet received the attention that they deserve, and thus they present great industrial possibilities. The Cochin Potteries at Chalakkudy require large quantities of white clay, and the Sitaram Spinning and Weaving Mills at Trichur also require this material for sizing purposes. The Cochin Ceramic Works at Cranganur carry out the washing and purification of white clay on a small scale.

#### Geological Features of Pulloot.—

Pulloot, situated just to the east of Cranganur, forms part of the Cranganur Taluk. It is a lateritic island and presents a marked contrast to the other portions of the taluk which are all sandy. Pulloot thus occupies the western border-line of the lateritic zone of the State.

Two varieties of laterite are found at Pulloot. In the southern portion of the island, especially in the localities of Chappara and Pandirampala, the laterite is friable and poor in quality due to the large admixture of white clay. It is unsuitable for use as a building stone. In the locality known as Puliyanthuruthu at the north-eastern end of Pulloot, also similar laterites are found. The white clay deposits are confined to these areas of poor laterites, and are found to occur below the laterites. In the northern portion of Pulloot, the laterites are good and can be used as building stone. Several laterite quarries, old and new, are found in this area.

A few exposures of dolerite rock (popularly known as "Krishnasila") are found in the northern portion in Survey No. 394. This is the only occurrence of igneous rocks in the whole of the Cranganur taluk. It is possible that these exposures of dolerite belong to the group described by Mr. K. K. Sen Gupta in his Geological Report of 1086, in which he has included the dolerite exposures west of Madathumpadi, south of Airanikkulam, etc., which are situated in the neighbourhood of Pulloot. Dolerite is a dark crystalline rock consisting principally of plagioclase feldspar and augite.

**White clay deposits.**—The occurrence of white clay below the laterite is clearly seen in a Panchayat well, in Survey No. 457, on the road from Pulloot to Chappara, in which the clay is found below seventeen feet of laterite. Large quantities of white clay are found at Chappara, especially in the quarries just to the west of the deity known as "Chappara Mutthi", placed at the foot of a big Pala tree (*Alstonia scholaris*) on the border of the Tachappilli Thodu. A little to the north of this place, large quantities of good white clay are found below twelve feet of laterite in two wells situated in Survey Nos. 454 and 455. White clay mixed with laterite pieces is found in Survey No. 593 at Pandirampala and Survey No. 53 at Puliyanthuruthu. Purer white clay occurs below these deposits.

The chemical analysis of the best samples of white clay from Pulloot gives the following results,—

Silica	—59.39.	Lime	—Traces.
Alumina	—29.71.	Magnesia	—Traces.
Iron oxide	—Traces.	Alkalies	—2.882.

These results can be compared with those of a very superior variety of white clay found at Lametaghat near Jubbulpore in Central India, described by Mr. K. K. Sen Gupta in his paper on "The white clays of Lametaghat" published in the Quarterly Journal of the Geological,

Mining and Metallurgical Society of India,  
Vol. 15, No. 2 of June 1943.—

Silica	--46.11.	Lime	— 1.06.
Alumina	--38.44.	Magnesia	— 0.32.
Iron oxide	--0.67.	Ignition loss	--13.43.

The higher percentage of silica in Pulloot clay is due to the presence of quartz grains, which can be removed by washing. The fact that iron oxide is present only as traces testifies to the purity of the clay. It can be safely concluded that, judging from the chemical analysis, the white clay of Pulloot is quite good for industrial purposes.

The white clay of Pulloot can be quarried from open pits, as is at present done at Kundara in Travancore. Mining is not safe, as the laterite is not compact to form the roofs of the mines, and as the cost of supporting the roofs with timber

will be prohibitive. The water collecting in the pits has to be pumped out when working.

**Conclusion.**—The white clay deposits of Pulloot are not very attractive for large-scale workings. They do not seem to be so rich as some of the other deposits examined by me, namely, those of Areepalam and Kizhupillikkara. I am of opinion that the purification of white clay may be done as a cottage industry. There is a large demand for purified white clay in ceramic and textile industries. The manufacture of chalk, for use in our schools and colleges, with white clay and plaster of paris, is also worth developing in the State. The gypsum, for the manufacture of plaster of paris, is not found in the State and will have to be imported from Trichinopoly District.

## NOTES

**Dearness allowance.**—Government have enhanced the rates of dearness allowance with effect from the 1st of Mithunam 1119 M.E. Officers in the inferior service will be paid Rs. 10 per mensem, those whose emoluments are above Rs. 15 but not above Rs. 40 will be paid Rs. 12 and those whose emoluments are above Rs. 40 but not above Rs. 200 will be paid Rs. 14 per mensem. Part-time employees who have been declared to be eligible for Dearness allowance will also be allowed the benefit of this increase. The benefit of the revised rates will also be extended to the teachers of aided schools, subject to the conditions previously laid down. The temporary increase in pensions sanctioned previously has also been enhanced. The dearness allowance granted to the Government servants and temporary increase granted to the pensioners will be reduced or withdrawn when prices drop again substantially.

**Price of Rice.**—There is considerable misunderstanding as regards prices fixed by the Cochin Government for sale of rice, wheat and other food grains in the State. The position of the Government has been made clear in the following Press Note issued recently.

The control price fixed for paddy in the State is almost the same as in Travancore, the apparent difference being due to the fact, not often noticed, that the Standard Para in Cochin State is of lesser volume than its counterpart in Travancore. The Cochin Mudra Para measures 440 fluid ounces while the Travancore Standard Para measures 800 cubic inches or 460.2 fluid ounces; or the volume of 23 Cochin Paras is approximately equal to 22 Travancore paras.

As regards the observation made in some papers that Cochin is making a large profit by selling her home-grown paddy after conversion into rice, at the same rate

as imported rice, the Government desire to point out that the position is different. The policy followed in Cochin State is to have a uniform selling price for all varieties of rice, whether home-grown or imported, in all parts of the State. The Government have all along acted upon the principle that there should be equitable distribution of foodstuffs in the State and the people in surplus and deficit areas should be given the same treatment as regards both supply and price. Any other policy would have been unjustifiable when the State itself was pressing the Central Government to fix an All-India Pool Price for rice and to make an equitable distribution of the surplus rice available. The adoption of a pool price is in conformity with the views enunciated by the Gregory Committee and accepted in principle by the Government of India. Rice is necessary to cater to the needs of a fairly large portion of the public especially in the towns. For quick transport and speedy distribution it has also been found from actual experience that a major part of the home-produced paddy has to be converted into rice. The paddy purchased by the Government is, therefore, milled before it is sold to the public. A pooled price is then charged for rice whether imported or home-produced. It has been made clear to the public that the policy of the Government is to avoid making any profit on the sale of foodgrains, the cost of the large establishment required for procurement and rationing of foodgrains and controlling movements and price being debited to the State revenue expenditure. In fixing the retail selling price, what is done is to work out the total cost of imported and home-produced rice and so adjust the sale price that there is neither gain nor loss to Government.

It may be understood in this connection that, since the Cochin Government started total rationing even before the monopoly purchase of local surplus paddy was

initiated in January 1943, they had not any large stock of rice in hand either home-grown or imported. They were able to get large supplies of rice from Madras and Orissa Provinces at comparatively cheap rates till January 1943 and if their stocks had not been sold away then and there it would have been possible to fix the price a little lower than at present. Afterwards the quotas to the State were mostly from North India, *viz.*, Sind, the Punjab, Baluchistan and Kashmir. The price of this rice is very high ranging from Rs. 21 to Rs. 43-8-0 per bag of 162 lbs. excluding cost of transport and other incidental charges. Madras has since been supplying this State with rice but the price charged is on a replacement basis, according to which it comes to about Rs. 21 per bag. Transport charges and the cost of labour have also greatly increased. These factors go to increase the average cost of imported rice and force the Government to sell rice at a higher price.

A part of the paddy locally purchased by Cochin Government is also sold to the ration-card-holders. The wholesale selling price fixed for paddy is Rs. 1-10-4 per para and the retail selling price Re. 0-2-10 per Edangazhi which works out at Rs. 1-12-4 per para. The rest of the paddy is milled in the State and is supplied to the public as rice. The object of hand-milling paddy is secured in Cochin State by arranging milling to be done under close Government control and supervision. Bran and other by-products are made available to the public at cheap rates.

This Government wish to reiterate that a careful watch is being kept on the landed cost of imported rice and the pool price is always so adjusted that there is no gain to Government from the sale of rice. It should also be noted that this Government have gone further and subsidised the sales of foodstuffs other than rice, *viz.*, wheat, ragi, maize, bajra, barley, moong,

peas, etc. In Cochin wheat is sold at Rs. 29—5—4 per bag of 220 lbs. With the arrival of the Australian wheat, it has been possible to sell wheat, without loss at the wholesale price of Rs. 29—5—4 per bag of 220 lbs.

**National War Front.**—It has been decided to start six village centres, one in

each taluk, for promoting the activities of the National War Front. The items of work of these centres will include (1) Opening of adult education classes and agricultural demonstration plots, (2) Conducting of periodical cinema shows and propoganda on behalf of the National War Front and (3) Public Health activities.

## RICE PROCUREMENT AND DISTRIBUTION

**A**NSWERING the criticisms made by certain members of the Legislative Council on the working of the Food Supply Department, the Diwan-President, Sir George Boag, made the following observations after the general discussion on the Budget.

I should like to remind the Hon'ble Member who appears to have forgotten that this business of procurement and distribution of food grains is being dealt with as an all India matter. All Provinces and all States are concerned in the equitable distribution of food. We, as the Hon'ble Member knows, are a very small State and the reason why the ration we are able to distribute is so small is that the arrangements for distribution have not brought us enough to distribute a bigger ration. It is not the fault of the Food Department, it is not the fault of this Government that we are not able to distribute a more generous ration. The reason simply is that we have not been able to obtain greater supplies and I would like to add that the Government of India and their Food Department are very well aware of the situation here. We have not failed to rub in our troubles to them and they are perfectly well aware of them. But they have not been able to provide any more for us.

Similarly with the other criticism. The surplus produce in the surplus provinces is all bought by and distributed under the orders of the Government of India. We cannot say that we will import our rice from Madras. It would be very much more convenient for us if we could. But we have to take what is allotted to us from the places where it suits the central organisation to make their allotment. That is why we are not able to get all our supplies from places near at hand.

And again, the reason why we send so much of what comes into the Harbour here on to Travancore is that it suited the two States of Travancore and Cochin to go to the Government of India together in partnership because we thought that our two voices put together would be stronger than each one speaking by itself. I think, Hon'ble Members will agree that that was the proper position to take. From the very start the arrangement has been that of the various quotas which come in by sea four parts go on to Travancore and one part we keep for this State. That is the reason why the Hon'ble Member sees so much rice and other grains going on from here to Travancore. I hope I have satisfied the Hon'ble Member's point and I hope I have cleared the Food Department and this Government of the charges

which he, I still think, unfairly brought against them.

I want to refer to one other matter and that is the comments which came from a certain number of Hon'ble Members at the absence in my opening speech of any reference to political affairs or constitutional changes. I omitted reference to these matters deliberately, first because I believe that the contribution which political and constitutional changes can make to the well being and happiness of the people of the State is small compared with that of which improvement in their material and economic condition is capable, secondly, because I feel that after being only seven months in the State I am not yet competent to make any pronouncement on political and constitutional issues. I am always prepared to consider proposals and suggestions regarding these matters. But I

feel that my knowledge of political currents and under-currents in the State is as yet so superficial and imperfect that it would be presumptuous on my part to initiate proposals. The article which appeared recently in the Press to which reference was made yesterday was not authorised or inspired by me. I have a completely open mind as to the nature of any constitutional change which may be desirable and as to the time when any such might with advantage be introduced. But of one thing I am quite sure and that is this: that the threat of the Hon'ble Member for Vadakkancheri to compel the Government to resort to certification for the carrying on of the administration is not the way to prove the fitness of this Hon'ble House to shoulder a greater burden of responsibility.

## COCHIN STATE LABOUR UNITS

### An appreciation of their work

BY

MAJOR GENERAL R. P. L. RANKING, C. B. E., M. C.

"I AM writing to you to express my great appreciation of the excellent work which the Indian State Labour Units recruited in Cochin have done and are doing in this area.

They have worked on projects of the highest importance and priority; on air-fields, roads, depots, railway construction and many others, sometimes under difficult conditions, in bad weather and often, perhaps, in uncongenial surroundings far away from their homes and families. They have worked, however, well and willingly and the results of their efforts have very materially assisted the war effort on this front.

I am probably one of the largest direct employers of State Labour in India and

I realise, perhaps more than most people, the invaluable work which is being done by the labour of these Units. I also realise the work which still has to be done, the need for more and more men, and the vast opportunities for work to contribute to the successful result of our fight which the men of the State Labour Units can do so much to aid.

If you agree and it is possible, I would request that this letter of mine should be circulated among the Indian State Labour Units recruited in Cochin. I have always done my best to take a personal interest in the welfare and work of the men and I should very much like them to know that their efforts are being appreciated. In this way they may feel that they, as well

as the serving soldier—who, perhaps, gets rather more glory—are doing their part in the present struggle and that when it is over they may feel it is a victory in which they have taken a considerable and honourable part”.

The Cochin Government congratulate the personnel of the Cochin State Labour Units for their excellent work, and hope that future units to be raised by the State will maintain the good name which their predecessors have earned.

## COCHIN PROSPERS

**U**NDER the above caption *The Mail* of Madras writes thus :

Prosperous Cochin is not niggardly with her funds, and education is still her favourite. Out of an anticipated revenue of Rs. 218·69 lakhs the State proposes to spend Rs. 32·38 lakhs on education, an increase of Rs. 6·73 on the current year's allotment. Thus the State gives hostages to fortune, for an educated populace is the best possible guarantee of future peace, concord and prosperity. But little purpose will be served by educating the unhealthy. Cochin, therefore, proposes to increase her expenditure upon the Medical Department to over Rs. 9 lakhs in order that facilities shall not be lacking to maintain her people in good health. There is, of course, much to be done in the State. The anti-malaria operations are to be increased, but much more remains to be done, and if the State had not to meet so heavy a bill for dearness allowance—Rs. 20·51 lakhs are set apart for the purpose—much more could, and doubtless would, be done to rid the State of evil conditions that endanger the citizens' health.

The sum set aside for dearness allowance is approximately one-tenth's of the State's income, a fact which gives some insight into the burden imposed on the economy of India by this wholly inefficient method of combating increases in the cost of living. Had the Governments in India, Central, State and Provincial,

got together to devise a plan whereby agriculture was subsidised, and food production and distribution generally assisted by official grants, there is little doubt whatever that the total cost to the country would have been considerably less than the amounts spent in dearness allowances, the effect of which is necessarily unequal. And what a tremendous fillip would have been given to agriculture. Had, for instance, Cochin been free to devote Rs. 20 lakhs to the improvement of agriculture, and to the promotion of increased cultivation the future prosperity of that State would have been more assured than at present. The amounts spent in paying dearness allowances are lost to the State for good and all: those spent in improving agriculture and increasing the area under crops produce lasting results. Cochin needs to do much more for her agriculturists than she has done in the past. She has promising material with which to work, but it needs the encouragement of assured prices and guaranteed markets. The Government of Cochin—and every other Government in India—would do well to spend some of their reserves in providing such encouragement.

It is satisfactory to find that the Cochin Government are going ahead with the Anamalai ghat road. Once this work is completed it will bring to the State a handsome return in increased business in addition to the prosperity it will assure

to those whose lands it serves. Substantial sums have been set aside by the Cochin Government for the maintenance of communications generally, and the Finance Member, presenting the budget to the Cochin Legislative Council on Monday (24th July) expressed the hope "that our roads will be put in proper order." Much, of course, will depend upon the efficiency of those entrusted with the spending of the allotment, and the supervision of the work. At the end of the year, the State should find itself possessed of comfortable reserves, with which to meet possible lean years in the

post-war era. It is not enough, however, to lay by large sums for future rainy days, it is also necessary to utilise the present prosperity to build lasting provision against lean times, by developing to the utmost the resources of the State. By devoting larger sums to irrigation and communications, the State is preparing such provision, but more can still be done to encourage cottage and other industries in the State. The labour Cochin is today lending to the All-India war effort will be available for industrial development in Cochin in the post-war years.

## MILK DISTRIBUTION

**M**R. G. LESLIE, Cross of Friends' Ambulance Units, visited the State in June. In a report submitted by him he writes as follows.—

"The authorities in Cochin seem to have shown exceptional foresight in facing and dealing with their food problem. Cochin State must have been among the first places in India to introduce food rationing which was in operation throughout the State in April 1943. (Ed-Rationing began in the Municipal areas in February 1943). Essential food grains, sugar, standard cloth and kerosene oil are included.

Even in normal times the milk is said to be inadequate. There are few cattle, pasture is scarce, and fodder must be a difficulty although quantities of copra residues are exported to Europe for manufacture into cattle cake.....

Malnutrition is apparent among children attending milk centres and to a lesser extent in schools. In general, the condition of children appears better than in Malabar and considerably better than

in parts of Bengal. Nevertheless continued supplies of condensed milk would be justified and would be well used.

Free distribution of milk began on March 1st this year and the usual initial mistakes of allowing tins of milk to be taken home was corrected. Distribution is now done on the canteen system and is organised by the Supply Department. The agencies used are Ladies Associations, Catholic Convents, Y.W.C.As., Clubs and many others, including public spirited ladies of undoubted probity who are personally known to the organisers. In one place I met a princess of the Ruling House engaged in this work, with the canteen established in the compound of her house. It should not pass unnoticed that these people themselves are meeting the incidental expenses, including cost of utensils and firewood, which is expensive.

Distribution is at present confined to nursing and expectant mothers and infants, malnourished children and hospital patients.

I visited a number of canteens and several of the organisers told me that an

improvement in the condition of the children is already noticeable.....

I propose to write a full account of food distribution in Cochin State and to get this widely circulated, for what has been done here might be done elsewhere. Visits to Cochin to study arrangements there might be considered for food officers in other parts of India as part of their training. There is, however, one matter which, though it may at first sight appear out of place in a report on milk distribution, is an indication of how far things have been carried.

Cochin has about fifty Cochin Restaurants. They are modelled on the famous

British Restaurants and are subsidised by the State. It gives one something of a chock to come across one of these in some remote village and at first I found it difficult that they were real, but I had some food in one of these on two occasions and this was certainly real. It was also good and cheap. The value of these Restaurants in popularising unfamiliar food grains needs no emphasis.

It is obvious that we do not need to spare one of our members for Cochin. Milk distribution is in excellent hands and our most useful function will be to arrange larger and above all regular supplies.

## AS OTHERS SEE US

**T**HE *Mail* writes on the Cochin Budget.—

“Commenting on the Cochin’s Budget we suggested that more should be done for the development of industries in the State. It is satisfactory to note from the Diwan’s speech reported today that Cochin is not to be left behind in the post-war development of industries for which other states and provinces are preparing. The success that has attended the training and recruitment of war technicians in the State is guarantee that Cochin will not lack the skilled workers needed for any new industry to be started after the war. And to ensure the future steady supply of technical skill the Government wisely propose, as the Diwan told the Legislative Council, to establish a Technical Institution continuing those additional facilities which have been developed during the war. Not less important, the Government are endeavouring to provide cheap power for industries and are already negotiating with the Government of India for the acquisition of the

material and plant required for a scheme of hydro-electric development.”

*The Indian Express* writing of the Cochin Budget makes the following observations.—

“Under the impact of war conditions the finances of Cochin as of every other State or Province, have been expanding, and the budget estimate for 1944-45 presented by the Finance Member to the State legislature on Monday (24th July) discloses peak figures. The revenue is estimated at Rs. 218.69 lakhs and the expenditure at Rs. 202.09 lakhs, thus leaving a surplus of Rs. 16.60 lakhs..... Expenditure has kept pace with revenue, in fact it is expanding at a faster rate.... For the rest, the budget closely follows its predecessor, reflecting sound and enlightened policies. Education, as usual, claims the lion’s share of the expenditure, i.e., Rs. 32.38 lakhs out of a total of Rs. 202.09 lakhs. Enhanced provision has been made for irrigation and improvement of public health and social services. The financial position of the State is quite

sound, and it has been smooth sailing so far. To those who think that it will continue to be so in the future also, the Finance Member has this warning. "Many of the sources of present high revenues, for obvious reasons, possibly shrink or disappear. On the other hand, the expenditure will have a tendency to stick to the present level. In addition we may have to find funds for public utilities and post-war reconstruction schemes for

which the Revenue Reserve Fund we are building up may not be adequate even to touch the fringes of the problem. New measures of taxation and fresh sources of revenue and all possible economies may then have to be thought of." This need not, however, discourage the people of the State provided of course opportunities are taken to develop remunerative enterprises with the support of the Government."



# THE COCHIN STATE MILITARY BENEVOLENT FUND

The Government of India have instituted a fund called the "Indian Army Benevolent Fund" with a view

- (1) to help the families of combatants and non-combatants killed or disabled on active service,
- (2) to relieve distress not attributable to field or foreign service, and
- (3) to help ex-soldiers who have lost a limb on active service or on duty in peace.

2. The grants made from the Indian Army Benevolent Fund are generally small. This Government therefore consider it highly necessary to supplement these grants. With this object, Government propose to institute a fund in this State called the "Cochin State Military Benevolent Fund". The Cochin State Forces also will get the benefits of this fund.

3. The fund is intended to be built up by public subscription and will be administered by Trustees.

4. Cochin can be proud of her magnificent contribution in men to the victories of the Allies and to the triumph of the glorious causes for which the United Nations are fighting. It is only proper that the subjects of this State who are undergoing hardships, difficulties and perils are assured of a secure future. This fund has been started to give them the necessary assurance and it deserves the largest public support. Government expect that every individual and organisation will render all possible help to constitute this fund for the relief of those who are fighting for us. His Highness the Maharaja has graciously donated a sum of Rs. 1 lakh to the fund.

5. All donations may be sent to.—

M. R. Ry. P. V. Raphael Avl., M. A., Comptroller of Finance and  
Accounts, Chairman and Treasurer, The Cochin State  
Military Benevolent Fund, Trichur.

6. The donations will be acknowledged in the Cochin Government Gazette from time to time.

# Save Now—

## ENJOY LATER

### HOW TO SAVE:

A. Invest in any of the following.—

(1) **Victory Loan** 3 per cent Victory Loan Redeemable at par on 1st September 1944. Issue price on any date from 1st April to 8th April Rs. 100—2—8; 10th April to 15th April Rs. 100—3—4 and thereafter at prices increasing by 8 pies per cent weekly until further notice. Interest payable half yearly on 1st September and 1st March. Liable to income-tax and surcharge.

(2) **Defence Bonds.**

(3) **Interest Free Bonds.**—Minimum Rs. 50—Repayment will be after 3 years or after 1 year or 3 months' notice to the Reserve Bank or even within one year in case of real need.

(4) **National Savings Certificate.**—Units costing Rs. 10, Rs. 50, Rs. 100 and Rs. 1,000. An individual can invest up to Rs. 5,000 and institutions up to Rs. 20,000. A ten rupees certificate after 12 years will fetch Rs. 5 as bonus.

(5) **Defence Savings Deposits.**—Minimum that could be deposited is Rs. 2 and maximum Rs. 10,000. It could be withdrawn only one year after the war. Interest is  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per cent and is income-tax free.

(6) **Defence Provident Fund.**—Any Government servant can join. Payment—Annas eight or in multiples. Income-tax free and interest is 3 per cent. Apply to the Comptroller of Finance and Accounts, Trichur.

(7) **Prize Bonds.**—Interest free Prize Bonds in denominations of Rs. 10 and Rs. 100 in the form of bearer bonds.

On the 15th of January and 15th of July lots will be taken and prizes will be distributed in the manner mentioned below:

Rs. 100 denomination:	One first prize	Rs. 50,000
	Two second prizes	Rs. 20,000 each
	Two third prizes	Rs. 5,000 each
Rs. 10 denomination:	One first prize	Rs. 2,500
	Two second prizes	Rs. 1,250 each
	Five third prizes	Rs. 500 each
	Ten fourth prizes	Rs. 250 each

JOIN NOW. SAVE NOW. ENJOY LATER.

**Information Officer**